

China Reconstructs

VOL. XXVI NO. 8

Chairman Hua Visits Taching;
The Significance of
the Nanchang Uprising

AUGUST 1977



我們衷心愛戴毛主席



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CONTENTS

Chairman Hua in Taching	2
The Railroads — From Disorder to Order	6
I Fought for the Truth <i>Liu Tung-chou</i>	10
Chairman Hua and the People	12
The Nanchang Uprising, Its Historical Significance <i>Nieh Jung-chen</i>	18
<i>From the Revolutionary Past:</i> The Origin of the PLA Flag	22
Cultural Notes: 'The East Is Red' — Another Suppressed Film Reappears	23
Yuanmou Man, China's Earliest Apeman to Date <i>Pan Yueh-jung</i>	27
New City on the Old Silk Road <i>Chen Liang</i>	29
Men with Tough Bones	34
Across the Land: The Institute of Oceanography	38
Children: On Duty — A Story	40
Chinese Local Products: Lo Han Kuo — A Versatile Fruit	41
China Controls Her Deserts <i>Ko Sha</i>	42
Stamps of New China: Taiwan Uprising Commemoratives; Commemoratives for Liu Hu-lan; Militiawomen	46
Language Corner:	47
Lesson 6: The Verb To Have	
For Advanced Students: A High Mountain Basketball Field	

COVER PICTURES:

Front: May Day fireworks over the Capital Iron and Steel Company in Peking.

Back: The Liuchiahsia Hydropower Station in Kansu province.

Inside front: A Lanchow schoolboy performs a *kuaipan* ballad written by himself.

Inside back: Commune cadres and members in Shansi province's Wenhsien county discuss how to nurse cotton seedlings in the fields.



Chairman Hua Kuo-feng greets members of a pacesetting women's extraction team.

Chairman Hua in Taching

THE TACHING oil field has long been a model for the way to build and run industry. Chairman Mao called on all China's industry to learn from it. In April 1977 Chairman Hua Kuo-feng arrived at the oil field to preside over the National Conference on Learning from Taching in Industry. Before the conference opened he spent three days touring the field.

April 17. Snow flurries swept across the far northern oil field. Red banners flying on top of the derricks marked this as a special day.

An auto caravan drew up to the wells managed by an outstanding women's extraction team.

"Here comes Chairman Hua!"

As Hua Kuo-feng's tall figure emerged from the car, the men and women broke into cheers.

Smiling broadly, Chairman Hua waved and applauded in a return salute. "We've come to learn from Taching," he said, "to learn from you comrades."

Chairman Hua watched a well in operation and a demonstration of a gusher and examined a well control "Christmas tree" Taching's workers had built themselves. Chairman Hua was pleased at the well-ordered operation. "Very good work," he said. The words brought big smiles to the women's faces.

The next stop was the Taching Chemical Fertilizer Plant. Its existence is a victory in the struggle against the "gang of four". The plant utilizes advanced technology imported from abroad with the approval of Chairman Mao and produces one million tons of ferti-

lizer a year. The "gang of four" made a big to-do over the construction of this plant. Declaring that buying advanced technology abroad was "slavish worship of everything foreign" and tantamount to national betrayal, they demanded an investigation of who approved of the construction and insisted that the imported equipment be dismantled. It was an attack on Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee. Hua Kuo-feng turned a deaf ear to their outcries and saw to it that the plant was completed. It went into production in June 1976, ahead of schedule.

Chairman Hua now watched the entire production process, asking many questions. Then he climbed the steel ladder in the urea shop to the platform of the prilling tower. "That's going to give us

more grain," he observed as he watched the liquid urea cool and form into showers of white granules of fertilizer.

In the synthetic fiber plant under the general petrochemical plant, bales of polyacrylic yarn were piled up ready for shipment. Chairman Hua was told that 3,000 tons were produced a year. "Three thousand tons," he said, calculating swiftly. "That's equivalent to 60,000 *tan* of cotton. That's fine. We should have more of this thing."

At a warehouse for motor vehicle and tractor parts famous for its efficiency, Chairman Hua watched a demonstration of the stock clerks' work. In the diesel engine parts section he was introduced to Chi Li-li, a 23-year-

in her head! Just give her the specification and shelf number, she can tell you right away the name, unit price and number of pieces in stock."

The leader opened one of the record books for Chairman Hua to look into. "4135, No. 57," he said, picking an item at random.

"That's the valve spring cap lock, 20 cents apiece. We have 532 in stock," said Chi Li-li.

Chi Li-li was not only a "walking record book", someone else put in. "If there were a blackout emergency she'd be able to find anything." The young woman blindfolded her eyes and Chairman Hua asked for 292 on shelf 25. Chi felt her way to a shelf 20 meters away and took down a connecting rod bearing, the right part. Amid

days of the oil field the women got organized to grow their own food and supply the oil field with part of its grain.

The news of Chairman Hua's visit to Taching called up memories in the pioneers' minds of how closely the country's leaders had always kept in touch with the oil field's progress. Seventeen years ago people from different parts of the country came to this wild prairie and began constructing the field. In three years it enabled China to become self-sufficient in oil. In 1962, 1963 and 1966 Premier Chou En-lai, on behalf of Chairman Mao, visited Taching. Every time he was pleased to find the work being done according to Chairman Mao's advice that China should blaze her own trail in industrialization. Taching, said Premier Chou, was "a good example in studying and applying Mao Tsetung Thought".

The "gang of four" tried long and hard to run down Taching, but the people there resisted the pressure and continued along the road approved by Chairman Mao and Premier Chou. Then the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua overthrew the gang. And six months later Chairman Hua was in Taching to join representatives of industry from all over the country for a conference to promote the Taching experience as a way of speeding up China's industrialization.

APRIL 18. The weather cleared and the sun shone brightly. Chairman Hua went first to the No. 2 pumping station for oil and gas transport designed and built by the Taching engineers and workers themselves. He looked at the equipment and went up close and listened to the flow of the crude oil in the pipes.

At the Vanguard No. 5 worker-peasant village he met with representatives from 276 such villages and heard a report on how workers'

At the Taching Chemical Fertilizer Plant.



old Mongolian girl who began work in 1974. Pointing to five record books, a woman who was one of the leaders of the warehouse said, "She is in charge of 520 kinds of parts which are recorded here, but she hardly ever has to refer to the books. There are about 2,400 figures for the parts and their storage places and she has them all

the applause, Chairman Hua shook hands with her and said, "That was very good. We must all learn from you."

That evening Chairman Hua attended a performance of the stage play *The Rising Sun*, produced by the Taching workers and their families. It tells how in the early

families got organized in the early days to grow food. This was done in the spirit of hard struggle advocated by Chairman Mao and in line with the principles outlined by Premier Chou — that industry should be combined with agriculture, the integration of town and country, that such efforts should facilitate production and help improve everyday life. Turning to Hsueh Kuei-fang, now 63, one of the five women who started it all with only five shovels, Chairman Hua said, "I saw you in the documentary film *Battle for Taching*. There were only five of you then, and you had to look after two children too. I was very moved. That was a good film. And to

women's militia, he was invited into the adobe home of Chou Teh-ying and her husband Tsui Ching-hai, two model workers. Chairman Hua sat on the *kang* bed and chatted with them.

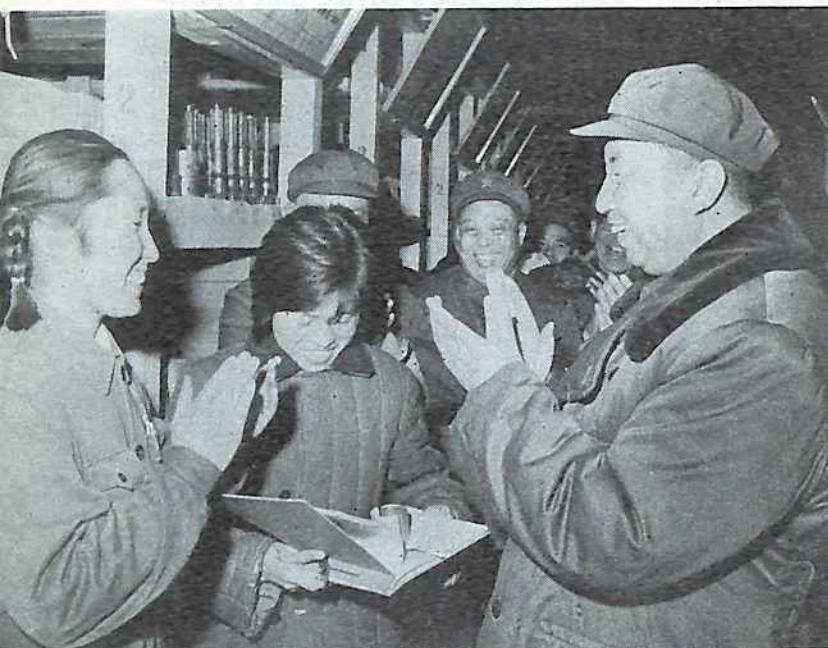
Dusk was falling when Chairman Hua arrived at the scientific experiment exhibition hall. He viewed scale models of the oil-bearing strata, rock core specimens, drilling equipment and extraction process charts and samples of the oil products. The display showed how well workers, cadres, scientists and technicians had applied Chairman Mao's philosophical works *On Practice* and *On Contradiction* to the opening up of a modern oil field.

taneously. I hope you will do some solid scientific work, also train more scientists and engineers."

"We'll go all out to catch up with advanced world levels, and try to outstrip them," said Kang Shih-en, deputy director of the oil field in its early days and now Minister of Petroleum and Chemical Industries.

"That's right," Chairman Hua said. "That's what we must do. Whatever the foreign countries have achieved, we must achieve too. Whatever they haven't, we must achieve and then try to improve on it."

"Taching is a red flag in industry," Chairman Hua con-



An exchange of approving applause with Chi Li-li, a crack stock clerk.



With Wang Yuch-fu, son of the famous "Iron Man" Wang Chin-hsi, and now himself a driller.

think the 'gang of four' banned it! Now the gang has been smashed and the film is being shown again."

"That was a good step you took," Chairman Hua added. "If all the people in the country work in the spirit of 'pioneering with five shovels' we will accomplish a lot more."

Chairman Hua stopped at the kindergarten and saw the children perform songs and dances. After watching target shooting by the

Chatting with the scientists and engineers who served as guides to the exhibition, Chairman Hua praised their work and encouraged them to find more big oil fields.

"If we are to modernize our industry, agriculture, defense, and science and technology and attain world levels," he said, "we must criticize the 'gang of four' and clear our thinking of the wrong ideas they spread. We must do class struggle, production and scientific experimentation simul-

tinued. "Chairman Mao had high praise for the way Taching was developed — through independence and self-reliance. Taching has played a great role, a very good role. It blazed a trail and made our country self-sufficient in oil. It should be praised and encouraged. Taching is a fine example for industry for the whole country. All other industries must learn from it — in practice, not just in words."



Posing with the cast of *The Rising Sun* after a performance.

ON the third day Chairman Hua rode 50 kilometers across the sprawling oil field to visit the 1205 and 1202 drilling teams, at work in a new section. Team 1205 was originally led by "Iron Man" Wang Chin-hsi, a vanguard member of China's working class.

In the sixties the two teams had set records far exceeding those of top teams in both the Soviet Union and the United States. In the seventies the two teams chalked up new highs to contribute significantly to the high-speed development of China's oil industry and were cited as revolutionized teams of the "Iron Man" type. Chairman Hua shook hands with the pacesetters of the two teams and was introduced to Wang Yueh-fu, youngest son of "Iron Man" Wang.

"How old are you?" asked Chairman Hua, grasping the young man's hand tightly.

"Twenty-one," said Wang. "We've been hoping for a long time that you'd come, Chairman Hua."

When young Wang came to Team 1205 two years earlier he

had pledged to carry on in his father's footsteps. Later he told his comrades he had been prepared to tell Chairman Hua that he would carry out Chairman Mao's wishes, try to emulate his father's revolutionary spirit and carry the Taching red flag into communism, that the new generation of drillers would follow Chairman Hua and make new contributions to the revolution. But he was too excited. He was only able to take a Taching souvenir badge from his work jacket and pin it on Chairman Hua's coat.

Chairman Hua climbed onto the drilling platform and watched the drillers at work. Team leader Yu Tzu-fu took the brake lever while several others swung the huge clamps. The coordination was so smooth that it took only one minute to change a drill pipe. Chairman Hua nodded in approval.

That night the team decided to name the well Chairman Hua had inspected "Happiness Well".

Chairman Hua moved on to the construction site of pumping station No. 13, then to another

women's extraction team. Kuan Hsiao-hung, its political director, told him how her team had been criticizing the "gang of four".

"We will try and find more Tachings, right here and elsewhere, so we can produce more oil for the country," she said.

"That's the spirit," said Chairman Hua.

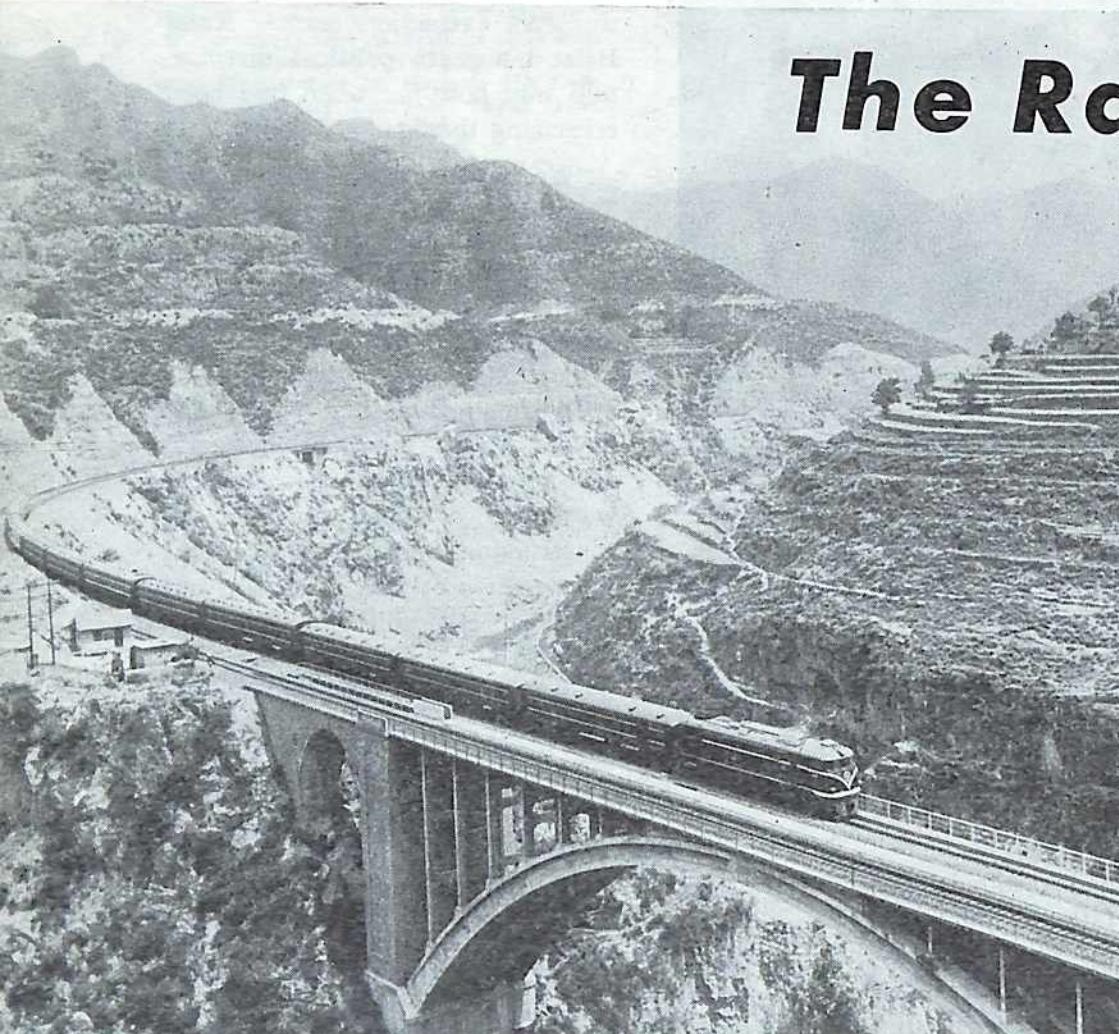
Chairman Hua then visited the team's dining room, kitchen and dormitory. When he finished watching a demonstration of construction machinery equipment in operation it was after six, but Chairman Hua still insisted on going to the sewing and mending factory. "It represents the Taching spirit," he said.

This factory had been set up very early in the oil field's history, Lu Feng-chen, its deputy political director, told Chairman Hua. It takes old work clothes, washes and takes them apart and remakes them into still-useable work suits and protective clothing. Since its birth it has produced 3,920,000 such pieces, at a tremendous saving in cloth and cotton padding.

"What you are doing is a great inspiration to the rest of the country," Chairman Hua told her.

He watched each work procedure and asked many questions. In the laundry he took a piece of freshly washed old cloth from the hands of a worker and examined it. "You got all the oil out and got this very clean," he said. "People throughout the country can learn a great deal from seeing in the film how your factory does things. You're doing very important work, work serving the people, and you're doing it the way Chairman Mao urged, with diligence and thrift. The whole country should learn from you."

It was dark when Chairman Hua finished his tour. Everywhere in the oil field people were writing letters with pledges and revising work plans in order to live up to his expectations.



The Railroads —From Disorder to Order

Staff Reporter

NINETEEN seventy-seven will be a year in which we shall go toward great order after smashing the 'gang of four', a year of united struggle and triumphant advance."

China's railroad workers have already confirmed this prediction of Chairman Hua made at the Conference on Learning from Tachai in Agriculture last December. They have overcome the effects of the "gang of four's" interference and sabotage, put the railroads back on smooth, safe, on-time schedules, and hauled more freight faster, contributing much toward a leap forward in the national economy.

In April they set a new record in the average number of cars loaded per day. Nineteen of the country's 20 railroad divisions fulfilled their transport plans ahead of schedule, 11 of them at record levels. Weight pulled per engine was the highest

ever, and circulation time for freight cars was greatly shortened. Transport of key materials such as coal, oil, ore and chemical fertilizer all surpassed the state plan for the month.

Railroads, as arteries of the national economy, are important to China. Chang Chun-chiao, one of the four, repeatedly said, "Railroads are vital. We must control them." Over the past few years, as part of their scheme to wreck the economy and seize power amidst disorder, they put their own people in railroad units around the country and ordered them to make trouble whenever they could in order to cut these transport arteries.

The Chengchow Railroad Division in Honan province in the central plains was one of the most seriously affected. It is the junction of three trunk lines — Peking-Kwangchow, Chiaotso-Chihchiang

and Lienyunkang-Lanchow. Frequent blockages led to failure to fulfill car-loading plans for 19 months in succession, and in coal-loading for 53 months in a row. Trains were rarely on time and stations were in a mess.

Immediately after the "gang of four" was overthrown last October, Chairman Hua took up the problem of the Chengchow division and gave important instructions. He reorganized and strengthened its leading group.

The line's 100,000 workers and staff members erupted with exposures and criticism of the gang and its hatchetman in the division. Long-suppressed socialist enthusiasm burst forth to boost work. In a few short months order was restored and a leap forward started. What happened in Chengchow was in fact typical of the railroads throughout the country.

Sinister Hand

Being on the spot helps a reporter realize even more keenly the importance of Chengchow as a railroad center. The division controls 2,300 kilometers of railroads linking up with the provinces of Kiangsu to the east, Hupeh to the southwest, Shensi to the west, Shansi to the northwest and Hopei to the north. The Chengchow junction is composed of freight and passenger stations and engine, car, maintenance and signal sections, handling hundreds of freight and passenger trains daily. At the hub of the country's rail network, whether it runs smoothly or not directly affects economic construction and people's livelihood all along the line.

That was exactly why the "gang of four" chose as their hatchetman to control the Chengchow division somebody with much authority — a member of the Party Central Committee who was also a standing committee member of the Honan Provincial Party Committee, secretary of the Chengchow Municipal Party Committee, and secretary of the Chengchow Railroad Division Party Committee. He had been called in by Wang Hung-wen for several meetings to receive instructions and was received alone by Chiang Ching, who promised him an even higher official position.

This person posed as a rebel at the beginning of the cultural revolution and for a time made people think he was a genuine revolutionary. But he had already degenerated into a new bourgeois element like Wang Hung-wen. After throwing in his lot with the "gang of four", step by step he became a power-hungry careerist. Using his power he got his own people (even some local thugs) into the Party and put them in leading groups at all levels in place of good cadres. Slowly he turned the Chengchow division into his kingdom.

In line with the "gang of four's" tactic of "disrupting the whole country and seizing power in the

disorder", he and his accomplices adopted the method of "stirring up trouble until the division collapses and then seizing power". They blocked Party leadership over the railroads and sabotaged rail transport. Chengchow was the heart of China's rail system — give the system a heart attack. "Production went up fast — we'll pull it down fast!" "Pulling transport down means victory!"

Denunciation

All along the railroads exposure and criticism of the "gang of four" and their Chengchow hatchetman turned into great forces promoting all work. Even a small station with only a dozen staff members had its walls covered with big-character posters and held heated criticism meetings. For the mass meeting to denounce the hatchetman face to face, 100,000 workers and staff members and their families along the lines listened in by closed-circuit broadcast.

A vicious method by the "gang of four" and their henchmen was to use revolutionary-sounding slogans to spread wrong ideas and cause confusion in people's minds. Under the pretext of "opposing capitalist roaders" they attacked hard-working leading cadres who stuck to the correct line. They said that "there is a whole stratum of capitalist roaders" and they should be "pulled out at every level". They fooled workers and staff members into leaving their posts and "rebelling" along with them. Those who stuck to their posts were labeled as "grasping production to the neglect of revolution", "only leaning into the traces without looking up to see where they're going" and "working for the wrong line".

They spread the idea that "socialist trains late are better than capitalist trains on time" and called rational management systems "control, restriction and suppression of the workers". They intimidated people with the slogan, "Don't produce for the wrong line and make the capitalist roaders

look good", inciting them to stop work.

Railroads are run efficiently only under a centralized, unified leadership. But the gang's followers trampled on the basic principles of transport and said there was no need to follow regulations for transferring trains with neighboring divisions. This kind of sabotage caused transport volume in the division to drop sharply after 1973.

After the Party Central Committee's decision on strengthening railroad work approved by Chairman Mao was implemented in March 1975, the Chengchow division's workers and staff members went to work with great enthusiasm and production started to recover. Trying to counter the upward trend, the "gang of four" stepped up their maneuvers to usurp Party and state power. They openly criticized this Central Committee decision as a "program for capitalist restoration", and once more sabotaged rail transport. Production in 1976 slipped by an even bigger margin.

In that year there were 12 division-wide blockages. At the worst times there were trains waiting to pass through Chengchow stranded all along the line from the Great Wall's first pass at Shanhaikuan in the north to Kwangchow in the south, and the Peking-Kwangchow line was semi-paralyzed. Coal shipments piled up and along the lines many power plants shut down, steel and fertilizer plants were idle, steam engines had no fuel and markets were sold out. Socialist construction was being seriously blocked. "It's a crime the way they messed up the railroads," an old worker said furiously.

Struggle

Chengchow was one of the starting points of the big February 7 railroad workers' strike back in 1923 against imperialism and feudal warlords. It has a fine revolutionary tradition of daring to fight



Chengchow railroad workers denounce the "gang of four" and their followers for sabotaging rail transport.

against what is bad and wrong. The four's hatchetman might have held sway over the Chengchow division, posed as a "workers' leader representing the correct line" and shouted revolutionary slogans, still there were plenty of people who saw through him and fought against him and his underlings. These fearless revolutionaries were feared, hated and persecuted by the gang's people.

Liu Tung-chou, a young worker, wrote to Chairman Mao charging the "gang of four" with conspiracies and wrongdoings. He was slandered as a "counter-revolutionary" and threatened with arrest. (See p. 10.)

The Kaifeng signal section, learning from Taching, created the "250-kilometer spirit" symbolizing a high sense of responsibility and meticulous work. Its cadres were attacked and persecuted for having made an "error of line".

The Kaifeng signal section is in charge of communications, signals and electrical equipment along 250 km. of line. Sabotage by followers of the "gang of four" resulted in splits in the workers' ranks and messed-up management. Equipment fell into disrepair, accidents increased and trains could not run on schedule.

Fired by a sense of responsibility, the section's general Party branch was determined to change

all this. Learning from the way the Taching oil field integrated a highly revolutionary spirit with a strictly scientific attitude, in 1975 it organized several groups with a total of 42 leaders, workers and engineers which went to work all along the line to explain the Party Central Committee's decision on strengthening railroad work and to inspect and repair equipment.

Carrying their own bedrolls, tools and food in the Long March spirit, they covered the 250-km. on

foot in under a month, checking every line on every pole and every connection at each of the 26 stations, making all necessary repairs. More than getting the equipment back in shape, the experience strengthened political unity among the workers and heightened their socialist consciousness. People came to call this the "250-km. spirit" and said it should be promoted throughout the Chengchow division.

But the four's hatchetman called the "250-km. spirit" a typical example of all production and no revolution and tried to get the workers and staff members of the section to criticize it. He never dreamed that all 440 of the section's men and women concluded through discussion that there was nothing wrong with it. Furious, he ordered the entire general Party branch of the section to come to Chengchow for a "study class" in which his minions attacked them and tried to make them admit that they had "worked for the wrong line". No one in the Party branch bowed to the pressure.

The switchyard in Chengchow's north station.



The struggle finally ended in victory for the "250-km. spirit" last October with the fall of the "gang of four". "Tears filled our eyes when we heard the news," Party secretary Chou Chung-hsu recalled. "At the celebration meeting a worker spoke for all of us when he said, 'With the overthrow of the four the ropes that bound us have been loosened and a weight has been lifted from our hearts. Now we can spill out our bellyful

of gripes and put our pent-up energy to use. We can stand up straight, stick out our chests and go all out to make socialism!"

Toward Order

That was exactly what people at the Chengchow Railroad Division did. Chairman Hua's strategic policy of grasping the key link — exposure and criticism of the "gang of four" — and restoring

order is a lively reality there. The handful of bad people have been dealt with severely, those persecuted by them have been liberated, the rights and wrongs have been clarified, the confusion in people's thinking cleared up. Full of drive, the people pledged, "The four are out, the railroads will get going. We'll make up for the losses!"

Disorder has been replaced by a leap forward. The percentage of trains on time has greatly increased and the stations are in good order. Socialist labor emulation is being carried out between subdivisions, stations, sections, shops, groups and individuals. Posters containing challenges give concrete norms and measures, and so do those accepting them. Red honor rolls list the names of pacesetters. Many departments have called on the masses to surpass the highest levels ever achieved for their various norms. Leaders at all levels work tirelessly at their posts, many of them frequently joining the weak groups to help them catch up with the rest.

In the first quarter of this year, the division's basic units praised 1,480 collectives and 6,380 individuals. At the division's conference to learn from Taching in industry, 858 advanced collectives and individuals were singled out.

Compared with last December, the average number of cars loaded daily rose 3.4 percent in January, 13 percent in February, 26.6 percent in March and 35.3 percent in April. The figure for coal, crucial for developing the national economy, was up 58.8 percent in April, reaching a new high for the month.

This March the Chengchow Railroad Division started a nationwide upsurge of socialist labor emulation by presenting the advanced Peking Railroad Division with a friendly challenge. The advanced keep moving forward and those behind are catching up. Socialism is going full steam ahead.

Leaders of the Hsinyang subdivision gather in the dispatcher's office to discuss and guarantee smooth operation.



Liu Tung-chou denounces the "gang of four".

I Fought for the Truth

LIU TUNG-CHOU

On October 5, 1976 Liu Tung-chou, 33-year-old railroad worker in Chengchow and a Communist Party member, was charged with "viciously attacking Vice-Premier Chang Chun-chiao and trying to split the Party Central Committee" and branded a counter-revolutionary by the followers of the "gang of four" in the Chengchow Railroad Division. He was "to be expelled from the Party and his work unit, arrested and punished according to law." On

WHY did I oppose Chang Chun-chiao? It's simple. I discovered that he was the backer of the bad people in our railroad division, the source of many bad things that were harming our country. I am a Communist Party member. It was my duty to fight against him.

After eight years of service in the People's Liberation Army, I came to work at the engine section of the Chengchow Railroad Division in 1970. I had thought that in a socialist enterprise all I had to do was work hard. But things were not as simple as that. Strange happenings in our work place in recent years raised many questions in my mind. A lot of people worked hard to see that trains ran smoothly, safely and on time, yet they were discriminated against and suppressed, and were called people "only leaning into the traces without looking up to see where they're going". Many leading cadres who have been doing revolutionary work for several decades and were still giving their all to fulfilling the transport plans were smeared as "capitalist roaders" and were attacked and removed from their posts. In contrast, the people who shouted

revolutionary slogans but actually did all kinds of bad things were admitted into the Party and promoted to leading positions for having "a high consciousness in the two-line struggle". We all felt this was wrong but whoever criticized the situation would meet with reprisals. Why had things come to this?

Chairman Mao told us that when we made observations we must go beyond external appearances to grasp the essence. I discovered that all the strange happenings could be traced to that person who had climbed to high positions and was styling himself as "a representative of the correct line" and "a workers' leader". He had an honest appearance but was actually full of cunning and deceit. Ignoring Party principles, he appointed people by favoritism and set up cliques to boost his own personal power. By supporting one faction and suppressing the other, he split the ranks of the working class. He incited the masses to attack leaders and the Party committees, so as to seize power at every level. In the spring of 1975, when the Party Central Committee's decision to strengthen railroad work approved by Chairman Mao was an-



October 6 the "gang of four" was overthrown. Liu Tung-chou remained free and was praised for daring to go against the tide.

Why did he oppose Chang Chun-chiao? How did he dare oppose someone so powerful? This article is his answer.

nounced, he supported it in public but privately called it "a program for restoring capitalism" and obstructed its implementation.

People reacted strongly to all these abnormal goings-on, because they were obviously no longer matters of work style but of political line. I was determined to dig to the bottom of it.

While in the army I had developed a habit of always going to the works of great proletarian writers to look for ways to solve problems. I spent several evenings using Chairman Mao's teachings on class struggle to analyze the situation in our division and wrote an article entitled "The Right and Wrong in Class Struggle".

I showed it to my good friend Fang who worked in the political office of our section and asked him if there was a chance of getting it published in the newspaper. He agreed with my viewpoints. "But the papers won't publish it," he said, "because this is not the kind of thing they want at the moment." I took it to Wang, a veteran worker and the leader of my Party group, and asked him what he thought of putting it up in the form of a wall poster. "Your viewpoints are cor-

rect and the majority of the people will support you," Wang said. "But there will be people who are against them. They may even incite attacks on you. Of course we shouldn't be afraid of attacks when upholding the truth, but we would get better results if we use better tactics."

He was right so I wrote a letter to Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee directly about what had happened in our division and what I thought about it. I felt this was my duty as a member of the Communist Party.

I sent one letter after another but the leader of our division continued to attack the good people and treat bad people well and put them in important positions. After the death of Premier Chou En-lai in January last year, he went so far as to spread political rumors and tried to incite the masses to attack central and local leaders. He boasted of how Chiang Ching had clapped him on his shoulder and promised that he would be the first secretary of the Honan Provincial Party Committee and also supervise the affairs of Hupeh province. At the same time posters appeared in the streets of Cheng-chow and outside the provincial Party committee building demanding that this person preside over the work of the provincial Party committee.

Clearly a political conspiracy was brewing. I told Wang what I thought and he agreed. "In Shanghai there are posters demanding that Chang Chun-chiao be appointed premier," he said. "It's not a coincidence."

This division leader was also spreading the word that everything he did was based on the theory that "present class relationships have changed", an idea preached by Chang Chun-chiao, the self-styled Marxist theorist.

I carefully reread Chang Chun-chiao's article and compared his arguments against the theories of Lenin and Chairman Mao. I found that all his revolutionary phrases about "changes in class relationships" were only an attempt to prove that "80 percent of the

veteran cadres are bourgeois democrats", that "the democrats are capitalist roaders" and "targets of the revolution". Small wonder that our division leader dared to say that veteran cadres should be "criticized, struggled against and shot"—and these were men who had eaten bran in the old society, carried rifles in the anti-Japanese war, and been wounded in the liberation war! Viewed together with the political rumors slandering leaders in the Party Central Committee, I found this a grave political matter. In great anger I wrote to Chairman Mao again repudiating Chang Chun-chiao's thesis. "Out of my firm faith in Chairman Mao," concluded my letter, "I think someone in the Central Committee is hatching some kind of conspiracy. These political rumors were probably spread by that ambitious careerist who did not get to be premier," i.e., Chang Chun-chiao.

I felt that with the letter I had fired a broadside against the careerists and conspirators. But I also knew that those people still held power, and if they found out about my letter, they would make me pay hard for it. But I wasn't afraid and I didn't regret what I did. I was ready for any consequence. I was ready to go to jail or die to uphold Marxism-Leninism and defend the hard-won proletarian revolutionary cause. I left a letter to my wife at the bottom of a trunk. "This is a matter involving political line and the whole situation," I wrote. "I am a member of the Communist Party. I must come forward in the interest of the people. If we don't do the right thing with regard to political line and power, our younger generation will suffer. The consequences will be unimaginable. . . You must be firm in political stand and study Chairman Mao's works carefully. If the worst comes to the worst, please look after the children well and bring them up to be worthy successors to the revolutionary cause."

It turned out my letters to Chairman Mao actually fell into their hands. They knew that what I said represented the masses' views and feelings. As a warning

to the masses, they branded me a counter-revolutionary, started an investigation into my "case" and duped people into persecuting me.

Chairman Mao said, "Thousands upon thousands of martyrs have heroically laid down their lives for the people; let us hold their banner high and march ahead along the path crimson with their blood!"

These words sustained me during these attacks. When they asked me who I was referring to when I said "the careerist who did not get to be premier", I said, "That's clear. I was referring to Chang Chun-chiao." They ordered me to write an examination on why I opposed Chang Chun-chiao. I took this opportunity to write another repudiation of Chang's reactionary thesis.

The pressure mounted. But I also received sympathy and encouragement from many comrades. Many refused to "expose my mistakes" when they were asked to. While held under investigation I wrote to the provincial Party committee to express my determination to struggle against the wrong line to the end. "This is not a personal matter," I wrote. "It is a matter concerning the interest of the Party and the state. I am ready to go to jail and die. I am ready to go through anything for victory."

History is ruthless to all kinds of reactionaries. The usurper in our division had signed a warrant to arrest me, but before it could be carried out, the Party Central Committee under Chairman Hua Kuo-feng smashed the "gang of four" and their followers in our railroad division. Our revolution and our Party were saved. I was freed too. The great news brought tears to my eyes. I joined the demonstration to celebrate the victory. I, the son of a poor family, had been liberated a second time. I thank Chairman Hua and our great Party.

Today, filled with a great faith in the victory of the proletarian revolutionary cause under the leadership of the Communist Party, I am determined to fight for communism all my life.

Chairman Hua and the People

STORIES of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng's earlier activities have inspired a number of works of art. On the following pages are some from the 1977 National Art Exhibition. (A selection of other works from the exhibition appeared in our July issue.)

The Parents' Meeting

On the evening of March 21, 1974 Middle School No. 166 in Peking was holding a meeting for parents of young people who were graduating from senior middle school. They were to talk about the graduates signing up to go and settle in the countryside. A tall, broad-shouldered man wearing an army coat arrived on foot and sat down in the back row. It was Hua Kuo-feng, then a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party Central Committee.

After several other parents had spoken, Comrade Hua stood up (see painting p. 14) and said, "Chairman Mao wants our children to go to the countryside after graduation. As revolutionary parents we should gladly let them. Young people with some education are needed in the countryside and they need to go to the vast countryside for a period to mature and be steeled."

Parents may keep one child with them if all other children go away. Comrade Hua continued, "Hsiao-li is my youngest daughter, the only one still with me. But I am glad she too has decided to go to the countryside as Chairman Mao has urged."

His example was an inspiration to the parents and that year every member of the graduating class went to the countryside.

Visit to an Earthquake Area

Among the art works are *His Concern Brings Warmth to Ten Thousand Families* and the oil *Are You Warm Enough?* picturing Comrade Hua Kuo-feng visiting the people after the devastating earthquake on February 4, 1975 in the Haicheng-Yingkou area in the northeastern province of Liaoning. After the quake the people wondered whether they would ever be able to overcome the damage.

The following day Comrade Hua Kuo-feng representing Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee arrived heading a delegation. He pointed out the direction. The people had Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee to lead them, he said, they were living under the socialist system with all its advantages, they would have assistance from China's 800 million people. They would be able to overcome their difficulties.

His first concern was the safety and living conditions of the people, and to get them organized to rebuild their homes. At the Kan-wang commune he entered a twisted building sheltering some of the injured. Aftershocks were still going on and the people in charge urged him to leave, but he continued to ask about the injured. He urged the medical personnel to exert their utmost efforts. He

visited the hardest-hit communes and brigades near the epicenter to discuss how to organize the people for relief and rehabilitation and to restore production.

On the third day Comrade Hua went to the city of Yingkou. As soon as he got out of the car he began inspecting the shelters built after the quake. He asked whether they kept out the cold and told the local leaders that they must be sure that grain processing went on regularly and that damaged machines be repaired quickly so that the food supply would not be interrupted. He said that the shelters should be reinforced against the cold and that special attention must be paid to the needs of children and elderly people.

In the yard of Guest House No. 1 in Yingkou he heard reports and took notes on relief work. The earthquake was a bad thing, he observed, but it could be turned into a good thing. He urged them to overcome this natural disaster with the same spirit that the people of Tachai, the national model brigade, had overcome theirs. Their homes had been destroyed by a flood but they had built a new socialist village. These instructions guided the Yingkou Municipal Revolutionary Committee in leading the area's 2.4 million townspeople and peasants to rebuild.

With the Steel Workers

The painting *The Steel Workers' Hearts Are with Chairman Hua* recalls Comrade Hua Kuo-feng's visit

with the 1975 earthquake delegation to the Anshan Iron and Steel Company. Aftershocks of the quake were still going on. At blast furnace No. 9, his first stop, the workers were cleaning up after tapping a heat of iron. The place was filled with fumes. Comrade Hua went up and shook hands with members of the team. "Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee sent us to see you," he said. "You're doing a good job!"

Near the tap hole of the furnace Kuan En-yuan, a young worker, was picking up his tools. "This is Comrade Kuan," one of the plant leaders told Hua Kuo-feng. "He's known as 'Little Tiger'. He stayed on the job even though his family's house was damaged by the quake."

"You're living up to your name," said Hua Kuo-feng, shaking his hand. "On behalf of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, I thank you."

This encouragement prompted Kuan to take an application for membership in the Communist Party from his pocket and hand it to a member of the plant Party committee who was there. Comrade Hua asked to read it. When he came to the words, "Even if mountains fall and the earth splits I'll still make revolution with the Party. We must not stop production during the quake, and after it we must overfulfill our plan to make up for losses."

"Good for you, Comrade Kuan," said Hua Kuo-feng. "I know you are speaking not only for yourself but for the 200,000 workers of this company." He folded the paper and put it in his overcoat pocket. "I'm going to take this back to Chairman Mao and the Party Cen-

tral Committee. We'll be waiting for news of your victories."

At Steel Mill No. 1, Comrade Hua came upon Nieh Wen-hou, a veteran cadre and a vice-secretary of the Anshan Steel Party committee, wearing a helmet and hard hat at work. "Good!" he said. "That's the way to be close to the masses! All our Communist Party cadres should be like this."

The steel was ready to be poured at open-hearth furnace No. 8. Standing beside the workers, obviously pleased, Hua Kuo-feng watched the steel pour out. The scene later became the subject of the painting on p. 16.

At furnace No. 6 a plant leader told him that on October 14, 1952 when this furnace had produced its first heat of high-quality steel, Chairman Mao had sent the workers a letter of congratulation. "I hope you'll continue this revolutionary tradition," Hua Kuo-feng said, "and make still greater contributions to developing the steel industry."

With the Emancipated Serfs

When the Tibet Autonomous Region celebrated the tenth anniversary of its founding on September 9, 1975, the Party Central Committee sent a delegation headed by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng to Lhasa to join the festivities. Wanting to know more about the emancipated serfs, Comrade Hua spent most of his brief stay there with them. He went to many places and was welcomed with heartfelt greetings.

At the Fanti People's Commune outside Lhasa commune members served him a cup of butter tea. He insisted that they all drink together. The incident later became the subject of the painting

Emancipated Serfs Love Chairman Hua on p. 17.

He visited the home of Kalzang Chhoidron, a commune member who had worked as a slave for years before she was freed. In those days the old woman's only possession was a threadbare sheepskin coat. Emancipation brought a new life for her family and warm clothing, new mattresses and quilts. She showed Comrade Hua her storeroom with 1.5 tons of grain and her bankbook with over 300 yuan in savings.

Among the Peasants

During the Second National Conference on Learning from Tachai in Agriculture held in Peking last December, Chairman Hua received the delegates. When he heard that someone was there from the Shangwang production brigade in Shaohsing county, Chekiang province, he said, "Shangwang brigade? I've been there."

"You were there on July 18, 1971," Wang Chin-yu, secretary of the brigade Party branch told him.

Chairman Hua had toured, among other things, the brigade's tea garden and talked with commune members there. The scene was recently recreated in the painting *A Close Friend* on p. 17.

Later this brigade refused to go along with the "gang of four" and its ideas which would have wrecked agriculture. Because of this it was attacked and its people were persecuted.

"How are things there now?" asked Chairman Hua.

Wang Chin-yu was beaming so broadly all he could say was, "Fine, fine."



Are You Warm Enough? (Chairman Hua with armymen helping in the Yingkou earthquake, 1975) oil, Liu Ching



Parents' Meeting (at Middle School No. 166, Peking, 1974) oil, Chao Shih-ying, Shu Chun-huan, Wang Chao-ching and Wen Kuo-chang



His Concern Brings Warmth to Ten Thousand Families (visiting an earthquake shelter family, Yingkou, 1975) charcoal, Kuo Huai-jen

红心永向华主席

华国锋主席于一九七五年视察鞍钢



华茂基画中

The Steel Workers' Hearts Are with Chairman Hua (at Anshan Steel after the quake, 1975) traditional-style painting, Chao Hua-sheng and Wang Chi-hsiang

Emancipated Serfs Love Chairman Hua (in Tibet for its tenth anniversary, 1975) traditional-style painting, Hua Chi-min



A Close Friend (touring the Shangwang brigade's tea garden, 1971) oil, Pan Hung-hai, Ku Pan and Wu Chi-teh



The Nanchang Uprising, Its Historical Significance

NIEH JUNG-CHEN

THE Chinese People's Liberation Army counts its birth from the date of the Nanchang Uprising, August 1, 1927. The Chinese Communist Party's choice of this day for the army anniversary is an indication of its high estimate of the Nanchang Uprising. It was a historical turning point at which the Chinese revolution led by the Communist Party entered a new stage. This point was recognized very early.

In his *Problems of War and Strategy*, Comrade Mao Tsetung wrote: "Our Party failed to grasp the importance of engaging itself directly in preparations for war and in the organization of armed forces for a period of three or four years, that is, from 1921 (when the Chinese Communist Party was founded) to 1924 (when the First National Congress of the Kuomintang was held), and it still lacked adequate understanding of this issue in the 1924-27 period and even later; nevertheless, after 1924, when it began to participate in the Whampoa Military Academy, it entered a new stage and began to see the importance of military affairs. Through helping the Kuomintang in the wars in Kwangtung province and participating in the Northern Expedition, the Party gained leadership over some armed forces. Then, having learned a bitter lesson from the failure of the revolution, the Party organized the Nanchang Uprising, the Autumn Harvest Uprising and the Canton Uprising, and entered on a new period, the founding of the Red Army. That was the crucial period in which our Party arrived

at a thorough understanding of the importance of the army."

This paragraph by Comrade Mao Tsetung, along with his other military conclusions on the topic, constitutes the best historical summing up of the significance of the Nanchang Uprising.

On the eve of the uprising, China's social system, though already in great turmoil, was still semi-colonial and semi-feudal in nature. But serious changes were taking place which were not of advantage to the revolution. Imperialists and the domestic reactionaries who attached themselves to them — both of them enemies of the Chinese people — were establishing a new alliance in order to attack the forces of revolution and the people. The Northern Expedition was winning great victories and its troops were already being welcomed by the people of Wuhan, but British, Japanese and U.S. imperialism were sending large numbers of reinforcements to their troops in China. Twenty-seven gunboats and torpedo boats of the British Second Fleet stationed at Weihaiwei had moved south and were already past Shanghai on their way up the Yangtze River. They intervened in the Chinese revolution with a bombardment of Nanking.

China's warlords, both new and old, had also stepped up their collusion. The Szechuan warlord Liu Hsiang massacred a large number of people at a rally in Chungking sponsored by the Worker-Peasant-Merchant-Student-Soldier Anti-British League protesting the British bombardment of Nanking. Afterward, news leaked out from Liu Hsiang's headquarters that the massacre had been prompted by Chiang Kai-shek.

The situation showed clearly that for a semi-colonial and semi-

feudal country like China there could be no independence while the nation was controlled by imperialism, and for its people there could be no democratic rights while they were oppressed by reactionary forces inside the country. The Chinese people had to wage revolutionary armed struggle against armed counter-revolution, and they needed an armed force to keep the fruits of the revolution from being stolen by counter-revolution.

Comrade Mao Tsetung pointed out in *The Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist Party*, "The principal means or form of the Chinese revolution must be armed struggle, not peaceful struggle." This is an unalterable conclusion gained in the experience of innumerable actual struggles.

THE revolutionary masses of workers and peasants everywhere had already demanded to have their own armed forces before the Nanchang Uprising. They asked the trade unions and peasants' associations for rifles and hand grenades. On their own they organized armed workers' pickets and peasants' self-defense corps. They understood that, faced with such ferocious enemies, without their own armed force they would have no democratic rights, that without armed struggle they would have nothing.

The Party had gradually come to realize the importance of preparing for direct armed struggle and of organizing an armed force. Although the understanding of this point was still not deep enough, it was considerably better than in the previous period. Comrade Yeh Ting's troops, which were one of the main units in the Nanchang Uprising, had been an independent regiment consisting

NIEH JUNG-CHEN, who took part in the Nanchang Uprising, is now a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Party Central Committee.

of Communists and revolutionary youth under the Fourth Army of the National Revolutionary Army. Later it was expanded into a division. During the Northern Expedition the unit had fought as a vanguard force. They were the first to enter Hunan, defeated the enemy all along the route and then captured the city of Wuchang in Hupeh province. The unit had won the name "Iron Army".

During the entire period of the Great Revolution*, in fact, we Communists had played a vanguard role both militarily and in political work. Soon after he had accepted the Communist Party's political proposal for cooperation and reorganized the Kuomintang Party, Sun Yat-sen had set up the National Revolutionary Army and the Whampoa Military Academy,

with help from the Chinese Communist Party and the Soviet Union. We Communists shouldered heavy tasks in both the army and the academy. Communists were the main force in the two "eastern campaigns" launched by the National Revolutionary Army in February and October 1925 against the Kwangtung warlord Chen Chiung-min and in putting down rebellions by local warlords Yang Hsi-min and Liu Chen-huan, to consolidate the Kwangtung revolutionary base.

The Communist Party had motivated the Kuomintang to launch the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal Northern Expedition in 1926-27 and gave it full support. Our Party's organizations in various provinces and particularly in Hunan, Hupeh and Kiangsi, mobilized the workers and peasants to support the army and develop a vigorous revolutionary move-

ment in coordination with the expedition. Our revolutionary comrades in both the army and the provinces showed that they feared neither hardship nor death. They fought militantly and made it possible for the Northern Expeditionary Forces to defeat the enemy from the Pearl River up to the Yangtze River valley, and to enter Honan province within six months. Throughout the country people felt that complete victory was certain. But things developed contrary to what had been expected.

EVER SINCE it began cooperating with the Communist Party the bourgeoisie, true to its class nature of profiting at others' expense, had been preparing for a split. They kept their intent hidden. We lacked experience and were fooled. When the Northern Expedition began, the reactionary wing of the Kuo-

* Referring to the First Revolutionary Civil War Period, 1924-27.

The Nanchang Uprising (oil).



mintang represented by Chiang Kai-shek was not very strong so they had to ask for help and support from the Communist Party and the masses of workers and peasants. They wanted us to do the political work in the army, charge enemy positions in battle and use our close ties with the masses to get them manpower, supplies, information and ways of solving problems. In short, they wanted us to exhaust ourselves fighting for political power for them. Then when they became strong, they planned to kick us aside and even kill us off at one swoop.

Later when the Kuomintang reactionaries became stronger as the Northern Expedition won victory after victory, they turned traitor to the revolution and took the place of the very feudal warlords the revolution had defeated. The reactionary wing of the Kuomintang turned against the Communists and attempted to trample the workers and peasants underfoot so that they would have a free hand to carry out their dictatorship of the comprador bourgeoisie.

IN such a situation the Party and the proletariat should have resolutely assumed leadership of the revolution, aroused the masses, armed the workers and peasants, destroyed feudalism, uprooted the landlord and capitalist classes and carried the revolution to the end. Unfortunately we were not able to do so at that time. Many comrades in the Party had put forth correct proposals but these could not be put into practice widely because our Party was in general dominated by Chen Tu-hsiu's Right opportunist line. Chen Tu-hsiu turned the united front of Kuomintang-Communist cooperation into a fetter around the neck of the proletariat. He did not dare to win, and in fact didn't know how to win victory in the revolution and then consolidate it. The aroused workers and peasants frightened him. He said that the mass movement would wreck Kuomintang-Communist cooperation. He failed to understand that if the proletariat assumed leadership of the revolution and the workers and peasants became stronger through victory in the revolution, the bourgeoisie

wouldn't dare to undermine the united front. Even if they did attempt to sabotage it, we would have been able to smash their plot.

Chen Tu-hsiu's Right opportunism in essence betrayed the revolution. He urged the Communists and working people to be like coolies serving the bourgeoisie and the Kuomintang and wouldn't let them have leadership of the revolution. He wouldn't let the aroused workers and peasants demand political power and arms, distribute land or uproot the landlord and capitalist classes. Thus he negated the importance of the land question in the Chinese revolution, wrecked the alliance between the proletariat and the peasants. He upheld the interests of the landlord and capitalist classes and placed the Party, the working class and all the working people in a completely passive and powerless position. He did everything he could to slander the peasant movement and oppose the demand to struggle against the landlord-tyrants and distribute their land. He insisted that the workers' pickets and peasants' self-defense corps be disbanded. This Right opportunist line would have destroyed the Chinese revolution. There is no doubt that it was a help to the Kuomintang reactionaries represented by Chiang Kai-shek and Wang Ching-wei, the landlord-tyrants and the comprador capitalists.

THE forces of counter-revolution took advantage of our errors resulting from Chen Tu-hsiu's Right opportunist line. From March 1927 on they perpetrated a series of incidents in order to step up their attacks on the revolutionary forces. On March 11, 1927 Chiang Kai-shek ordered disbanding of the Municipal Kuomintang Committee in Nanchang which was controlled by the revolutionaries. On March 17 he instigated hoodlums from the Green Band and Red Band to surround and attack the offices of the Municipal Kuomintang Committee and General Trade Union in Kiukiang and then sent troops to take over these two organizations. On April 6 Chiang and Wang Ching-wei agreed at a secret meeting to stop all Com-

munist Party activity. On April 12 Chiang Kai-shek came out into the open with his betrayal of the revolution with a massacre in Shanghai. On April 25 he dispatched troops from northern Anhwei to seize Wuhan. The very existence of the Wuhan government was threatened on May 17 when Hsia Tou-yin, one of its division commanders, declared itself for Chiang. On May 21 Hsu Keh-hsiang, a commander of the garrison forces in Changsha who sided with the

The resolution to commemorate the August 1 uprising, as adopted on July 11, 1933 at the 45th Central People's Committee Meeting presided over by Chairman Mao, appeared in this issue of *Red China*, published in the central base area.



The pistol used by Comrade Chu Teh during the Nanchang Uprising. Later it was inscribed with the words "In commemoration of the Nanchang Uprising. Used by Chu Teh".



國民革命軍第二方面軍總指揮揮示

照得本部各軍 富於革命精神
 此次南昌起義 原為救國救民
 轉戰千里來粵 只求主義實行
 對於民眾團體 保護十分嚴謹
 對於商界同胞 買賣尤屬公平
 士兵如有騷擾 准其捆送來營
 本軍紀律森嚴 重懲決不姑徇
 積務望各安生業 特此鄭重申明

A notice issued by Ho Lung as the uprising forces entered Kwangtung province after leaving Nanchang, reassuring the Kwangtung people that the army was working in their interests.

Kuomintang reactionaries, surrounded the offices of the General Trade Union and the Hunan Peasant Association and killed many workers and peasants.

As Hsia Tou-yin's troops neared Wuchang they were routed by Yeh Ting's army and cadets from the Wuhan branch of the Central Military and Political Academy, but this could not reverse the worsening situation. On July 15 Wang Ching-wei, head of the Kuomintang reactionaries in Wuhan, showed that he stood against the revolution. Large numbers of Communists and other revolutionaries were arrested and killed. That was the way the Great Revolution went down in defeat. Events had shown us the danger in pursuing Chen Tu-hsiu's Right opportunist line and many comrades were resolved to repudiate it.

THE Party decided to counter-attack the Chiang-Wang betrayal of the revolution with an uprising in Nanchang. Comrade Chou En-lai was appointed secretary of the Front Committee set up by the Party for organizing and leading the uprising.

Some armed forces were already under control of the Party. Among

them were Comrade Yeh Ting's 24th Division of the Second Front Army's 11th Army, which was in Kiukiang; the Fourth Army's 25th Division now at the Mahuiling Station on the Nanchang-Kiukiang rail line; Comrade Ho Lung's crack 20th Army which had done an outstanding job in the Northern Expedition and had just arrived in Kiukiang from eastern Hupeh province; the Officers' Training Regiment in Nanchang under the command of Comrade Chu Teh; the Guards Regiment of the National Government at Wuchang led by Lu Teh-ming and other comrades; and the Wuhan branch of the Central Military and Political Academy.

The enemy did not have a strong force in Nanchang. Chu Pei-teh, head of the Kuomintang reactionaries in Kiangsi, was taking it easy in the Lushan Mountains. His Third Army and Ninth Army were stationed in Chi-an and Chinhien counties. There were only five regiments (about 6,000 men) in Nanchang. We figured an uprising could succeed and worked out a plan of action.

But the Right opportunist Chang Kuo-tao, in his capacity as a representative of the Party Central Committee, tried to prevent the uprising. He sent two telegrams to

the Party Front Committee, urging them to "be prudent in launching an insurrection". He insisted that the uprising should be approved by the Kuomintang warlord Chang Fa-kuei. Comrade Chou En-lai and other members of the Party Front Committee struggled with Chang Kuo-tao over the principles involved and finally his scheme was overruled.

THE first shot was fired at 1 a.m. on August 1, 1927. We had 30,000 troops under the command of Comrades Chou En-lai, Ho Lung, Yeh Ting, Chu Teh and Liu Po-cheng. The well-considered plan and the suddenness of the attack made it possible for us to settle the matter in five hours.

It was a shock to the counter-revolutionary forces in Nanking, Wuhan and Canton. They immediately coordinated to surround and attack the uprising.

We were not weak and objective conditions were favorable. The peasant movement had developed greatly in Kiangsi, Hupeh and especially Hunan and the peasants needed the support of a revolutionary armed force. If we had dispersed our troops among them in the Nanchang region, if we had integrated ourselves with the mass movement in the three provinces and mobilized, armed and relied on the people, we would have been able to push forward the agrarian revolution, start guerrilla warfare and establish base areas from which to carry on the revolutionary struggle.

But we didn't understand about setting up revolutionary bases. Instead, we planned to return to Kwangtung to rally our forces again, obtain international support through ports there and then launch another expedition northward. We were thinking purely in terms of military action. The uprising forces withdrew from Nanchang on August 5. When we reached Chaochow and Swatow in Kwangtung province we were defeated.

Later the remaining troops reached the Chingkang Mountains in Kiangsi province and joined

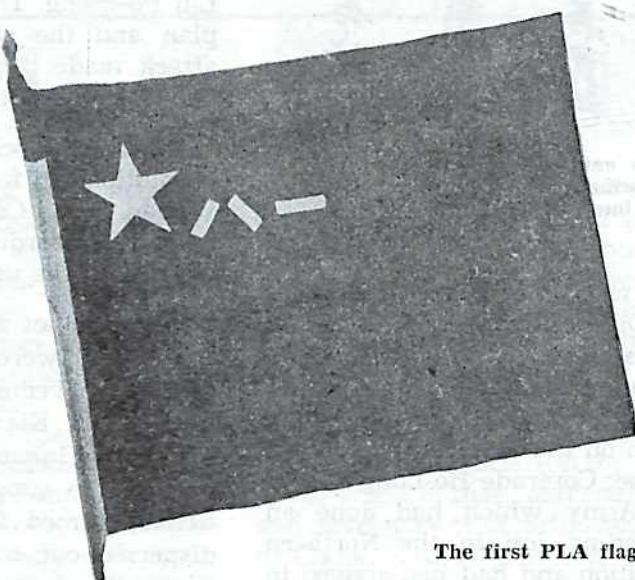
forces with troops from the Autumn Harvest Uprising which Comrade Mao Tsetung had led on the Hunan-Kiangsi border in September 1927. These two forces were reorganized into the Fourth Army of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army, which later became the First Army Group of the Central Red Army.

The Nanchang Uprising was of great significance in the history of

the Chinese revolution. It fired the first shot against the Kuomintang reactionaries. Though it eventually failed, it was a move in the right direction. We gained a lot of experience in it and many lessons in armed struggle can be drawn from it. As a result of it our Party broke with the bourgeois reactionaries and repudiated Chen Tu-hsiu's Right opportunist line and for the first time assumed

leadership of the Chinese revolution. Led by the Communist Party, the workers, peasants and other working people and revolutionary intellectuals resolutely began to oppose the armed counter-revolution with their own armed revolution. Thus began a new page in the history of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people's revolutionary war.

FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY PAST



The first PLA flag.

The Origin of the PLA Flag

EARLY in 1949 when the nationwide victory of the war for liberation was in sight, Chairman Mao and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party instructed the General Headquarters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army to design a flag and emblem for the army. The undertaking was under the supervision of Chou En-lai, then Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee's Military Commission. They were at that time directing the war from Hsipaipo Village in Pingshan county, Hopei province.

Many designs were submitted from the various field armies.

After hearing reports on the work Chairman Mao said that the flag should have on it the characters "八一" (August 1), the date of the historic Nanchang Uprising against the Kuomintang reactionaries on August 1, 1927 at which the revolution got its own armed force under Communist Party leadership. He also said that the design should have a five-pointed star to symbolize the Party's leadership over the army. Chou En-lai affirmed that the design must bring out Chairman Mao's idea and decided that the flag should be red, the color of revolution and the Chinese people's traditional color for joy and celebration, with yellow characters. He also suggested a

flagstaff with red and yellow spiral stripes topped by a red-tasseled spearhead symbolizing the fact that the army had grown out of the people's forces, which had first fought with this weapon.

By the time the first army flag was made the PLA had won the three crucial Liao-hsi-Shenyang, Huai-Hai and Peiping-Tientsin campaigns, crossed the Yangtze River and, on April 23, had captured Nanking, the seat of the Kuomintang government. The Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao had arrived on the outskirts of Peiping (now Peking).

One evening in early summer Chou En-lai brought the flag to where Chairman Mao was staying in the Fragrant Hills and had it raised on the lawn before the house, where it fluttered in the breeze lighted up by the glowing rays of the setting sun. Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Chou came out, and as they walked to the flagpole the latter told Chairman Mao how the design had been worked out. Chairman Mao examined the flag carefully and nodded in approval.

On May 27 Chou En-lai signed the order of the Military Commission to inaugurate the flag on June 15. The army flag, said the order, symbolizes the idea that "since its birth in the Nanchang Uprising on August 1, 1927, the Chinese People's Liberation Army has been through long struggles and its shining star is bringing light to the whole country".

'The East Is Red' —Another Suppressed Film Reappears

On the occasion of the reissue of the film The East Is Red, which had been banned for many years by the "gang of four", our reporter interviewed Szutu Hui-min, vice-head of the Cinema Bureau in the Ministry of Culture and a member of the team of directors for the film, and others for their reminiscences on how the film and the stage production it was based on were made. Outstanding was that of Chairman Mao's interest in the work and the personal attention Premier Chou En-lai gave to it at every stage. The article below incorporates some of their recollections.

THE EPIC stage presentation *The East Is Red*, depicting in song and dance the militant history of the Chinese revolution and extolling Mao Tsetung Thought, was created for the 15th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1964. It involved the work of a total of 3,000 people, including poets, composers, choreographers, workers and students, and some 70 units including cultural troupes from Peking, Shanghai, schools, factories and the army. The producers considered it a victory for revolutionary discipline that it was possible to carry through a work on such scale, with so many people and entailing such varied and complicated tasks both on and off the stage, and maintain unified

well-coordinated action while still enabling every participant to give full play to his or her initiative. A color film of the pageant was made in 1965 so that more people at home and abroad would be able to see it.

Not long after the film was made, however, the "gang of four", on various pretexts, suppressed it and had all copies locked away. *The East Is Red* had correctly presented the history of the Chinese Communist Party, including the heroism and achievements of the older generation of revolutionary leaders. This did not set well with the gang whose plan to seize Party and state power entailed overthrowing just such leaders in the Party, government and army at both central and local levels.

People were not able to see the film again until the Party Central Committee led by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng smashed this anti-Party clique in October 1976.

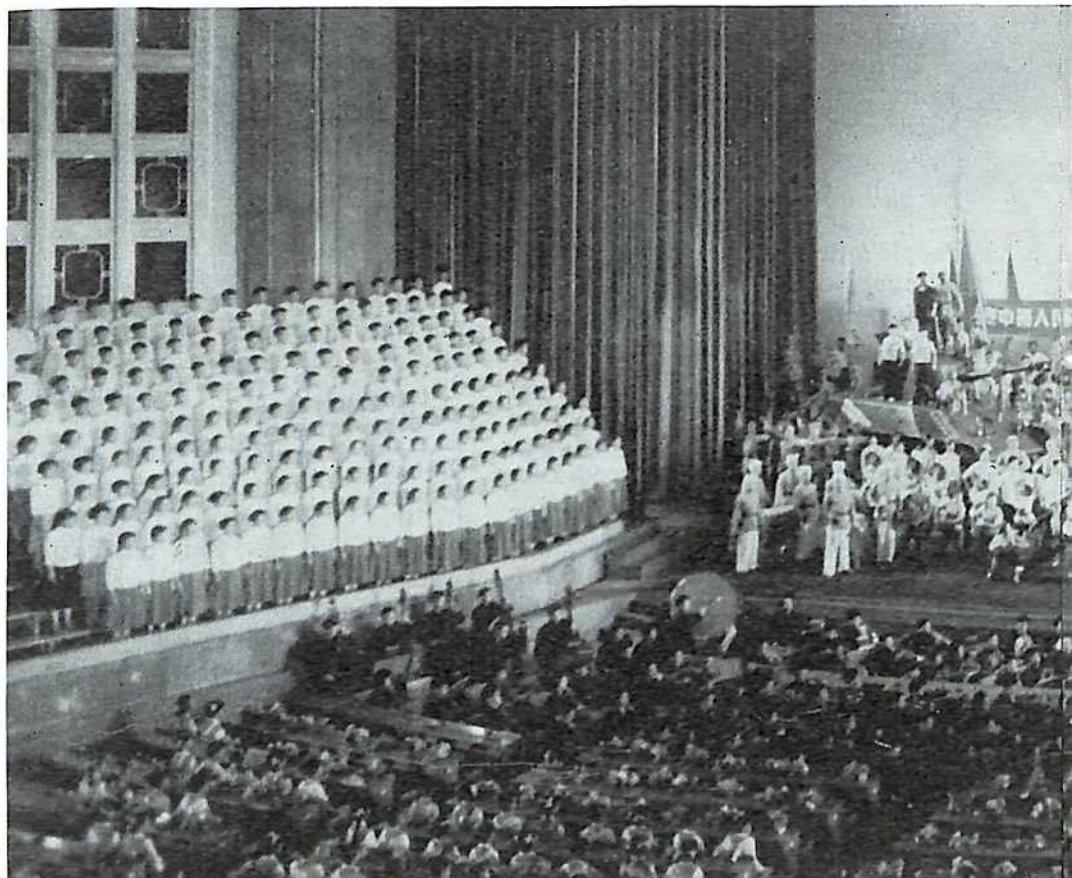
THE FILM begins with a scene of celebration at Tien An Men Square on the 15th anniversary, and the audience streaming into the Great Hall of the People for the premiere performance of the pageant, and then gives scenes from it. From the birth of the Chinese Communist Party in 1921 the film goes on to present events of the First and Second Revolutionary Civil wars, the War of Resistance Against Japan, the War of Liberation, and finally the establishment of the new China. In scenes of revolutionary fervor, courageous effort and joyous victory it portrays struggles of historic significance: The Autumn Harvest Uprising, that spark that lighted a prairie fire, the armed struggles in the Chingkang Mountains, the arduous 25,000-li Long March, the fighting spirit of life in the revolutionary base of Yenan, heroic guerrilla attacks on the Japanese aggressors, angry demonstrations against the hunger, persecution and civil war that the people suffered in areas under Chiang Kai-shek and the million troops crossing the Yangtze River beginning the final drive which liberated the country.

There are many scenes pointing up the relation between victory in the revolution and the armed struggles of the Chinese people. They include the song and dance "Autumn Harvest Uprising" celebrating Chairman Mao's creation of a people's army, the action song "Meeting in the Chingkang Mountains" about the first revolutionary base created by Chairman Mao, the song and dance "Guerrilla Warfare" embodying his military concept of springing sudden attacks on the enemy from the rear and the dance "A Million Troops Cross the Yangtze" expressing his resolve to carry the revolution through to the end.

Another theme running through the production is that victory in the Chinese revolution was based on a broad united front against



The dance "Flying Over Danger" portrays the Red Army on the Long March crossing the turbulent Tatu River at Luting Bridge on bare iron chains in the face of heavy enemy fire.



Panorama of *The East Is Red* in performance with the "Liberation of Nanking" on stage.



The darkness of old China is shown in the dance "The Bitter Years" (far left).

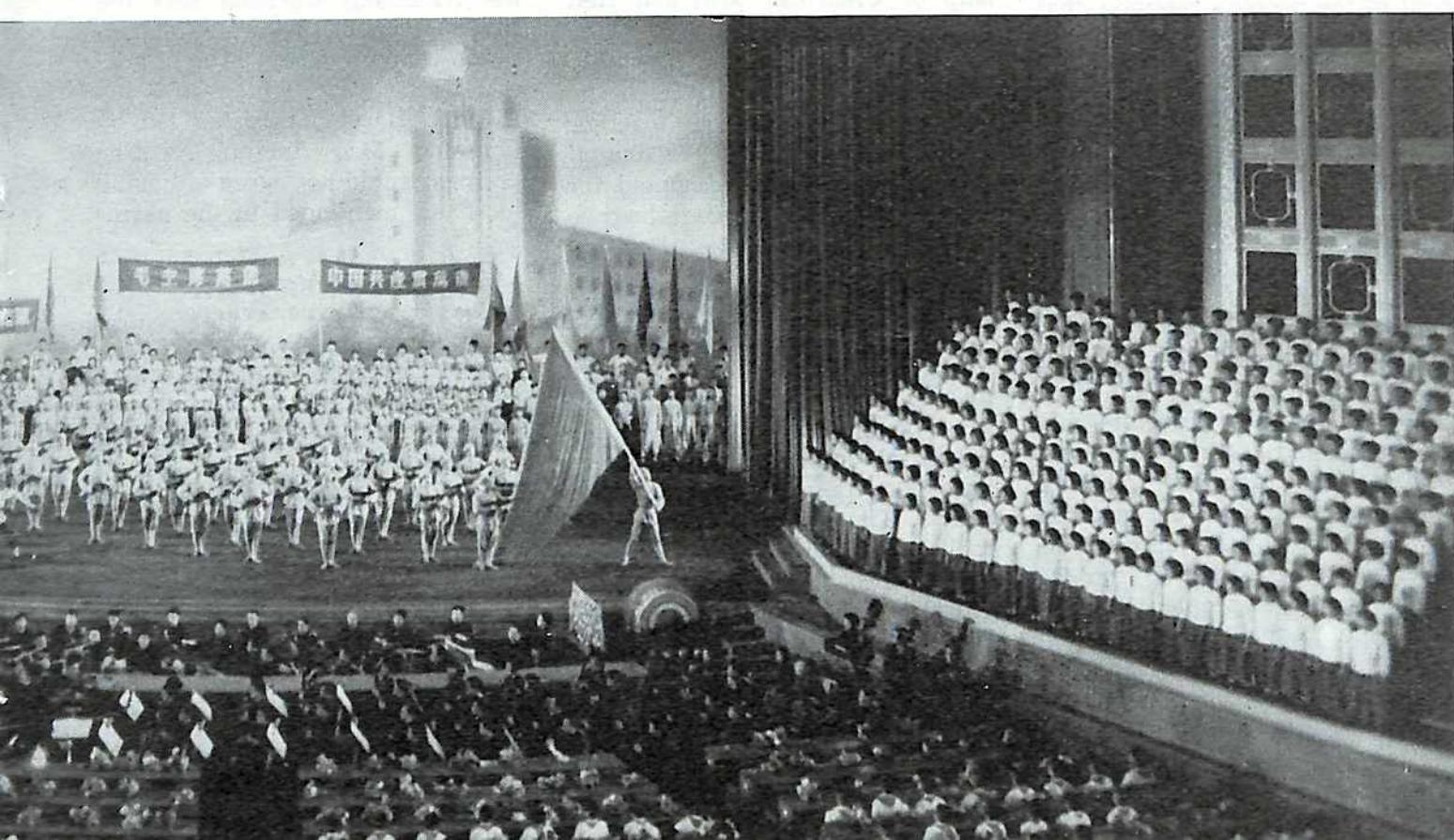


The Autumn Harvest Uprising in dance (left). Led by Chairman Mao, it laid the basis for the creation of the first people's armed force and the first rural revolutionary base.



The song and dance "Great Festival" shows the people of China's many nationalities celebrating the birth of the people's republic at Tien An Men Square.

A song and dance representing the guerrilla warfare that sprang up in many places occupied by the Japanese invaders.



the main common enemy. This is vividly reflected in the very beginning in the stirring song of the revolution of the 1920s "Workers, Peasants and Soldiers, Unite" and carries through to the grand finale, a spectacular song and dance number symbolizing the unity of China's nationalities. The film also stresses the idea that the Chinese people must unite with the peoples of the world in the struggle against imperialism.

The creators of the pageant sought out and incorporated into it many songs and dances through which the people had expressed their feeling during the different revolutionary periods and had kept alive among themselves. These are both characteristically Chinese and in colorful local styles.

SZUTU HUI-MIN and the others recalled:

On October 6, 1964 Chairman Mao saw *The East Is Red* at the Great Hall of the People where it was performed. On October 16 he received the writers, composers, directors, performers, stagehands and all others connected with the production and was photographed with us. He urged that it be filmed. He also suggested that both the stage production and the film could end with the establishment of the people's republic, that is, the conclusion of the democratic revolution; and that a second part treating events since liberation could be prepared for the 20th anniversary. By then, he said, we would be able to include the struggle against revisionism.

From the beginning Premier Chou had given his personal attention to the creation of the stage production and now he was to do the same for the film. He often came to visit the directors and performers and ask in detail about the work and for our opinions. When he learned that the question of whether or not the job could be done well weighed heavily on the minds of some people, Premier Chou said to them as one friend to another, "The East Is Red" is

the people's most loved song in tribute to Chairman Mao. Chairman Mao is the people's most beloved leader. It is a glorious political task to do this production well. As long as we have Chairman Mao in our hearts, we will be able to fulfill this task." He also gave instructions to other units to give the production all possible aid in manpower, materials and other ways.

We began filming in June 1965. From then until September, a total of 100 days, Premier Chou found time from his innumerable duties to meet many times on revisions in the narration. He patiently went over it and gave detailed instructions about the specific content of every part, its writing and the choice of words and lines. On the night of September 18 the final shots had been taken and Premier Chou worked on the completed version with us till dawn at the August First Film Studio. We were worried about him and urged him to go home and rest but he kept right on. "Losing a little sleep doesn't matter," he said, "as long as we can get this ready in time for National Day."

ALL through the creation and filming of *The East Is Red* Premier Chou repeatedly stressed that it must emphasize the leadership of Chairman Mao and that Chairman Mao's thinking and line must be clearly and correctly presented. Once late at night he called the directing group together to discuss how to do the Tsunyi Meeting scene. He recounted for us the struggle between the two political lines that existed within the Chinese Communist Party at that time. He said that the followers of the "Left" line before the Tsunyi Meeting were not for a united front, so they got themselves very isolated, which led to a 90 percent loss in the Soviet areas and 100 percent loss in the white areas. The Tsunyi Meeting established Chairman Mao's leadership over the Party. At this crucial juncture Chairman Mao saved the revolution and saved our Party; without the victory at the

Tsunyi Meeting, without Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, today's victory would have been impossible. He wanted this brought out clearly.

When a song expressing the people's love for Chairman Mao was added to this scene the premier said it was a good idea. He also pointed out that the establishment of Chairman Mao's leadership over the Party reflected the wishes of the masses and shows how Mao Tsetung Thought was based on the masses' experience in struggle. In this scene he said there should be more people on stage, including Red Army women and members of the masses to strengthen the idea that the people were wholeheartedly with Chairman Mao.

Premier Chou forbade the writers to mention his own role and achievements. In the original "Meeting in the Chingkang Mountains" scene one group of troops carried the banner "Units from the Nanchang Uprising". The premier said it was not necessary to include this banner, that the Autumn Harvest Uprising led by Chairman Mao should be the symbol portraying how our Party began armed struggle. Since this uprising was already represented, it was not necessary to include anything else. Finally he agreed to one sentence in the narration: "The gunfire of the Nanchang Uprising was the first thunder of spring". The narration went on to say, "The brightest torch was lighted by the Autumn Harvest Uprising led by Comrade Mao Tsetung". The premier would not agree to having his name mentioned in the narration.

Premier Chou often asked other leading members of the Central Committee to come to rehearsals and give their opinions. The premier also placed high artistic demands on us. At one rehearsal he noticed that a soloist was not singing the words clearly enough. Afterward he went on stage. Taking the singer's hand, he said, "You must try to pronounce the words more clearly to give full expression to our love for Chairman Mao."

Yuanmou Man, China's Earliest Apeman to Date

PAN YUEH-JUNG

PRIMITIVE MAN lived in China a million years earlier than originally supposed, it has been learned from studies of fossil teeth found in Yunnan province's Yuanmou basin. This apeman, now known as Yuanmou Man (*Homo erectus yuanmouensis*), lived about 1.7 million years ago. Previously discovered apeman were Peking Man (500,000 years ago) and Lantian Man (5-600,000 years ago).

The two fossil teeth were unearthed on May 1, 1965 during surveys for the Chengtu-Kunming railroad by members of the Institute of Geomechanics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Between 1967 and 1975 several excavations were made in the Yuanmou basin by the Academy's Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology and Institute of Geomechanics, the Chinese Academy of Geology, the Yunnan Provincial Bureau of Culture and the Yunnan Provincial Museum. The date of the fossil teeth was estimated from paleomagnetic testing on rock samples taken in 1976. The conclusions about Yuanmou Man have been summed up in a scientific paper.

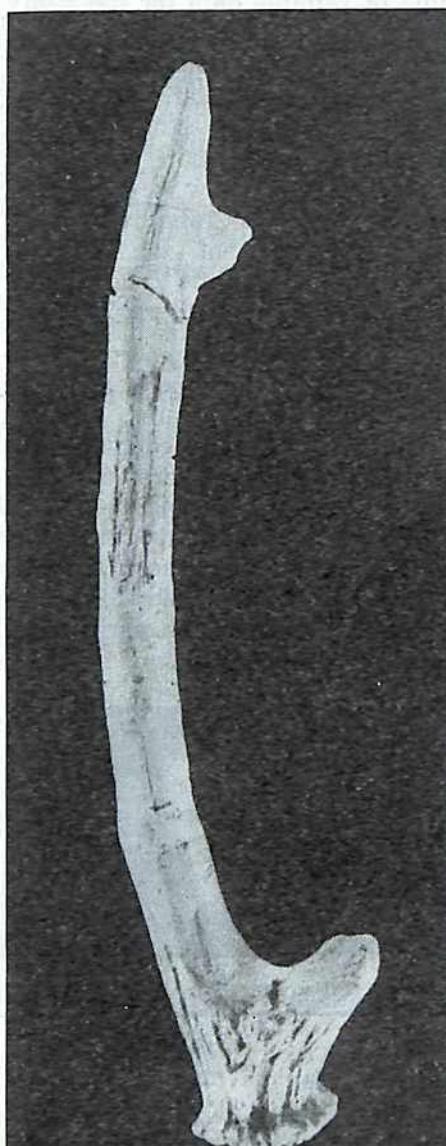
THE YUANMOU basin is in northern Yunnan, about 120 kilometers northwest of its capital Kunming. A faulted basin stretching north and south, it is about 1,080 meters above sea level, therefore the lowest basin in the central Yunnan plateau. Its western edge is of ancient metamorphic rock and its eastern part is sandstone and shale of the Jurassic period of the Mesozoic era. The Lungchuan River flows from south to north along its western edge and empties into the Chinsha River near Lung-chieh in the north.

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The fossils were found in a set of 700-meter thick lake and stream deposits in the Cenozoic stratum which dates from 65 million years ago to the present. The deposits consist mainly of brownish-red, brownish-yellow and grayish-green clays and fine sands, and can be divided into 28 layers. Now known as the Yuanmou formation, the deposits have been dated to three to 1.5 million years ago by the paleomagnetic method.

The fossil teeth were found near the top of the formation in the 25th layer. They were buried in the upper part of a seam of brownish-

RIGHT: Fossil skull of a Yunnan horse (bottom view, half original size). **BELLOW:** Left antler of a Yunnan Rusa deer (one-third original size), both found in the Yuanmou formation.



The two upper central incisors of Yuanmou Man (original size).



red clay on a hill 800 m. northwest of Shangnapang Village in Yuanmou county. The stratum is very ancient, so the teeth, light gray in color, are highly fossilized. With them were found fossils of a microtine, a variety of rodent, and a segment of a deer antler.

Studies show that the teeth are two upper central incisors of *Homo erectus*, probably a young male. The base of the crown is thick and the top of the crown broad. The depression on the tongue side of the crown is rough. While in basic morphological features, such as the shape of the projection, these incisors resemble those of Peking Man, in many other ways they appear more primitive than those of the latter.

THE YUANMOU basin contains an abundance of mammal fossils. Forty-one species of animals, 90 percent of which are now extinct, have been unearthed in the Yuanmou formation. Of

these, nine species, including the saber-toothed tiger, some very small deer now extinct and varieties of chalicotheres, were survivals from the Tertiary period (70 million to one million years ago) and 14 species, including Licent's hyena, the Yunnan horse, the Shansi axis deer, several species of stegodont elephants and a new species of wolf named the Yuanmou wolf, were typical animals of the Early Pleistocene period.

From what we know about the time when animals with these characteristics existed, Yuanmou Man could not have lived later than

Early Pleistocene. This agrees with the findings of our paleomagnetic dating. Fossils of the small deer were previously found only in the Yusheh basin in the north China province of Shansi in a stratum over three million years old. These forms of animals have not been found at the sites of the Peking Man and Lantian Man fossils.

IN THE SAME stratum as Yuanmou Man were found several artifacts and ashes as well as a small quantity of charred bones. The artifacts are simple chipped choppers and scrapers made from quartzite. These are the earliest

artifacts found with human fossils in China. The ashes and charred bones indicate that possibly Yuanmou Man used fire.

Judging by pollen analysis and the study of the mammal fossils, Yuanmou Man lived in a fairly cool grassland-forest environment. He lived mainly by gathering wild fruits and edible plants, but, as his tools testify, could already hunt some small animals. Here he probably moved around a lake during the day and in a safe place by the water's edge warmed himself with a fire through the cold night.

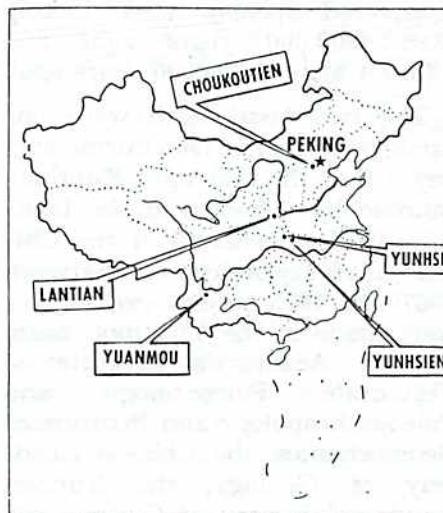
More Apeman Teeth Found

TWO GROUPS of fossil apeman teeth dating from 500,000 to one million years ago have been discovered in Hupeh province in the Yangtze valley by Chinese archaeologists. Three teeth were found in 1975 in Lungku (Dragon Bone) Cave near Meipu in Yunhsien county. They were an upper left central incisor, an upper left second premolar and an upper left first molar, all with crowns intact. Two more fossil teeth were discovered last year in Pailung (White Dragon) Cave in neighboring Yunhsien county, an upper right second premolar and a lower left first premolar, both very well preserved from root to crown. Judging by the fossilization, tint and size of the teeth and the degree of wear of the tips, these two probably belonged to the same middle-aged apeman.

The Hupeh sites are the fourth and fifth where apeman fossils have been unearthed in China. The others are Choukoutien outside Peking (Peking Man), Lantian county in Shensi province and

Yuanmou county in Yunnan province. The apeman and animal fossils of the two Hupeh sites are basically similar. Both have been tentatively dated from 500,000 to one million years ago, making the apeman there more ancient than Peking Man of 500,000 years ago. These discoveries added to our fund of reliable data for the study of the origin of man, and the origin and development of primitive man in China in particular. The fossils are still being studied with reference to Lantian Man and Yuanmou Man. Now we know that primitive man in China lived in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River as well as in the Yellow River basin and in far southern Yunnan.

The two Hupeh counties are located on the southern slope of the Chinling Mountains. Lungku Cave in Yunhsien county is a horizontal sinkhole formed in the Sinian period 570 to 1,200 million years ago. In this cave were also found stone cores showing clear traces of striking and fossils of more than 20 kinds of animals



including the monkey, jackal, bear, giant panda, badger, cat, fox, otter, stegodont elephants, horse, tapir, rhinoceros, deer, ox, raccoon dog, porcupine, turtle and Licent's hyena.

Pailung Cave in Yunhsien county was formed by erosion of marlites in the Carboniferous period (about 320 to 270 million years ago). Fossils of some of the same animals were found there as in the Lungku Cave and also those of the bamboo rat and other rodents, the tiger, civet, paguma, wolf and muntiac, and fossil droppings of carnivorous animals. These vertebrates which lived at the same time as this apeman are being studied to help us understand his life and environment.



The three apeman teeth found in Yunhsien county, Hupeh province. Left to right: upper left central incisor, upper left second premolar and upper left first molar (original size).

NEW CITY ON THE OLD SILK ROAD

CHEN LIANG



Lanchow today.

AT the end of the second century B.C., people from Asia, Africa and Europe knew China by traveling the Old Silk Road. Lanchow in Kansu province was on this route, then a small town built by the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) and called Chincheng. Passes, forts and watchtowers protected it on the north and west.

Today Lanchow is an industrial city, the second largest in the northwest, with a population of over two million. Its main industries are petroleum, chemicals, machine-building and metals. The capital of Kansu province, it straddles about 50 kilometers of the western loop of the Yellow River on the loess plateau.

Before new China was founded, Lanchow was a desolate town of only 16 square kilometers and 100,000 people. Dust, sewage and slums were its main features. The mountains just outside the town were infested with wolves. Today a bird's-eye view of Lanchow shows wide, tree-lined streets flanked by tall buildings. Factories range along the river for many kilometers. Chimneys, distillation towers, prilling towers and high-tension lines mark the horizon. Lanchow at night, with its millions of lights, is a far cry from ancient days.

Strategic Location

When the Han dynasty built Chincheng (on the present-day site

of Hsiku, 20 kilometers west of Lanchow), its key position on the Yellow River was already strategically important. It remained so through the centuries. In 581 the Sui dynasty set up a prefectoral administration here and named it Lanchow. It commanded the roads to other parts of Kansu, and to Sinkiang, Shensi, Ningsia and Chinghai. Transport was chiefly on the Yellow River, along which came the area's furs, skins, herbs, cotton and other products. The Old Silk Road began at Changan (modern Sian), capital of the Western Han dynasty, passed through Lanchow, the Kansu Corridor and the Tarim Basin in Sinkiang and crossed central and western Asia to the Mediterranean. Marco Polo passed through Lanchow on his way to China in the 13th century.

Industry

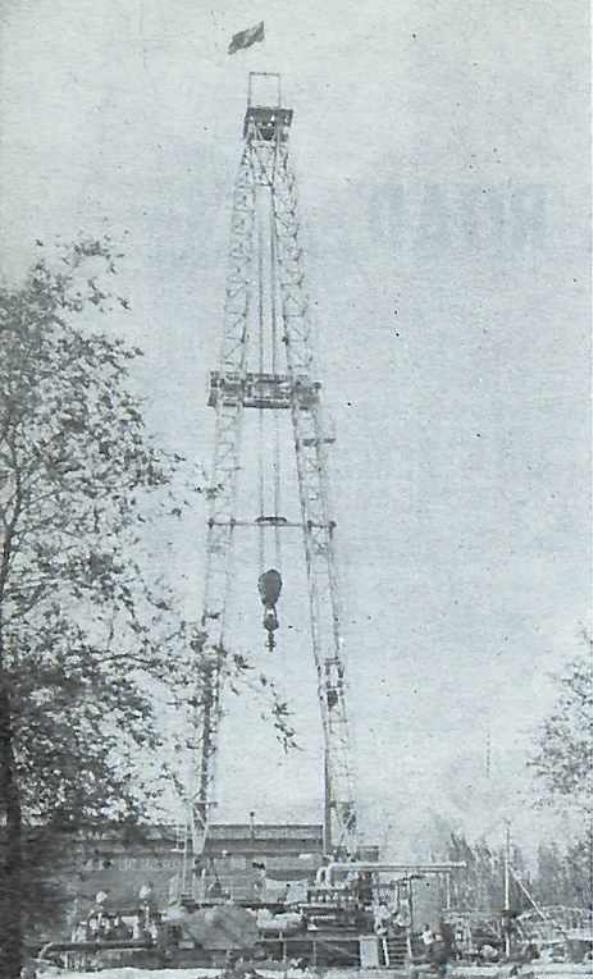
Economy and culture developed very slowly over the centuries. Industry in the city began with an arsenal and a woolen mill set up in the 1870s by the Ching dynasty (1644-1911) with foreign loans. In the next 80 years before liberation, only 16 small factories appeared, most of them with a few dozen workers, the biggest with two hundred. Here wooden machinery and charcoal-fueled engines turned out sabers, saddles, army blankets and coarse wool, products which had nothing to do

with the life of the working people. On the other hand, every needle and inch of cloth the city needed had to be brought in from other places.

Twenty-eight years of socialist construction after 1949 changed the city's industry beyond recognition. Today there are 800 factories. Mines have been opened. The workers number several thousand in medium-sized plants to over 10,000 in larger ones. Small factories are found everywhere in the city and suburbs. Several thousand products are manufactured, ranging from high-grade oil products, oil drilling and extracting equipment, power-generating, chemical and oil refining equipment to fine textiles, woolen yarn and material, TV sets and articles of daily use. The wealth Lanchow creates in one year is more than 400 times 1949.

Lanchow has a great deal of fine-quality limestone, yet before liberation the entire province produced only a few dozen tons of cement in half a century. Today, one factory run by a commune outside Lanchow produces 32,000 tons a year.

In the past coal was mined with picks and carried by men and donkeys. Lanchow's total output was less than two small mines owned by people's communes produce today. Now the city's output for one year is more than the total for the 200 years before liberation.



A rig produced by the Lanchow Petrochemical Machinery Plant.



The 1,200-atmosphere fracture trucks made by the Lanchow General Machinery Plant.

The Yellow River is squeezed through a number of gorges near Lanchow, offering tremendous possibilities for the development of hydropower. But pre-liberation Lanchow produced only an erratic 900 kilowatts, supplying electricity for light and only a few enterprises. Soon after liberation a new thermo-power plant was producing 200,000 kilowatts, over 200 times more. Today large hydropower stations have been built in the Yellow River gorges. The Liuchiahsia Hydropower Station is the biggest. Lanchow now supplies not only its own needs but other parts

of Kansu and the neighboring provinces of Shensi and Chinghai.

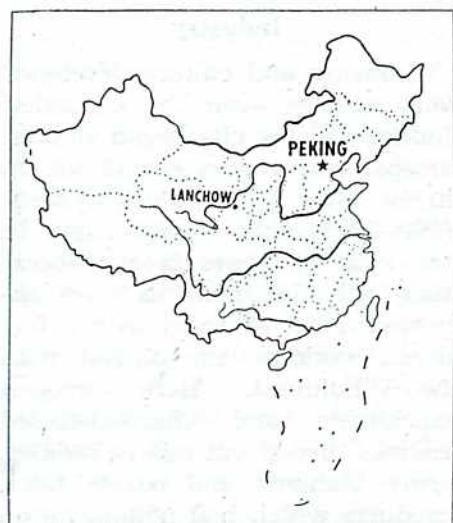
The oldest factory in the city is the Lanchow General Machinery Plant. Its predecessor was the Ching dynasty arsenal built in 1872. Its 200 workers produced sabers for the Kuomintang government and local warlords until liberation. By 1949 it had been plundered and destroyed by the reactionaries. Today it is a medium-sized plant with 3,000 workers producing complete sets of oil extraction equipment. In the ten years after the cultural revolution began in 1966 its production increased 5.6 times. Its products are used in many oil fields in China and in some fraternal countries. Not long ago it produced China's first 1,200-atmosphere fracture truck.

The large Lanchow Petrochemical Machinery Works built in the 1950s produces large oil drilling machines and petrochemical equipment. Before the cultural revolution, under the influence of Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line, its main task was to copy imported machines. In eight years, it made only a few huge and clumsy products. It spent seven years and a great deal of money to produce a drilling machine which became useless after drilling several hundred meters. The workers had long been discontented with this state of affairs. When the cultural revolution broke the hold of the revisionist line, they enthusiastically began to design and produce China's own drilling machines themselves. Today the plant manufac-

tures 12 kinds of drilling machines and 100 types of oil-refining and chemical-plant equipment.

The Lanchow Chemical Industry Company is also a large integrated enterprise built in the 1950s. For many years after liberation its outdated equipment and technological processes kept it manufacturing only ammonium nitrate, synthetic rubber and a few other products. In the cultural revolution, however, the workers broke away from the revisionist idea that foreign equipment could not be improved on. They redesigned equipment and process and turned out five times more ammonium nitrate and 2.5 times more synthetic rubber than before. Today they produce 89 varieties of products. The annual output value created by the company has increased 2.5 times.

Workers of the Lanchow Oil Refinery, also encouraged by the cultural revolution, broke through scientific and technological barriers — especially the technical blockade of the Soviet revisionists — nearly trebled their oil-refining units and raised their oil processing capacity 1.5 times. The number of products they turn out increased from 16 to 204. The refinery now includes plants producing chemicals, machinery, meters and instruments. It also does scientific research and farming. In technology it has built China's first tower unit for continuous oxidization of asphalt, a spray de-oiling unit, and a platinum-rhenium reforming process which is among the world's best. In the meter and instrument industry it has manufactured IC electronic controls and instruments recognized abroad as top in standards. It produces high-grade aviation gasoline, kerosene and heavy-duty cylinder oil for ships. Previously it could not make the silica-alumina catalyst needed for producing aviation gasoline. The Soviet revisionists took advantage of this and attempted to control the industry through their monopoly. Now all catalysts can be produced here in large quantity and at low cost. The rapid development of the Lanchow refinery shows the vital effect of the cultural revolution and the policy of independence and self-reliance.



Communications and New City

Pre-liberation Lanchow's transport consisted of camels, mules, horses and, on the river, inflated sheepskins tied together into rafts. Nobody knows how many people navigating these rafts through the reefs were drowned. Called "a big city" in the northwest there was not a single bus. A 20-kilometer trip on a donkey took a whole day. Drinking water had to be carried by donkeys from the muddy Yellow River. In 1907 the reactionary rulers fleeced the people of 306,000 taels of silver to build a bridge but left only a small one which could bear only five tons. Even this little bridge built by foreigners in the poor and backward China of those days was called "one of the three largest bridges on the Yellow River" in school textbooks.

All this has gone. Lanchow has become a communications center in the northwest. Four trunk rail lines meet here — Tienshui-Lanchow, Lanchow-Sinkiang, Paotow-Lanchow and Lanchow-Chinghai. The city has the largest marshaling yard in the region. Highways and airlines lead to the rest of the country. More than 100 bridges have been constructed, a dozen of them large ones over the Yellow River. One of these, the Shihchuan Bridge, is a suspension bridge built by three brigades of the Shihchuan commune. The peasants raised the funds themselves and completed it in 18 months. The main span is 160 meters and it is two times longer than the old bridge.

The 28 years since liberation have seen workers' apartments, department stores, hospitals, schools, cinemas and stadiums go up. The total building area is 10 million square meters, five times more than at liberation. On the north an old city wall along the river was dismantled and a wide paved avenue put through. A park was built here with luxuriant pine and willow trees overhanging the river. Beyond the neat dyke was the old wharf for the sheepskin rafts. Today boats are dredging the river for a dockyard.

Education in Lanchow developed rapidly after liberation. There are

400,000 primary and middle-school students, 22 times more middle-school students than in 1949. There are seven institutes of higher learning, including the Northwest Institute for Nationalities for training cadres of the different nationalities of the region. Students of a dozen nationalities from Shensi, Kansu, Chinghai, Ningsia, Sinkiang and Tibet study here.

Cultural Relics

The Yellow River is the cradle of the Chinese nation. Lanchow on the upper reaches of the river is the site of many primitive cultures.

After liberation about 70 prehistoric cultural sites were discovered through systematic survey and excavations, including tombs, houses, kiln sites and storage pits. A great number of valuable objects have been unearthed. Among these are tools such as stone axes, knives and adzes, grindstones, bone needles and awls, pottery knives and whorls. Painted pottery is beautifully designed and varied in shape, indicating high skill. Rings made of pottery, stone and bone rings, bone beads and other ornaments have been found. Some of the objects have been on display abroad, some exhibited in the Museum of Chinese History and the Palace Museum in Peking, some in the Kansu Museum.

There are many scenic spots at Lanchow. Three of them are favorite recreation places — the Yentan, Paita (White Pagoda) and Wuchuan (Five Springs) parks.

Paita Park on a hill north of the city contains a seven-story white pagoda built in the 15th century. The lower part of the pagoda was constructed in the Indian Buddhist style. At the foot of the pagoda is a bronze bell cast in the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). Before liberation the hill was bare with only a lone temple and seven trees. After liberation pavilions, corridors and towers were added, and 186 hectares of trees planted.

Wuchuan (Five Springs) Park is at the foot of the Kaolan Mountains south of the city. Legend says that Huo Chu-ping, a famous

general of the Han dynasty, stationed his troops here on his way to the Western Regions. Finding no water for the horses, he pierced the ground with his sword and five columns of spring water came up.

After liberation the people's government allocated a large sum of money to repair the old buildings and construct corridors, fountains, skating rinks, stadiums, children's playgrounds, reading rooms and a zoo.

The park also contains cultural relics. A huge bell 3.2 meters high and weighing five tons was cast at the beginning of the 13th century. A bronze Buddha, five meters high and weighing several tons, was made in the 14th century.

Lanchow Melons and Fruit

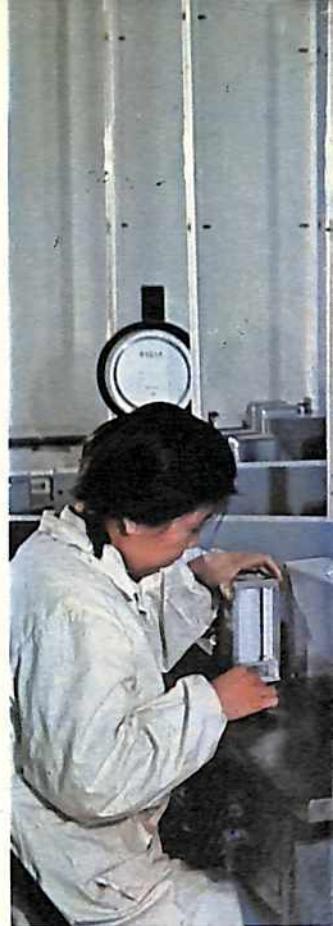
Lanchow grows 30 varieties of melons and fruit, outstanding in quality and taste. Fresh fruit is available eight months of the year and a large quantity is shipped to other parts of the country and abroad. Along the entire 200-kilometer river valley there are orchards and melon fields in every farm production team. The fragrance of thousands of apple and pear trees in bloom fills the spring air and at a distance the landscape looks like a snow scene. In summer and autumn the ripe fruit and the melons in the fields make a scene unique in China.

The history of growing melons can be traced back at least to the 9th century. Lanchow's temperature varies greatly between daytime and night. Rainfall is low and the land is alkaline. To preserve moisture the people cover the fields with sand. The Fanping watermelon, each weighing 5 to 7 kilograms, is known for its huge size and fine taste. The "drunken" watermelon, a variety of Hami watermelon from Sinkiang, is sweet, juicy and smacks of wine. It has been grown for six centuries. The Lanchow honeydew melon is fragrant and has a high sugar content, from 10 to 15 percent.

Lanchow also raises black watermelon seeds, coral lily, rose and water-pipe tobacco.



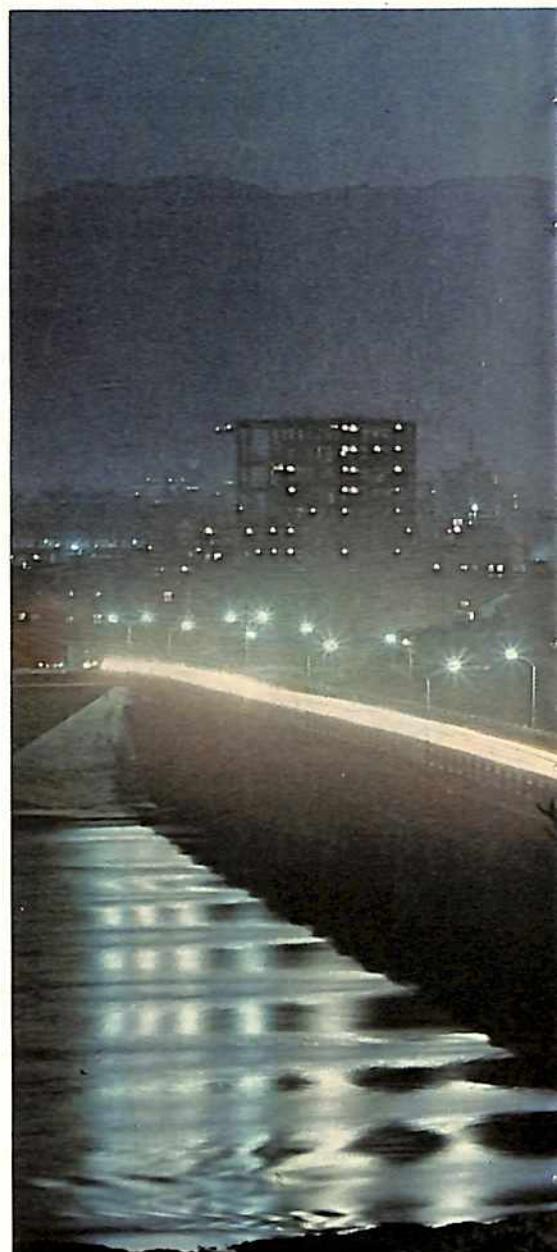
Workers at the Lanchow General Machinery Plant discussing how to improve a machine made by themselves.



Another bumper harvest of apples at the Yentan commune outside the city.

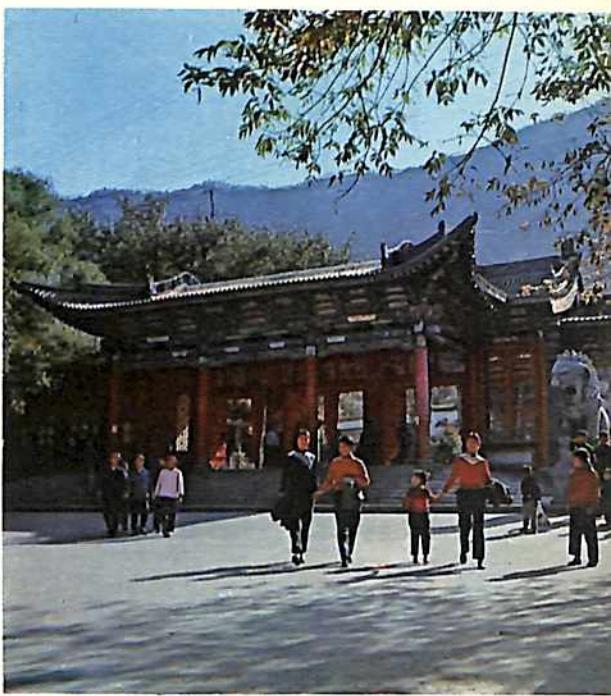


Night view of the Lanchow Chemical Industry Company.





Assembling IC electronic controls and instruments at the Lanchow Oil Refinery.



Wuchuan Park.



MEN WITH TOUGH BONES

Staff Reporter

THE RAIN had been falling all day on the central China plain and showed no sign of letting up as night fell. A PLA infantry company, having marched all day in field training, halted outside a village. Orders came to camp where they were. The men put down their packs, quickly dug drainage ditches around a rise in the ground, set up some poles, spread their raincoats over them and lay down to sleep. It rained all night and the men got wet when the wind blew the capes apart, but no one moved from his sleeping spot or got up to get some straw from the haystacks.

The next morning the villagers came out of their houses to discover the PLA men, soaked to the skin, getting ready to leave. Their haystacks were untouched. "Why didn't you let us know you were

here?" someone asked. "We would have invited you to stay in our homes, especially in this wind and rain."

"The wind and rain toughen us!" was the reply.

The men belonged to the famous "Hard-Boned Sixth Company" that Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying and the Military Commission had called on the army to learn from.

Sixth Company was formed in 1939 during the anti-Japanese war, with a dozen veteran Red Army-men as the nucleus and some peasant recruits. During that war and the liberation war that followed this unit fought in north and northwest China. It took part in the defense of Yenan, then headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party. It fought in many

famous battles and distinguished itself with 15 combat heroes and received the citation "Heroic and Combat-Worthy Vanguard in Killing the Enemy" and the title "Model Combat Company".

Keeping up its revolutionary tradition after the founding of the new China, in 1964 the unit was awarded the title "The Hard-Boned Sixth Company" by the Ministry of National Defense. The honors have inspired the men to keep more firmly to Chairman Mao's line in army building and remain a collective exemplary for political consciousness, ideological orientation, military skill, discipline and work style.

The 'Hard-Boned' Spirit

"The 'hard-boned' spirit is our heritage," men of Sixth Company say. "It was created with the blood and lives of the men who went before us. We will keep it alive from generation to generation."

Pi Kuang-yao is typical of this spirit.

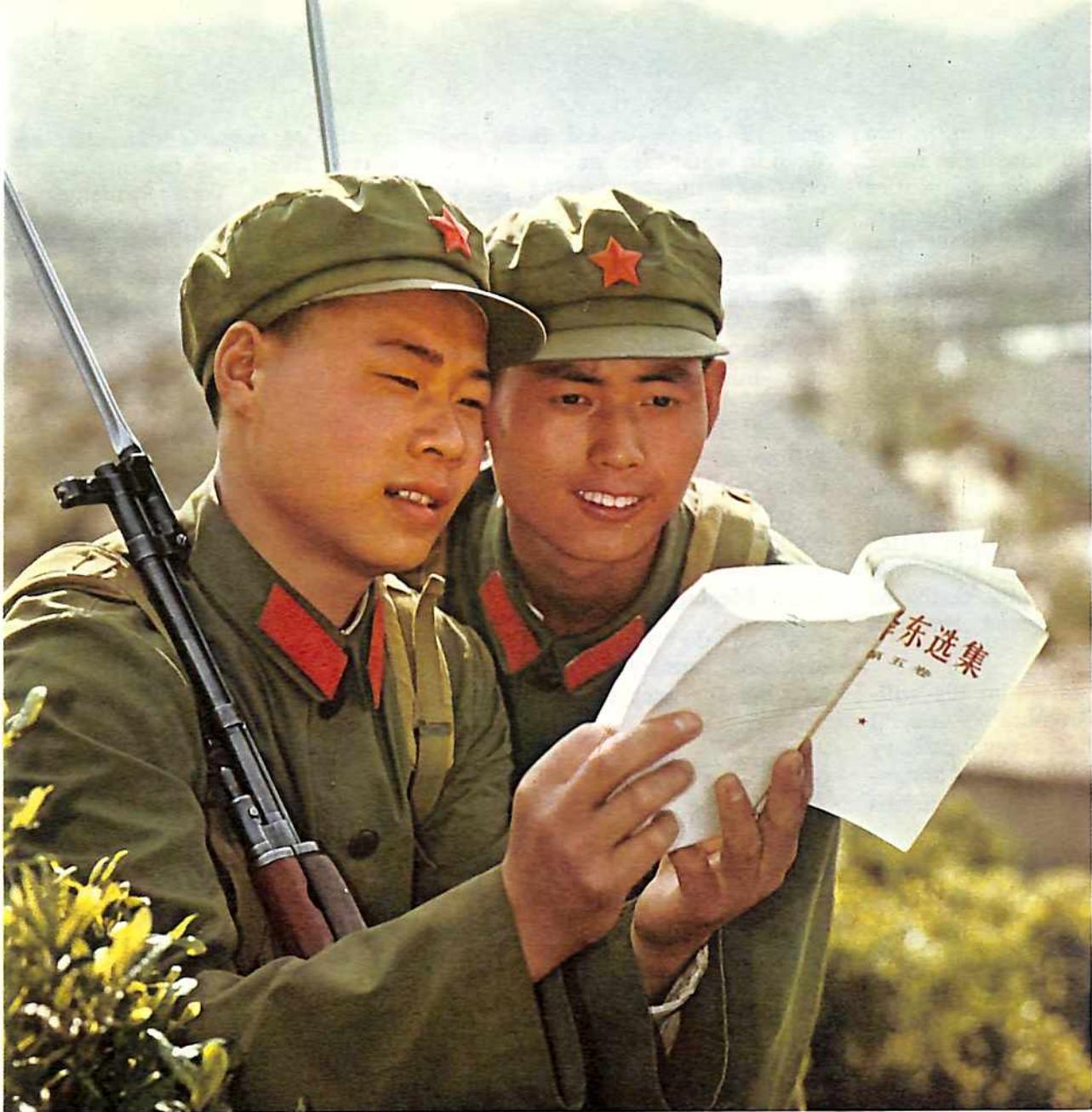
When he was a private of three months, Pi Kuang-yao's squad was chosen to represent Sixth Company in an army military sports contest.

"Sixth Company has always possessed a stubborn spirit," the divisional commander said before they started out. "It has always fulfilled every assignment, no matter how difficult. Remember that you're going to the contest not to be winners in every event but to prove you are carrying forward Sixth Company's fine traditions and to learn from others."

Pi Kuang-yao did well in several events. His best came in swimming fully-equipped. He had never covered more than 200 meters —

Commander of Sixth Company (right) rallies the energy of a new recruit as he shoulders the rifle for him and shows him how to develop stamina.





Hsieh Hsiao-hsi (left) of Sixth Company and a comrade study Vol. V of the *Selected Works of Mao Tsetung*.



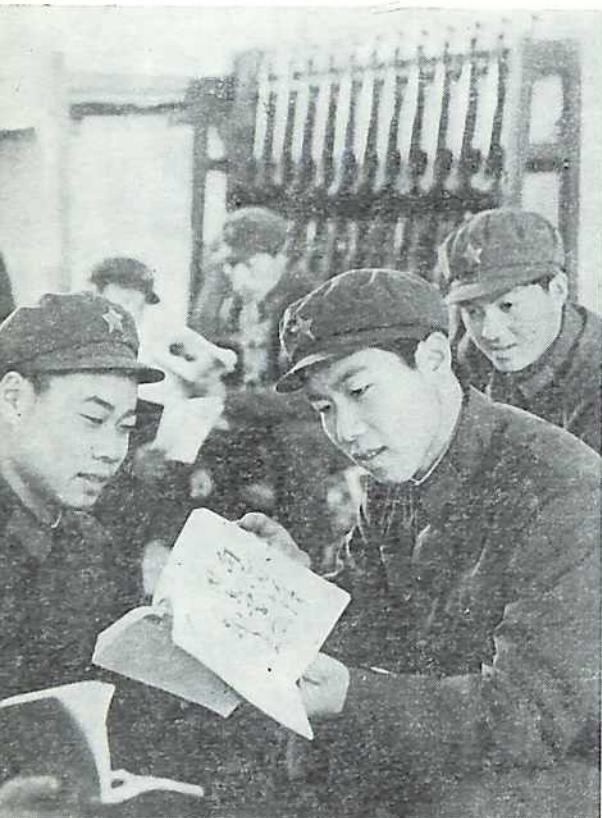
A tactical exercise.

and the event was 2,000 m. in two hours. He went into the water determined to make the entire distance. At 300 m. he began to tire. At 700 m. he developed cramps in one leg. As he struggled to keep his head above water, a motorboat drew alongside him and he heard the divisional commander telling him to climb aboard. The commander's voice reminded him of his words before the contest. Sixth Company's veterans had stuck to the battlelines even when seriously wounded, he told himself, how can I get out of the water when I'm not even half way through? Gritting his teeth, he swam on and covered the full course in two hours.

Asked what gave him the will-power to stick it out, he said, "I just thought that a revolutionary fighter must fulfill every assignment given him, even if it means his last breath."

One autumn, days of torrential rain flooded the villages of the commune near Sixth Company's barracks. The company sent out rescue teams to help evacuate the commune members. Pi Kuang-yao

Men of Sixth Company study the life of Lei Feng in order to better emulate his spirit of serving the people.



and 12 others waded back and forth in waist-high water for three days and nights carrying people and grain to a dyke. When all 200 villagers were safe and the exhausted men sat down to rest, they heard a girl weeping. They discovered that her mother and brother in another village were still missing. Though it was already dark, Pi and two men ran for six kilometers along the dyke and swam into the village. They found mother and son perched on a wall about to collapse and brought them out.

Ideological Education

Where do the men get this invincible spirit? Pi Kuang-yao tells his own story.

"For generations before liberation my family worked as hired hands for landlords. We didn't own a single brick or an inch of land. In 1947 my father was seized by the Kuomintang army and beaten to death, because he had shown sympathy to the Communist-led New Fourth Army when it passed through our town. My mother and I had to beg to live. Then the Communist Party liberated my home town. During the land reform we received seven mu (0.47 hectare) of land. I began to go to school. After finishing primary school I became the book-keeper for our production team. When the people's government issued a call for military service I enlisted.

"I felt it a great honor and duty to defend my country. But after a while I became homesick. Army life was tough. It wasn't just the training, the drills, the exercises. We also had to help the peasants dig irrigation ditches and do other things, all very hard work."

While he was wondering if he could stick it out, Pi recalled, the unit began a movement for ideological education. It was a democratic movement to strengthen the army, initiated by Chairman Mao in the winter of 1947 during the liberation war. The first step was to mobilize the men to talk about the wrongs done to the working people in the old society

by the reactionaries and imperialists. This raised the men's class consciousness. Today it includes a review of the harm done by the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and the "gang of four", representatives of the bourgeoisie in the Party.

The second step was to examine class origin (today class stand), performance of duty and will to fight. This was done through the method of criticism and self-criticism and was aimed at correcting mistaken ideas and heightening the men's fighting spirit. The third step was to conduct military training on a wide scale.

Sixth Company was one of the first units to carry out this type of ideological education, in the winter of 1947 in the north Shensi revolutionary base. It has done this every year since, even when the "gang of four" was trying to stop it by declaring that such "rectification means capitalist restoration".

"When everybody began telling his bitter experience in the old society and recounting Sixth Company's glorious history, I began to see why it was necessary for me to go through the tough routines," Pi went on. "The deeds of our combat heroes were an inspiration too. We were told about Kao Chia-kai, who pulled the fuses of his last two grenades and blew up the enemy soldiers who were almost upon him. He gave his life to gain time for the main force to withdraw. He came from a poor family, so did I. He gave his life for the liberation of the people, why should I be afraid of hardships? I began to understand for whom I was taking up the gun. I made up my mind to learn from these heroes. As long as a job was necessary to the Party and the people, I tried to do it well, no matter how hard it was. Men of Sixth Company have always done it that way, I will too."

With ideological education providing a source of strength, in the 13 years since it received the "Hard-Boned" designation, Sixth Company has produced 22 "hard-boned fighters" like Pi Kuang-yao. He is now deputy commander of



Instructions on how to blow up a tank.

the battalion commanding Sixth Company.

Red and Expert

A "hard-boned fighter" is both red and expert.

Li Hung-pin and Chu Hsi-tsai joined the army at the same time. Each had a different idea of what a good soldier should be. Li set his mind on studying political theory, often reading far into the night. In three years he had read much of the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Mao Tsetung. He had written 100,000 words of study notes.

Chu thought only of how to perfect his combat skill. He drilled hard at shooting, bayoneting, grenade throwing, demolition and digging defenses. He was tops in all five skills.

Each neglected what the other was good at. In a combat drill Li would collapse from fatigue after charging up a hill. At political

study meetings Chu would sit silent in the back row.

The company political instructor spoke of his observations of the two men at a Party branch meeting and said this was a matter of what kind of soldiers the people's army should produce. The branch decided that the political instructor would go to the squad where Li and Chu were and join them in study and drill and help them understand the importance of being good in both aspects. After a while Li began chalking up excellent marks in shooting and grenade throwing as well as in theoretical study. Chu started to become an activist in theoretical study while still maintaining his superior combat performance. Today he is a leader in the criticism of the "gang of four's" counter-revolutionary revisionist line.

Officers and men of Sixth Company spend some time every evening studying the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and

Chairman Mao, no matter how hard they have worked during the day on training, combat-preparedness duty or defense construction.

"Every time I went on night guard duty," one man said, "I noticed the lights still on in the rooms of the political instructor and the company commander. Once I looked through the window and saw the instructor reading and marking his book."

Study has given the men of Sixth Company a deep understanding of Chairman Mao's teachings and made them firm in carrying out his revolutionary line. That is why they have kept their bearings and advanced in the correct direction in spite of the trouble and confusion caused by Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and the "gang of four".

The company also leads in combat training. In 79 target competitions in 13 years, the company earned marks of "excel-

lent" 68 times, "good" 10 times and "passing" only once. Last year the company held 15 combination tactical-skill exercises with each squad as a unit, held day and night in all kinds of weather. Accuracy was above 80 percent. In 1976, with 61 skilled grenade throwers and 50 sharpshooters, the company ranked first in the division in shooting, bayoneting and grenade throwing. Its anti-tank rocket team hit its moving targets with the first shot every time and all succeeding shots as well.

Learning from Lei Feng

Chairman Mao called on the army to learn from Lei Feng, a PLA man outstanding in serving the people. Sixth Company, too, educates its men to consider it a joy to help others, an honor to put public interests before one's own, and a shame to benefit oneself at the expense of others.

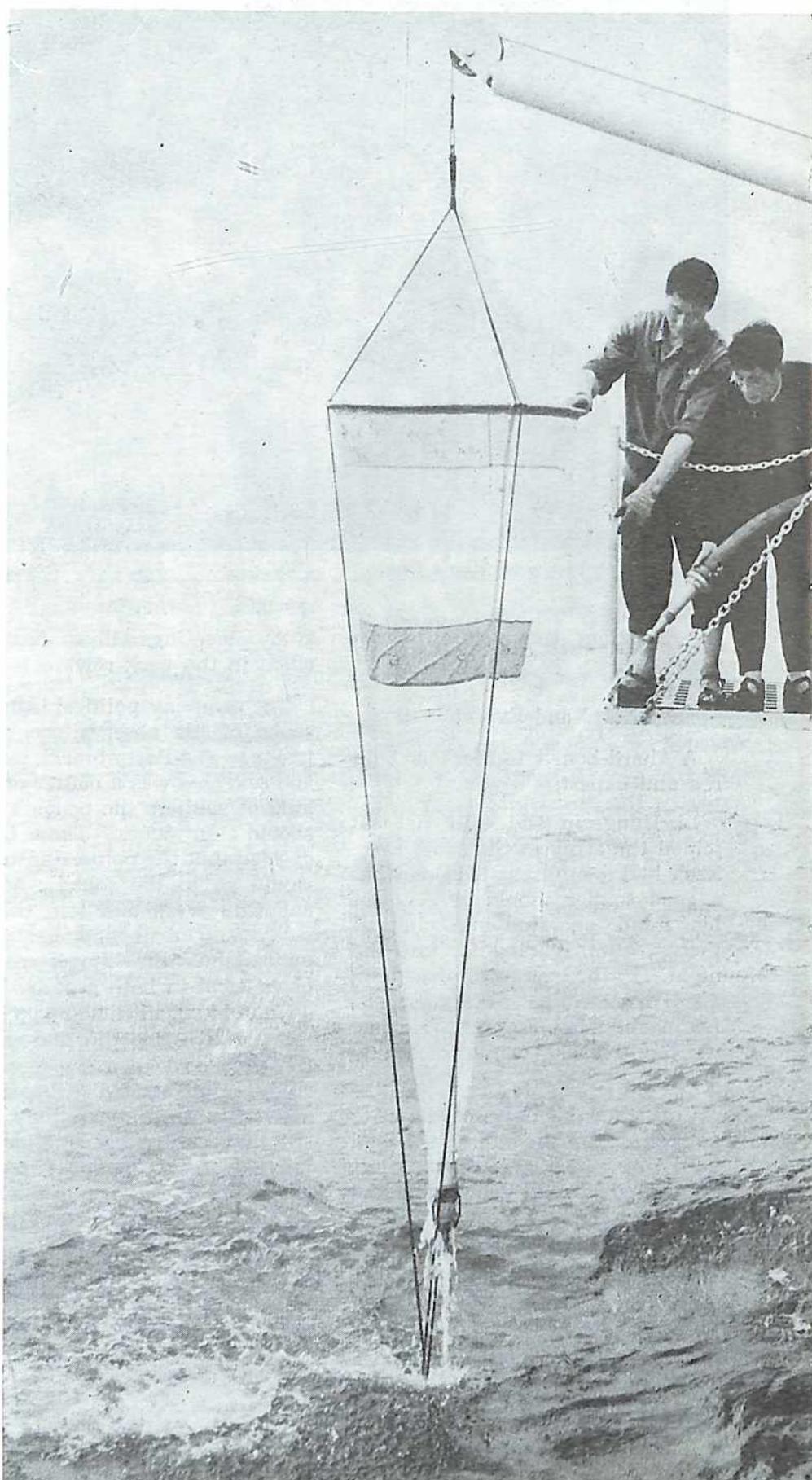
Messenger Chou Hou-ching, for example, goes out of his way to do things outside his line of duty, like washing clothes for his comrades or standing guard for them so they can take in a movie. New recruit Hsieh Hsiao-hsi has been helping in the kitchen and the vegetable garden on every one of the 36 Sundays since his enlistment.

During one grenade throwing session, Chen Chien-chiang, a new recruit, was so nervous that he let go of the grenade before completing his swing. Company Commander Lin Yi-ping pushed Chen into a nearby pit and fell on top of him before the grenade exploded. The commander was grazed by a piece of shrapnel but Chen was safe. Lin Yi-ping has saved his men four times this way.

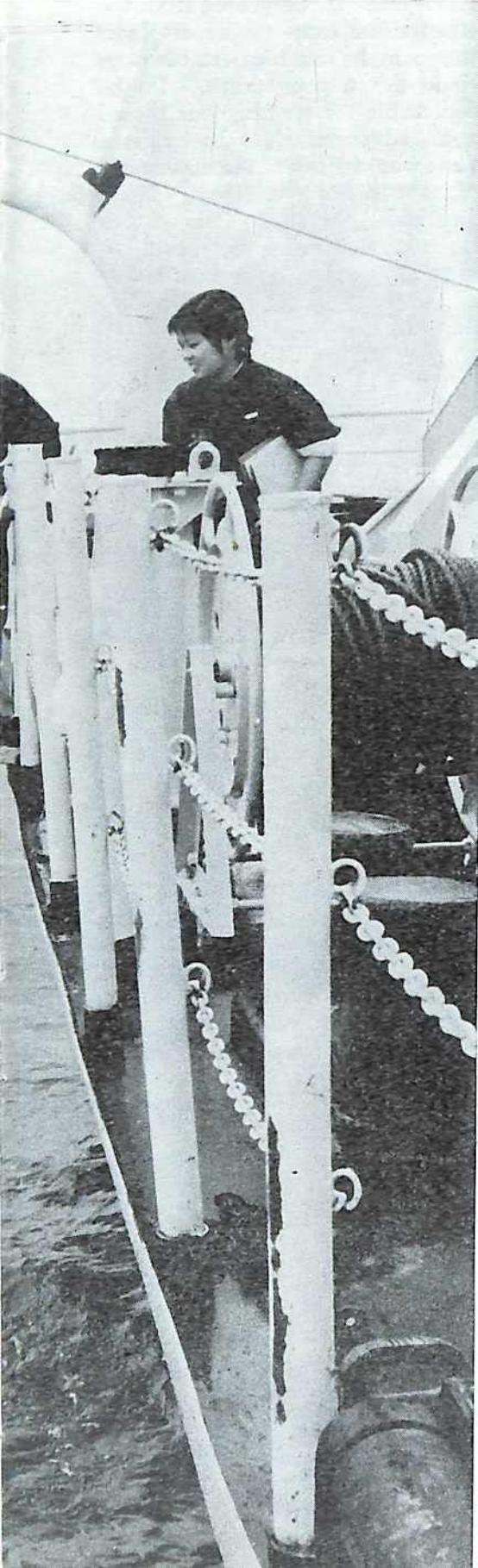
PLA men who visit Sixth Company to learn from it call it "a steel sword in the fight against foreign aggression, an iron fist in the fight against capitalist restoration".

ACROSS THE LAND

The Institute of Ocean



oography



Researchers in experimental mollusk ecology and leaders of the Huangtao commune marine farm in Shantung check the growth of artificially bred and raised mussels. The group has succeeded in breeding mussels three times a year instead of once.

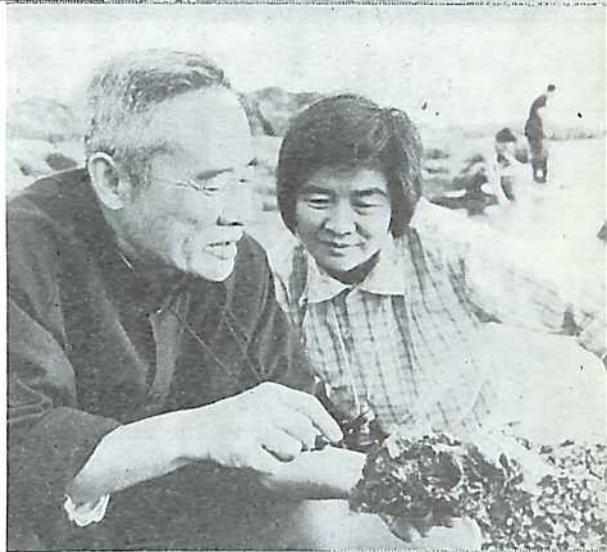
Institute vice-director Tsao Cheng-kuei, a seaweed specialist, surveying seaweed resources along the China coast.

THE Institute of Oceanography of the Chinese Academy of Sciences is in Tsingtao, Shantung province, on the Yellow Sea. It carries on research in marine geology, hydrology, meteorology, chemistry, physics, biology and oceanographic instruments.

For a number of years the institute's researchers have left their laboratories to integrate their work with the production needs of fishing villages, factories, marine worksites and farms. Working with local leaders, workers and fishermen they have contributed to the study and use of China's marine resources.

A researcher (left) and a worker measure the growth of the three-striped sea horse, an ingredient of Chinese medicine. Institute researchers and workers and leaders of the Jiheao county experimental marine farm have solved the difficult problem of breeding and raising this subtropical species in cold northern waters.

Marine biology researchers and a fishing company worker gather plankton samples in China's northern waters to use in studying the prevention and elimination of pollution.





CHILDREN

On Duty — A Story

LIN HSIAO-YING, a fourth-grade pupil in the Hsiangyang Primary School, is the hygiene monitor of her class. She isn't very tall, but she speaks with a loud, clear voice — and sometimes so rapidly that her classmates call her "Firecracker". Some of the boys in her class call her "Bossy" behind her back.

One winter morning right after the first bell, ten-year-old Chang Hsiao-liang rushed into the classroom covered with sweat and a basketball in his hand. He opened the window, unbuttoned his cotton-padded jacket and let the cold wind blow against him. "Ah!" he said. "This feels good!"

"Close that window!" came a sharp voice behind him. It was Hsiao-ying, but he stood there as if he hadn't heard. Two small hands reached past him and shut the window with a bang. "Don't you know any better? You'll catch a cold that way!"

"It's none of your business!" Hsiao-liang answered.

"It certainly is!" Hsiao-ying said firmly, and locked the window.

The boy opened his mouth to say something sharp, but just then the bell rang again and the teacher came in. He sat down in his seat. The boy next to him made a face at him. "Huh!" Hsiao-liang whispered. "A hygiene monitor! Who's she to tell me what to do?"

After school that day it was Chang Hsiao-liang's turn to sweep the classroom floor. "Hurry up!" his deskmate said. "Let's go and play ball!" Hsiao-liang quickly set the stools upside down on the desks, swished the broom around a few times, grabbed his book bag and rushed out the door, heading for the playground.

He hadn't even reached the stairs when a voice yelled, "Stop!" Lin Hsiao-ying appeared to face him. "Don't you have any sense of responsibility, sweeping the floor like a cat pawing the ground?"

Hsiao-liang ignored her and ran down the stairs two at a time. Hsiao-ying was faster and caught up with him at the door below. "Go back and sweep the floor again!" She made it sound like an order.

"Go tell the teacher if you think I didn't do a good job!" Hsiao-liang retorted. "Punish me if you want to!"

"Punish you? You didn't carry out your responsibility and you

should do it over. It's everybody's duty to keep our classroom clean!"

"Phoo! You don't have the right to order me around!"

"I'm the hygiene monitor — it's my duty."

Feeling he was losing the argument, Hsiao-liang simply ran off.

That night, though, he kept thinking of the argument with Hsiao-ying. If the people from the school clinic came to inspect their classroom, he told himself, the class would get a poor mark. I'd be responsible for spoiling our record as an advanced class in hygiene. What would I say if the classmates ask who swept the floor? I'm a member of the Little Red Guards group for serving the people — we're supposed to be good at learning how to serve the people wholeheartedly.



Basketball had tired him out but he couldn't go to sleep. The more he thought about the sweeping, the less he could sleep. His head ached and his body was sore all over. His quilt seemed to grow thinner and he was shivering as if he had been doused with cold water. The next morning his mother took his temperature — 39°C. She went with him to the hospital and the doctor said that it was a bad cold.

Around four o'clock that afternoon he woke up after a good sleep. He was covered with sweat but felt much better. Suddenly he heard someone calling him outside the house. "Oh, rats!" he said to himself. "It must be Hsiao-ying!"

He remembered her words, "Don't you know any better? You'll catch a cold that way!" He pulled the quilt over his head.

But it didn't do any good. His little brother came in and said, "Your classmate just came to see you. She thought you were sleeping so she left this for you." It was his exercise book and a package of pills. He read the note: "Dear Hsiao-liang, we are all worried about your having a fever. I got some medicine for you from the clinic. Hope you'll get well soon. I haven't done a good job of explaining sports hygiene. You probably caught cold from standing in the cold air after sweating in a hard game. Have a good rest. Hygiene Monitor."

Chang Hsiao-liang felt hot in the face but the note warmed his heart.

In the evening his deskmate came to see him and told him the teacher had praised the student on duty who swept the classroom so well yesterday. Hsiao-liang was surprised. He knew he hadn't swept it well. Somebody from the Serve-the-People Group must have finished the job he had left half-done. He decided to go to his teacher and tell him the truth.

The next morning he got right up, ate his breakfast and went off to school. When he pushed the classroom door open, the first thing he saw on the wall was a red banner with Chairman Mao's words on it: "Get mobilized, pay attention to hygiene, reduce disease, improve health conditions . . ." As he stepped into the room he saw Lin Hsiao-ying and several other pupils wiping desks and stools. Hsiao-ying looked up and said, "Why aren't you staying home and resting?" Her voice was firm and sharp as usual. But this time it sounded friendly. Embarrassed, he put his book bag down, walked up to the blackboard and wrote his name after "Today's student on duty . . ."

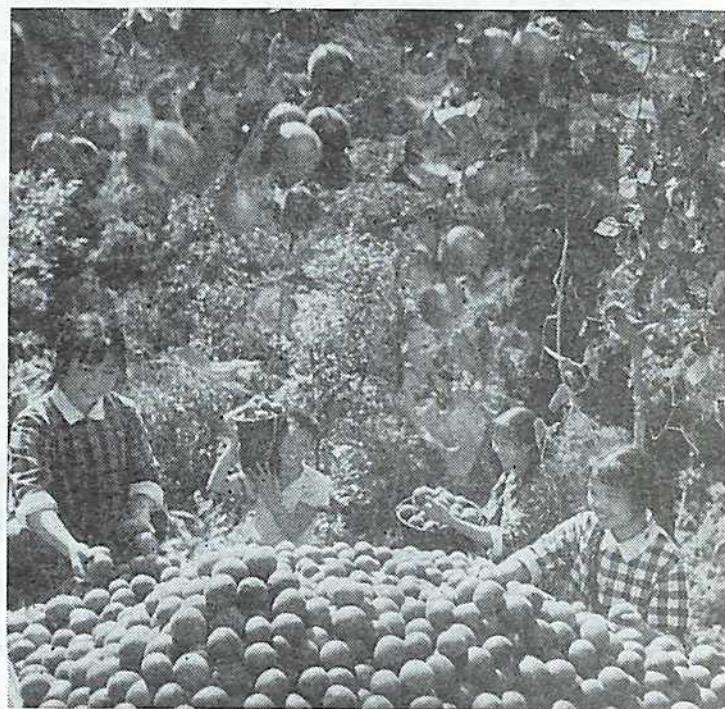
"It's not your turn today!" Hsiao-ying shouted.

"I know, Hsiao-ying, but I have to make up for what I didn't do yesterday. It's my duty."

Was the hygiene monitor actually smiling?

Chinese Local Products

Lo Han Kuo — A Versatile Fruit



A good harvest of lo han kuo in Yungfu county, Kwangsi.

AMONG the medicines exported from China is one derived from the fruit of the lo han kuo (*Momordica groenensis*), a tricocous perennial climber (related to such plants as the cucumber and squash) grown mainly in Yungfu county in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region. It is used for coughs, improves liver function and makes a refreshing drink. It is also effective in the treatment of hypertension and as a tonic to help prevent respiratory diseases.

The fruit of the lo han kuo is green, round or oval, often as large as a fist. When baked over a slow fire, the skin turns bister-brown. Boiling water poured over the crushed pieces produces a pleasant aroma. It has a high glucose content and tastes something like coffee.

There is an ancient folk tale about how the plant got its name. Long ago there was a peasant of Yao nationality who went into the hills to cut wood. He came upon a sweet-smelling fruit which he did not recognize and brought it

back to his village. But even the oldest people had never seen it before. Finally he got hold of a folk doctor named Lo Han who was interested and had a habit of finding out all about anything he did not understand. After studying it and making many tests he found that the fruit was good for coughs and tuberculosis. So people named it after Lo Han and began cultivating it in gardens where they raised herbs.

People in Yungfu county have been growing lo han kuo for 200 years. Through scientific research to purify and improve the seeds, commune members have steadily raised its output and quality. In 1976, in spite of drought and pests, the county brought in a harvest of 3,700,000 lo han kuo, 16 times more than any year before liberation. Today, 12 more counties in Kwangsi are growing it.

Lo han kuo has been made into cough syrups, pills for the relief of asthma, essence for use in other medicines and cubes for making drinks.



Building sandbreaks to hold back the Maowusu Desert.

Water, grasses, trees and willow fences grid land reclaimed from the desert.

China Controls Her Deserts

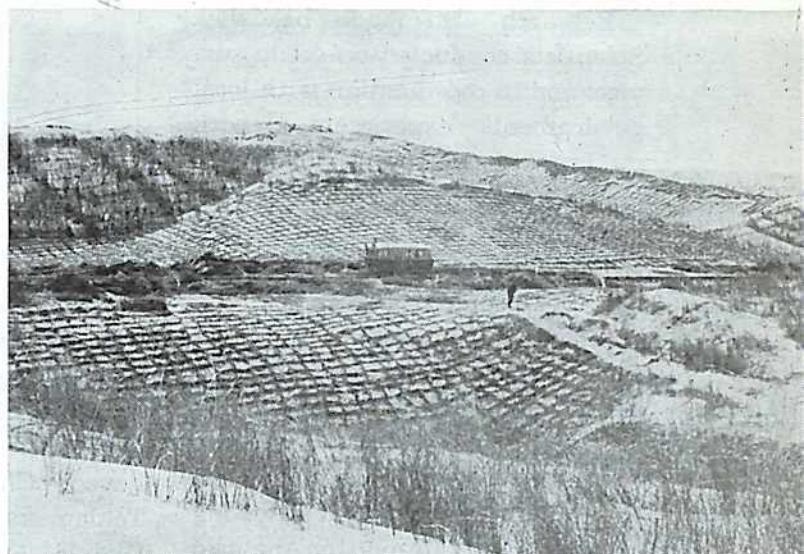
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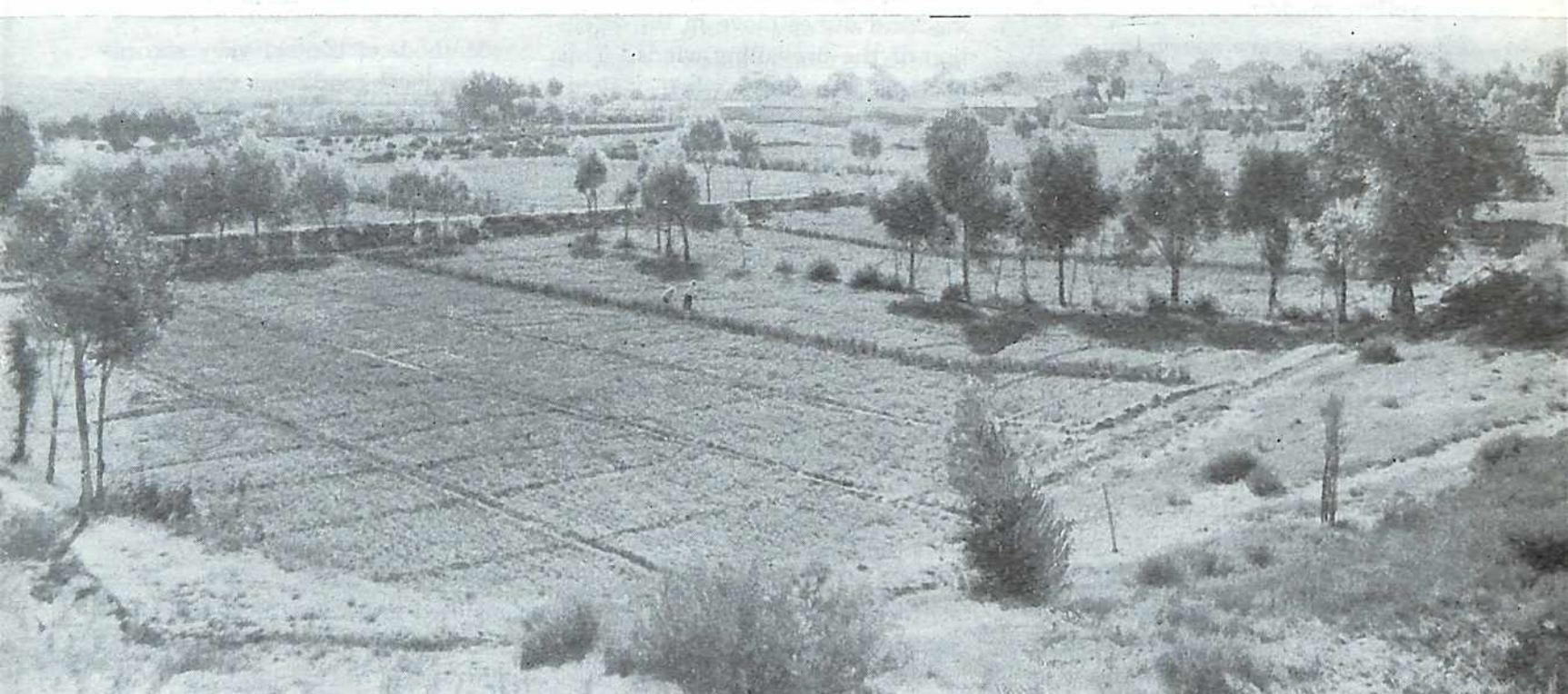


A BELT OF deserts lies along China's northern border, an area of one million square kilometers—over 11 percent of China's total land area. Most of these deserts lie in the north and northwest, a small part of them in the northeast. They are found in nine provinces and autonomous regions: Sinkiang, Kansu, Chinghai, Inner Mongolia, Ningsia, Shensi, Liao-ning, Kirin and Heilungkiang. Sixty percent of them consist of rolling sand dunes, 40 percent gravel and stone.

Reactionary ruling classes through the ages did nothing to control or improve the deserts. They reclaimed land, felled trees and grazed stock with no thought of preserving the vegetation of these arid regions. Thus sandstorms grew more and more devastating, burying pastures, fields, villages and roads. Uprooted, people wandered about with no way to make a living. Scientifically, nothing was done to learn about deserts, much less to do something about it.



Shifting sands along a highway stabilized with sandbreaks of grass.



Map of China's Deserts: (1) Taklamakan
 (2) Kurban-Tungut (3) Tsaidam (4) Kumutako
 (5) Badan Jiryn (6) Tyngeri (7) Maowusu
 (8) Ulanbuh (9) Kupuchi (10) Lesser
 Tyngeri (11) Khorchin Sandy Land
 (12) Hulunbuir Sandy Land

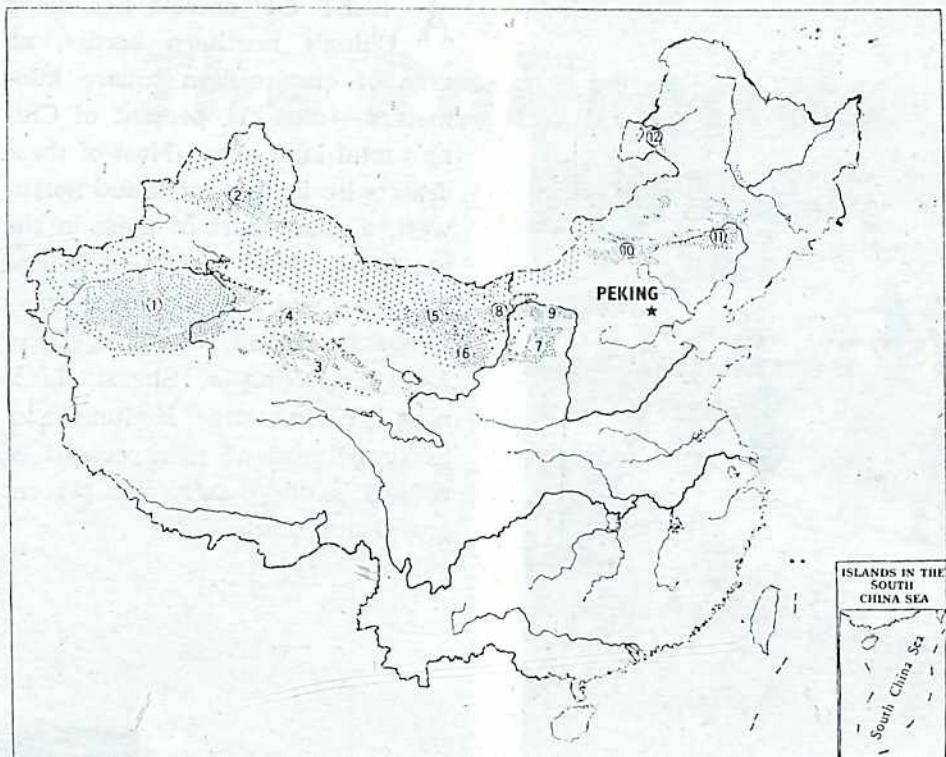
The struggle to control and transform deserts began only after the founding of new China. With leadership from the Communist Party and Chairman Mao, assistance from the state, and socialist collective strength, the people who suffered most from sandstorms began taking measures to transform and utilize the deserts.

Research also made headway. Scientists conducted on-scene surveys and in coordination with local governments experimented with methods of controlling the sands. Learning to work more closely with the masses during the cultural revolution, scientists have summed up the people's experience and applied it to working out still more effective measures. "Sands advance, man retreats" is being changed to "man advances, sands retreat". New scenes in the deserts show melting snow water flowing through canals to moisten the arid land, neat strip fields forming fertile land, green pastures among yellow sands.

How Deserts Came to Be

Scholars long maintained that the deserts of Inner Mongolia and Kansu had come on the winds from Sinkiang, they said, and the deserts in Sinkiang from Central Asia.

Investigation and research since 1949, however, show that the formation of China's deserts began from 1,000,000 to 1,700,000 years ago during the Middle Pleistocene period. The climate at that time was arid, with little rainfall, scorching sunshine, changeable weather and strong winds. This caused a continual erosion of the soil so that as time went by the underlying sandy materials be-



came exposed and were picked up by strong winds. In other words, the deserts were formed under local conditions and not carried in from outside, as previously believed. China's largest desert, the Taklamakan in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region was formed this way.

Once a desert is formed, its shifting sand dunes move in the direction of the prevailing winds. This happens especially when vegetation is destroyed by man, as occurred in the eastern parts of the desert belt. The Maowusu Desert, for example, once had an annual rainfall of over 400 mm. and was a grassland with marshes and jungles in the low-lying regions and slopes. Indiscriminate reclaiming, felling and grazing through the centuries damaged the vegetation that stabilized the sands so that they began to shift. Destruction of the vegetation worsened after the Opium War in the middle of the last century when imperialist forces penetrated China, occupied land and reclaimed it for immediate use. Nothing constructive was done under Kuomintang

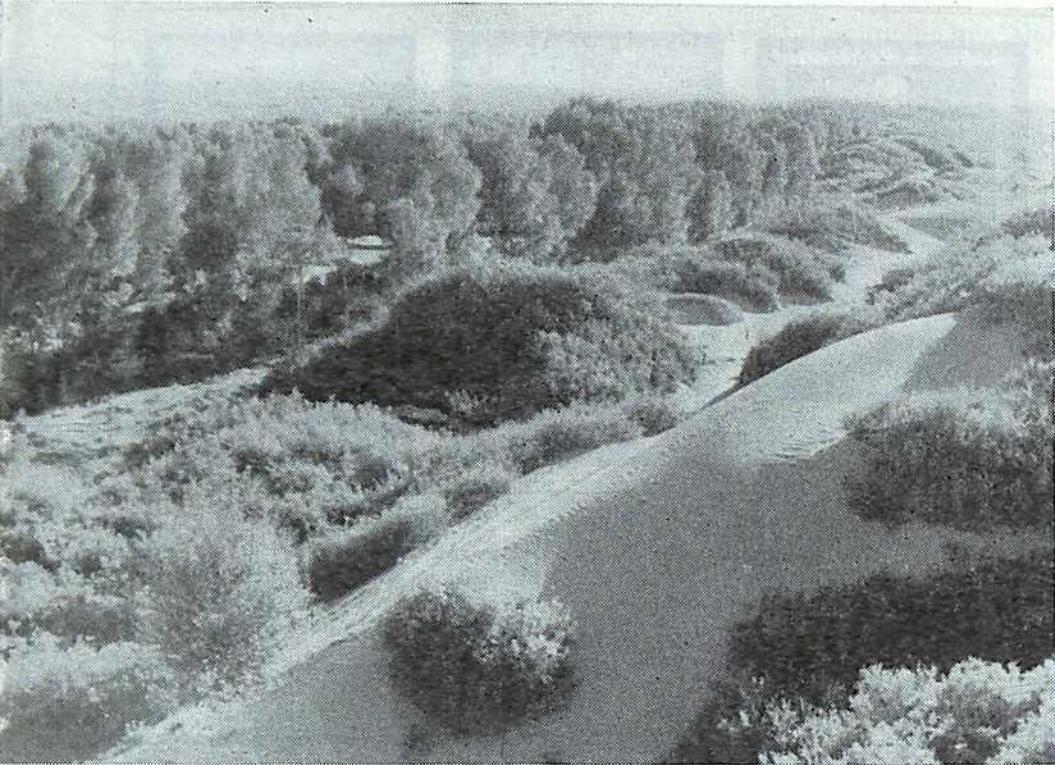
rule. The result was a 60-kilometer-wide man-made desert along the Great Wall in north Shensi province. In the same way the Khorchin Sandy Land in the western part of the northeast plain, formerly a grassland, was formed in the last 200 years.

Control Measures

Methods of control vary according to local conditions.

To protect oases from sandstorms, shelter belts of tall trees and shrubs are planted around them and networks of tree belts erected along the fields inside them. Grass is grown along the fringes of the desert to anchor the sand.

In deserts consisting mainly of stabilized dunes and some shifting sand, the meadows or fertile spaces between dunes are ringed by fences made of clay bricks, willow branches or barbed wire. These enclosed areas are then developed for stock breeding. Shelter belts with trees, shrubs and grass are planted to anchor the sand and



Shelter belts of trees and shrubs on the edge of a desert.

natural pastures are periodically sealed off to give them a chance to grow.

In areas where desert predominates, riverbank flatlands and dried lake lands are transformed into oases by bringing water to them — holding back seasonal floodwaters in reservoirs, diverting melted snow through canals and tapping underground water.

Along railway lines and highways, sandbreaks are built to stabilize the surface sand, then plants grown to fix the shifting sand. Where these measures do not work, water is directed to wash the sand away.

Great Changes

Efforts to control the sands have brought conspicuous changes in the desert belt. A north-south shelter belt running along the western parts of Liaoning, Kirin and Heilungkiang provinces has become a luxuriant green wall protecting 3,000,000 hectares of farmland, the largest area so protected.

In the Yulin prefecture, Shensi province, in the southern part of

the Maowusu Desert, 230,000 hectares of forest belts planted since 1949 have stopped the southern drift of the sand. A total of 23,000 hectares has been reclaimed by washing the sand away with water or guiding floodwaters over the sand and growing crops on the fertile silt thus deposited. Using these and other methods, the commune members of the Yangchianpan brigade in Chingpien county, for example, have created oases out of the shifting sands.

In the Usantsao commune in the northern part of the Maowusu Desert in Inner Mongolia, shifting sand dunes took up 54 percent of the land. Only a third of it could be used for pastures and these were sparsely covered with vegetation and cut up by shifting sand into small, scattered grazing grounds. By using the tested methods described above the commune has brought 16,000 hectares of shifting sand under control, fenced off 14,000 hectares with sandbreaks, and converted 6,600 hectares into pastures. The commune's livestock is now six times more than in the early years after

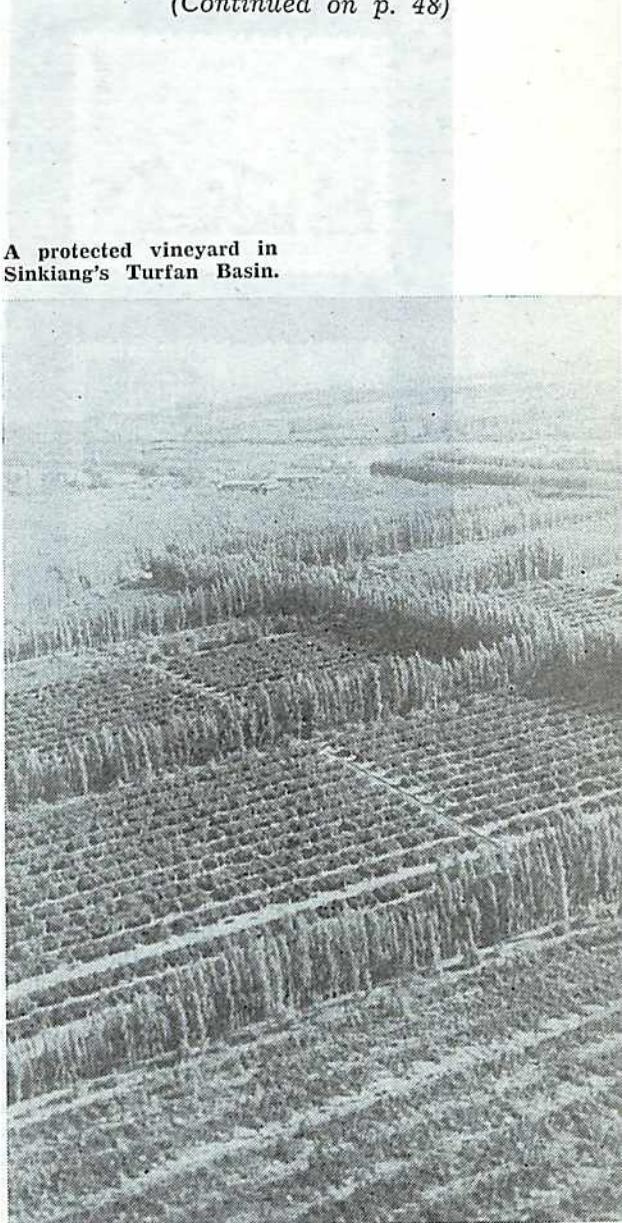
liberation. Since the cultural revolution began, the commune has supplied the state with 142 percent more livestock than all the years before the cultural revolution.

In the northern part of the Ulanbuh Desert in western Inner Mongolia, a 170-kilometer "green wall", grown since liberation, has created favorable conditions for farming in the plain west of the great bend of the Yellow River.

The Kansu Corridor's sandy wastes have also changed. Sand-bound Minshan brigade in Tunhuang county, for instance, used to be a desolate place with very small harvests. After liberation its sandy land was tackled piece by piece and changed into crop land.

(Continued on p. 48)

A protected vineyard in Sinkiang's Turfan Basin.



STAMPS OF NEW CHINA

Taiwan Uprising Commemoratives

TAIWAN is Chinese territory and the people of the island province are part of the Chinese nation. On February 28, the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan people's revolt against the reactionary Kuomintang government in 1947, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of two commemoratives. They show the Chinese people's firm support to their kinsfolk's struggle against U.S. imperialism and the Chiang clique's reactionary rule and their determination to liberate Taiwan and unify the motherland.

Stamp 1, 8 fen. The Taiwan people's uprising on February 28, 1947. Inspired by Chairman Mao's call to "Greet the New High Tide of the Chinese Revolution" (red



characters on white background), the people of Taiwan revolted. In coordination with the War of Liberation on the mainland, they dealt a heavy blow to the Chiang Kai-shek clique. Red, lavender, black, red-orange and white.

Stamp 2, 10 fen. In the upper left corner is Tien An Men in Peking and a huge streamer above a tremendous parade declaring, "We Are Determined to Liberate Taiwan." Below is the Sun and Moon Lake in Taiwan province. On the right are Taiwan compatriots unfurling China's five-star red flag. It depicts the longing of the people of Taiwan, with a patriotic and revolutionary tradition, for their socialist motherland and their determination to unite with all the Chinese people in a common struggle for the early unification of the motherland under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. Green, red, yellow-orange, black, lemon and white.



Stamps measure 40 × 30 mm. Perf. 11½. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: J 14 (2-1 and 2-2).

Commemoratives for Liu Hu-lan

LIU HU-LAN (1932-1947), a member of the Chinese Communist Party, grew up during the Chinese people's revolutionary wars. On January 12, 1947, at age 15, she was executed by the Kuomintang, giving her life for the Chinese people's liberation and the cause of communism. Chairman Mao wrote the inscription: "A Great Life! A Glorious Death!" To commemorate the 30th anniversary of her death, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of three stamps on January 30.

Stamp 1. A statue of Liu Hu-lan standing defiantly before the enemy. Silver, white, green and slate-purple.

Stamp 2. Chairman Mao's inscription—"A Great Life! A Glorious Death!"—on the tenth anniversary of Liu Hu-lan's death. Below are the memorial hall and monument. Silver, light blue, white, buff and deep purple.

Stamp 3. Inspired by Chairman Mao's inscription, the Chinese people are determined to carry out Chairman Mao's behests, relentlessly denounce the "gang of four" and carry the proletarian revolutionary cause through to the end under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. Silver, light yellow, yellow-brown, deep green and salmon.

All stamps are of 8 fen denomination, measure 31 × 52. Perf. 11½. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: J 12 (13-1 to 13-3).

Stamp 1. A group of girls cleaning their guns before target practice. Cobalt, dull green, salmon, vermilion and black.

Stamp 2. Four militiawomen riding back from target practice with red flag flying in the wind of the pastureland. Green, apple-green, red-orange, cobalt, salmon and white.

Stamp 3. A girl directing tunnel traffic. Bister-brown, grey, salmon, vermilion and light blue.

All stamps are of 8 fen denomination and measure 52 × 31 mm. Perf. 11½. Serial numbers: T 10 (3-1 to 3-3). Color photogravured.

Note: Wholesale purchases are handled by the China Stamp Export Company, 28 Tunganmen Street, Peking. Cable: CHINASTAMP, Peking. Information on request.



Militiawomen

THE Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issued a set of three stamps entitled "Militiawomen" on March 8, 1977. Carrying forward the tradition of being good at working and fighting, Chinese militiawomen contribute their share to socialist revolution and construction.

Lesson 6

The Verb To Have

1. The verb 有 yǒu (to have)

(1) To show possession

我有一个中国朋友，他叫
Wǒ yǒu yí ge Zhōngguó péngyou, tā jiào
I have a Chinese friend, he (is) called
张华。
Zhāng Huá.

我有一个姐姐。

Wǒ yǒu yí ge jiějie.
I have an older sister.

(2) To show existence

这里有三本画报。
Zhèlǐ yǒu sān běn huàbào.
Here are three pictorial magazines.

她家有爸爸、妈妈，还有一个哥哥，一个妹妹。
Tā jiā yǒu bàba, māma, hái yǒu yí ge gēge, yí ge mèimei.
(In) her family there are father, mother and also an older brother and a younger sister.

The negative form of 有 yǒu is 没有 méiyǒu.

你有弟弟吗？
Nǐ yǒu dìdi ma?
Do you have a younger brother?

我没有弟弟。
Wǒ méiyǒu dìdi.

I have no younger brother.

她家有很多人吗？
Tā jiā yǒu hěn duō rén ma?
(In) her family are there many people?

她家没有很多人。
Tā jiā méiyǒu hěn duō rén.
(In) her family there are not many people.

Note: The verb 有 always takes the negative 没 méi and never the negative 不 bù, as was

used with the verb 是 shì we learned last time.
We never say “她没有妹妹”.

2. Numbers from 10 to 99:

十	十一	十二	十三
shí	shí yī	shí èr	shí sān
ten	eleven	twelve	thirteen
十四	十五	十六	
shí sì	shí wǔ	shí liù	
fourteen	fifteen	sixteen	
十七	十八	十九	
shí qī	shí bā	shí jiǔ	
seventeen	eighteen	nineteen	
二十	二十一	二十二	二十三
èrshí	èrshí yī	èrshí èr	èrshí sān...
twenty	twenty-one	twenty-two	twenty-three
二十九			
èrshí jiǔ			twenty-nine
三十			
sānshí...			
thirty...			
四十			
sì shí...			
forty...			
九十		九十九	
jiǔshí...		jiǔshí jiǔ	
ninety...		ninety-nine	

For Advanced Students:

高山上的篮球场

不久前我们乘汽车去西北 Xīběi (northwest), 路过 lùguò (passing by) 昆仑山 Kūnlúnshān (Kunlun Mountains), 到了四千七百米高的山顶 shāndǐng (mountain-top) 兵站 bīngzhàn (army post), 我感到头晕 tóuyūn (dizzy)、心闷 xīnmèn (stifled), 两条腿 tuǐ (leg) 象踩 cǎi (tread on) 棉花 miánhua (cotton) 一样。站不稳 wěn (firm), 走不动, 只好躺 tǎng (lie) 在床上, 连水都不想喝了。

这时窗外不时 **bùshí** (frequently) 传来人们的笑声和喝彩 **hècǎi** (cheers) 声。原来那里正在进行一场篮球 **lánqiú** (basketball) 比赛。只见十个小伙子象十只小老虎 **lǎohǔ** (tiger), 在球场上飞跑跳跃 **tiàoyuè** (jump)。鲜红 **xiānhóng** (scarlet) 的运动衣衬 **chèn** (contrast with) 着周围的雪山, 分外 **fènwài** (extremely) 鲜艳 **xiānyàn** (colorful)。

后来兵站的同志告诉我, 他们初 **chū** (first) 来的时候, 也有高山反应 **fānyǐng** (reaction), 大家都头痛。呼吸 **hūxī** (breathe) 困难, 每天只能喝一点粥 **zhōu** (gruel)。这样怎么行呢? 同志们商量 **shāngliang** (discuss) 后得 **dé** (get) 出了一致 **yízhì** (same) 的看法 **kānfǎ** (view): “我们的任务是保卫 **bǎowèi** (defend) 祖国。如果在困难的自然 **zìrán** (nature) 条件 **tiáojìan** (conditions) 面前退却 **tuíquè** (retreat), 又怎么对付 **duìfú** (deal with) 敌人呢?”

他们下决心 **juéxīn** (determination) 加强体育锻炼。自己动手 **dòngshǒu** (move hands) 修 **xiū** (build) 了一个篮球场。每天天不亮 **liàng** (light) 就去跑步 **pǎobù** (run)。真是艰难啊! 他们脚 **jiǎo** (feet) 麻 **má** (numb) 了, 腿肿 **zhǒng** (swollen) 了, 气温 **qìwēn** (temperature) 下降 **xiàjiàng** (drop) 到零 **líng** (zero) 下四十度 **dù** (degree), 还坚持锻炼。

小伙子们的顽强 **wánqiáng** (stubborn) 意志 **yìzhì** (will) 鼓舞 **gǔwǔ** (inspire) 我向困难作斗争 **dòuzhēng** (struggle), 帮助我很快战胜 **zhànshèng** (overcome) 了高山反应。

A High Mountain Basketball Field

Not long ago we went by bus to the northwest. When we were crossing the Kunlun Mountains we

arrived at an army post on a 4,700-meter-high mountaintop. I felt dizzy and stifled. My legs seemed to be treading on cotton, (and I) could not stand firmly or walk. I had to lie in bed and didn't even feel like drinking water.

At this time from outside the window frequently came people's laughter and cheers. A basketball match was going on. I saw ten young men like ten tigers running and jumping on the playing field. Their scarlet athletic suits in contrast with the surrounding snow-covered mountains looked extremely colorful.

Later the army post comrades told me that when they first came they also had a reaction to the high mountains. They all had headaches and breathed with difficulty. They could only drink (eat) a little gruel each day.

How could they get along this way? The comrades discussed and (all) arrived at the same view: "Our task is to defend our motherland. If we retreat in the face of difficult natural conditions, how can we fight the enemy?"

They decided to increase their physical training. They got busy (and) built a basketball field. Every day before daybreak they went out to run. It really was hard! Their feet became numb and their legs swollen. When the temperature dropped to 40°C below zero, they still persisted in training.

The young men's stubborn will inspired me to fight against the difficulties and helped me to very quickly overcome the mountain sickness.

(Continued from p. 45)

Trees planted to hold back sandstorms stopped the shifting sand from swallowing up the fields.

Shachingtzu west of Minchin county was once plagued by shifting sands. Afforesting the spaces between sand dunes, closing off grounds for growing grass, putting up mud and clay fences on sand dunes and planting sand-fixing shrubs of saxaul inside the fences have increased vegetation acreage 40 percent.

In the desert regions north and south of the Tianshan Mountains in Sinkiang farmland shelter belts account for 45 percent of the region's 100,000 hectares of affor-

ested area. The Turfan Basin has long been known as the land of fire and wind. In the last ten years Turfan county has planted 2,100 kilometers of forest belts so that 70 percent of its farmland is protected by a network of shelter belts. Water diverted through new canals, fields created from leveled sand dunes and orchards grown on desert land have more than doubled the county's oasis area.

Along the fringes of Sinkiang's Taklamakan and Kurban-Tungut deserts people have reclaimed 700,000 hectares of fertile fields by exploring water and soil resources. A farm in the Mosowan reclamation colony in the southwestern part of the Kurban-Tungut Desert was once a sandy waste surround-

ed on three sides by desert. Fifteen years of tree planting have turned it into a 17,000-hectare oasis of fertile land checkered by forest belts. The area of new oases is 6.2 times more than at liberation. The cultivated area of the Khotan prefecture on the southwestern edge of the Taklamakan Desert is three times greater. New roads and rail lines have appeared where once only pack animals could be used.

Sandbreaks, sand-fixing plants, forest belts grown with water lifted from the Yellow River and artificial rain system have made it possible to prevent the sands of the Tyneri Desert from blocking the tracks of the Paotow-Lanchow railroad.



