

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects flood-hit areas in City of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province

Over 5 000 inhabitants are rescued from zones vulnerable to flooding Kim Jong Un oversees rescue and evacuation operation



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, visited the flood-hit areas in the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province on July 28.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won

and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central

Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, the minister of National Defence and

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other commanding officers of the Korean People's Army.

He guided the work for the rescue and evacuation of the inhabitants from the areas hit by a downpour and disaster-predicted areas.

On July 27, a record downpour struck the northern border of the DPRK and the areas of the Chinese side and the water level of the Amnok River far exceeded the danger line. This created a serious crisis, in which more than 5 000 inhabitants were isolated in the zones vulnerable to flooding in several island areas of the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province.

Immediately after the crisis occurred, leading officials of the Party, government and military were dispatched rapidly to the spot and helicopters of the Air Force of the KPA and various kinds of lifeboats of the Navy and a maritime guard formation of the Border Guards were promptly committed to the operation for rescuing the inhabitants according to the assignment directly given by Kim Jong Un.

After arriving at an air base, where the rescue operation was under way, by driving along flooded rough roads, Kim Jong Un learned from commanding officers about the inhabitants in the flood-prone zones and the situation of the rescue operation.

He personally guided the operation, watching the whole course of the operation by ten-odd helicopters rescuing the inhabitants in the unfavourable weather conditions and emergency while making more than 20 rounds of consecutive shuttle flights.

The rescued people saw him waiting for them at the airport exposed to heavy rainstorm so unexpectedly and broke into cheers, shedding tears of deep gratitude and emotion.

Kim Jong Un instructed the regional Party organizations and power organs to offer medical assistance to the rescued people by enlisting all possibilities lest they should feel any slight inconvenience.

As he talked with commanding officers and pilots of the air unit, he heard the situation in the afflicted areas and repeatedly requested them to rescue everyone without fail. He also saw to it that reconnaissance flights were reorganized several times even in the areas where the rescue operation was completed.

He encouraged the pilots who successfully rescued more than 4 200 people and shook hands with every one

of them. He said with pleasure that the helicopters' rescue of so many people from the flooded areas in a little over a quarter of a day is an incredible miracle and a living example of air rescue operation and that it is a source of pride of our Party and state to have such excellent people's Air Force and it is his honour to be the supreme commander of such an army.

He highly appreciated the amazing feats performed in the rescue operation, saying that the characteristics of the people's Air Force faithful to its inherent mission were clearly demonstrated once again and that all the people across the country would feel grateful to the devoted efforts made by the Air Force and its spirit of unconditionally and death-defyingly serving the people.

In particular, the commander of a helicopter group fulfilled a difficult task for rescue flight in the van and possesses splendid capabilities and qualifications as a commanding officer, he said, adding delightedly that he has found out in a combat environment another excellent commanding officer to be emulated by the entire army. And he warmly encouraged him, patting him on the back.

He set forth the tasks and ways for concentrating all efforts on the rehabilitation and relief work to minimize the losses caused by the disaster and eradicate its aftermath as soon as possible and for taking timely measures aimed at preventing recurrence in the future.

Saying that the flood damage in the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County is very serious, he stressed that leading officials and forces at all levels in the capital city and regions should be mobilized ideologically and promptly in the rehabilitation project while giving top priority to the protection of people's lives and property.

He said that primary attention should be paid to the medical prevention and treatment and the provision of living conditions for the flood victims to quickly stabilize their living and, in this regard, the Party and power organs in the relevant regions should supply relief goods including foods, medicines and daily necessities fully to the victims and console them, and that state support measures should be taken simultaneously.

He gave an instruction on convening an emergency meeting, saying that immediate steps should be taken to prevent further disasters as downpour is still expected in this region and full preparations made in advance to start taking permanent rehabilitation measures

at once immediately after the danger of flooding has disappeared.

Some areas in the counties on the shore of the Amnok River in North Phyongan, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces, including the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County, should be declared as special-level disaster emergency areas, and the Cabinet, commissions, ministries, national agencies, public security and armed forces organs and other institutions at all levels should turn out in the damage prevention and rehabilitation campaign with all their forces and equipment so as to quickly remove the damage and restore the order of production and life to a normal level, he said, adding that important measures will be taken to this end.

Noting that it is the most important and responsible task to take prior measures for preventing any accident rather than making haste for taking follow-up steps after its occurrence, he stressed the need for all regions and relevant sectors to remain alert on the highest level, so as to cope with the rainy season constantly bringing danger of flood damage, and pay the most primary attention to such undertakings for preventing the recurrence of flood damage as finding out and removing risk factors in advance, evacuating the inhabitants in a predictable and timely way and establishing a scientific flooding forecast and orderly information and control system.

It is important to take thoroughgoing rehabilitation measures, but I cannot but mention again the serious lesson taught by the present grave situation, he said, severely criticizing officials of relevant state organs and regions for their negligence of duty that caused the inevitable disastrous situation owing to their failure to take any flood prevention measures.

Noting that he has already stressed more than once that proper emergency response measures should be taken to prevent damage by downpour, flooding and typhoon, he said: I've already given a repeated warning to the irresponsible attitude to such serious practices on the part of officials. And the state repeatedly gave a precaution before the rainy season and the National Emergency Response Committee met on July 22, just a few days ago. But I can't understand why officials at major posts are not yet on red alert with regard to the natural disaster prevention work. Their indolence and expediency have reached a very serious level.

Whenever they made a mistake, officials say they have realized its

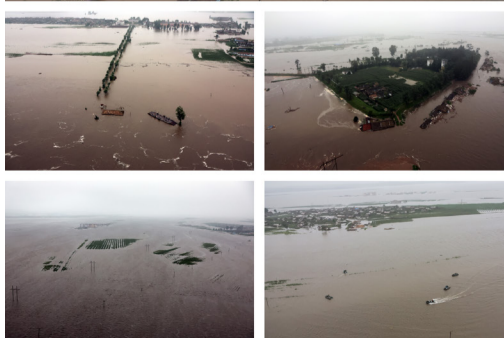
seriousness and will make redoubled efforts, but natural disasters still fail to be prevented, he said, adding: This is due to the fact that, seized with defeatism in the struggle against natural disaster, they have not turned out with confidence in the disaster prevention work, hoping for the best while making themselves reliant entirely on the weather. Consequently, though the National Emergency Response Committee has met on a regular basis and the emergency response committees were organized and have been operated in the capital city and provinces, they remain only in form, failing to play practical functions and roles.

Saying that as was revealed this time, disaster prevention institutions were helpless as they had secured no proper essential rescue means to be used in case of disaster and so, the army was compelled to be seconded to the rescue operation, he seriously pointed out that what could not be overlooked any longer is just the irresponsible and non-militant attitude of the public security organ responsible for thoroughly defending the life and security of the people.

The county emergency disaster response commanding group and the Ministry of Public Security caused a temporary confusion in the rescue operation due to their failure in properly grasping even the number of the people in the areas vulnerable to the disaster and the number of the people rescued by the KPA was much larger than the number they had reported, he noted, saying this clearly showed what a serious phase their irresponsibility reached in direct proportion to the miraculous successes made by the KPA in rescuing the lives of more than 5 000 people.

He said that it is a quite ignorant and dishonest attitude to leave the lives and property of the precious people and the wealth of the country to the mercy of nature, as seen through the current flood damage in some parts of the country. And he stressed that it is quite possible to prevent any accident, if the disaster prevention work is seriously accepted as a matter of attitude and viewpoint on service toward the state and people and an important political and ideological matter, not merely a campaign against natural disaster, and measures are taken with high alertness to foresee even the worst situation.

He stated that, through this opportunity, cautions are given to all Party and power organs across the country so as to prevent all manner of damage by the disastrous abnormal weather.



Twenty-second emergency enlarged meeting of Political Bureau of Eighth WPK Central Committee held

Decision adopted to rapidly repair the flood damage in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces



KCNA

Shortly ago, floods and heavy rains seriously and consecutively damaged some areas of the country, including North Phyongan and Jagang provinces.

In this regard, the 22nd emergency enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held in an afflicted area in the City of Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province, from July 29 to 30 to

take urgent rehabilitation measures.

Prior to the meeting, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspected the flooded areas, together with the premier of the Cabinet and secretaries of the WPK Central Committee.

Many public buildings, facilities, roads and railways, including more than 4 100 houses and nearly 3 000 hectares of farmland, were flooded in the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County located on the lower reaches of the Amnok River.

Going round the areas deeply flooded beyond recognition, Kim Jong Un expressed deep concern and his determination to take powerful state measures for the rehabilitation project in the shortest time to provide the people with a better cradle for life.

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

Present as observers were senior officials in the fields related to rehabilitation, including electric-power, railways and communications fields and agriculture.

Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting.

Noting that the emergency enlarged meeting was convened to discuss damage prevention and rehabilitation

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measures as flooding simultaneously damaged several areas in recent days and its further danger is looming, he detailed the national and regional flood damage grasped so far.

He gave an appraisal of the relief measures and rehabilitation work taken and conducted by the relevant regions and institutions at different levels since the happening of the disaster, and analyzed the achievements and shortcomings.

He enumerated such evil practices revealed as the issue of the disaster danger, which could have been surely minimized in the early period but was amplified due to the failure of unified command despite the existence of the state guidance system related to emergency disaster response, and the issue of provinces, cities and counties, which could not but helplessly suffer from disaster for their chronic and indifferent attitude toward the disaster prevention work as they had not suffered great damage by flooding in the past. He then proposed to strictly punish those who severely neglected their responsible duties assigned by the Party and the state and thus caused even casualties, a practice that cannot be pardoned.

Saying that the people are observing the meeting even at this moment as they trust the Party, he underscored the need to take all measures in a powerful and detailed manner to remove the aftermath as soon

as possible, mindful of the expectation of the people and the important mission before them, and set forth important tasks and ways to this end.

He stressed that measures should be taken to urgently supply the reserve materials for emergency disaster relief to quickly stabilize the living of the people in the flood-hit areas, and that the Cabinet and relevant ministries and national agencies should be actively mobilized in this work.

He detailed the practical issues arising in the rehabilitation work, including those of correctly surveying the damage and losses in provinces and, on this basis, making a scientific calculation of the scale of rehabilitation projects, manpower and budget, of ensuring promptness in the projects by enlisting the design forces in the capital city and regional areas without delay and giving precedence to designing and of dispatching construction workforce as soon as possible and fully supplying and transporting materials.

Saying that it is necessary to thoroughly prevent additional damage caused by the disastrous climate in the future, he called on the meteorological forecast sector to make weather forecast in a responsible manner and on every sector and unit to make thoroughgoing preparations for preventing damage with the highest degree of awareness and, in particular, to make sure that no

casualty is caused.

Calling for dynamically pushing ahead with the work of rapidly stockpiling essential equipment and apparatuses for rescue operation at a time when disaster occurs, he made public important measures for it.

Calling upon the participants in the meeting including members of the Political Bureau to visit the tents where the flood victims of Uiju County are staying temporarily and thus feel the sense of their heavy responsibility while directly seeing their living conditions, console and encourage them, make a deep study of detailed measures for rehabilitation, listening to their candid opinions, and submit the measures to the Political Bureau, he concluded the first-day sitting.

The second-day sitting took place on July 30.

The meeting studied the draft decision on the immediate repair of the flood damage.

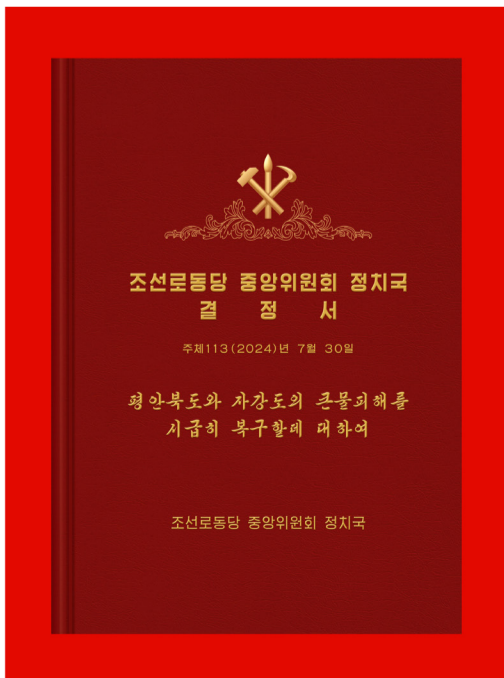
The decision "On rapidly repairing the flood damage in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces," which additionally reflected the results of study and opinions of the participants, was adopted with unanimous approval at the meeting.

The meeting appointed Ri Hi Yong, former first deputy department director of the Organizational Leadership Department of the WPK Central Committee, as chief secretary of the North Phyongan

Provincial Committee of the WPK, Pak Song Chol, chief secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK, as chief secretary of the Jagang Provincial Committee of the WPK and Pang Tu Sop, first deputy department director of the Department of Political Leadership over Military Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, as minister of Public Security.

Concluding the meeting, Kim Jong Un said that we have faced a crisis several times, but each time we have been brave and offensive in the face of it and always worked only miracles and there is nothing impossible as long as there are the leadership of the Party and the army and people that are faithful to the Party. He ardently called for stoutly turning out in the face of this crisis and making miraculous achievements.

The 22nd emergency enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK will shine long in the history of the WPK as an epochal occasion for putting the buildup of the disaster prevention and management capability of the country onto a new high and as an important political event that clearly demonstrated once again the sacred mission and people-oriented character of the WPK which gives top and absolute priority to the interests of the people and makes selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un pays congratulatory visit to helicopter unit of KPA Air Force



KCNA

The people's Air Force of the Korean People's Army perfectly carried out the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea by rapidly flying to the flooded areas in the northwestern part of North Phyongan Province and rescuing over 4 200 precious lives. The legendary feats of the courageous red flying corps of the Workers' Party of Korea that displayed an indomitable fighting spirit are stirring the whole country.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on August 2 paid a congratulatory visit to the helicopter unit of the Air Force of the KPA that performed a miracle of air rescue operation.

Lining up at the unit's apron with the national flag fluttering were the helicopters which were dispatched to the flooded areas to save the people.

All the officers and men, waiting for the moment of greeting the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un at their unit, were filled with boundless reverence for the Supreme Commander, who, with the warmest love for the people and the will to save their lives at any cost, organized

and commanded the rescue operation in a dangerous flooded area and brought about an unprecedented miracle and bestowed all laurels on them.

When Kim Jong Un arrived, the service personnel of the Air Force burst into cheers of "Hurrah!" as a token of their highest tribute and glory to the great brilliant commander.

He received a salute from the commander of the KPA Air Force.

He paid tribute to the colours of the KPA Air Force and of the unit.

He was greeted by leading commanding officers of the Air Force and commanding officers of the unit.

Responding to the enthusiastic cheers, he extended warm greetings to the reliable soldiers who glorified the name of the people's Air Force with their brilliant military feats in the emergency rescue operation for implementing the special order of the WPK Central Military Commission.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central

Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, and Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the KPA.

There took place a ceremony of an awarding order to the helicopter unit that performed distinguished military feats in the sacred struggle for defending the people.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Kim Jong Un made a rallying speech.

In the speech, he said:

I wanted to proudly boast about the pilots of the helicopter unit who performed matchless feats in protecting our God-like people without an equal in the world, and out of this desire I have come to the unit on the way back from the site of repairing the flood damage. Holding a grand commendation ceremony and making the whole army learn from them and the world know about them represent the extent of the feats of the pilots and the height of the appreciation of the Party and the country.

No casualties occurred in the Sinuiju area, which suffered the greatest flood damage caused by the record heavy rainfall and the rapid increase in water inflow in the basin of the Amnok River.

This fact cannot be expressed otherwise than a miracle. The service personnel of the Air Force demonstrated matchless combat efficiency in achieving feats by giving full play to their bravery in the face of the then dangerous weather conditions and to their expertise and perfectness in carrying out their successive missions.

They left another precious and honourable record that would go down in the history of distinguished military feats of our heroic army. I extend heartfelt thanks to all the service personnel of the Air Force, who protected the God-like people and firmly defended the people's trust in the Party and the government by piloting their aircraft through rain clouds and heavy rains at the risk of their lives.

I am also thankful that all the pilots are safe although one helicopter crash-landed in an operation area on its mission.

I also extend warm thanks to the combatants of the sharpshooter brigade of the Navy, maritime guard formation of the Border Guards and the General Reconnaissance Bureau who were involved in the rescue operation.

The pilots of the helicopter unit proved what the soldiers and the well-prepared unit, to be emulated by the entire army,

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should be like through its capability for fighting a war at the battlefield where their lives were at stake, not on a training ground for judging capability.

Seeing the organized, professional and unhesitating combat actions of all the soldiers, who immediately launched into a rescue campaign in the unfamiliar flood-hit areas in bad weather conditions at night true to the order of the Party Central Committee, my heart grew warmer as I felt that I found a genuine model unit.

I would like to speak highly specially of the combat spirit and deep ideological and moral world of the unit commander, who is able to stand in the vanguard before shouting an order. Our Party needs such a field commanding officer of abilities and action required by modern warfare. I was deeply moved to see him carrying out the successive and repeated missions of reconnaissance, rescue and search without showing any sign of getting tired that day. It is a real miracle to have saved more than 4 200 people within a few hours with the helicopters, totalling more than 5 000 people when those, rescued by other units which carried out their rescue mission on the water, are included.

These are undying feats to be described with the words heroic and miraculous as they are a success greater than shooting down 10, nay, 100 enemy aircraft and feats to be glorified and handed down in history for the character of the operation as a campaign for defending the people.

Although the wonders done by heaven are constantly changing and no milestone exists in the vast open sky, our Air Force's skyway is the only one indicated by the Party and revolution. This is why the feats performed by our pilots are so honourable. I am of the belief that the pilots and all other officers and men of this unit will as ever firmly defend the cause of the Party and reliably safeguard

the security of the airspace sovereignty of our state and the well-being of its people with ardent patriotism and loyalty and heroic fighting spirit.

The service personnel should raise more fiercely the flames of the revolution in training just as they were brave, skilled and unhesitating in the struggle for defending the people, so as to annihilate the enemy.

The enemy's rubbish media are spreading a false rumour that the number of casualties in our flood-hit areas is expected to be over 1 000 or 1 500 and that several helicopters are believed to have fallen on the rescue mission. Clear is the sinister purpose of those in Seoul obsessed about such a smear campaign.

Saying that the enemy remain unchanged, he bitterly censured the inveterate habits and despicable nature of the ROK scum keen on a vicious smear campaign to disparage the DPRK and tarnish its image at any cost, and continued:

We will neither give up national defence for disaster relief or for the people's living nor pay less attention to their living for national defence.

Referring to the future orientation of development of the Air Force, Kim Jong Un affirmed that the people's Air Force would make a great contribution to ensuring national security and regional peace and stability, adding:

The people are our God. We should care about the inconvenience of the flood victims who are at evacuation areas even at this moment when boiling heat still rages. We should speed up the rehabilitation as much as possible. We should make the whole country brim with the communist trait of one for all and all for one the harder the times are, and in particular, our army should show utmost filial devotion to the people as befit their sons and daughters.

Expressing his thanks again to the unit

for having performed sacred feats in the campaign for defending the people, he ardently wished the heroic people's Air Force victory and glory.

When his speech was over, the service personnel of the Air Force burst into thunderous cheers again.

All the participants expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Supreme Commander, who put them forward, the mission of the sacred people's Air Force, as a source of pride of the Party and the state, and renewed their iron will to be always thoroughgoing and courageous in defending the sovereignty of the country and ensuring the safety and well-being of the people true to the slogan inscribed in their glorious colours.

Choe Ryong Hae read out the decrees of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on awarding the Order of Freedom and Independence 1st Class to the helicopter unit of the KPA Air Force and the title of DPRK Hero to its commander who had led the unit in the campaign for defending the people to achieve brilliant feats.

Kim Jong Un personally conferred the orders.

He affixed the Order of Freedom and Independence 1st Class to the colours of the unit.

He awarded the title of DPRK Hero, Gold Star Medal and Order of National Flag 1st Class to the commander of the unit.

The citation of the Supreme Commander of the armed forces of the DPRK was conferred on 47 pilots and flight engineers.

The officers and men of the Air Force broke into enthusiastic cheers, looking up with deep gratitude to the great brilliant commander who decorated their feats performed on the road of military service with the gold star while respectfully calling them the army of lifeguards of

the Party Central Committee and the first death-defying corps in defending the revolution and the people.

The unit commander made an oath-taking speech on behalf of his unit.

The self-sacrificing devotion of the great father, who regards our people as part of his flesh and blood that can never be lost, constituted an inexhaustible driving force that encouraged us to brave downpour and strong wind and a key to the fighting efficiency that enabled us to bring about an unprecedented miracle in air rescue operation, he said, and made the following pledge: The red hawks of the brave Air Force of the DPRK will as ever fly along the route of loyalty and requital without even 0.001mm of deviation, cherishing the trust of the Supreme Commander and the Party Central Committee as their whole life.

The venue of the awards ceremony was filled with the militant enthusiasm of the participants to fully demonstrate the spiritual qualities and mettle of the people's Air Force in the struggle to death-defyingly defend the well-being, rights and interests of the state and the people by giving fuller play to the steadfast revolutionary faith, patriotic spirit and spirit of devoted service with which they have supported the ideas and cause of the great Party Central Committee in the vanguard.

There took place a march-past of the guard of honour of the KPA Air Force.

Kim Jong Un posed for a photo with the pilots, who performed distinguished feats in the operation for defending the people, with the glorious colours at the centre.

He repeatedly said with high appreciation that the steadfast officers and men of the Air Force, who share the steps of strenuous efforts and mind with the Supreme Commander to serve

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the people with absolute commitment, cherishing the outlook on the revolution and life that there is no greater happiness than the pride of sharing intention, will and practice with him, are a source of the highest pride of our Party and people, expressing expectation and belief that the pilots will steadily carry on the present honour with more brilliant feats.

The firm pledge of the air fighters to display the mettle of the WPK's red phoenix braving any flames and storm, cherishing the great love and trust shown by Kim Jong Un as the mainstay of their faith, resounded far and wide in the sky of August along with the loud shouts of "Kim Jong Un" and "Death-defying defence".

That evening Kim Jong Un hosted a reception in congratulation of the unit's

officers and men who received the orders of honour.

Leading officials of the Party, government and military attended the reception and warmly congratulated the winners.

The reception was filled with the feelings of kinship and trust between the great brilliant commander and his bodyguards.

Kim Jong Un's congratulatory visit

to the helicopter unit will be brilliantly recorded in the history of army building as an event filled with warm love and encouragement that put on the eminence of the times the brilliant tradition and ever-victorious militant spirit of the people's Air Force, which has always flied along the route of absolute loyalty and heroic military service to defend the country and the people, and powerfully inspired it to perform continuous feats.

Decision of Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee 'On rapidly repairing the flood damage in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces' adopted

KCNA

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on July 30 adopted a decision to rehabilitate the island areas and some flooded areas in the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County in North Phyongan Province, situated on the lower

reaches of the Amnok River, and build modern houses there and rapidly restore the damaged roads, railways and public buildings in Jagang Province by concentrating nationwide efforts.

The decision reflects the following contents:

The state shall vigorously step up the rehabilitation work by concentrating all

its efforts.

To this end, headquarters for rehabilitation of North Phyongan and Jagang provinces shall be organized separately and necessary staff departments, including those for design, construction and materials supply, and political departments be set up at the headquarters, involving

necessary officials from the Party Central Committee, the Cabinet, ministries, national agencies, armed forces, the munitions field and the relevant provinces.

Units of the Korean People's Army and the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade shall build more than 4 400 modern houses in the afflicted areas

of the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County, and North Phyongan Province shall undertake the work of building permanent and durable embankments in the island areas in cooperation with the Korean People's Army.

Forces of the Korean People's Army shall be dispatched to the

rehabilitation campaign area of Jagang Province, and all provinces shall organize and send regiments of Party members to the seriously damaged cities and counties in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces and some of those forces shall be mobilized in the rehabilitation projects in Ryanggang Province.

Special envoy of DPRK government attends inaugural ceremony of Iranian President

KCNA

DPRK Ambassador to Iran Han Song U, a special envoy of the DPRK government, attended the inaugural ceremony of the Iranian president held at the parliamentary building in Teheran on July 30, at the invitation of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He courteously conveyed

the warm greetings from the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Expressing deep thanks to the respected HE Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for having sent warm greetings, Masoud Pezeshkian asked the ambassador to convey

his heartfelt greetings to him.

Present at the inaugural ceremony were heads of state and government, speakers of parliaments and delegations from different countries and personages of the Iranian government, Majlis, military and religious circles.

After his swearing-in ceremony, the president made an address.

KPA Air Force helicopters conclude rescue operation in Kim Jong Suk County of Ryanggang Province

KCNA

The Jangjin River was flooded by a downpour on July 28, creating a crisis in which more than 150 people were isolated in the Janghang-ri area of Kim Jong Suk County, Ryanggang Province.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea gave the Air

Force of the Korean People's Army a special order to mobilize helicopters in an emergency rescue operation.

The helicopters ensured the safe rescue of all the people by making seven rounds of flights in a responsible way.

The result of the rescue operation was immediately reported to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un highly appreciated repeatedly the extraordinary fighting efficiency, matchless self-sacrificing spirit and bravery of the helicopter group and its commander that performed another heroic feat in their difficult mission after perfectly completing the large-scale rescue operation in the area of North Phyongan Province.

Nation set to stabilize life of people and repair damage in top emergency disaster-stricken areas

By Kim Il Jin PT

On July 27, a record downpour created a serious crisis, in which several island areas of the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province were isolated in the zones vulnerable to flooding.

After hearing the news that Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected the flood-hit areas in the City of Sinuiju and Uiju County and directed the operation for the rescue and evacuation of their inhabitants, the whole country has turned out for the

work to stabilize the life of people and repair damage in the top emergency disaster-stricken areas.

Ministries and national agencies, civil servants, working people and families across the country prepared a large amount of materials needed for the life of flood victims and sent them to them.

With the intention to share joys and sorrows with the people in the afflicted areas, officials and other civil servants of the ministries of Metallurgical Industry and Chemical Industry sincerely prepared and sent various

kinds of daily necessities and foodstuffs. Officials of the Ministry of Electric Power Industry who have volunteered to work at the flood-hit areas, sent the flood victims materials needed for stabilizing their life while taking scrupulous measures to urgently reconstruct and repair power units and hydraulic structures.

The Ministry of Mining Industry also offered assistance to the people in the afflicted areas in a big way amid the growing enthusiasm for assistance for flood victims.

While concentrating all

efforts on the work to restore the destroyed communications immediately, officials of the Ministry of Information Industry directed a great deal of energies to securing relief supplies and sent large quantities of daily necessities and foodstuffs to the flood-stricken areas.

Officials and other civil servants of the Ministry of Food Procurement and Administration have taken concrete steps to stabilize the supply of foods to the residents of the afflicted areas.

The public health and urban management sectors have also put in great

effort to prepare and send necessary medicines to the flood-hit areas and prevent various kinds of diseases by thoroughly ensuring the quality of domestic water. Many medical workers are now working on the spots to give medical check-ups and treatment to the residents and support anti-epidemic efforts.

Meanwhile, many units including the ministries of Light Industry, Railway, Forestry, Fisheries and Commerce, the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League and Kyonghung Trade Bureau prepared relief supplies

with sincerity and sent them to the relevant areas, fully displaying the great features of DPRK society where noble virtues and affection pervade like a national sentiment.

Officials and working people in all provinces also render both material and moral assistance to the people in the stricken areas, regarding their sufferings as their own.

The nationwide enthusiasm for support is growing with the passage of time, demonstrating the great features of DPRK society which is united single-heartedly behind the Party.

War veterans enjoy themselves at Yangdok Hot Spring Resort

KCNA

The war veterans, who had the great honour of participating

in the celebrations of the 71st anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, are spending a pleasant time at the

Yangdok Hot Spring Resort. The central artistic information team and others gave a variety of

performances there to delight the war veterans. The war veterans spent a pleasant time, singing

wartime songs and dancing together with the performers. Officials and employees of the Yangdok Hot Spring

Resort Service Management Office prepared birthday parties for those who celebrated their birthdays.



War veterans have a good time at the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort.

Farmers move into new houses across the country

KCNA

Villages at the Sokjang Farm in Jangyon County, South Hwanghae Province of the DPRK, have turned into ideal villages for the people.

Present at the ceremony of moving into new houses in the villages were Pak Yun Chol, secretary of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people in the county and agricultural workers who were to move into new houses.

A congratulatory address was made by So Hak Song, vice-chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, and licenses for the use of dwelling houses were handed over amid the loud applause of the participants.

When the moving into new houses began, cheerful dance parties were displayed and the villages wrapped in a festive mood.

Officials visited the owners of new modern houses to congratulate them. New houses have been built at the Jangbang Farm in Haeju, South Hwanghae Province, this year, too.

Present at the ceremony for moving into new houses were Pak Thae Sop, secretary of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials, builders and agricultural workers in the city of Haeju.

Kim Chol Bom, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, made a congratulatory address, before licences for the use of dwelling houses were conveyed. Then oath-taking speeches were made.

Amid the playing of a cheerful music and dance party, the villages were in a festive mood.

New modern houses for hundreds of families have appeared at the Idopho Farm in Unnyul County, South

Hwanghae Province. Those houses built in sunny places have all conditions for convenience in farmers' living with trees of good species planted around villages.

A ceremony for moving into those houses took place on the spot with the attendance of Mun Kwang Hyon, secretary of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials of Party and power organs, working people and farmers in the county.

Kim Chol Bom, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, made a congratulatory address. Licences for the use of houses were conveyed and speeches made.

Then the county mobile artistic motivation team members gave a performance and dance parties were held. Officials visited the owners of new houses to share joy with them.



Farmers move into new houses with joy. RODONG SINMUN

DPRK-Russia children's friendship camping ends

KCNA

A ceremony of starting the DPRK-Russia children's friendship camping took place at the Songdown International Children's Camp on July 24.

Present there were Kim Song Il, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, officials concerned, schoolchildren's camping groups of the two countries and a visiting group.

During the camping, diverse activities, stage of children of talents, quiz, national dish contest and children's friendship athletic meeting were conducted and a Taekwon-Do group and other extracurricular groups were run.

DPRK and Russian schoolchildren spent pleasant days after starting the camping at the Songdown International Children's Camp.

A meeting "Evening of Friendship" of DPRK and Russian schoolchildren's friendship campers took place at the international friendship children's hall on July 30.

Present there were Kim Song Il, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, officials concerned and schoolchildren's camping groups of the DPRK and Russia.

A letter to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un by the Russian campers who took part in the DPRK-Russia schoolchildren's friendship camping was read out and courteously handed over to an official concerned.

A video on the pleasant days of camping was shown,



DPRK and Russian schoolchildren spend pleasant days at the Songdown International Children's Camp.

and a joint art performance of the schoolchildren of the two countries was given.

The Russian schoolchildren's camping group who took part in the DPRK-Russia children's friendship camping visited the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace on August 1.

They went round different hobby group rooms of the palace.

They visited the Liberation Tower, the Natural History Museum, the Central Zoo and other places and enjoyed an acrobatic performance given by the National Acrobatic Troupe at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre.

Sexual equality ensured by law and social benefits

By Pang Un Ju PT

The issue of women can be claimed to be an issue of the independent life and dignity of women and their social status and role.

The position of women in the DPRK took a dramatic turn with the country's liberation from Japanese military rule.

Before liberation, Korean women had been subjected to double and treble maltreatment and contempt due to the vicious colonial rule by the Japanese imperialists, who had occupied Korea by force of arms, and feudal fetters.

But after the country was liberated on August 15 1945 and the Law on Sex Equality was promulgated on July 30 1946, they were completely emancipated from all sorts of social inequalities and the deprivation of political rights.

The law declared that

women have equal rights with men in all spheres of political, economic and cultural life.

The promulgation of the law, which stipulated that women have equal rights with men to elect and to be elected, to work and receive social insurance and education, was a great social change which gratified the long-cherished desire of women to proudly live as a full member of society and which put an end to the age-old customs and conventions.

In the democratic elections held for the first time after the promulgation of the law, many women were elected as representatives of the people and hundreds of thousands of women broke away from the bounds of their homes and turned out for building a new Korea.

As society developed and the level of civilization rose, people-oriented policies continuously increased to further elevate the social status of women and

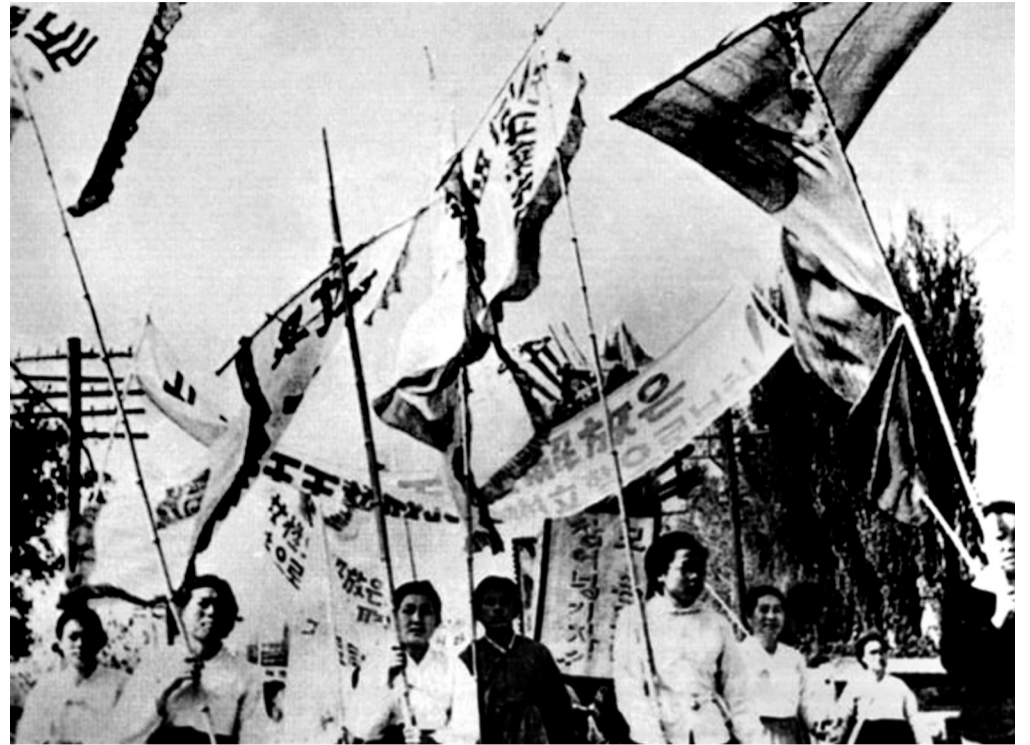
strengthen their role.

The issue of freeing women from the heavy burden of household chores became an important task of the state, children were brought up and educated at the state's expense and huge investment was made in health institutions to improve the health of women and children.

A significant change also took place in the role of women.

In every crucial period including those of building a new Korea, the Fatherland Liberation War, the postwar rehabilitation and the great Chollima advance, they performed undying feats that would shine forever in the history of the country.

Today, too, many women win public respect and praise as they play an active part in the important posts of the state organs and in major sectors of building a powerful socialist country and the trend of respecting women prevails in the whole



File photo shows Korean women giving full support to the proclamation of the Law on Sex Equality on July 30 1946.

of society.

It is the unanimous will of the Korean women to

become a powerful driving force of the revolution and construction with equal rights

with men and devote their all to the prosperity of the country.

Women dignified masters of society



Women take part in the election as the masters of state and society. JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kil Chung Il PT

To run society in a smooth way, women accounting for half of the population have to play their role satisfactorily.

While recollecting one day the women anti-Japanese war fighters, who had dedicated their lives, youth and families to the sacred war for the liberation of Korea, President Kim Il Sung said that his assertion that women turn one of the two wheels of the revolution is not an abstract concept, but is based on the anti-Japanese revolutionary history dyed in blood and the life experience of them as the direct participants in and eyewitnesses of the Korean women's liberation movement.

Many women who glorified their lives as patriots and revolutionaries have been recorded in the history of the DPRK since the period of the

anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

During the great anti-Japanese war, Korean women unhesitatingly sent their beloved husbands and children to the sacred war for national liberation.

They defended their country regained at the cost of blood, the land they should never lose again, during the fierce Fatherland Liberation War as they destroyed enemy tanks as human bombs and took the lead in increased grain production and transport and assistance to the front, despite enemy bombings and shellings. And in the postwar period, they turned out in reconstruction by tightening their belts.

The sailors of the fishing boat "Young Heroine, Daughter of the Workers' Party of Korea" were the young women who sailed out to the sea bravely to

land big hauls in hearty response to the call of the Workers' Party of Korea for conquering the sea.

Therefore, a woman was represented on the Chollima Statue along with a man as master of heroic Korea.

In the past ten-odd-year-long struggle which brought about the rapid development of the Korean revolution, women performed tangible feats as a powerful force turning one of the two wheels of the revolution for the country and younger generations.

There are the high-yield women farmers on farms who devote themselves to work with a burning desire to become true patriots who support the country with rice, the women officials and innovators at factories and enterprises who do the work of two or three and the women doctors and educators at research and educational institutions who promote the development of the country by dint of science.

The number of women who launch into society is on the rise day by day as they are determined to devote their sweat, wisdom and passion to the state and society as their masters, going beyond the small enclosure of one family.

All of them are filled with pure will to devote their sincerity to the benevolent country which enables them to lead a genuine fulfilling life.

Workplaces of women

By Sin Pyol PT

Workplace full of joy and optimism

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, a workplace for women, is widely known as there is much laughter and loud singing.

They like to represent their working life in poems and songs.

After a day's work, employees sing songs in the hall of culture and hostel and during break of work, songs are disseminated and poems are recited at working places.

The role of the mill's art group members, whose artistic ability is on a par with artistes, is highlighted. Because their fascinating performance inspires the masses with the enthusiasm for art activities and its officials take the lead in it.

The poems "A weaving girl", "A woman worker deputy" and "This is our palace" and song "We are

a worker couple" are the favourite works of women workers.

Keeping the interior like palace, the exterior like park

All employees of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill love their workplace.

Girls spinning silk thread at their workplace are full of laughter since modern machinery and equipment stand in rows, the floor glitters everywhere and clean air flows into the worksite.

Women workers spend a good time in resting places where trees stand along the roadside in a row, fruit trees are laden with appetizing fruits, the pond near a pavilion teems with fishes, and beautiful flowering shrubs give off fragrance.

"The respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un visited our mill on several occasions. Seeing many trees standing in the compound, he highly appreciated that

it looked like a botanical garden," said an official with pride.

Thanks to the loving care of the country, which puts them forward as heroines and deputies, the women workers love their workplace so much.

In front of emulation graph

The Pyongyang Children's Wear Factory is also a workplace for women.

An emulation graph is standing imposingly in the factory compound, and women employees often stop in front of it.

The emulation graph shows ever-increasing production results reflecting the hard-working employees and workteams who are making collective innovations helping and leading one another forward.

Every employee of the factory are eager to devote their patriotic efforts to improving the people's living standards and achieving the prosperity of the country.

Women workers lead a fulfilling life at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Historic journey shining in chronicles of DPRK-Russia friendship

By Choe Song Jun PT

The DPRK-Russia friendly relations have a deep and strong root. They are the invincible ties between comrades-in-arms which have been consolidated through all the rough storms of history.

Chronicled in the annals of the DPRK-Russia friendship which is steadily developing are the undying exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

He visited the Russian Federation several times to consolidate the ties of friendship between the two countries and made an immortal contribution to ensuring peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

He visited several places of the Russian Federation as he stayed there between July 26 and August 18 2001 at the invitation of President Vladimir Vladimirovich

Putin. And he met and had talks with the Russian President two times and had a friendly talk with many leading officials of the central and local governments including presidential envoys and regional governors.

At the meetings and talks between the top leaders of the two countries, they informed each other of their successes and experience, had a serious exchange of views on the issue of further consolidating and developing the DPRK-Russia friendship and other issues of mutual concern including the international situation and reached a consensus of views on all issues discussed.

They unanimously recognized that further developing the traditional bilateral friendly and cooperative relations with a deep historical root serves the fundamental interests of the

peoples of the two countries in the new century and makes a significant contribution to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

They signed the DPRK-Russia Moscow Declaration, thus providing another powerful driving force for achieving peace and security in the Asia-Pacific and the whole world and prosperity of and equal mutual cooperation between the two countries.

President Putin was very glad that Chairman Kim Jong Il visited Russia in the first year of the new century and showed warm hospitality to him during his visit to the Russian Federation.

On his way to Moscow, the DPRK leader stayed in Omsk City, one of the major industrial cities of Russia, from July 31 to August 1.

After finishing his official visit to the Russian

Federation, he paid an unofficial visit to the heroic city of St Petersburg on August 6-7.

During his visit, he went round different places of the city with a long history, culture and tradition of struggle and highly praised the Russian people for successfully preserving and glorifying the cultural legacies associated with their wisdom and talents.

His visit to and stay in the Russian Federation was successfully completed under the concern and hospitality of President Putin and under the warm welcome by the Russian people.

The historic visit to the Russian Federation he made covering more than 20 000km distance for over 20 days was an epochal event which marked a new turning point in further consolidating and developing the traditional DPRK-Russia friendship.

WPK a motherly party fulfilling people's cherished desires

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Thanks to the people-first politics of the Workers' Party of Korea, centuries-old desires of the people are being translated into a brilliant reality in the DPRK.

The WPK identifying the people as the most precious being in the world always lends an ear to them and reflects their desires and demands in its policies to fully implement them.

Its policies of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people result in constant epochal changes for the promotion of their well-being on this land.

Recent years alone have witnessed the completion of such wonderful residential areas in Pyongyang as Songhwa Street, the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District and Hwasong, Rimhung and Jonwi streets, adding to the people's great pleasure. Their laughter rings out from the new modern apartment houses forming magnificent and marvellous architectural groups.

It is not confined to the capital of the country. A new era in which not only the capital but also local areas undergo changes is being ushered in as evidenced by lots of dwelling houses in the City of Samjiyon which has turned into a model of modern mountain town and the Komdok area which is being built as a town on mountain gorges. Modern houses are also being built in succession in the socialist countryside to be provided to agricultural workers gratis, and new modern regional-industry factories are being set up according to the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

The monumental structures being built while producing miraculous construction legends in the most arduous times are the fruition of the devoted efforts of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un for the people.

For the DPRK leader who spares nothing for the good of the people, they are the foundation of the country and the root of its existence. It is his creed that there can be the Party, the state and everything on this land as there are the people, and if it is the wish of the people, even a star should be plucked from the sky and flowers be brought into bloom even on a rock.

Thanks to such noble belief, the housing problem of the people was set as the top priority and the most honourable task facing the Party and the state and has been pushed with the power of strenuous execution.

To provide the people with the happiest life in the world, he unveils grand plans with endless speculation and tireless efforts and brings happiness to them with an uninterrupted journey of devotion.

With the view that in the work for realizing the people's long-cherished desire, there is no satisfaction or end but there should be only advance and creation, he saw to it that large greenhouse farms were built in Jungphyong and Ryonpho. Later, he signalled with blasting the start of the ground-breaking for the construction of the Kangdong Combined Greenhouse Farm and made sure that it was completed splendidly to be provided to the people.

The long-held dreams of the Koreans come true on this land, thanks to General Secretary Kim Jong Un who fulfills the cherished desires of the people without fail.

The people-oriented policies are invariably enforced and further expanded and the people's aspirations are realized in the face of a serious national crisis, and the reality of the DPRK is a clear proof of the validity and vitality of the people-first idea and politics of the Workers' Party of Korea.

As they are led by him, the Korean people can step up the struggle for the overall development of socialism with confidence in a brighter future.

Stamp out malaria



Kim Kyong Chol
Department chief of the Korea
Fund against TB & Malaria

Malaria is an acute febrile infectious disease transmitted by anopheles and its major symptoms are chill, fever and pantalgia.

Serious cases may lose consciousness or have hypoergasia of the liver and kidney. Without timely medical intervention, they may develop complications or die.

Humans are susceptible to malaria. Especially, those with low immunity like children, pregnant women and the aged are very prone to the disease.

Today, malaria is found in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Western Pacific and Americas. Among them, its case rate is the highest in the African region below the Sahara Desert.

According to data available, 405 000 were killed by it around the world in 2018 and 608 000 in 2022.

The WHO announced that the number of malaria cases was 249 million in 2022, 5 million cases more than that in the previous year, and warned climate change might seriously aggravate malaria

transmission.

Therefore, many countries put big efforts into preventing its spread.

In the DPRK, which gives the top priority to the protection of lives and promotion of health of the people, positive activities are conducted to eradicate the disease.

In the country, people are liable to it between mid-June and early September.

In this period, household doctors conduct medical check-ups in an aggressive manner to spot malaria cases in its early period and treat them in time.

They also intensify hygienic information activities to make residents well aware of common knowledge about malaria and turn out in the efforts to root

out the disease.

In particular, they make sure that residents living in the areas highly prone to malaria use mosquito nets treated by insecticide and moxa.

To prevent the breeding of mosquitoes, an all-people movement is conducted to remove pools, keep clean and maintain the surrounding environment on a regular basis.

In order to stamp out malaria, the Korea Fund against TB & Malaria has conducted positive exchange and cooperation activities with such international organizations as the WHO and various other organizations.

Efforts to exterminate malaria will bear good fruit in the near future in our country.

BYWORD

New standards, records

All the working people are now zealous about setting new standards and records.

Modern 10 000 flats have been built in the capital city of Pyongyang each year and modern rural houses and regional-industry factories are being built competitively in local areas amid the implementation of the rural

revolution programme in the new era and the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

A mass technical innovation drive has been conducted fiercely in all economic sectors including metallurgical, chemical and electric-power industries, thus hastening the implementation of national economic plans.

The agricultural sector pushes ahead with the work to readjust and reinforce the irrigation structure of the country by pursuing the agricultural policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and has brought in a bumper harvest in the newly increased area of wheat and barley fields.

Sportspeople have made

remarkable successes in international games including women's football and weightlifting, exalting the honour of the country.

The constantly updated standards and records in every sector and region are associated with the Korean people's patriotic mind to bring earlier national prosperity.

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NATO the largest war machine wrecking global peace, security

KCNA

An aggressive military alliance created by the US, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is still notorious as a confrontation tool and war machine.

As widely known, NATO was concocted 75 years ago under the pretext of protecting the West from the aggression of the former Soviet Union and has been used thoroughly as a military tool for realizing the US wild ambition for hegemony.

NATO has so far conducted over 20 rounds of large-scale military operations since it was set up.

NATO's *raison d'être* disappeared with the end of the Cold War, but it has continued to pose military threat and blackmail against anti-US independent countries and even launched wars of aggression.

It conducted military operations against former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria and others, ruthlessly infringing their people's rights to live and develop.

According to statistics, due to the wars that NATO member nations

started and waged from 2001, hundreds of thousands of people lost their lives and tens of millions of others have been forced to leave their native places to take refuge.

NATO's aggressive nature as a war machine, which has been subordinated to the implementation of the US strategy for domination, is being further highlighted at present in view of its concoction and crime-ridden history.

The current Ukrainian crisis erupted as the US-led NATO has constantly expanded eastwards and threatened Russia's security.

As the US and NATO egged puppet Ukraine on to expand the war while supplying it with a colossal sum of funds and weapons, the Ukrainian war is called a proxy war and it is now evolving into the direct clash between Russia and the West. This clearly proves they are the mastermind behind the current crisis.

The chairman of the NATO military committee said that the organization is ready for possible collision with Russia and will try every possible means to fight, and ex-service personnel and servicemen on the active list in

NATO member nations are directly involved in arranging and planning military operations of the Ukrainian forces in their capacity as advisers, weapons experts, mercenaries and the like, while directly taking part in battles.

In addition, NATO provides Ukraine with information so that the latter can mount attack on peaceful Russian residents and civilian infrastructures with the weapons it offered, thereby openly expanding the war with Russia.

A typical example is the missile attack mounted by the Ukrainian forces on Sevastopol last June, which caused over 150 civilian casualties.

This aggravated the confrontation between Russia on one side and the US and NATO on the other and created the danger of nuclear holocaust on the European continent.

What should not be overlooked is that this war machine is stretching out its tentacles to the Asia-Pacific region while strengthening military tie-ups with such stooges of the US as Japan, the ROK and Australia.

The NATO secretary general on his visit to Japan argued that the

security of European Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions is inseparable. And NATO, Japan, ROK, Australia and New Zealand concluded so-called special partnership and cooperation plans.

Talking about a grave challenge to security in the Asia-Pacific in a recent summit meeting, NATO also rationalized the dangerous military exercises its member nations stage in the region.

As such war games are expanded with each passing day, French, Spanish and German forces stole into the Asia-Pacific region one after another last July alone to conduct military drills with Japan, thereby creating a war atmosphere.

Seeing through NATO which invented and spreads "security concerns", regional countries urge it to stop such things as plunging the Asia-Pacific region into confusion in the wake of throwing Europe into disorder.

As the facts tell, NATO is just an actual war tool and means of domination for realizing the US' wild ambition for hegemony and a malignant tumour extremely worsening the international security environment and bringing a new cold war to the world.

Japan's illegal and dangerous discharge of nuclear-contaminated water

By Yun Ki Song PT

Despite the strong opposition and denunciation by the international community, the Japanese authorities are going to discharge again nuclear-contaminated water from the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. This is the fourth dumping after they enforced its discharge into the sea three times this year.

According to a report issued by the Tokyo Electric Power Company, the third dumping was completed on July 16, amounting to nearly 7 800 tons. It has a plan to discharge about 54 600 tons of nuclear waste water on seven occasions this year. And it is going to discharge the fourth dumping within this month at the earliest.

This is a very shameful act of posing danger to the whole world and jeopardizing the life and safety of mankind.

Pundits have long warned that the discharge of nuclear contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant will cause sea pollution by radioactive substances and that it might inflict serious harm upon food safety and health of mankind.

The academic circles assert that the marine environment of the whole world will be polluted

by the radioactive substances of Japan's nuclear-contaminated water.

Due to Japan's shameful and irresponsible dumping, mankind has become unable to avoid dreadful nuclear disaster.

This is not an empty talk, but imminent reality.

This notwithstanding, Japan has resorted to every trick to justify the discharge, talking about "safe management" and "clean treated water". In a nut shell, it claims the nuclear-contaminated water is safe.

It also calls the contaminated water "treated water" in a bid to justify the dumping. Its sinister intention is to make its own profits by discharging nuclear waste water into the sea at any cost in disregard of the pollution of the Pacific Ocean and danger to the lives and safety of people.

After all, all the countries and regions in the world will soon be exposed to the danger of nuclear disaster unprecedented in the world owing to the illegal and dangerous behaviour of Japan that does not hesitate to inflict constant nuclear disaster upon mankind so as to serve its own interests.

The international community is raising louder voices of denunciation against Japan, a dangerous criminal state, with each passing day.

Earth tormented by severe heat

By Ri Sang II PT

Shortly ago, a research group on climate change said that the whole world is suffering from a severe swelter.

According to it, there is a possibility that powerful El Nino, which caused high temperatures worldwide, will disappear and La Nina, which cools the Pacific region, will be formed between July and September, but El Nino will have an influence for some time.

The meteorological information agency of the European Union reported that the world average temperature from May last year to April this year rose by 1.61°C over the period before the Industrial Revolution.

It by far exceeds the climate-related goal set by the Paris agreement on climate change to restrict the extent of global temperature rise to less than 1.5°C from that in the pre-Industrial Revolution period.

Since June last year became the hottest June in the history of earth observation, the average world temperature every month has continued to renew the previous records.

In April this year the global average temperature was 0.67°C higher than the average April temperature in the period between 1991 and 2020 to become the hottest April in history.

As a result, high temperatures beyond the existing common sense are recorded throughout the world including Asia and Europe with no difference between continents and regions.

From early summer in some countries the temperature has

exceeded over 40-50°C with strong sunshine.

In northern India, fierce heat exceeding 50°C has dragged on from the end of May. On June 1, the Indian government said that more than 25 000 have been suffering from heatstroke and 56 lost their lives since March.

As abnormal swelter over 40°C continued, Greece took an emergency measure to close the ancient heritage sites from noon to 17.

In Thailand, the temperature began to soar to over 50°C in April and therefore outdoor activities were disallowed and classes were suspended at schools.

Intense heat of over 40°C hit most of Turkey and forest fires caused by high temperature occurred in five regions at the same time on June 12.

The Cambodian meteorological authorities said that their country was faced with the hottest weather in 170 years and the Malaysian meteorological authorities sounded an alarm to warn of high temperature in regions where high temperatures were observed every day.

The last glacier in the Andes completely disappeared due to temperature rise in Venezuela. So it became the first country where the glacier died out.

Now the international community is afraid that 2024 would be a year of climatic disaster.

Saying that it is the greatest task facing mankind to cope with climate change and there is no time to wait any more, the World Meteorological Organization calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions sharply and accelerating the transition to renewable energy.

Briefly

Russia

President Putin expresses stand to counter US' moves to escalated tension

Russian President Vladimir Putin, in his speech at the maritime parade held in St Petersburg on July 28, expressed the stance to cope with the US' moves to the escalation of tension.

If the US plan to deploy long-range missiles in Germany is put into action, Russia will no longer observe the ban on the deployment of medium- and shorter-range striking means, but increase the capacity of coastal units of the Navy within the range, he noted.

Asserting that the preparations for these systems have already reached the final stage, he warned that Russia would take reflective measures to deploy them in consideration of actions of the US and its satellite countries.

Iran

Islamic revolution leader censures US, Israel.

Seyed Ali Khamenei, leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, condemned the US and Israel on July 28.

The Palestinian issue was once confined to Islamic countries, but the issue of Palestine and the Gaza Strip has now become a global problem, he said, asserting that the Zionist regime is not a government, but a group of criminals, murderers and terrorists revealing its ugliest looks.

It is a great shame for the US Congress to have warmly welcomed the Israeli prime minister and lent an ear to his speech at the time when the criminal regime of Israel is dropping bombs on women, children and old and weak persons who did not shoot a bullet at them, he said.

Mexico

President exposes corruption of US society

The Mexican President exposed and denounced the corruption of US society in a press conference on July 23.

A major problem facing the US is social corruption, which is causing widespread drug abuse among young people, he said, asserting that the root cause of drug crisis in the US is individualism.

The US administration should not shift the blame for the drug problem onto the Mexican immigrants, but address the root cause of drug abuse, while improving policies related to youth, he stressed.

Japan

Ground SDF, US marine corps stage military exercises

The Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force and the US Marine Corps started military exercises in Kyushu and Okinawa, Japan, on July 28.

About 5 700 Ground SDF troops and nearly 3 200 US marines are involved in the exercises to be staged until August 7 by simulating the "defence of remote islands".

DPRK players win silver medals in Paris Olympics

KCNA

DPRK players Kim Kum Yong and Ri Jong Sik won silver medals in the mixed doubles of table tennis at the 33rd Olympic Games.

They defeated their Japanese opponents 4-1 in the last 16 on July 27. They beat Swedish and Chinese Hong Kong players 4-1 and 4-3 respectively in the quarterfinals and semifinals on July 28 and 29 before advancing to the final match.

The final between the DPRK and Chinese teams ended in 2-4.

Meanwhile, Kim Mi Rae and Jo Jin Mi finished runners-up at the women's 10m platform synchronized diving on July 31.



Scenes of a mixed doubles match of table tennis between DPRK and Japan in the last 16 and a women's 10m platform synchronized diving match.

DPRK players win six gold medals at international summer sports contest of university students

KCNA

The First International Summer Sports Contest of University Students, "Youth on the Maritime Territory", took place in Vladivostok, Russia, from July 21 to 26.

The sports contest brought together more than 1 000 players from the DPRK, Russia, Belarus and other

countries.

Kim Song Il and Choe Hyon Ha won the men's and women's singles of table tennis, Kim Song Il and Kim Kil Song the men's doubles, Choe Hyon Ha and Kim Hyon Gyong the women's doubles and Kim Song Il and Choe Hyon Ha the mixed doubles respectively by beating all opponents on July 25.

Pak Mi Song was awarded

the first gold medal in the women's 100m freestyle swimming event on July 24.

Meanwhile, Kim Hyon Gyong finished runner-up in the table-tennis women's singles and Han Kang Song and Kim Hyon Gyong in the mixed doubles.

As a result, they won six gold, five silver and one bronze medals, twelve medals in all, at the contest.

Natural monument—Yangdok *Stewartia koreana*



By Choe Yong Nam PT

Yangdok *Stewartia koreana* is distributed on the southern slope of the

Puktaebong Mountains some ten kilometres away from Yangdok county town in South Phyongan Province. The trees form a community.

The tallest one is 25 metres high and 35 centimetres thick at the chest height. The trees are 12 metres tall and 25 centimetres thick at the chest height on average.



Mt Kuwol with special beauties of mountain and valley is a renowned tourist resort and international biosphere reserve.

