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The 60th Anniversary of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Order and Its Miniature Decoration

With a view to carrying forward the history and tradition of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and the following 60-year-long anti-imperialist, anti-US confrontation for ever and giving greater importance to celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the victorious war, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided April 24, 2013 on instituting the 60th Anniversary of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Order.

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Front Cover: The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun is the home of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il for their eternal life.

Photo by Ra Phyong Ryol



Back Cover: A view of the park of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

Photo by Ra Ju Hyok

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Anecdotes of Foreign Visits

HE WHO HAS A STAND OF SHARING LIFE and death and joys and sorrows is a true comrade-in-arms and a genuine internationalist. This is the view President Kim Il Sung of the DPRK kept towards internationalist obligation all his life. For his noble view the President left many impressive anecdotes on his way of foreign visits covering over 1 306 000 *ris* (one *ri* equals 0.4 km) during his 50-odd-year-long revolutionary career since Korea's liberation in August 1945.

Laudable act of internationalism

In November 1945 units under the Liaoning Military District Command of the Northeast Democratic Allied Forces of China were surrounded by Chiang Kai-shek's forces in Dandong. Having got into such a fix, Shao Hua, commander of the Military District, asked General Kim Il Sung for help. At that time there were going fierce battles in the suburbs of Dandong against the offensive of the Nationalist forces, and nobody knew when there would be air raids.

However, Kim Il Sung went over to Dandong, defying all the dangers. After acquainting himself with the enemy's movements at an operational conference of the Chinese command, he told the commanding officers that they should give up cities while avoiding reckless conflicts with the enemy and establish bases in the countryside while dispersing and sapping the enemy forces as much as possible. And he put forward special operational and tactical ideas including the task of conducting political work more intensively so that the soldiers and the people would be firmly confident in victory and fight valiantly against the enemy, carrying out guerrilla activities and large-unit mobile operations expansively while defending the liberated area centred on Mt. Paektu, and weakening the enemy with uninterrupted battles of attrition. He went on to say encouragingly: "If you find yourselves in a tight corner, you can enter Mt. Paektu. Korea will be your reliable background."

His proposals changed the atmosphere of the command from uneasiness and apprehension into hope and confidence at once.

That was why a commanding officer of the former Northeast Democratic Allied Forces wrote later, "Always remembering the devotion and sacrifice of the Korean comrades who had shared life and death, Chairman Mao Zedong and Prime Minister Zhou Enlai expressed their deep thanks to President Kim Il Sung for his full support and encouragement for the Chinese revolution and said that the national flag of China is permeated with the precious blood of the Korean comrades. We can hardly forget the meaning of their remark."

Unusual toast

While Kim Il Sung was on a formal goodwill visit to the former Soviet Union at Stalin's invitation in early 1949, Stalin arranged a grand banquet in honour of the Korean leader.

At first, Stalin made a toast. Speaking highly of Kim Il Sung as an outstanding leader of worldwide reputation and a great hero who had accomplished immortal feats in defending the Soviet revolution, he concluded his toast by saying, "Comrade Kim Il Sung is a genuine proletarian internationalist, a model in the communist movement, who defended the Soviet Union at the cost of blood and with arms from the imperialists' aggression in the East. It is thanks to the struggle of genuine communists like Comrade Kim Il Sung that the Soviet Union is engaged in socialist construction in a peaceful atmosphere now. Availing myself of this significant opportunity I propose to offer our wholehearted thanks to Comrade Kim Il Sung with a big hand, representing a unanimous desire of me and many comrades and friends."

All those present gave Kim Il Sung an enthusiastic applause.

This was unprecedented for Stalin. It was very unusual and beyond imagination that Stalin who, enjoying respect as veteran politician of the global revolution, had hardly revealed his emotion spoke highly of the Korean leader and extended his heartfelt thanks to him at such a big banquet with many foreign diplomats present.

Story about Kimilsungia

In April 1965 when President Kim Il Sung paid a goodwill visit to Indonesia, the then Indonesian President Sukarno guided him to the Bogor Botanical Garden.

Sukarno led him to an orchid and explained about the flower. Looking at the full-bloomed flower for a while, Kim Il Sung said that it was very beautiful.

Sukarno said in satisfaction, "Your respected Excellency Premier Kim Il Sung, please allow me to call this new born species of orchid Kimilsungia. This is a unanimous desire of not only me and Indonesian people but all the people around the world as well."

Kim Il Sung, however, declined the request. Sukarno said again earnestly, "You have already rendered enormous services to mankind. To name this orchid after your august name is the desire of mankind. From now on we'll call this flower Kimilsungia."

An enthusiastic applause and cheers erupted, demonstrating infinite respect and admiration.

Kim Son Hyok

Kim Il Sung Is the Eternal Sun of Mankind (4)

By Secretary General Ogami Kenichi of the International Institute of the Juche Idea

(Continued from the last issue)

The cause of the sun shines brilliantly

THE HISTORY OF THE sun lasts for ever. The cause of President Kim Il Sung, the sun of mankind, was brilliantly carried on by Chairman Kim Jong Il, and is now being done by the leader Kim Jong Un. I was convinced of the fact through my past experience and my visits to Pyongyang in December 2011 and February 2012.

On July 9, 1994 the world public felt as if the sky had fallen and the land had sunk at the shocking news of Kim Il Sung's demise (July 8, 1994), the greatest loss unprecedented in the history of humankind and the greatest sorrow to the progressive peoples. But a miracle was wrought: The people, who had been shedding bitter tears crying for the President, rose up again withstanding their sorrow. Because Chairman Kim Jong Il pioneered a new history of the cause of immortalizing a national leader. On the day of bidding the last farewell to Kim Il Sung I saw the portrait of the beaming

President decorated with magnolia flowers. *Song of General Kim Il Sung*, instead of the funeral music, was solemnly played along the 40-odd-kilometre-long route lined by people who bid their last farewell to the President. Indeed, I saw again President Kim Il Sung beaming as the sun of mankind. Witnessing the new history of the cause of immortalizing the President pioneered by Chairman Kim Jong Il, I more keenly realized that the President was invariably being held in respect as the eternal sun of mankind thanks to the Chairman.

Today the cause of the President and the Chairman is laudably being carried on by the respected leader Kim Jong Un. His first presence on a public occasion was in the world spotlight. I saw the following article on the Internet: "Vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission of the north Kim Jong Un became a world-famous man as soon as he openly showed up as successor to Kim Jong Il. CNN of the United States selected Kim Jong Un as one of the Ten Persons of Primary Concern of the world..."

"Kim Jong Un takes after



President Kim Il Sung held in esteem and reverence as a peerless great man by the world and Chairman Kim Jong Il of the National Defence Commission regarded as a supreme statesman in our time, and his appearance reminds them of his predecessors, which enables him to enjoy absolute trust and enthusiastic cheers from all the people. The world was not excited at his appearance alone. After the official announcement of his being the successor to his predecessor, the north was more energized in such a way as to do world-amazing things one after another. In the short period of three months after the establishment of the succession system in the north the world witnessed for the first time his ability of doing all things such as consoli-

► dating the political system, building up the national defence and developing the economy while dealing with the US as he pleased, and could predict the future of Kim Jong Un's era."

Kim Jong Un is identical to his predecessors, indeed. After receiving the sad news of Chairman Kim Jong Il's demise in December 2011 I arrived in Pyongyang by air on the 27th of that month and rushed to the then Kumsusan Memorial Palace without delay. As I stood before the bier of the Chairman my heart seemed to be rent, and tears blurred my vision. I did not still recover from the sorrow of 1994, so I could hardly bear the pain by another loss. But when seeing Kim Jong Un on the venue of the funeral ceremony the following day, I felt as if I had seen President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il as young generals, and I shouted inwardly that they were not dead but were always with us. The look of Kim Jong Un was just that of the President and the Chairman in their youth.

When I revisited Pyongyang in February 2012 I learned that Kim Jong Un had already performed great exploits while assisting the Chairman in his Songun revolutionary leadership, and enjoyed respect and trust from the Korean people. The people's trust in and respect for him can be explained from different aspects. What I can say is that he

is infinitely loyal to his predecessors, wisely guides the affairs of all sectors with outstanding political and military abilities and matchless courage and takes boundless care of the army and the people. The Korean people would not forget the benevolent measures he had taken for the sake of them in the period of their mourning over the demise of the Chairman, though he was filled with greatest sorrow. All the Koreans I met would say in a tearful voice about the benevolence of Kim Jong Un.

I saw on TV the scenes of his inspecting the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division on the New Year's Day of 2012 and having a photo session with soldiers there arm in arm with them, and visiting the Mangyongdae Revolutionary School on the lunar New Year's Day of that year, wiping tears off the faces of the students weeping with joy and stroking their cheeks and looking round the mess hall of the school, asking the students what dishes they liked best and tasting soy sauce on a table. The scenes showed the generosity of a great father, and were the historic ones that announced to the whole world his invariable will to carry on the cause of his predecessors to the last. Kim Jong Un is really identical to his predecessors in not only appearance but also ideology, leadership traits, and virtues.

Chairman Kim Jong Il, I was

told, said full of confidence in his lifetime that he always felt optimistic about the future of the Korean revolution and was filled with confidence in victory of the revolution as there was Kim Jong Un, and that the Juche revolutionary cause pioneered on Mt. Paektu would be brilliantly carried on by him.

Today the Korean people are firmer in their will to build a thriving socialist nation under the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un while holding him in high esteem as the supreme leader of the Party and the revolution. The cause of the sun of mankind is being creditably carried on by the leader, another great man of Korea.

* * *

The sun is the symbol of eternity. President Kim Il Sung, the sun of mankind, is always with humankind. The Juche idea founded by the President will always illuminate the way ahead of humankind to the last, the people-centred socialism of Korea established by him will always shine as an ideal of humankind and the lever of independence laid by him will move the earth through all ages.

A disciple and soldier of the President, I will keep living as an ardent supporter and propagator of the Juche idea and striving for the victory of the cause of global independence. □

His Greatest Concern

“THE SECTOR OF LIGHT INDUSTRY IS most associated with the guidance of the leader (President Kim Il Sung).” This is what Chairman Kim Jong Il said after examining designs and samples of clothes made in preparation for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in 1988. The stories about the President’s guidance are all tearfully moving.

As one of the first batch of graduates from Kim Il Sung University I was posted to the department of light industry of the State Planning Commission at the end of 1950, in the early days of the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953). While working as senior official in the sector of light industry for a long time since then, I experienced the President’s concern for and devotion to the improvement of the people’s living standards more keenly than anyone else.

One November day in 1971 after I was appointed as Minister of Textile Industry, I got a phone call from the President. He said in a sad voice that in rural areas he had seen children in poor attire and earnestly instructed that lined suits and cotton-padded coats should be made and supplied to the children as it was getting cold. His words made me feel guilty of failing to pay attention to the matter, and I said, “I will make sure that all the rural children are supplied with double suits and cotton-padded coats as you instructed.” Only then did he feel satisfied and ask me to do it without fail. And he said it would be advisable to put 300 grams and 170 to 180 grams of cotton into such coats in cold and warm regions respectively, and showed concern about the colour of the coats.

True to his instructions all officials and workers of textile mills, knitwear factories and garment factories turned out as one in the endeavour to make and supply smart school uniforms and cotton-padded coats to all rural and other schoolchildren. Little children were provided with nice sweaters, and little girls with tights.

It was one day in January 1989, when I was

working as Vice Prime Minister of the Administration Council. Phoning me, the President said with anxiety that that morning he went out to the Tae-dong riverside and saw children riding sleds or sliding on the ice, and suggested that the Administration Council should consider the issue of skate production and take a necessary measure. Later, still concerned about the matter, he gave instructions on production of skates on four occasions, the ones on increasing the annual production, selling them at low prices, supplying the necessary materials for the production and increasing the sorts of skates and so on.

Listening to his instructions I looked back upon my childhood. I was born in a village on the Amnok riverside, and as a child I frequently slid on the ice. Once I hurt my head when I fell while sliding on the ice down a mound at a branch of the river. My mother then reproached me for playing like that as a girl.

Now, as a mother, I would also ask my children to ride a sleigh carefully whenever they fell riding a sleigh and soiled their clothes, but never did I think of providing them with a better thing for them to ride. But the President concerned himself about the matter of producing and supplying skates to all children across the country.

He was wont to call upon us officials to strive to make sure that our people live in good houses while eating and wearing well.

On July 6, 1994, in the last period of his life, the President said that only when the vinalon production was normalized would it be possible to implement the Party’s light industry-first policy, and taught in detail what to do to that end.

It is nearly 20 years since he passed away. It is said that mountains and rivers change in ten years. But our people’s reverence for him has never changed. With the passage of time he will be always alive in the memory of our people.

*Kim Pok Sin,
honorary councillor of
the Cabinet of the DPRK*

Unexpected Result of War



Raising cheers for a victorious battle.

SIXTY YEARS HAVE already passed since the gunfire of war died down in the Korean peninsula. On July 27, 1953 the Korean people won victory in the three-year Fatherland Liberation War against the US imperialist aggressors.

In the war between the only two-year-old DPRK and the US that had grown wild and fat by way of over 110 wars of aggression, the odds seemed too heavily stacked against the Oriental country. Hearing the media reports on the outbreak of the war in the peninsula, many people around the world took it for granted when the US imperialists bragged that they would finish the war within 72 hours. They predicted that the outcome of the war was a "foregone conclusion." They did so not without reason.

On the contrary, the Korean people defeated the Americans, who had been intimidating the world by means of the myth of their "mightiness," and defended their country with honour.

Kim Il Sung, banner of victory

Clark, the then commander of the US Armed Forces in the Far East and concurrently the commander of the UN forces in the Korean War, wrote in a book as follows: It can be said that the north Korean army... achieved success... thanks to Kim Il Sung's excellent command. Kim Il Sung... performed fine exploits as the commander of a guerrilla army that put up armed resistance against the Japanese army for many years until Japan was defeated in World War II ... and the name of Kim Il Sung was held in honour among all Koreans and regarded as a symbol of patriotic acts ...

Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung of the Korean People's Army (KPA) led the Fatherland Liberation War to victory by dint of his matchless courage and grit, adroit strategy and tactics and warm care for the people.

What the Koreans are made of

June 25, 1950, was Sunday. The day dawned with the crackling of enemy rifles and the roar of enemy artillery all along the 38th parallel dividing Korea into north and south. The US imperialists, who had long resorted to ceaseless provocations while making preparations for war, launched a surprise attack to invade the DPRK.

The marauding enemy were making inroads deeper into the north. The apprehension of all the people there mounted as the front-line situation grew threatening by the minute.

That morning Kim Il Sung called a meeting of the Political Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee and then an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet. After coming into the conference hall and taking his seat on the platform, he looked around at the people present there, and said, "The Americans look down on us. As the saying

► goes, wolves must be ruled over with a stick. Those who look down on us must be shown what the Koreans are made of." His words inspired the Cabinet members with confidence in victory.

The next day Kim Il Sung delivered a historic radio address, titled *Go All Out for Victory in the War*, in which he said, "The history of mankind shows that a people that defies death and rises in the struggle for freedom and independence is always victorious. Ours is a just struggle. Victory for our people is certain. I am confident that our just struggle for the country and the people will triumph."

His confidence in victory was based on his absolute trust in the Korean people. During the 20-year anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and while leading the building of a new country for five years, he had regarded the idea of "The people are my God" as his motto of life and had always been among the people. In the course of this he realized the truth that there is nothing impossible when addressing problems on the strength of the popular masses' efforts and wisdom.

And the Korean people, through their practical experience, had come to firmly believe that there is only victory and glory on the road of their advance under his guidance. The founding

of the WPK and the DPRK was a historic event that established the Korean people as a dignified people who could manage their destiny by themselves and create a new life. The historic event inspired each of the people with national pride in being a citizen of a full-fledged sovereign and independent state and the confidence that they could overcome any difficulties and hardships as long as they were led by Kim Il Sung.

Well aware of the condition Kim Il Sung firmly believed that they would be able to win the fight against the US imperialists (who boasted of their being the "most powerful" in the world) if they enlisted the inexhaustible strength of the Korean people and demonstrate what the Koreans were like to the world, and aroused the entire Party, army and people to the war of resistance to repulse the US imperialist aggressors. He took measures to reorganize all the national efforts on a war footing, and formed the Military Commission of the DPRK, the supreme national leadership vested with total state power to control and supervise all affairs at the front and in the rear and the supreme command of the Korean People's Army.

Entrusted with the heavy responsibility of the supreme commander of the KPA, he wisely

led the work to strengthen the Party, the army and the people's power so that all the people, firmly rallied around the Party, directed everything to the endeavour for victory in the war. He convened the 4th plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee and a meeting of the Political Committee of the Party Central Committee in which he taught in detail the ways and means to expand and strengthen the Party ranks and the ties between the Party and the masses.

Under his wise guidance all the people and army braved through the ordeals of the war for the one and the same purpose at the front and in the rear.

Busy as he was leading the Fatherland Liberation War to victory Kim Il Sung pushed ahead with the preparations for postwar reconstruction. In January 1951, he gave city-planning officials the task of drawing up a master plan for rehabilitation of Pyongyang City, saying, "If the US imperialist aggressors destroy one, we must erect ten, a hundred or a thousand and build more magnificent and modern cities, farm villages, factories and enterprises than the destroyed. We thus must demonstrate the mettle of the Koreans in the postwar reconstruction as well."

At a meeting of the Political Committee of the Party Central ▶

DPRK Heroes Produced 20 Days After the Start of the War

ON JUNE 30, 1950, THE Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly made public a decree on instituting the title of DPRK Hero. Fifteen days later, on July 15, there was issued a decree on conferring the title upon 12 KPA officers and noncommissioned officers. They included Kim Kun Ok and Ri Wan Gun who made a contribution to the victorious battle off Jumunjin

by destroying enemy warships by means of only four torpedo speedboats, airmen Kim Ki Ok and Ri Mun Sun who shot down and destroyed many enemy aircraft including two B-29s with matchless courage and by dint of their wonderful art of flight in their first battle against the enemy nearly ten times greater in number, tank company leader Kim Tu Sop and tank driver Jon Ki Ryon of the

then Seoul 105th Tank Division who performed feats in liberating Seoul three days after the start of the war, company leader Kim Pong Ho who supported KPA units' successful advance by conducting prompt reconnaissance activities, Kim Il Sop who put up a daring fight in a rain of shells to help KPA units cross the Han River, and Ri Hun, Kim Hong Yop, Jong Hak Bong and Kim Jin Gol who wiped out enemy troops by skilfully commanding bold operations. All of them were ordinary officers and noncommissioned officers of the two-year-old KPA. □



Kim Il Sung, leader of the victorious Fatherland Liberation War.



The military parade (August 15, 1953) and the Pyongyang City Mass Rally (July 28, 1953) held in celebration of the victorious Fatherland Liberation War.



KPA soldiers fight valiant defence battles based in tunnels.

► Committee held in July 1953 the master plan for rehabilitation of Pyongyang City was put on

agenda and the chairmanship of the committee for rehabilitation of the city was given to Kim Il Sung.

At the time when even a single

soldier counted at the front, a measure was taken thanks to his initiative to recall those soldiers who had been at college before the war from the front and send them ►



KPA artillery men pull direct-firing guns up to ridges and use them to deal a telling blow at the aggressors.





Members of a storming party raid an enemy pillbox.



Members of an aircraft-hunting group shoot down aircraft of the US imperialists.



A KPA sniper.



A member of a tank-hunting group.





Fighters of a KPA unit active at the Second Front behind the enemy line give a crushing blow to the enemy from behind.

► again to college. In December 1952 he founded the Academy of Sciences to conduct researches in a perspective view regarding urgent problems in wartime production and the postwar reconstruction.



A KPA cavalry unit enters Taejon City annihilating the enemy.



► His outstanding foresight and extraordinary revolutionary sweep became the main source of courage of all the people to fight with confidence in victory and demonstrate the mettle of the nation in the decisive war against the US imperialists.

We must fight by our own methods of war

During the Fatherland Liberation War Kim Il Sung put forward unique strategic lines and methods of war and thus defeated the enemy's numerical and technical superiority by means of strategic and tactical superiority.

In the early days of the war the enemy bragged that they would eat breakfast in Haeju, lunch in Pyongyang and supper in Sinuiju and that they would take the whole of Korea at a dash by a "blitz." Their wild dream, however, was shattered by the instant counterattack of the People's Army. Then, in July 1950, Washington took the Korean question to the UN Security Council and had a "resolution" adopted on forming a "UN Forces" so as to hurl large numbers of troops from the US and its satellites to the Korean front.

Kim Il Sung aroused all the people and KPA soldiers to the heroic struggle to beat back the US imperialists' large-scale armed invasion, and led the operations to liberate Taejon to victory. The enemy declared Taejon as "temporary capital" and attempted to check the KPA's advance by making use of the natu-

ral barriers of the Kum River and Mt. Sobaek. They bragged that the defence line was an "unbreakable line" which would "hold out for three years without question." But when the line was broken, the 24th US Infantry Division, which had boasted of its being "ever-victorious," and puppet army units built up strong defences in the area, and the First US Cavalry Division was moved towards Taejon in haste.

In mid-July Kim Il Sung went to the Front Command to organize the operations to liberate Taejon. Chairing a meeting for the operations, he ordered that KPA units should strike intensive blows at the enemy from the north and northwest of Taejon and the latter's flank and that some of the units should quickly go around the city to the southeast of Taejon and advance deep into the rear of the enemy so as to block the way of the enemy's retreat and the route by which their reinforcements could come, thus completely encircling and annihilating the enemy in the area.

In response to his order, KPA soldiers marched over 40 kilometres overnight, crossing rugged mountains, to dominate the area southeast of Taejon and completely surround Taejon. At the time, reported that KPA soldiers had appeared in their rear, the commander of the 24th US Infantry Division would not believe the fact while mistaking the soldiers for their reinforcements. At the dawn of July 20, under the command of Kim Il Sung, KPA units commenced an all-out attack to liberate Taejon. They de-

stroyed the 24th US Infantry Division, captured its commander and completely liberated Taejon by noon.

The operation to liberate Taejon which was organized and commanded by Kim Il Sung was a model of modern siege warfare in which a large unit of the enemy was destroyed at a stroke by means of a combination of various combat modes.

He made sure that the KPA successfully frustrated the enemy's "Thanksgiving Day offensive," "Home by Christmas offensive," "summer and autumn offensives," and "new offensive" by putting forward varieties of tactics such as launching an immediate and decisive counteroffensive action against the enemy's surprise attack, waging a continuous striking action, establishing a second front behind the enemy lines with regular armed units, conducting a great encirclement operation with the concerted efforts of the units both on the main front and the second front, combining large-unit battles with small-unit ones, combining regular-army warfare with guerrilla warfare, waging mountain and night actions, conducting defence battles actively based on fixed positions, carrying out an aircraft hunters' team movement, a tank hunters' team movement, a snipers' team movement and the like.

Former Portuguese President Gomez, who was the chief of staff of the Portuguese forces stationed in Macao during the Korean War, said, "The plan of operations drawn up by the United States ►

A Special Task

ONE DAY DURING THE KPA's temporary strategic retreat in the war, Kim Il Sung, while acquainting himself with the state of military personnel's families' retreat, learned that a child of a family had been left

alone in an enemy-controlled area. Very worried about the fact, the supreme commander said that though it was a hard time they should not leave the child behind in the enemy-held area as it could not live on apart from its mother. "Isn't it for the future of our country, for the sake of our children, that we are

fighting even at the cost of our blood?" he said, and made sure that the father of the child was soon sent together with soldiers to bring it. So, some soldiers left for the enemy-held area to carry out their special task to rescue the child, and finally the child was brought back into its mother's embrace. □

► was, in fact, the result of repeated discussions made by chiefs of staff and scores of bourgeois generals, military strategists, of Western countries that sided with Washington. General Kim Il Sung, however, foiled the plan single-handedly. Witnessing the event I came to know that General Kim Il Sung was the only brilliant military strategist and outstanding commander in the world."

20 480 kilometres

During the Fatherland Liberation War, Kim Il Sung found his biggest spiritual and technical support in the people and the army. He regarded it as the first factor of victory in the war to mobilize all the army and people for victory and give full play to their strength, not merely modern military equipment, and made great efforts to that end.

Whenever drawing up a strategic plan or considering a measure related to the people's wartime life, he would always go to see soldiers and people, however long and difficult way he had to go.

One day when the temporary strategic retreat was under way, he saw a group of KPA soldiers marching. He stopped his travel. He summoned the commanding officer and asked where they were coming from. The officer replied that they had marched 800 kilometres from behind the enemy lines, fighting the enemy on their way from the Raktong River. The supreme commander spoke highly of them and asked a young soldier who was standing behind the officer where they were going.

"We are going to the Supreme Command," replied the soldier in high spirit.

"What for?"

"To get new combat orders from the Supreme Commander."

The supreme commander asked whether they could defeat the Americans if they were given

the orders.

"Sure, we can do it," came a confident reply not just from the young soldier but from all the other men as well who answered in chorus as if they had all made a solemn vow.

As he returned after parting with the soldiers, he told himself that such an army and such a people would be unconquerable and that the Korean people would not fail to emerge victorious in the end.

One day in June 1952, he visited the then Ragwon Machine Factory, when he found ten Party members of the cast-iron shop having a Party cell meeting. He sat together with them and had a friendly talk with them. He said that after the war was over they should build a large factory building, furnish it with modern machinery and equipment and expand the factory area. Then a woman Party member told the leader, "Don't worry, Premier! When we win the war, the rehabilitation will be no problem. You know we restored everything—that had been mercilessly destroyed by the Japanese when they fled—in a matter of two or three years and we became well off. We'll surely make an even better life through another restoration after the war. Don't worry so much about it." Later, the supreme commander frequently recalled that the woman Party member's words were a great encouragement to him.

When a bridge was broken by the enemy's air raid on his way to the front, he crossed the river by way of a railway bridge, a constant target of the enemy's air raids, saying that the soldiers at the front were waiting for him, and when visiting a height in a battle, he looked into the soldiers' dugout to acquaint himself with their life.

One midnight he telephoned the commander of a corps which was defending Height 1211, saying that all the men at the front were as precious revolutionary

comrades-in-arms as national treasure that could not be bartered for anything and that, as chilly weather had already set in, he must take good care of them so that they could eat warm meals and sleep in warm shelters. And he made sure that a rest home was created at the front for the fighting soldiers. There are too many similar stories to be all mentioned.

He told officials that when the people were eating boiled millet they should do so. And, saying that he could hardly get to sleep at the thought of orphans, he brought and took care of some orphans at his home.

Prior to an all-out attack on Seoul, he fixed a morning hour after daybreak as the time of attack lest the Seoulites' lives and properties should be harmed. And in the tense situation of the temporary strategic retreat he took a measure to provide the Seoulites with firewood.

He also paid deep attention to the effort to stabilize the people's life, taking measures to cut prices of goods and so on. And he saw to it that a universal free medical care system was introduced in January 1953.

During the war he went 20 480 kilometres to visit 1 056 places, arousing the army and people to the endeavour for victory in the war by dint of his warm care of and devotion to them.

Through the war all the Korean people were firmly rallied behind him and made matchless exertions and thus humbled the US imperialists who had boasted of their being the "most powerful" in the world, bringing about the beginning of decline for the US imperialist aggressors.

He was awarded the title of DPRK Marshal on February 7, 1953 and that of DPRK Hero on July 28, 1953 for his exploits in winning the war, the first ever victory against the US imperialists in the world history of war.

Article by Yom Song Hui

“Let Us Defend Every Inch of Our Motherland at the Cost of Our Blood”

SUPREME COMMANDER Kim Il Sung of the Korean People's Army made a historic radio address, titled *Let Us Defend Every Inch of Our Motherland at the Cost of Our Blood*, on October 11, 1950. In hearty response to his call, the officers and men of the Korean People's Army fought bravely to the last

KPA soldiers continue to advance southward after smashing a unit of the US imperialist aggression forces in the line of Osan.



drop of their blood to defend their beloved country.

Annihilation of Smith's Special Task Force

When the puppet south Korean army was defeated repeatedly at the front after the war broke out, the US imperialists

dispatched their 24th Infantry Division to the Korean front. They blared out that the situation at the front would immediately change in favour of them if their Japan-based ground units entered the war. MacArthur also foretold a change in the situation at the front. Dispatching the First Battalion—called Smith's Special Task Force—of the 21st Regiment of its division as the advance party, the commander of the US 24th Infantry Division ordered them to set up defence positions to check the offensive of KPA units and create conditions for the main force of his division to be deployed. At the moment the main strength of the task force was 440 in all and the 52nd Field Battery of the American aggression forces was attached to the task force.

KPA units that were advancing along the road after liberating Suwon, came across the Smith's Task Force in a place north of Osan on the morning of July 5, 1950. A KPA tank unit which was spearheading the advance, made a dash deep into the rear of the enemy defence line and destroyed the firing positions of the field battery and then cut the retreat ▶

To Make a Breach

IN S P I R E D B Y Kim Il Sung's radio address delivered on June 26, 1950, the Korean People's Army unit to which Jang Thae Hwa belonged was advancing southward, mowing down the enemy before encountering the enemy's desperate resistance at the foot of a height near Munsan. Having taken flight there after being soundly beaten on the Rimjin River line, the enemy put up a

desperate resistance based in pillboxes and using guns arranged densely on the height in an attempt to defend the Munsan line, a gateway to Seoul.

Jang's unit was given the order to destroy pillboxes. A member of the pillbox destruction group, Jang Thae Hwa crept inch by inch on all fours towards a pillbox despite a shower of bullets, when he was wounded on the left shoulder. Though dizzy

from excessive bleeding, the soldier threw a hand grenade at the pillbox. With a terrific explosion the pillbox became quiet. At an order of charge Jang's unit began to rush up the height, but soon had to stop again because another pillbox spat fire. Seeing his comrades-in-arms falling in a flash light Jang rose to his feet. Shouting, “Long live General Kim Il Sung!” he ran up and threw himself against the mouth of the pillbox. He was 22 at the time. The title of DPRK Hero was conferred upon him in May 1951. □

► of the enemy. The following tank and infantry units of the KPA hit the enemy head-on and from the sides simultaneously. The battle on Height 118 was fierce. The enemy made desperate attempts to check the attack of the KPA units, but he was completely encircled and annihilated in the area. In the battles the KPA units smashed one infantry battalion and one battery of the US imperialist aggression forces to the pulp and captured and destroyed a lot of weapons and combat and technical equipment of the enemy.

Referring to the defeat of the Smith's Task Force, a Japanese publication wrote, "Many of the runaway troops were without helmets, jackets and shoes, stricken with terror. The first fighting of the American military at the Korean front was recorded as a defeat."

"Moving Island" goes down

In early July 1950 the US imperialists sent a fleet of a heavy cruiser, a light cruiser, a destroyer and other warships to the sea off Jumunjin in a combat formation. The Second Flotilla of Torpedo Speedboats of the KPA navy was given the order to repulse the enemy fleet. While searching the sea the flotilla discovered the enemy group in the

sea off Jumunjin towards the dawn. It was unprecedented in the history of naval battle to attack a large-sized fleet with no more than four speedboats—and that at dawn. But the KPA navy men made an onrush toward the enemy, taking the initiative in the battle, despite the shower of the enemy's shells. Dashing 500 metres up to the enemy warships, some speedboats fired three crack torpedo shots at the enemy's heavy cruiser, sinking it to the bottom. Now the speedboats attacked the light cruiser and the destroyer. Confused at the loss of their command ship, the light cruiser and the destroyer made a headlong flight when they received a critical blow. Now the battle ended in the torpedo speedboats' victory. In this way KPA navy men sank the American heavy cruiser *Baltimore*, called "Moving Island," whose tonnage was 17 000 tons, and destroyed the light cruiser with the tonnage of 12 000 tons, thus achieving an unprecedented victory in the history of naval battle.

Defenders of Wolmi Island

In September 1950 the US imperialists commenced landing operations in Inchon by mobilizing 50 000 effectives, hundreds of warships and nearly 1 000 war-

planes, in an attempt to change the situation of the war in favour of them. At the time there were a coastal battery and an infantry company of the Korean People's Army in defence of Wolmi Island off Inchon. On September 13 the enemy dispatched an advance party of the Tenth Army to the island under cover of a large number of warplanes and warships. The KPA foot soldiers stationed on the Minor Wolmi Islet dealt a bull's-eye strike to the enemy detachment that was almost on Wolmi Island. In the first-day battle the defenders broke two enemy destroyers and submerged two boats. The following day MacArthur and other brass hats of the American forces, aboard the flagship, showed up off Inchon to command the landing operations personally. For over three hours the enemy showered more than 1 730 shells from the warships and bombarded the island indiscriminately before beginning to land. But the KPA soldiers faced the enemy daringly; they sank an enemy destroyer first and then two landing ships and four landing boats. Thus the enemy's attempt was frustrated again.

Despite their two failures in landing operations, the enemy, on the 15th, carried out bombing and shelling again and came up to the island. Now the KPA soldiers had ▶

Chronicles of the Feudal Joson Dynasty Rescued

ON JULY 8, 1950 DURING the Fatherland Liberation War Kim Il Sung, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army (KPA), summoned the Minister of Education to the KPA Supreme Headquarters. He told him to take a measure to rescue the *Chronicles of the Feudal Joson Dynasty*, a government diary of the feudal Joson dynasty which consists of 1 763 volumes. At the time the book,

stored in a library in Seoul, was endangered to be burnt off at any moment in the US imperialist aggressors' indiscriminate bombing raids.

Referring to the chronicles as a precious treasure the Korean ancestors had left, the supreme commander said, "It is the communists who hold the country dearest, and it is the communists who truly love the nation. We must protect the chronicles, a

precious national treasure, from being damaged, and bring it to safety." Then saying that competent officials should be selected and sent to Seoul at once, he took colour pencils to draw a route of their journey to and from Seoul.

After a while he rang up a military commander and gave an order to provide military vehicles to bring the chronicles to a safe place. Still, he did not feel relieved. He wrote a personal letter to the effect that all institutions and army units should give effective assistance to the officials in transporting the chronicles to a safe place, and signed the letter. □



KPA men fire crack shots at the aggression troops climbing Height 1211.

► only a gun, but they fired at the enemy without interruption until they ran out of the last shell, thus sinking two enemy landing boats and mowed an advance party of the enemy. When the last gun was broken the defenders knew they had to fight the last life-and-death battle. Turning out in the final battle, the commander of the coastal battery sent the last wireless message that the defenders of Wolmi Island would fight it out to be worthy of soldiers of Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung. The defenders faced enemy tanks relentlessly and destroyed them with anti-tank grenades and annihilated the enemy troops by carrying out bayonet charges. In this way the defenders of the island destroyed and sank a dozen enemy ships in the three-day battle, holding back the enemy from landing.

Height 1211 becomes “heartbreak ridge” and “punch bowl”

During the Fatherland Liberation War Height 1211 in the eastern sector of the front was a position of great strategic importance. In an attempt to take Height 1211 from KPA soldiers at any sacrifice and loss, the US imperialists set the height as the

thrust of their attack and launched a large-scale “summer offensive” in August 1951 only to suffer a serious defeat. If the KPA had failed to defend the height it would have yielded a lot of heights and retreated dozens of kilometres back. For this reason the height was a site of ferocious battles.

Commencing an “autumn offensive” in September 1951 the enemy launched large-scale attacks in the Height 1211 area. He carried out wave-like attacks dozens of times a day, showering tens of thousands of shells and bombs on the height by mobilizing a huge force of troops and technical equipment. To cope with the enemy’s attacks, KPA soldiers turned their positions into fortresses by digging tunnels and dealt hard blows through well-organized artillery fire while conducting raids against the enemy unawares. Artillery men pulled their guns up to the ridge of the height and used them to destroy the enemy tanks, pillboxes, firing equipment and observation posts while the mortar men erected their weapons almost vertically to annihilate enemy troops who were no more than 45 metres off.

During the battle to defend the height, a KPA soldier blocked a firing enemy gun muzzle with his

own breast and another jumped among the enemy soldiers with a bundle of grenades. When the commanding communications line was broken in the enemy bombing, a communications soldier connected it with his own body and even cooks and hospital orderlies made bayonet charges in a critical condition. Even in the fiercest struggle the defenders of the height made musical instruments with their own hands to play at musical recreation parties they had in the intervals of the battle.

Throughout the days of the battle the civilians in the vicinity carried ammunitions and food to the height despite the shower of bullets and shells and ensured wartime transport by reconstructing roads and bridges in time. In this way the soldiers and the civilians in the neighbourhoods defended the height, united in a single mind and for a single purpose.

On Height 1211, KPA soldiers killed and captured tens of thousands of enemy troops, captured or destroyed more than 40 aircraft, 60 tanks and other weapons and technical equipment. After his defeat in the battle the enemy called the height “Heartbreak Ridge” because he was heartbroken whenever he looked at the height, and he named the ravine below the height “Punch Bowl” as no one emerged from it alive.

During the righteous Fatherland Liberation War hundreds of thousands of KPA soldiers and civilians in the home front were awarded official commendations; 533 became DPRK Heroes (five of them twice Heroes) and 16 Labour Heroes. In the years the KPA killed, wounded and captured 1 567 128 troops of the US forces, the south Korean puppet army and forces of American vassal countries; shot down, destroyed and captured over 12 220 aircraft; and destroyed and captured a large amount of combat equipment including more than 3 060 tanks and 190 armoured vehicles.

O Sol Hyang

In the Same Trench

IN THE FATHERLAND Liberation War the people in the rear made a positive contribution to the victory in the war by producing food and supporting the front in the spirit that they were fighting in the same trench with the soldiers.

Women with Ploughs in Their Hands

With the beginning of the year 1951 the demand for food grew high at the front and in the rear. At the time women accounted for most of the country population and there was a general scarcity of draught animals as well. Worse still, the enemy's barbarous bombing would not let up.

But the women, under the slogan of "Let us bring death to the enemy by greater production of food for our husbands, sons and brothers at the front!" dug air raid shelters in the corner of the fields, ploughed fields and sowed seeds driving oxen in camouflage. Those in Cholsan County, North Phyongan Province, finished a farming task in time by carrying on their backs more than 6 500 tons of manure, an amount which was tantamount to over a hundred oxen's work for over 40 days.

What was particular about their effort at the time was their campaign to plough the land with their own hands. Women in the then Hwanghae Province formed shock brigades of ploughwomen and brought new land under cultivation even in their neighbouring villages, to say nothing of their own villages. A woman took up a plough in 1951 and made rounds of two sub-counties (an administrative unit at the time) in a month giving ploughing lessons to women, thus training a large number of ploughwomen. Some women in a certain area went to a neighbouring village

together with the members of a self-defence corps and tilled more than 30 hectares and sowed seeds. Then they sent the grain to the front while fighting valiantly against the enemy troops who invaded the village from Cho Islet. A woman in Anbyon County, Kangwon Province, taught ploughing to a dozen women, who in turn went to a number of sub-counties to give similar lessons. Thus farming preparations were made in good faith for the year.

The national leader Kim Il Sung visited Wonhwa-ri, Phyongwon County, South Phyongan Province, in May 1952 ▶

Women plough fields by themselves to increase grain production in the wartime.



For the Sake of the People

ONE MARCH DAY IN 1951, during his inspection of South Phyongan Province, Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung of the KPA learned in a village in the then Kangso County that the villagers didn't have soy and bean paste because

the enemy had broken jars before his flight and that they were unable to make the condiments as they had no salt either.

Feeling sorry for their want of even condiments, Kim Il Sung immediately summoned a commander of a KPA

unit stationed in the neighbourhood and ordered to take a measure to bring salt to the villagers.

Days later several military vehicles appeared in the village fully loaded with salt. Afterwards, the supreme commander had a state measure taken to provide all rural residents of the country with salt and other necessities. □

► and proposed the slogan of "The struggle for food is a struggle for the country and for victory at the front." With this as a momentum the number of ploughwomen grew sharply all around the country. In 1951 there were as many as 3 650 ploughwomen in North Phyongan Province and 2 690 in South Phyongan Province. A large number of women took up ploughs in their hands and increased the produce across the country, thus contributing a lot to the wartime supply.

People in Namgang Village

A fierce battle was going on in the eastern section of the front in 1951. The wartime transportation was quite a problem due to the enemy bombing and the heavy rainfall in the area. But the women in Namgang Village carried on with support-the-front activities, sharing their fate with the soldiers fighting on Height 351. They carried boxes of ammunitions even at deep night and prepared and supplied meals to the soldiers many times a day. At the time there was Namgang Bridge in the village which was the only transport route connecting the village with the height. The enemy broke the bridge several times a day by air raids in an attempt to disrupt the supply of war materials. But the villagers rebuilt the bridge immediately. When the transport was in difficulty for the destruction of the bridge in the flooding in the rainy season, the women made rafts by mobilizing wooden boards of racks, doors, floors and cabinets and even pillars of their houses. Children formed their own organization to aid the front. When they found it hard to lift boxes of ammunitions they carried them by pulling them by wires fixed. The enemy planes made harassments over the village all the time, but the people did not hesi-



People carry ammunitions to Height 351 to support KPA soldiers.

tate to go out to the fields in camouflage to do all kinds of farming jobs, such as ploughing, sowing seeds, weeding and harvesting, for supply of food. The devoted support of the people in Namgang Village was a great encouragement to the soldiers on the height and went far to a number of victorious battles on Mt. Wolbi and Height 351.

Campaign of contribution

Before the war broke out there was a campaign conducted by the people voluntarily in the home front to contribute money and valuables to the effort to improve the armament of the People's Army. With the start of the Fatherland Liberation War the patriotic movement got more brisk, involving people of all strata, including workers, office employees and students. Having decided to donate planes, tanks and warships named Democratic League of Youth, Student, Women and Children, they worked hard for increased production, employing all ways such as overtime work, saving of materials, increased productivity. In response to the appeals of the teaching staff and other employees of Kim Il Sung

University to donate money for purchase of military hardware, a large number of teachers and employees of colleges and schools, including the then Pyongyang College of Technology and the then Pyongyang Medical College, joined in the movement by making considerable contributions. The women in Sinuiju City decided to provide for a *Woman* plane to be sent to the front and donated over 70 valuable things such as sewing machines, gold hairpins and clocks, as well as a great amount of money. The children from all across the country decided to supply money for *Children*-named planes and tanks and subscribed a good deal of money they had obtained by digging medicinal herbs, collecting scrap iron and picking wild vegetables in the summer vacation. Patriotic-minded businessmen, merchants and religious people also contributed a considerable sum of money, and even Korean residents in Japan joined the movement. Thanks to the patriotic minds, a huge sum of 4 346 355 000 won and a great deal of grain and valuables were donated as of late August 1950 after the start of the war.

O Sol Hyang

Confessions of the Defeated

Aggressors defeated
in the Korean war



THE US IMPERIALISTS threw into the Korean War they had started a huge armed force, numbering two million altogether, including one third of their ground force boasting of its up-to-date equipment, one fifth of their air force, and the greater part of their Pacific Fleet, plus troops of 15 of their satellite countries and the south Korean puppet troops, and a vast amount of latest combat hardware. The war materiel they squandered in the Korean front totalled as much

as over 73 million tons, 11 times greater than what had been consumed in the Pacific War.

During the Korean War the army and people of Korea killed, injured and captured 1 567 120 enemy troops including 405 490 American soldiers, and captured and destroyed enormous amounts of combat hardware and munitions including 12 220 planes, 560 warships of various sorts, 3 250 tanks and armoured vehicles, 13 350 vehicles and 7 690 guns of different kinds, a loss on the part

of the aggressors 2.3times greater than that the US imperialists had suffered in the Pacific War. The US aggressors went so far as to use germ and chemical weapons in the Korean War, which were most barbarous and cruel means of warfare. They, however, had to surrender to the Korean people and sign the Armistice Agreement.

Following are excerpts from what defeated US generals said.

"The enemy's supplies and reinforcements always moved in a ►



► particular form and in large quantities. Judging from this it was clear that enormous amounts of these supplies ... were flowing on through Seoul, in spite of our bombing and artillery fire. The units and their supplies always moved by night.

"Their skill and perseverance in repairing damaged bridges and roads were amazing. Consequently new divisions and armour brigades were able to arrive ceaselessly from north Korea. Food, ammunition, and other supplies were transported without interruption by rail, motor vehicles, carts or people with A-frames."

"Dean fought, but his unit was completely annihilated before I had time to take a measure."

(MacArthur, Commander of the "UN Forces")

"The enemy's armoured equipment was the best and excellent in combat effect. And their infantry units were the elites, and the enemy ... is fighting by making use of clever tactics ... They are a formidable enemy we should never think little of. To beat off

the powerful enemy we need an army with four perfect divisions at least, with units for helping us in battle and those on combat duty, and we should be provided with means of transportation."

(Dean, Commander of the US 24th Infantry Division)

"The front position of the Communist army, in part, is made up of ground fortifications extending 25 miles deep into the rear. Linking the west and east coasts of Korea, they are solid in structure, so most of them are not to be shaken by air raids and field gunnery."

"In carrying out the instructions of my government, I gained the unenviable distinction of being the first United States Army Commander in history to sign an armistice agreement without victory. I felt that things had all gone wrong, and thought that generals MacArthur and Ridgeway, my predecessors, would have felt the same."

(Clark, Commander of the US Armed Forces in the Far East and of the "UN Forces")

"Van Fleet's 'summer offen-

sive' was a wrong battle at a wrong place, at a wrong time and with a wrong enemy."

(Bradley, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff)

"The myth has been exploded. We were not as strong a nation as others used to think us to be."

(Marshall, US Defense Secretary)

The Korean War was a fierce showdown between an independent idea and a dominationist idea and between justice and injustice.

July 27 of victory is in no way a day of the past.

The US imperialists still have an ambition of invading the DPRK and are brandishing a big stick in the international arena, driven by the idea of "Force is an almighty means." They want another war to break out in the Korean peninsula, and are scheming to that end. If they unleash a second Korean war while advocating the theory of "Force is an almighty means," they will not escape an ignominious defeat incomparable with that in the past.

An Mu Gwang

Height 332.2 Defended by Two Soldiers

ON JULY 30, 1950, A KPA mortar subunit was ordered to occupy and defend Height 332.2 together with foot soldiers. They captured the height by a night attack. Defending the height would be of importance in the imminent KPA operations to liberate Andong. At the dawn of the following day the enemy began to attack. The defending mortar men fired telling blows at the climbing enemy. Then the enemy's gunfire was pointed at mortar positions. With the passage of

time mortars were destroyed and the mortar men and infantrymen fell one by one. Now there remained only two soldiers alive on the height, and they had only a mortar without its mount. The two, however, fired the mortar by supporting it with their shoulders. When the enemy came up by making a detour, the KPA soldiers wiped them through a hand-to-hand fight. They found it difficult even to keep themselves steady but managed to go around collecting grenades from the dead enemy

and pile mounds of large rocks on the edge of their trench with their determined efforts.

The enemy, equivalent to a company in strength, began to climb up the height again. "You rascals, don't you know who we are? We will surely take revenge upon you thousand-fold," the two defenders shouted and fought undauntedly, throwing grenades and rolling down rocks. They thus defended the height by themselves until a general offensive started to liberate Andong. □

On Kim Il Sung-Kim Jong Il Foundation



The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun.

RECENTLY A KOREA TODAY REPORTER had an interview with Vice Director Kim Chol Ho of the Council of the Kim Il Sung-Kim Jong Il Foundation.

Excerpts:

What kind of organization is the Kim Il Sung-Kim Jong Il Foundation which was founded last year?

If you want to understand the foundation you have to know about President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il first. They were national leaders who worked devotedly all their life for the freedom and welfare of the Korean people and global independence, peace and progress, regarding "The people are my God" as their motto.

When the Korean people were subjected to the sorrowful colonial slavery under the Japanese imperialists' military occupation Kim Il Sung regained the country to the nation and brought genuine life and freedom to them by waging an armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists. At the

time when the nation was at the crossroad of whether it could maintain its sovereignty or might fall into the colonial slavery again in the Korean war (June 1950–July 1953) started by the US imperialists, he led the nation's Fatherland Liberation War to victory by employing his outstanding and seasoned leadership, and later established a socialist state in the land which is independent in politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in national defence. Endowed with great generosity and responsibility for the common cause of human emancipation, he adopted the peoples who aspired after independence and were engaged in the building of new society as his friends and brethren. During the years when he had to fight with the Japanese imperialists without any regular forces or home front, and even in the complicated and difficult context after national liberation he gave as much assistance to the Chinese revolution as he could; he also defended the Soviet Union, the first socialist state in the world, with arms. When the Cuban people were exposed to Americans' military attack with the eruption of the ►

► Caribbean Crisis, nobody dared support or help the Cubans for fear of the Americans' threats, but Kim Il Sung alone stood firm by the Cuban people, giving support to and solidarity with them and later provided them with considerable economic and technical aids. He sent a lot of pumping facilities and farm machines to Sri Lanka for its agricultural development, and dispatched doctors, economic experts, technicians and teachers to Benin immediately after it asked for help. Overcome with thankfulness for Kim Il Sung's spirit of international aid and obligation a Somalian President said at the inauguration ceremony of a pumping station, "If we had not learned agricultural technology and experience from the Korean brothers we could hardly have avoided hunger and poverty ...We are deeply grateful to Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

As of January 1984 the DPRK leader erected over 30 factories in 22 countries, installed irrigation facilities in 20-odd countries, and sent as many as 5 000 technicians and experts to more than 50 developing countries, thus helping those nations in all sectors of their effort for building of a new society.

Kim Jong Il, Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, carried on with the cause of President Kim Il Sung successfully. In the late 20th and early 21st centuries when the imperialist reactionary forces were resorting to an unprecedented campaign to stifle and blockade the DPRK after laying an encirclement around the country, Kim Jong Il administered Songun politics, with which he defended socialist Korea and safeguarded peace of the world; he also raised the country's position up to the one of a politico-ideological power and a military power which no enemy dared to lash out. Watching the confrontation between the DPRK which is making progress steadfastly under the leadership of Kim Jong Il and the imperialist reactionary forces, the world's progressive peoples learned the truth that even a small nation will be able to vanquish any formidable enemy and defend justice if it has got great national power and fights courageously with an independent stand.

An Indian political scientist once said, "I think I'm right when I say that the world-famous commander Kim Jong Il prevented an eruption of a third World War or a global thermo-nuclear war by making his country into a nation with an infinite military power."

When a number of countries were having a hard time after the setback of their socialism he published many historic works, typically ***Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable***, thus indicating a road to be followed by progressive countries and peoples who wished to adopt socialism and build an independent state. Over the whole years of his life he invariably maintained the idea of independence, friendship and peace and uninterruptedly expanded and developed fraternal good-neighbourly relations with all countries around the world which had respect for the DPRK's sovereignty and aspiration to independence.

The world's progressive peoples keep a reverential memory of the great leaders who not only indicated the path of peace and progress but also gave positive support and unstinted aid to their struggle. Reflecting the wishes of the Koreans and the progressive people around the world, the International Kim Il Sung Foundation declared at the August 1, 2012 meeting of its Board of Directors that the International Kim Il Sung Foundation was reorganized on an expansive basis in order to achieve human peace and progress and accelerate global independence as wished by the great men.

How are things with the foundation at the moment? And what's the prospect like?

It's not long since the foundation was established, but the public interest in the contribution is great enough. Koreans are taking part in the donation enthusiastically as they know well that it is an effort to honour the memory of their great national leaders on a higher level and achieve greater national prosperity and a better life of their own. Many foreigners from the UK, China, Russia, Germany, India and many other countries and overseas Koreans are also making donations with a hope that it will contribute to the effort for global progress and development. The foundation will be of great service in cooperation and exchange in different fields such as education, public health, culture, science and technology, environmental conservation and agriculture, and the endeavour for human peace and progress and global independence, true to its mission and purposes.

Would you tell me procedures of contribution?

The headquarters of the foundation is based in Pyongyang, and its branches will be opened in Beijing, China and other countries and regions of the world. You can visit the headquarters in Pyongyang and branches to make a subscription personally or visit DPRK embassies or consulates in different countries for the purpose. □

On the Journey of Songun Leadership

Photo session at the Persimmon Tree Company

ONE SULTRY DAY IN AUGUST LAST year Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un of the Korean People's Army (KPA) inspected the Persimmon Tree Company of the KPA. He gave a pair of binoculars and an automatic rifle as souvenirs to the women soldiers who were safeguarding part of the country.

Saying that he felt warm in his heart when he simply heard of the Persimmon Tree Company, he told the company was well known to the world as it was etched in the annals of the Songun revolutionary leadership along with Chairman Kim Jong Il's love for the soldiers. Then he went on to say that the company might have few soldiers who had met Kim Jong Il, and suggested that the spirit and tradition of the company should be maintained despite the change of generations there and that Kim Jong Il's immortal exploits related to the company should be glorified generation after generation.

Then Kim Jong Un not only examined the quality of their blankets in the bedroom, but also acquainted himself with how the soldiers were using hemp to have bath and sauna in the wash-cum-bath room. When he dropped in at the mess hall, he, pointing at the daily food supply table, asked if food was supplied to the soldiers in accord with the table and what they were short of, and stressed the need to provide the soldiers with food according to the table.

Walking the path in the compound of the company he inquired how many persimmons they had gathered the year before. And he saw an art performance given by the soldiers of the company. Then, reading the mind of the soldiers who were reluctant to be parted from him, he had each of them stand by his side to have a photo taken with them to the great delight of the soldiers. This produced another revolutionary anecdote to be recorded in the history of Songun.

For the sake of the people

It is the nature and main mission of the Korean People's Army to do good things for the sake of the people. In October last year, Kim Jong Un inspected the renovated Mangyongdae Fun Fair and Taesongsan Fun Fair. In the first fun fair he saw newly-paved roads and sidewalks, vast areas of greenbelts planted with a new kind of turf and select species of trees, the bettered ray gun shooting house and the wading pool with an improved flowing water tank, a wave water tank and a water slide, and said that the fun fair could be successfully renovated thanks to the efforts of KPA soldiers. Acquainting himself with the operation of its

amusement facilities and their properties, he admiringly said that the KPA soldiers developed the army-people relationship to a higher level.

While inspecting the Taesongsan Fun Fair, he praised KPA soldiers for their having renovated the fun fair to be just as good as a fresh one. He was very pleased to see the giant wheel, space craft and other amusement facilities and public service amenities upgraded along modern lines.

He instructed that the relevant companies should ensure regular operation, maintenance and management of the fun fairs as they had been renovated as required by the current century. And he expressed his expectation and belief that the KPA soldiers who took part in the projects to renovate the fun fairs would do more good things for the sake of the people in the future, too, and thus fulfil their mission as the army of the people.

Being a parent of all the students

Kim Jong Un visited the Mangyongdae Revolutionary School on the lunar New Year's Day of last year. When he stepped into the canteen, students were having with relish beef soup with rice in it. He felt rice bowls to see if the soup was warm, and asked a student if it was tasty and what kind of food he would like. When he replied that he liked noodle, the leader asked him again if he liked rice cake as well. Stroking children on the back he told them to go on eating, and urged the cooks to ladle the soup into bowls before it got cold.

After a while of seeing the children eating as if there were something to want, Kim Jong Un suggested that the next day *Myonggi* beef should be sent to the school so that the children could have their fill of beef, and advised the accompanying officials to come there that day to see the children eat the beef.

In the birthday room, he said that it was a good thing to prepare a birthday dinner for the children. Explaining that on their birthdays they would think of their parents first, he earnestly told the officials of the school to take parental care of the schoolchildren lest they should live in the least gloom.

Looking round the e-library, the hall of culture and other places of the school, the supreme commander said he felt much relieved as he looked round the school, though he had had a heavy heart for he could not find time to visit it. He went on to say he would think about what he could do more for the school and take necessary steps, and stressed the need to better the school as the best institute for learning.

Holding the hands of the school's senior officials warmly before leaving the school, the national leader said earnestly that he would entrust the care of the children, the treasure of the revolution, to them. □

New Strategic Line

A NEW STRATEGIC LINE of simultaneously carrying on the construction of the economy and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces adopted in the March 2013 plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea is the succession and development of the line of carrying on the economic construction and building up national defence simultaneously, a strategic policy set forth by President Kim Il Sung and thoroughly applied by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The line of building up the economy and defence capabilities simultaneously was the strategic line that the WPK consistently adhered to.

In October 1962 the US imperialists precipitated a crisis in the Caribbean by sealing off Cuba advancing along the road of socialism. At the time cowardly modern revisionists yielded subserviently to America's pressure. The US was so insolent as to direct the point of aggression war to Asia and made frantic efforts to prepare a new war of aggression against the DPRK while scheming to form a tie-up between the Japanese militarists and the south Korean military fascists.

In December 1962 to cope with the situation, the President convened the 5th plenary meeting of the 4th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, in which he proposed a strategic line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and defence building. He declared that they should not look to others for the defence of their gains of the revolution without making any effort to do it with their own forces and that they should defend the country with their own efforts.

Kim Il Sung forcefully mobilized the whole Party, all the army and the entire people in the struggle for strengthening the defence capabilities. He also put

primary efforts in turning the Korean People's Army into a match-for-a-hundred revolutionary armed forces and paid deep attention to the work to modernize the military equipment of the army, arm all the people and fortify the whole country.

Kim Jong Il firmly maintained the line in the whole period of his revolutionary leadership. Especially in the 1990s, when the country had to undergo the Arduous March owing to the imperialists' tenacious manoeuvres to stifle socialism, he led the country to win victory after victory in the anti-US nuclear confrontation by dint of Songun politics, thus making it into a space power and nuclear nation.

Recently the WPK set a new strategic line of simultaneously carrying on the construction of the economy and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces as required by the prevailing situation and the developing revolution. The line is the revolutionary succession of the previous line. Both lines reflect the WPK's strong will to accomplish the Juche revolutionary cause along the road of independence, Songun and socialism.

The earlier line reflected the Party's resolute will to frustrate the enemy's attempts at impairing the sovereignty and dignity of the Korean people, and to improve continuously the people's living standards. And the present line shows the Party's strong will to build a socialist power without fail by relying on the strong nuclear forces.

The current line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces is a further development of its predecessor to a new higher stage. It is the one for improving remarkably the people's living standards and accelerating the construction of a knowledge-based economic power on the basis of the strong founda-

tion of the self-supporting economy.

A proud nuclear state with powerful war deterrents, the DPRK has a condition favourable to the effort to concentrate the stock of finance and manpower on the struggle for the economic construction and the improvement of the people's standard of living.

The main content of the new line consists of such tasks as creating a force for developing new technologies in all sectors of the national economy, combining the economy organically with science and technology and putting efforts in developing space science and technology so as to develop and launch much more application satellites for different purposes.

The new line is also aimed at strengthening the self-defence capabilities with the nuclear forces as the backbone. Besides, the line covers other tasks: to put the atomic energy industry on an up-to-date, scientific footing, to develop the self-supporting nuclear power industry in order to ease the strain on electric supply in the country and to make the People's Army enhance the backbone role of the nuclear forces in all aspects of the war deterrent strategy and the war waging strategy and perfect the regular combat readiness of the nuclear forces for the purpose of enhancing in every possible way the might of the country as a nuclear state.

Indeed, the WPK's line of simultaneously carrying on the economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces is the one for building a thriving country in which the Korean people will be able to enjoy all benefits of socialism by putting greater efforts in the economic construction while strengthening and developing the nuclear forces so as to make the country's defences impregnable.

Son Sung Mo

Silk Thread and Women

KUMGANGSAN SILK thread from the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill has been famous for a long time. And the mill features admirable women workers as well.

Wish

It was 28 years ago that Pae Jong Sim began to work as a silk reeler at the mill, following her mother, a skilled veteran worker of the mill. The memory of her mother as a pioneer of the multi-machine tending campaign encourages her to bring about innovations in her work. She made strenuous efforts to produce much more thread as her mother had done. In the course of this she became an enterprising worker and then a workteam leader.

She is a happy woman not only at the factory but also at home. Last year she was invited to the concert given by the Unhasu Orchestra on the occasion of the May Day in the presence of the national leader Kim Jong Un and the relevant state banquet. This year she and her husband were invited to another concert given by the orchestra to mark the International Women's Day. Her husband, a Korean People's Army officer, is a reliable supporter who actively encourages her while regarding her as his pride.

She says, "At the workplace I

came to understand the true joy of labour. It was my mother's wish to translate into reality the great leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il's desire to have people dressed in silk. And now it is my wish."

Worker poet

It is not long since Ri Yong Sil began to work as a silk reeler at the mill, but she is now held in affection as a treasure of the mill. Her persistent efforts made her into a highly skilled worker. Last year she fulfilled a quota for two years. Her colleagues like her not only because she works well. She is a passionate poet who constantly writes poems that sing of their worthwhile work. People



take pleasure in hearing her recite her poems.

She says, "The buzzing of machines sounds singing to me. Whenever I walk up and down between the machines tending them, poetic sentiment flashes through my mind. Labour really invigorates me and makes me experience a beautiful life."

After seeing a New Year (2013) gala performance given by the Moranbong Band she wrote the poem *A Hopeful New Year*, which was posted on the bulletin board of the mill.



Pae Jong Sim (second right).

She took part as a representative in the National Conference on Light Industry held in March this year.

Mum



"They often call me mum. Sometimes they are reluctant to leave the nursery though their own mothers come to take them home, to the disappointment of the latter. At such a moment I am sorry and yet inwardly happy." This is what O Chun Yong, a nurse of the mill's nursery, says.

There are no women workers with children who don't know the nurse. Twenty-five years have passed since she began to work as a nurse at the nursery. Whenever people say she looks younger for her age, she replies it is because she is always with children. Some children she took care of are workers of the mill.

Those who were at the nursery frequently come to see her as they miss the nurse who looked after them and taught them songs and dances. Her kind and gentle manner makes children take her for their mother, and their own mothers become honourable innovative workers by fulfilling their quotas free from worry about the children.

So the women workers say, "The bunches of flowers we receive are largely attributable to the nurse O Chun Yong's efforts."

Kim Son Ae

Towards a Higher Goal

ONE DAY IN MARCH LAST, in front of exhibits the Sonhung Foodstuff Factory had presented at the national consumer goods show I heard some people saying as follows:

"The coffee candy and others have become better than those put on display months ago at the 4th Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 Goods Show."

"I see their kinds have further increased."

"That's not all. Any of *Sohnung* foodstuffs tastes unique."

The Sonhung Foodstuff Factory has recently enhanced its popularity. So I went to visit the factory to know in detail about it. At the entrance I met general manageress Ri Hui Suk of the factory who was seeing off with satisfaction the trucks loaded with products from the factory. She told the following story.

In 2001, two years after the factory was inaugurated, she became its general manageress. At the time the factory was producing foodstuffs on a small scale. So she paid primary attention to the work to increase the variety and kind of the foodstuffs. She made it a rule for all the management and

workers to put forward a new idea in a monthly new conception discussion and goods exhibition. When he went to visit his relative in the countryside, an engineer got an idea of making fried glutinous rice cake mixed with sesame, fried cake of wheat flour, honey and oil and other traditional confectionery in an industrial way. And a worker presented designs of sweets and biscuits he had drawn to children's liking while seeing his children eat confectionery at home.

While building up the foundation of production in a functional manner, the general manageress led the workers to display their creativity in improving the quality of the goods. As a result, in 2006, soft candies, carbonated fruit syrup, yeast bread and other kinds of foodstuffs from the factory began to be favourably commented upon by the people along with their brand *Sohnung*. This further spurred creative enthusiasm among the workers of the factory. And they set a bold goal: to improve the quality of the traditional confectionery. It was not an easy job. They had to make the foodstuffs have their new and

unique flavours. Members of the technical preparation room frequented the Grand People's Study House to grasp the global trend in food development and steadily explored the way of improving the flavours and shapes of the confectionery.

As a result the products from the factory took first place three times in succession in the foodstuff section of the Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 Goods Show from its second round.

Last year, fried glutinous rice cake, sweet jelly and other newly-produced traditional confectionery from the factory were favourably commented upon at Dandong Expo in China.

As of 2012 the kinds of foodstuffs from the factory numbered more than 420, and *Sohnung* foodstuffs became the bestseller across the country.



Production of foodstuff is on the increase.



Now a man came up in haste and told the general manageress that it was time to leave for a business trip. When I regretfully asked her about the prospective plan of the factory, she, before getting on her car, said, "It is to equip the whole factory with CNC technology and to produce globally-competitive, diversified foodstuffs."

Her words made me think that our talk was not yet finished.

Chae Kwang Myong

Developers of CNC Plasma Cutting Machine

IT WAS WHEN I WAS IN A bus passing the Changjon Street in the capital city of Pyongyang. Through the bus window I saw unique signboards and appropriate metal decorations of various shops and restaurants going well with the modern beauty of the street.

"Look over there! People think that we artists played an important role in inscribing those letters and patterns," said a man.

"Of course. But perhaps they don't know who technically assists us in our work," another man said.

The people, the two men who looked like artists, talked about were plasma researchers of the Laser Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences. When I had a chance to visit the academy, I dropped in at the laser institute and heard the following story from Ri Chol Ho, head of the institute.

Generally, cutting of metal was done by means of welding in the past, and it entailed much cost and materials such as welding rods, oxygen and carbide. And its coverage was limited according to the kind of metal. On the con-

trary, plasma cutting technique was the one that could be widely used at low cost in all fields of the national economy. So plasma research section of the institute had already developed a manual plasma cutting machine. But the machine showed some shortcomings in processing the products whose outer surface was complicated and which should be precise.

The researchers found the way to solve the problem in equipping the machine with CNC technology. They set goals by stages and pooled their creative wisdom to attain the goals. They thus succeeded in making a CNC technology-based plasma cutting machine and did its trial operation with success in February 2012. Its precision nearly reached the world standard, which delighted all researchers of the institute. But section chief Sin Hyong Chol was in a mood. He had calculated that the margin of error of the machine would be smaller. When other researchers said that they could hardly expect a better thing from the outset, he said, "We should never make *Break through the cutting edge* an empty slogan.

Falling short of the world standard cannot be a success."

Now they pushed ahead with the research from the standpoint of making a new start. Sin took upon himself the core part of the project. In the course of repeated experiments they finally completed a new control program to be introduced into the plasma cutting machine. Young researchers of the section also were zealous in the undertaking. Ri Hun, one of them, who had been posted to the institute not long before, developed a plasma power supply unit based on a high-power transistor, the one better in many features and lower in cost as compared with the conventional heavy and bulky one of poor efficiency.

Every element and part of the machine is associated with the efforts of the researchers who recognize only the most advanced things.

Their efforts led to the invention of a CNC technology-based plasma cutting machine that is considerably high in precision and low in production cost. That was only a little over a month after they started the relevant research anew.

As the head of the institute told us we went to a room. On arrival at the door of the room we heard clapping coming from it. In the room we found members of Ri Hun's section at a meeting to congratulate him for an academic degree he received.

Having received a bunch of flowers for congratulation, Ri Hun said, "This time I've learned another important thing. It has enlarged my mental vision and encouraged me to set a higher goal. What I have keenly realized anew is that only a new view adopted makes it possible to attain a higher goal."

Kim Chol Ung



Scientists Live in Soldier Spirit



P EOPLE'S SCIENTIST, Professor and Doctor Sim Jong Man is a researcher at the Botanical Tissue Culture Institute of the Branch Academy of Botanical Engineering under the State Academy of Sciences. And Professor and Doctor Kim Tuk is a researcher of the Stem Cell Research Institute of the same branch academy. They were both soldiers of the Korean People's Army who fought courageously during the Fatherland Liberation War. After the war they together learned biology at Kim Il Sung University and have since worked at the same scientific research institute. As a mortar shooter during the war Sim took part in a large number of battles near the famous Height 1211 where the fiercest combats took place, and thus did a meritorious service in repulsing the enemy's Summer Offensive. Meanwhile, Kim Tuk, as a scout, carried out reconnaissance tasks successfully in the enemy rear and thus made a great contribution to destroying an enemy battery.

The two veterans are conducting research activities in the spirit they displayed during the war. What is particular about Sim's 30-odd-year-long activities is his verification of the biological properties of *Kimilsungia*, an immortal flower, which was a great contribution to the cultiva-

tion of the beautiful flower. The flower was named by former Indonesian President Sukarno in reflection of his admiration of the DPRK President Kim Il Sung. In the late 1970s there were only two pots of the plant in Korea brought from Indonesia. The Koreans were considerably interested in the flower. Sim tackled the task of studying it and succeeded in bringing *Kimilsungia* into bloom by means of tissue culture. With the method developed, the plant spread all across the country. Later Sim successfully established methods of growing it and adjusting its blooming time. Originally the plant sprouted in spring, grew in summer and bloomed in autumn. But now thanks to his research you can make it bloom even in the depth of winter. He performed the main role in publishing *Kimilsungia Compendium*, which is a national treasure. At present he is engaged in cultivating a new kind of flowering plant. His daughter-in-law says, "One late night I saw him writing down his research results with difficulty with his crooked hand which became disabled during the war. When I asked him to take it easy and look after him, he said scientific research was the country's order to him. I was surprised."

Kim Tuk is also a researcher who has lived a devoted life for scientific research. Over the past years he has conducted a lot of admirable researches, typically the ones of making additives to cattle's fodder, developing a better strain of goat by the method of embryo transplantation, extending the egg-laying period of chicken, and manufacturing artificial ox bezoar which is quite helpful to improvement of human health. In the late 1990s he began to study how to propagate a good

kind of goat rapidly. At the time the country was conducting an energetic mass campaign to create pastures on hills and uncultivated areas and grow goats extensively. But the propagation of a select kind of goat was lagging behind the demand. At that time a researcher was conducting an experiment of embryo transplantation at a field laboratory. He was the very Kim Tuk. His devoted effort established a successful method of embryo transplantation by which to have several baby goats from a mother goat at a time. This became the basis of fast multiplication of goats around the country. Now he is absorbed in the project of developing artificial skin by stem cells, which will be of great service in improving the people's health. He says, "The passage of time has brought us grey hair, yet I don't



think I am old. I have a great deal of research projects to do for the building of a thriving nation. So I always live with youthful vigour."

Although they are out of military uniform the researchers have never thought they are no longer soldiers. Don't look back on your way however long it may be—this is their maxim.

Sim Hyon Jin

Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce

THE PYONGYANG JANG CHOL GU University of Commerce has produced lots of talented scientists and technicians for the sector of public welfare service.

Jang Chol Gu was a cook of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

President Kim Il Sung wrote in his reminiscences *With the Century*: "All our people were delighted at the renaming of the Pyongyang University of Commerce after Jang Chol Gu. They were deeply moved by the fact that a university could be named after the ordinary member of a cooking unit. Such a title of honour, they said, could only be given under our socialist system, which does not discriminate between jobs, but holds in high esteem workers as unassuming heroes who work hard to provide their fellow people with a comfortable life, good food, good clothing and good housing."

"When renaming the Pyongyang University of Commerce as Jang Chol Gu University, we hoped that the younger generation would be workers as loyal to their revolutionary duty as Jang Chol Gu had been."

The President's instruction has served as a motto of the university's students and teachers.

The university has so far pushed ahead with the education and scientific research work for the purpose of producing more and more commercial experts and technicians who can faithfully serve the people true to their duty and mission. In the course of this they discovered over a thousand sorts of national dishes, completed a Korean-style notation for garment processing, developed lots of new subjects and wrote thousands of kinds of reference books, thus steadily improving the education.

Four programs for commercial development presented by the university were highly appreciated at a software show held in Beijing, and in recent ten

years alone teachers and students of the university have won hundreds of certificates of invention or registered new technique and those of contrivance.

Teachers of the faculty of public catering have further subdivided subjects of cookery in accordance with the world trend and developed new, practical cooking subjects in an effort to improve cuisine in the country. Not long ago they developed a subject of cooking art. The relevant teaching plan was drawn up in accord with the trend of putting cuisine on the basis of art, so it was highly commented upon at a seminar on contents and method of education held at the university.

Han Yong Hun, dean of the faculty, says, "The demand for tasty and highly nutritious dishes is increasing day after day among the people. It is our unanimous will to work hard, without falling into stagnation or stalemate, to produce excellent technicians and experts as the people's requirement for better life is increasing with the passage of time."

The faculty placed the focus of education and research on putting the preparation of Korean and other famous cuisine on a higher-level scientific basis and finding the way to prepare more palatable and highly nutritious dishes with materials used in everyday cooking. The research on processing of maize by means of nanotechnology can be cited. They intensified the research, thus succeeding in opening a vista for using maize to make varieties of more nutritious and digestible staple food than those made with wheat flour. Ri Hyang Sim, a student, put forward lots of valuable ideas for the research. Leaving the venue of the graduation ceremony, she said, "I was deeply impressed by the fact that the state had taken measures to enable our people to relish pasty and other foreign dishes. I am now determined to keep learning as I did in my university days so as to help our people enjoy the best cuisine culture in the world."

Kim Chol Ung

Extracurricular instruction is helpful to improving the students' attainment.



Vitality-giving Regeneration Medicine

“STEM CELLS CAN BE SAID TO BE THE source of life. The study of stem cells, the basis of regeneration medicine, is now regarded as one of the ten most important scientific research domains in the current century,” says Candidate Academician, Professor and Doctor Ho In Hak, vice director of Kim Man Yu Hospital.

Stem cells are those capable of proliferation, that is, self-reproduction. Regeneration medicine is the latest one that can treat obstinate diseases and prevent aging by making necessary kinds of cell, tissue and artificial organ with stem cells mixed with certain differentiation induction substances and implanting them in the body.

In recent years Kim Man Yu Hospital has successfully treated some diseases by implanting stem cells, providing a guarantee for realizing the desire of people to live long in good health. Years ago doctors of the hospital succeeded in inventing the technique of separating, cultivating and implanting stem cells in focuses in conjunction with researchers of a relevant institution. They implanted stem cells in a part affected by aseptic femoral head necrosis, and the lost tissues of the part were restored before beginning to function normally. A month after the implantation the patient began to feel gradually less pain and became able to walk three times longer than he could before the operation. This inspired the doctors with confidence and greater courage. They later carried out similar operations on scores of patients with aseptic femoral head necrosis or spontaneous gangrene, which showed good results at 90 to 100 percent. Some who had been unable to walk recovered gradually and became able to rise to their feet two or three months after the operation. This aroused a hope of recovery in those patients who had been diagnosed as impossible to recover.

The doctors implanted stem cells in patients with

Stem cells are implanted.



cervical vertebra fracture, cerebral apoplexy, liver cirrhosis, diabetes, ophthalmic diseases, chronic kidney troubles, spinal arachnitis, myocardial infarction, bedsores, traumatic spinal injuries, multiple sclerosis, and Parkinson's disease, and the results were very good. After operation the patients soon began to show good signs. The condition of the patients with spinal osteoarthritis, who had been paraplegic, improved remarkably, and one of them recovered from paraplegia three days after the operation.

Yun Chol, a worker of the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory, says, “Four years ago I was diagnosed as having chronically malfunctioning kidneys. At first I was hopeless because my condition was very bad. Then, after stem cells were implanted in my kidneys at Kim Man Yu Hospital, my condition began to improve. I've got such operation five times. I'm now in the convalescent stage.”

One day Hwang Kum Sun, 48, a resident of Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, came to the hospital, led by her son. Her eyes looked normal at a glance, but she was blind. The hospital diagnosed her as affected by retinal pigment degeneration. The disease was known as incurable. The doctors of the hospital, however, strove to scientifically identify the cause of the disease, and finally decided to introduce implantation of stem cells in the treatment of her disease. They conducted operation on the patient by combining implantation of stem cells and reproduction of retinal veins. Fifty days after the operation the woman became able to see again.

The hospital has carried out implantation of stem cells over 1 000 times in people with different diseases, and their conditions have recovered or improved. In the course of this the doctors confirmed courses for implanting stem cells and kinds of such cells for different diseases, ways to implant the cells, proper time for operation and re-implantation and parts for implantation. And they established methods of separating, culturing and testing stem cells and completed regulations for production and test of the cells, thus laying a stronger scientific foundation.

The vice director says, “At first we thought that implantation of stem cells was the final means of treatment for prolonging a dying life. But while observing patients after the clinical application of the method to their treatment, we found that the application of the method in the acute stage of diseases could bring about better results. We are now extending the range of treatment based on the method and constantly making surveys. And we will intensify our research in the direction of preventing chronic diseases.”

Rim Ok

Starting Line

ONE DAY IN MARCH LAST a young woman was in deep thought in a plane bound for Pyongyang. She was Kim Kum Ok who had just won the women's marathon race at the 14th Asian Marathon Championships. Looking out of the window of the plane she looked back upon her past.

Kum Ok was small for her age in her childhood. And people affectionately called her *khongsae* because she always scampered around. The nickname implanted unusual competitive spirit in the child.

One day when she was ten there was an autumn athletic meeting at her school. Seeing her toeing the line for a run, parents of the schoolchildren had doubts of her win against her rivals—who were taller—though she was usually fond of running. Their doubts soon disappeared. As soon as the signal shot was fired Kum Ok began to run as fast as a swallow and far ahead of all her rivals. When she became the first to breast the tape by running swiftly as if winged, the spectators burst into admiration raising cheers for her. Among them was a man who was attentively and mutely observing her. He was Paek Tong Nam, a coach of the Mangyongdae District Juvenile Sports School, who that day was there at Kum Ok's school to select pupils to be recruits of the sports school. The coach found her good in speed, strength and stamina for her age and physique.

Pulling her by the arm toward him from the crowd packed around her, he asked her, "Can you run any more now if I ask you to?"

"Yes, I can," she replied without hesitation.

Holding his rising excitement with patience, Paek asked again,

"Don't you want to become a runner?"

Then Kum Ok said, "I like running best. I want to live while keeping running."

Months later, on their way to the sports school, the coach said to the girl, "This is the beginning for you, Kum Ok. Bear in mind that you can win only when you think of no finishing line in training."

It was very far from Kum Ok's home to the sports school. She, however, decided to use the distance for her training. Her villagers saw her running every morning and evening.

With the passage of time she began to distinguish herself in juvenile competitions, and her fame became the pride of her parents and villagers before she knew. This made her invited to various congratulation meetings.

Then, one day when she referred to her indisposition as the reason of no further progress in her record, Paek said in an unprecedentedly serious tone, "It is because your spirit, not your physique, has reached the limit."

The coach's words came home to Kum Ok who had been buoyed up by her small success. Now she determinedly began to train hard again. At last she was regarded as a promising runner and in 2004 was admitted to the April 25 Sports Team. From then on she carried out more difficult tasks of training, and at the same time grew once again in mentality while learning keenly the state's deep concern for sportspersons.

Her move to the sports team meant the realization of another dream in her life, and yet she kept training hard as if she had just toed the line. Her shortcoming was her failure to exert her strength properly. If she was to run in accordance with her coach's



tactical intention, she had to exert her strength explosively in a certain section of the route. She, however, was not prepared physically for the task.

One day, when running along the Taedong River, she happened to meet Kim Yun Hwa, a woman judoist, who was running as long a distance as she was. They soon became friends who could have a heart-to-heart talk with each other. Having understood Kum Ok's desire to exalt the honour of the country by winning the championship of the world women's marathon, a symbol of sports, Yun Hwa often kept company of the runner in training, even on the day when she overfulfilled her training task. Sometimes Kum Ok practised in judo with her friend deep into the night because she found judo similar to marathon in developing leg strength and grit. In the course of this Kum Ok learned various necessary knacks from Yun Hwa who would display stubbornness and wonderful strength.

As a result Kum Ok won the women's marathon race at the Asian Marathon Championships held in October 2006.

Whenever her friends praised ▶

Tōk-do Seabird Reserve

IN THE SEABIRD RESERVE on Tōk Islet in the West Sea of Korea there are found summer birds and resident birds. In addition, many kinds of migratory birds stop there while moving. In particular, it is an important place for the propagation of *Platalea minor* whose kind is under global protection as an indigenous kind in East Asia and *E. eulophotes*.

Investigations confirmed that the reserve is inhabited by nearly 60 kinds of birds. The number of *Platalea minor* amounted to 10-14, that of *E. eulophotes* 400-600 (950 at the maximum), that of *Larus argentatus* 40-60, that of *Ardea cinerea* 14-20, and that of *E. garzetta* 2-4.

Studies found that *Platalea minor* propagate at spots of rocks tens of metres high and in woods of elder trees and cherry trees on the shore and cormorants propagate at raised spots of rocky cliffs. Besides, 1 600-3 500 black-tailed gulls

propagate in high rocky cliffs and raised parts of rocks on the shore and *Ardea cinerea* propagate in rocky cliffs in the western and northern parts.

The reserve is one of the major places of propagation of *Platalea minor*, whose propagating rate is very low. According to the investigation there were 19 eggs in 5 nests. Out of them the number of eggs hatched out totalled 9. Therefore, the incubative rate was 48 percent. When propagation is over, all the family groups propagated on the islet form bigger groups in early September and roam about in quest of food on the shore of reservoirs and tideland and take a rest. Then they gradually begin to migrate to other places.

The reserve is under special care of the government. Efforts are put into prevention of damage from vega herring gulls and black-tailed gulls that are a big harassment to the propagation.



Spoonbills.

tion of *Platalea minor*. And during the time of propagation people are not allowed to approach the reserve—which might startle the birds—and collect eggs out from the nests. On top of that, a great deal of effort goes into protecting the surrounding circumstances that are favourable to birds' activities for food.

*Kim Kyong Sun, researcher
of the Nature Conservation
Union of Korea*

► her as a winner of an international competition and when she suffered from a high fever, Kum Ok would think of training alone.

Her juniors once asked her why she, an international competition winner, trained as hard as they did. Then she said only what Paek had said. "No finishing line in training." She wrote a poem as follows.

*Even fertile land is overgrown
with weeds
If it is out of cultivation.
An athlete's life is worthless
Apart from training.
I will always make
strenuous effort,*

*And I will cultivate myself
with enthusiasm.*

With such enthusiasm and determined effort she brought proud successes to the country: she won in succession the women's half-course marathon of the 24th Universiad held in August 2007, the women's event of the 11th Asian Marathon Championships held in February 2008, the women's half-course marathon of the 5th East Asian Games held in December 2009, the women's marathon of the World Military Games held in 2011.

Now she was on the way back home after winning the women's

event of the 14th Asian Marathon Championships. Looking through the window of the plane which was slowly nosing down, she saw people cheering on the land. Her success achieved at a time when the country was resolutely frustrating the imperialist allied forces' unprecedented schemes had greatly excited the people.

Journalists showered questions to her, when Kum Ok replied with a placid smile, "I always think of the starting line alone. At the line I feel the country and the people's constant care for me."

Ri Kum Chol

By Their Own Efforts

YONSAN COUNTY, NORTH Hwanghae Province, is a small county well-known for its having lots of mountains and hills from ancient times. The county was regarded as a place difficult to live in, and not a few people had left the county. Today, however, it has changed into a place good to live in, thus drawing many people. The county now has three prides—a power station, a holiday centre and plenty of natural resources.

Three years ago the officials and working people of the county built an army-people power station with their own efforts. It was no easy job because they had no relevant experience and technicians. But, believing that when they exerted themselves to develop their county they would become able to enjoy happiness, they all set to and finished the construction of the power station in a short period of time. This made them realize that they can do anything when they rely on their own resources. The electricity from the power station is more than enough to be used by the county and so is supplied to its

neighbouring region.

Not far away from the power station is a holiday centre with a Korean-style gable roof for farm workers of the county. The building of the centre has the following story. One day before the inauguration of the power station, Kim Yun Sop, a senior official of the county, on his way back from inspection of the power station, stopped on a spot. He found it more than picturesque with a joining point of Hwangdae Stream and a mountain stream. He hit on an idea of building a holiday centre there for farm workers of the county.

A few days later, the idea was brought up for discussion at a county meeting. All participants of the meeting actively supported it and put forward reasonable construction plans. The construction became a matter of great concern

among the working people of the county, and they completed the project by pooling their creative wisdom.

Kim Myong Sun, a holiday-maker from the county town, said, "Now we are having a pleasant time because all of us exerted ourselves to make our native place, our village and our county into those good to live in. The happiness doesn't come of itself. We have to create it by our own efforts."

Yonsan County is rich in deposits of underground resources like limestone. They are precious assets for the improvement of the



The holiday centre and the Yonsan Army-People Power Station.



county people's living standards. Having built a cement production base fed with raw materials available in the county, they are pushing ahead with the construction and renovation of dwelling houses, public catering establishments and welfare service amenities.

The officials and working people of the county say in unison, "When you develop your place with your own efforts, you will surely become able to enjoy happiness."

Sim Chol Yong

Note of Visit to the Central Zoo (2)



Houses of beasts of prey, a great public haunt

After getting out of the aquarium, we headed for houses of beasts of prey along a straight path. Visible there were a rare white tiger that general director Choe Su Jin of the General Company for the Development of the National Economy in Heilongjiang Province, China, presented to Chairman Kim Jong Il in June 2004, a Bengali tiger whose kind is found in India and the Bengali region and a Korean tiger that is a traditional symbol of intrepidity in Korea. Also to be seen there were African lions that keep coming and going assiduously and ostentatiously, flying their long manes of deep chestnut colour. Seen in the nearby bear house were different kinds of bears that were playing in a cute manner despite their big bodies.

A girder bridge is set up so that the spectators can get a general view of the wild beasts at a glance from there. On this bridge they were enjoying a pleasant time to their heart's content. Some mischievous boys stepped up to indignant wild beasts that were jumping up high and tried to demonstrate their fearlessness. With tall trees planted, lawns formed and big and small rocks placed harmoniously the open-air playground expanded on a large scale looked like a forest. Seeing a mysterious scene of the tiger and the lion living together on good terms though they are regarded as the "emperor" in deep mountains and in the wilderness, the spectators were experiencing a new world of the savage beasts. On the high wall formed like a steep cliff built on the basis of scientific calculation, the spectators enjoyed the sight of tigers and lions that were sitting astraddle on a fallen tree and rocks with nonchalance.

Kim Sun Ok who had been working there as a keeper for more than 40 years said proudly that Choe Myong Sik, an artist of the Mansudae Art Studio,

used to frequent the zoo and, studying the real objects, drew the morphologic features of tigers, the expression in their eyes and their movements and thus became a famous painter of Korean tigers.

Bear pits were built up in accord with the peculiarities of bears that hibernate in rocky caverns or in the hollow trunk of old trees, thus arousing delightful emotions among the spectators.

A variety of tricks played by bears were exciting bursts of uproarious laughter of the spectators. Some people turned from their way to other animal houses attracted by the spectators' boisterous laughter. Many were speaking highly of the animal keepers who were making ferocious animals obedient to them. Keepers were controlling wild beasts by making various gestures with hands and shouting words of command without missing even a slight change in their feelings. At times their appearance looked like that of a strict teacher and at other times like that of a mother who affectionately reasoned with her children. Some people waited for Kim Sun Ok to come out and asked her how she became intimate with fierce animals.

In reply the animal keeper said, "Not that things went on smoothly from the beginning. Many a time I was stricken with such a fear that I could hardly step into the beasts' houses. But judging from their appearance I could tell beasts of prey like brave people much more. So I boldly approached and took care of them in every aspect. To my surprise, these fierce animals were tamed before I was not aware of it. The number of young tigers I have brought up by artificial lactation totals more than 10. Now they are giving great amusement to the visitors."

New keepers are working harder, and thanks to their responsible manner of work the number of beasts of prey is on the increase from year to year. "Some of their offsprings are sent to provincial zoos," Sun Ok added. Now we left for another animal house for news coverage.



*Article by Chae Kwang Myong
Photos by Ra Phyong Ryol*

Koguryo's Fort Unearthed and Ascertained

A GROUP OF KOREAN history researchers including those from the history department of Kim Il Sung University unearthed the Sosan Fort, a subsidiary defence position of the capital city in the period of Koguryo, in Sonnae-dong, Manguyongdae District, Pyongyang, and newly ascertained its character. With a 92.6 m-high hill of Mt. So as the main peak the site covers a certain area southeast of it. The fort is of a rectangular shape and is 2 170 m round.

Sinjungdonggukyojisungnam (Revised Handbook of Korean Geography) compiled in 1530 and history documents published later tell that the Sosan Fort was built in the 12th century, that is, during

the period of Koryo.

The recent investigation found out that the fort was in accord with those built in the period of Koguryo in the form, construction method and stonework. The fort belongs to Koguryo's typical Korobong style, the stones of the walls are well cut like a square spindle, the same as those used in the period of Koguryo.

Found in the rampart and other sites were relics that date back to the period of Koguryo including red roof tiles.

Through the unearthed relics and historical materials the date and purpose of building the fort were made clear anew. The Sosan Fort can be considered to have been built between 552 and 586,

which falls on the period of building the Walled City of Pyongyang. It was proved that Koguryo, having fixed Pyongyang as its capital, built the Sosan Fort as a subsidiary defence fort. Besides, it has become evident that the defence system of the Walled City of Pyongyang was in good order.

The unearthing and scientific ascertainment of the Sosan Fort is attracting the attention of academic circles as an achievement of great significance in conducting studies of fort construction techniques in the period of Koguryo and the contemporary history and culture.

Article by Kim Son Ae
Photos by Kim Jong Chol



Pagoda of Kumgang Temple (model)

THE PYONGYANG FOLK Park has a pagoda section in the area where historic relics are put on display. The pagoda of the Kumgang Temple which stands in the pagoda section is a model of a pagoda in the Kumgang Temple (the temple site in Taesong District, Pyongyang) that was built in earthen walls southwest of the Anhak Palace in the period of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668). The bedrock unearthed in the site of the Kumgang Temple was trimmed into an octagonal shape and trimmed stones were piled up around it to build a foundation. This is a good indication of laying techniques in those days.

The model of the pagoda was erected with reference to findings from the site and documentary data. It is an octagonal, seven-storeyed, wooden pavilion-style pagoda furnished with railings. It is divided into the body and head parts. The body part is of seven storeys. The ground floor is especially higher than the other floors and from the first floor the height of each storey becomes less, giving a sense of good balance and security and magnificence. The width of floors also decreases upward in a certain proportion. The head part consists of the lower, middle and upper divisions.

The architectural structure of



the pagoda shows well the wooden architecture of the Koguryo people. The model pagoda in the Pyongyang Folk Park is more than 60 metres high. Installed in the centre of the inside is a high-

speed lift, so visitors can go up to the balcony on every floor and enjoy a general view of the park.

*Article and photo
by Ri Song Ik*

Korean Central History Museum (2)

Koguryo whose state priority was defence buildup

WHEN WE ENTERED THE next room past those dedicated to the ancient times, the guide announced, "From here you'll see remains and remnants

condition to run a feudal agricultural economy following the development of productivity based on the growing production of iron and the extensive use of iron instruments, and it was also the outcome of the rapid demolition of the slave-owning economy due to the intensifying struggle of the slaves against their owners' ex-

ploitation. This is evident from the typical flat arrowheads of Koguryo which were found along with steel and iron farming tools at the Ronam-ri site that seems to date back to the period from the fourth to the third century B.C. The first capital city of Koguryo was Jolbon, which is located in the Huanren area, Liaoning ▶



Coats of mails and a long sword with a ring-shaped handle.

The Monument to the Mausoleum of King Kwanggaetho.

that show the history of Korean feudal states in the Middle Ages." Her explanation continued, "Feudal society in Korea existed for nearly 2 200 years from the third century B.C. to the middle of the 19th century A.D. The earliest feudal states were Koguryo, Paekje, Silla, Kaya and Later Puyo. When Later Puyo and Kaya were amalgamated to Koguryo and Silla respectively, there remained Koguryo, Paekje and Silla alone. Historically this period of time is referred to as the Period of the Three Kingdoms. The first feudal state of them was Koguryo and it was in the longest existence of the three states."

Koguryo was established by Ko Ju Mong, or King Tongmyong, as successor to the ancient state of Kuryo, and existed from 277 B.C. to A.D.668. The foundation of the state was the result of the emergence of the enough economic



► Province, China at present.

In the room we saw a table of successive kings of Koguryo which gives an intensive view of the history of the state. According to it the state was under the rule of over 30 kings, including King Tongmyong, for nearly 1 000 years. Over the years it developed into a powerful country with a great territory. After its foundation it, as of the early first century A.D., had a vast expanse of territory that reached the East Sea of Korea to the east, the Hun-he river and the upper Taizi-he river to the west, the Maritime Province of Russia to the north-east and the Taedong River to the south. According to a table on the country's struggle against invasions from outside forces, Koguryo worked hard to build a strong feudal state by uniting Ancient Joson, Puyo and Jinguk which had all been established by the ancestors of Koguryo, and as a result regained all its territory in the middle of the 370s, which extended down to the Daling-he line in the Liaodong peninsula.

We dropped in at the place where there were arms and weaponry of Koguryo on display. Some typical ones were a long sword with a ring-shaped handle, an acoustic arrow, a piece of armour and a gilt-bronze shoe whose kind was usually won by cavalrymen. The most attractive was the harnessry. The different things for horse riding were indicative of the fact that the Koguryo people usually loved horse riding. "The unusually patriotic-minded and strongly-built people of Koguryo repulsed foreign invaders at a stroke. This is a portrait of General Ulji Mundok who distinguished himself in wars against foreign aggressors," said the guide, indicating a portrait. She told us a story about how he had made a reconnaissance of the enemy by entering the enemy camp single-handedly on the pretext of negotiation and made the enemy forces recede of their own

accord by sending a poem to the enemy commander. The guide told us that Yang Man Chun and Yon Kaesomun were also celebrated military commanders of Koguryo who led struggles against foreign invaders to victory. There we saw models of armoured cavalry that played a role similar to the tank force in the Koguryo's army, and 58 models of cavalry horses unearthed at Chol Pass, Kosan County, Kangwon Province. Fifty-four of them were made of iron and the four of bronze. When I asked if they were materials used in ceremonies for victorious fights Koguryo people held before leaving to battle-fields, for the models were mostly in armour, the guide said I was right and continued with her explanation. "These models are valuable things that show the level of development of Koguryo's metallurgy around the third century as well as its national power."

The next attraction in the room was a plan of a mountain fortress layout. It was a sign of the historical fact that the Koguryo people built a large number of mountain fortresses of diversified forms in places of great military and geographical importance and thus built up defence capabilities iron-firmly. From the remains we had a fresh idea of the patriotic mind and military spirit of the Koguryo people.

Then we went over to the next room. The guide said, "Koguryo moved its capital from Huanren, Liaoning Province, to Jian, Jilin Province, in the year 3 A.D. Therefore, there remain Koguryo's sites and remnants in the Jian area, Jilin Province, as it was the second capital of Koguryo." The guide told us about a typical example. It was a life-size model of the Monument to the Mausoleum of King Kwang-gaetho, the 24th king of Koguryo. Standing 6.34 m high, the monument has more than 1 800 characters on its four sides which tell

a legend of the founding of the country and other facts. It was set up in 414 as one of the biggest of its kind in the East still remaining.

The guide said that there are quite a few mural tombs of Koguryo in the Jian area registered as world heritage. "Koguryo moved its capital to Pyongyang in 427 for the purpose of unifying Paekje, Silla and Kaya which were states of the same bloodline into a country," said the guide, ushering us to a model of the Anhak Palace, a royal palace of Koguryo. The palace was encircled by walls in a rectangular shape—each side being 622 m in length—and there were over 50 luxurious buildings and gardens in it. It was the royal residence for 16 years after the moving of the capital. Its architectural development was verified when a decorative roof tile, 2.1 m in height, and its support under it were unearthed in the site.

When we were admiring the magnificence of the Anhak Palace, the guide pointed to a picture on a wall, saying it shows the reconstructed Mausoleum of King Tongmyong. From olden times Koreans had the custom of bringing tombs of the founder king with them whenever they moved the capital of the state, so the Koguryo people who cherished the memory of their founder king Tongmyong moved his mausoleum to Pyongyang when they moved their capital to Pyongyang in 427. The old tomb was reconstructed as befits that of the founder king of Koguryo in 1993. Broken pieces of roof tiles and a human spine bone with an arrow piercing it reminded us of the life of King Tongmyong.

Impressed by the idea that King Tongmyong opened a new chapter of feudal society in Korea and that the country attached importance to military affairs, we went to another room.

*Article by Rim Ok
Photos by Kim Jong Su*

Pyongyang Undergoes Facelift

A KOREA TODAY reporter recently had a talk with Kim Kuk Nam, a senior official of the Capital City Construction Commission.

In recent years the appearance of the capital city of Pyongyang has undergone a complete change with many projects including Changjon Street and Rungna People's Pleasure Ground.

That's right. In accordance with a plan of the Workers' Party of Korea to build up Pyongyang as a city of worldwide fame modern buildings sprang up everywhere in recent years. As a result, the looks of the capital city have improved beyond recognition. In recent years alone new streets, amenities, sports and cultural facilities, commercial service bases, pleasure grounds, parks and other establishments have been set up along modern lines in most suitable places. The old street in the Mansudae area was totally removed and Mansudae Street and Changjon Street congenial to our people's ideology and feelings and their aesthetic inclination and the demand of the current century were erected in a short space of time and apartment houses in modern style were built in the Haebangsan area and in various places in Pyongyang and thus ordinary working people moved into new dwelling houses.

The People's Theatre was completed in harmony with the skyscrapers on Changjon Street and public service amenities were built above and under the ground where people are provided with ideal conveniences. Visible on the opposite side of Changjon Street across the Taedong River is the Ryugyong Health Complex, a public welfare establishment.

Also to be seen in the city are up-to-date sports facilities and bases for public service such as the Taekwon-Do Holy Centre, the Yanggak-do Sports Village, the People's Open-air Ice Rink, the Roller Rink and the Thongilgori Fitness Centre and medical ser-

vice centres including the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital. These facilities guarantee the development of physical culture in the country and the promotion of health of the people.

In addition, bases for commercial service have been set up in succession, including the Mansugyo Meat and Fish Shop, the Mansugyo Soft-drink Bar, the Pothonggang Fish Shop, and the Pyongyang Children's Department Store, the construction of the Pyongyang Folk Park covering an enormous area has been completed and parks have been newly built up everywhere, thus enabling the people to enjoy a cultural and emotional life more splendidly.

On Rungna Islet, an alluvial islet, there rose up a dolphinarium, a wading-pool, an amusement park, mini-golf courses, a sports park furnished with up-to-date facilities. As a result, the old appearance of this area is hardly to be found now.

Besides, the Rangnang Potato Processing Factory and many other light industry factories have sprung up in different parts of the capital city, laying a foundation for enhancement of the people's material and cultural living standards.

I should like to know what measures have been taken in the country to give a new appearance to the capital city, and the distinctive features of the construction of the city.

Positive measures have been taken to convert Pyongyang into a more magnificent and beautiful city as befits the capital of the DPRK and the centre of the national culture and build much more cultural and welfare establishments, parks and recreation grounds for the people along modern lines. A great deal of effort is going into the building of more establishments directly related with the people's living in the direction of providing the people with a more bountiful and hap-

pier life and guaranteeing a civilized and cultural life for them. On top of that, the state sees to it that the principle of fidelity to the people's comfort and kindness in their service is observed in planning construction projects in a thorough way and that the principle of convenience before the aesthetic value is embodied throughout the process of construction and in actual building jobs. The builders pay primary attention to the quality of all the construction projects—so that they are completed on the highest level—with the sense that they should take responsibility for the safety of the projects and guarantee their absolute quality for all eternity.

A distinctive feature of construction of late is the carrying out of a number of projects simultaneously at a lightning tempo in the shortest time and in many places instead of doing them one by one. Moreover, the projects are very gigantic in scale. Speaking of ▶



► Changjon Street, the removing of the previous old street as a whole was an arduous job, but erecting a larger street than the previous one in a short time of slightly over a year was a formidable task whose completion was almost impossible when viewed from existing formulas and building methods. Therefore, when we made public a plan to build Changjon Street hostile forces argued that the construction of Changjon Street was nothing but "a desk theory" and that they would eat their hat if we complete the project in the set time.

In spite of the continuous and harsh economic sanctions and strained situation we finished Changjon Street on the highest level in a short period of one year.

This country is in the acutest and tensest situation since the armistice. What is the prospect of the construction of the capital city like?

With our launching of an artificial earth satellite for peaceful purposes and our nuclear test as a momentum, the pressure brought by the United States and the other hostile forces to bear on our

country reached an extreme and our country is in a situation in which a war may break out again at any moment. But we are not scared. Even at the time when the US imperialists' armed spy ship *Pueblo* was captured by our navy while conducting espionage activities in our territorial waters in the East Sea of Korea in 1968, when we shot down the US imperialists' large-sized espionage plane EC-121 which had intruded into our territorial air space in 1969 and when the US imperialists' premeditated provocative incident happened in the joint security area of Panmunjom in 1976 there created a critical situation of a war breaking out immediately on the Korean peninsula. However, at no time did we suspend socialist economic construction in fear of the United States and outbreak of war. We have the guts to push our construction work forward until twelve o'clock tonight even when we know a war is going to break out just tomorrow and have unwavering faith that we are sure to win victory in our righteous struggle. We have drawn up a huge-scale prospective plan of

capital city construction. Apartment houses for 20 000 families currently under construction in the vicinity of railway tracks in Pyongyang will be completed in a short space of time and flower parks and fountain parks will be newly built at different places. Bases for medical service of the highest level will be laid as well, including a children's hospital, so that they can make a contribution to the promotion of the well-being of the people.

Sports establishments and facilities including the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the Chongchun-gori Sports Village and the People's Palace of Culture will be reconstructed along modern lines; the second-stage project of the Pyongyang Folk Park will make headway. As a result, a greater change will take place in the physical culture of the country and in the entertainment of the people. The appearance of the central Pyongyang will be renewed and up-to-date cultural facilities such as fun fairs and the Munsu wading pool where people can enjoy a pleasant time will be built in greater numbers. □



Changjon Street.

Lifeline

By Jo Ryong Chol

(Continued from the last issue)

“COMRADE GENERAL Manager, please ...” Jin Chol did not conclude his words putting a folded piece of white paper out of his breast pocket, as if he had read the general manager's mind.

“What's this?” Cha asked.

“It's a list of reagents needed,” Jin Chol replied.

Cha skimmed the list. Some kinds of the reagents were out of stock at the factory at the moment. He felt it futile to bustle about obtaining reagents for the unpromising research project. His factory was having a full supply of the import additives, making Jin Chol's research redundant. And with the supply the factory had fulfilled the yearly plan ahead of schedule.

“I appreciate your work, Jin Chol,” Cha said, “I'm on my way to the Management Bureau, and I'm going to talk to you when I'm back.” He patted him on the shoulder with a smile on his face before getting into the car. Then, he forgot his promise for good.

“As I said the other day,” the deputy chief engineer argued enthusiastically, “our factory has been modernly equipped now. But however modern it is, it would be useless if we failed to keep it in operation. It would be a good luck if we saw Jin Chol's research suc-

cessful immediately as the technical section chief has just said. But as we can't tell what the result would be we have only one way in hand. We have to bring additives from abroad. I mean until Jin Chol's project comes to success, as the vice general manager has said.”

Cha lent an attentive ear to his assertion. *The deputy chief engineer also agrees that there is no other alternative but to import the additives from abroad. If the additives are bought from foreign countries continuously, what could become of the country's economy?*

Cha cast another glance at Jin Chol, who was still hanging his head down. Now the general manager recalled: When was it that Jin Chol came to see me for the second time? It was one mid-June day last year when the factory finished the production plan

for the first half of the year. Around the time the factory was having quite a difficulty in production because of short supply of import additives.

There was a knock at the door. Cha looked up and there appeared Jin Chol at the door. He motioned him to a chair while taking up a phone. “What's up?” he asked to the other end of the line. Another phone rang. “What? An electric motor has burnt for an overload in the First Workshop? Then, why don't you repair it right now, section chief? How could you be at a loss? No. Bring the motor to life before the day is out.”

Cha hurled the receiver on the saddle, and glanced at the piece of paper which was filled with letters without any blank.

“It's a list of experimental facilities needed. Hmm, a motor ...” he looked through the list. All things listed were what could ▶



► hardly be provided because of the tight plan of production.

"What about the research of additives?" Cha asked.

"Well, I've discovered catalyst T," answered Jin Chol, producing an experiment diary from his flank and unfolding it in front of the general manager.

"Really? Let me see." Cha began to study the diary. It was a great event that the engineer had found T which was the essential material in compounding the additives. It was just for want of T that the factory had been dependent on a foreign supply. Leafing through the diary, Cha felt his excitement cooling like a fireplace without stoking. The result was hardly satisfactory. It failed to reach the standard. A more difficult problem was how to lay a process for the production of the additives. He recalled he had many such experiences. Some successful researches had turned out to be little profitable in reality and disappeared silently.

"You need not be dispirited. Keep on with your research. By the way, we have to talk about the supply of experiment facilities when we have finished the production plan for the first half of the year. The factory is already under considerable strain, you know, for want of additives."

Jin Chol disappointedly made a nod and plodded out of the room giving a sigh ...

If I had begun to support his research at that time belatedly, he would have made a success of it and we would not need to have a serious meeting at the moment,

Cha lamented. He had called at Jin Chol's lab again the day before. Studying the experiment diary he was surprised to find additive T surpassing the standard numerical values. But there was still a long way to go—to lay a process for production of the additives. The way to go might be as long as the one they had trodden—probably longer. Regret flooded in his heart. *If he had helped him earlier ...* Reproaching himself Cha had asked the technical section chief to bring Jin Chol to the next day's conference.

"You give us an explanation, Jin Chol," the general manager asked the engineer who was simply fondling the experiment diary with his head lowered.

Jin Chol stood up. "I've nothing to say. Attending this meeting I feel more sorely that I'm considerably responsible for the affair. If I had finished the research earlier by exerting greater enthusiasm we wouldn't have had difficulties right now. I am sorry."

Jin Chol sat down heavily. There was no more argument. Everybody seemed to be chagrined by his words. None of those present at the meeting blamed him because they had all been disinterested in his research as they had received additives from the state. The dead silence in the room would not turn comfortable. Even a needle falling could be heard.

Cha rose from his seat. He said, "You have put forward arguments, and I take them as condemnation to me. All the problems are ascribable to me, the general manager, who is respon-

sible for the production of the factory."

All the eyes turned to Cha at an instant—dubiously. *What did he mean by saying that? Is the general manager to blame for the rise in the price of the additives?*

"All of you have said that we are not to suspend the operation of the factory. I agree with you. The problem is how to keep it going ahead. Some of you say we have to import additives until Jin Chol succeeds in his research into additives. To tell the truth, I used to be of the same opinion. But such a way of thinking would never tide us over—even in ten or twenty years. Because we all would pin up our hope on the supply of additives from abroad."

Cha looked round. Curious eyes were looking up at him. The general manager continued to say, "We can no longer expect foreign additives. Then, do we have no alternatives? I declare right here that we ought to depend on things of our own for our lifeline. If the officials present at this meeting had pinned the life of the factory on Jin Chol's research into additives, the research would have come to success already. If we officials work hard in real earnest for the sake of Jin Chol's research, then we'll be able to have our additives surely. There is no other way to keep our factory in operation. So much for this meeting. And it will be the last meeting of this kind."

Two months later the factory successfully set up a process of mass production of additives.

(The end)

The Motive Force of National Reunification Rests on the Koreans' Efforts

AT PRESENT THE CAUSE OF NATIONAL reunification, a long-cherished aspiration of the Korean people, is in a serious phase due to atrocious machinations of the anti-reunification forces in and out. The US imperialists and the south Korean puppet bellicose forces, picking fault with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's legitimate launching of a satellite for peaceful purposes and its carrying out of a nuclear test as a just self-defensive measure, manipulated the adoption of rigorous resolutions at the UN Security Council. And they conducted Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises despite strong opposition. Therefore, a touch-and-go situation was created in the Korean peninsula where a war might break out at any moment. The present developments demand of all the patriotic Koreans to continuously and vigorously advance the era of independent reunification, rallied closely in one mind and with one will and shattering the provocation of the anti-reunification forces in reliance upon the nation's own efforts.

The driving force of national reunification is the Korean nation. The issue of Korea's reunification is that of linking again the nation's vessel severed into the north and the south and realizing national unity and that of establishing sovereignty on a nationwide scale. The Koreans are directly responsible for settlement of the reunification issue. So the task aimed at regaining national sovereignty cannot be entrusted to foreign forces.

The history of the national reunification movement so far has shown that when the might of the driving force of national reunification is increased the cause of independent reunification can be pushed forward dynamically. After the historic June 15 North-South Joint Declaration was made public in 2000 all the Koreans living in the north and south as well as abroad, conducted a reunification movement on a nationwide scale, holding aloft the banner of "by our nation itself." Not only in the north but also in the south people from all strata including workers, farmers, artists, religionists and statesmen took part in the national reunification movement on a mass scale, the movement that had been conducted only by specific organizations working for the national reunification movement. Vigorous cheers of "We are one!" and "National reunification" raised by Koreans in the north and the south rang out everywhere—in Pyongyang, Mt. Kumgang, Pusan, Jeju Island—and

solidarity and unity of pro-reunification forces strengthened. In these circumstances the reconciliation and unity of the nation were promoted and the reunification movement made headway.

However, the cause of independent reunification is now faced with great obstacles and ordeals due to the challenge and obstructive manoeuvrings of the divisionist forces within and without. In south Korea personages and organizations fighting for reunification are now subjected to persecution and repression, charged with "pro-north, enemy-benefiting" acts, and the nation's common functions for reunification are not allowed to be held. Such a situation calls for further strengthening the unity and endeavour of the pro-reunification forces in order to cope with the challenge of the anti-reunification forces.

The struggle for national reunification is in an acute confrontation between the patriotic forces for reunification and the traitorous forces for division. The United States and the sycophantic, traitorous south Korean regime have no liking for national reconciliation, cooperation and reunification and are driving in only clouds of confrontation and war, going against the national aspiration. Without frustrating such confrontation moves of the internal and external partitionist forces the north-south relations cannot improve nor can independent reunification be achieved, peace be brought about or prosperity be attained.

All the patriotic Koreans living in the north, south and overseas must resolutely smash confrontation and war machinations of the anti-reunification forces in firm unity.

National unity is the fundamental guarantee for strengthening the driving force of reunification and achieving independent reunification in reliance upon its might. National reunification can be achieved when all fellow countrymen place the nation's common interests at the top of their consideration and subordinate everything to them, irrespective of differences in their ideologies, ideals, political views, religious beliefs, property status and social standings.

All the Koreans must push the reunification movement forward more dynamically in firm unity, conscious that they are directly responsible for the solution of the reunification problem.

Kim Ja Yong

Malevolent Distortion of Criminal Sexual Slavery

AFTER TAKING OFFICE IN DECEMBER last year Japanese Prime Minister Abe said, referring to Japan's past crime of sexual slavery, that there was no evidence of the old Japanese troops' forcible mobilization of women as "comfort women" for them. The Chief Cabinet Secretary overtly expressed the intention to re-examine the 1993 Kono Statement that admitted the Japanese imperialists' crime of sexual slavery. Abe's foreign policy adviser said as follows: The Kono Statement, as a result of a past diplomatic mistake, turned the issue of "comfort women" into an international one. In this case Japan, a defeated nation, becomes isolated. The educational sector should hold that there was no issue of sexual slavery.

Early last century the Japanese imperialists, regarding it as a means of war to satisfy the sexual desire of their aggressor soldiers, forcibly took, kidnapped and abducted 200 000 Korean women and lots of women from other countries to be used as sexual slaves for the soldiers. The compulsion of the sexual slavery was proved by lots of relevant data and eyewitness evidence. Still, it is necessary to recollect what happened.

The Japanese imperialists' crime of sexual slav-

ery was an organizational one committed by the military of Japan with the backing of the government. As the Sino-Japanese War was prolonged and the area of their occupation extended, the marching units of the Japanese army each set up and operated "comfort centres." In the course of this there arose different problems. To cope with this the military authorities of Japan made sure that all problems related to the system of "comfort women" such as setup and operation of "comfort centres" and mobilization and control of "comfort women" were subject to their instructions. They cooked up and issued to the relevant units the so-called "principles" such as those of putting the mobilization of "comfort women" thoroughly under the control of the local expeditionary force and mobilizing "comfort women" in contact with and with the help of the local military police and gendarmes. This led to the full-scale forcible taking of women by the local gendarmes and the relevant expeditionary aggressor forces.

And, starting the Pacific war, the Japanese imperialists defined it as an important job of the military to give "sexual comfort" to their soldiers as a measure to raise their morale in battle, and set up a relevant department. Accordingly, a system of oper- ►

"Comfort centres" found in places where Japanese troops were stationed and Japanese soldiers awaiting their turn at "comfort centres".



► ating “comfort centres” was established from the top through units at the lowest level of the old Japanese army, and under the unified system Japanese aggressor troops committed crimes of sexual slavery. The then military authorities of Japan directly provided the expeditionary units with money necessary for taking and transporting “comfort women” and saw that the shipping and transport of “comfort women” to the destinations were done directly by, or under the control of, the army.

The then Japanese government also involved itself in the crime of sexual slavery. The fact that the head of the government held the post of the commander-in-chief of the armed forces during the Pacific war serves as undeniable evidence of the government's direct involvement in the military's crime of sexual slavery. The governmental organs that were directly involved in the issue of “comfort women” for the Japanese army included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, local consulates and, particularly the “government-general in Korea,” a colonial government organ which most frequently and actively took part in the procurement and shipping of “comfort women” for the Japanese army.

At the time the Japanese imperialists took a measure to legally ensure the procurement of “comfort women.” They fabricated an anti-ethical evil law called “ordinance of women's volunteer corps service,” thus institutionalizing their military's crime of sexual slavery. At the time Korea, as a region under the Japanese imperialists' complete military occupation, was suffering from a terrible military fascist oppression system from the central administrative unit down to those at the lowest level that watched and controlled all local residents in their life. Availing themselves of this, the Japanese imperialists drafted Korean women as “comfort women” through various routes.

They took lots of Korean women as sexual slaves by the method of mediaeval slave hunting. And pretending to be sympathetic with Korean women for their poverty they resorted to appeasement, deception, fraud and swindling to take Korean women to “comfort centres” under the cloak of helping them find employment or enabling them to make money for a long time.

Kidnapping was a major method for the aggressors to take women for the purpose. With the Pacific war enlarged they needed more and more “comfort women.” They mobilized the military police, gendarmes and even active soldiers to kidnap Korean women in numbers. The enemies, day and night,

searched streets, villages and even mountains for women, whether they were married or unmarried, under or of an age.

The Japanese imperialists overtly conducted flesh traffic for the procurement of “comfort women” and unhesitatingly dragged women for sexual slavery on the pretext of “delivery of young women to the government” or debt payment. A Japanese prostitute trader who was captured by the allied forces at the Myanmar front confessed that the Korean “comfort women” who had been taken to the area because of debts numbered over 800.

As the aforesaid facts show, the Japanese imperialists' crime of sexual slavery was an organized one of the country, not the one caused by the “voluntary demand” or “desire” of the “comfort women.” Nevertheless, the Japanese reactionaries are denying the crime in an attempt to shirk their responsibility and avoid making reparation to the victims.

Japan is resorting to every conceivable means to distort the crime and avoid the responsibility and the duty for reparation. The Abe administration's obstinate denial of the forced sexual slavery is prompted by their ambition to realize without fail in this century the old dream of “the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere” the Japanese imperialists failed to do in the last century. Actually, after Abe took office, Japan began to try to amend its Constitution with a view to making it possible for the country to exercise the “right to collective self-defense.” It adopted a resolution on increasing its war expenditure sharply and at the same time started drawing up the “guideline for defense programme” for the purpose of expanding the personnel and military equipment of the Self-Defense Forces. Meanwhile, the Abe administration is frantically attempting to distort the crime of sexual slavery as part of the effort to implant the militaristic outlook on history and idea of aggression in the Japanese people including the rising generations and hasten the resurgence of Japanese militarism so as to incite a public hysteria of overseas invasion.

At present there is ample evidence of invasion and plunder by old Japan everywhere in the world along with lots of the victims and their descendants still alive. Nevertheless, the Japanese authorities are trying to distort the heinous crime of sexual slavery. This is another crime added to the past one, which will lead to the international isolation and political ruin of the country.

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