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Front Cover: The 20th Taekwon-Do World Championship takes place splendidly in Pyongyang in September 2017.

Photo by courtesy of the KCNA



Back Cover: Service personnel and Pyongyang citizens jointly celebrate the complete success in the ICBM-ready H-bomb test.

Photo by courtesy of the KCNA

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Look Squarely at DPRK



Pyongyang citizens pledge to win final victory in the showdown against the US by means of an all-out effort of the nation (September 2017).

THE WHOLE LAND OF THE DEMOCRATIC People's Republic of Korea is burning with hatred and wrath. All the service personnel and people are fully determined to revenge themselves on the US, their century-old enemy, through a sacred war. Trump, holding the prerogative of supreme command of the US, shocked the whole world by going so far as to express at the recent session of the UN General Assembly his will to "totally destroy" the DPRK, unsatisfied with his wild talk about "maximum pressure and engagement" and "fire and fury." But the old American lunatic's absurd speech could neither frighten nor stop the country in the very least. The Koreans are the kind of people who hold their dignity and sovereignty dearer than their lives, and their country is a socialist power that voices what it wants to say and is advancing along the road of its own choice laudably and rapidly.

Change in Military-Dynamic Landscape

Look at the modern history of Korea, and you will know the country was the arena of competition of big powers. A French cartoonist drew a picture portraying a fish written with *Korea* biting the hook dropped by the persons which symbolize the big powers.

In view of the geopolitical position Korea lies between big countries and is bounded by the sea on three sides. Big powers dispatched their forces and warships to attain dominion over the country by

wielding the stick. Actually, there were all kinds of intruders—by either land or sea—into Korea. This resulted in the Sino-Japanese War (1894–1895) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905), and Korea which only had bows, spears and matchlocks lost its sovereignty without having a proper fight against the Japanese aggressors, and its people fell into colonial slavery.

The Korean people turned out for the anti-Japanese war with arms in hand in order to restore the country's independence, and thus accomplished the historic cause of national liberation through a bloody struggle. The US imperialists, availing themselves of the end of the Second World War (1939–1945), occupied the southern half of Korea militarily and started the Korean war (1950–1953) in an attempt to gain control of the whole Korea.

The young DPRK with less than two years' history had to have a hard fight with the US that was the first to attain the A-bomb in the world. In the so-called war between the rifle and the A-bomb the Korean people defended every inch of their motherland with all-out efforts at the cost of their blood. Having suffered repeated defeats in the front by the heroic struggle of the Korean people the US imperialists tried to subdue them with the A-bomb. Since then they have committed ceaseless nuclear blackmails and threats against the Korean people century after century. Meanwhile, the neighbouring countries of Korea and some other countries managed to get nukes after the US. The nuclear possession of the

- ▶ US imperialists and the neighbouring countries of Korea caused a change in the military balance in the Northeast Asian region, and an acute military conflict in the Korean peninsula might easily lead to a worldwide nuclear war.

Coping with the prevailing situation the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government demanded that the US agree to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and change the armistice agreement into a peace accord. Nevertheless, the Americans continued with their moves for a new war and nuclear threat, obsessed with the ambition of world supremacy. This was simply an urge to the Korean people to take nuclear weapons. For the purpose of defending the country's sovereignty and the nation's dignity with their own strength they acquired the position of nuclear power through several underground nuclear tests.

A south Korean journal which had produced special edition *The advent of sudden change in security topography* reported that the Northeast Asian region has already entered the stage of Game Changer. Today the DPRK has become able to make and launch artificial earth satellites; it is one of a few H-bomb possessors in the world, one of the six powers possessing ICBMs, one of the five powers possessing SLBMs and one of the three powers having mobile launchers. With the military and dynamic landscape changed completely, the American monopoly of nukes in the Korean peninsula has come to an end.

Korea Attains Higher Strategic Position with Independent Politics

After the end of the Second World War the victor nations had a persistent scramble to take a strategic position of their own. As a result Korea, despite the fact that it was not a defeated nation, was divided into two by the arbitrary choice of the big powers. To deal with the prevailing situation the Korean people rejected the interference of the outside forces and waged a dynamic struggle to build a prosperous independent sovereign state with their own efforts.

They strictly maintained and applied the principle of Juche in ideology, independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-reliance in national defence—in all sectors of the State building and social life—in order to keep national sovereignty and exercise it to the full. When the former Soviet Union tried to put Korea in economic bondage through the Council for Mutual Economic Aid, the Korean people firmly consolidated the foundation of the independent national economy. On the occasion of the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 they set forth the line of carrying on the building up of the economy and defences simultaneously and strengthened the defence capabilities with their own effort.

In particular, after the collapse of socialism in Eastern Europe in the 1990s the DPRK, holding high the banner of independence, Songun and socialism,

single-handedly crushed the moves of the US, the so-called only superpower, and other imperialists to isolate and stifle the country. On this road the Korean people wrested a letter of assurance from the US president for the first time in history, thus demonstrating the dignity of their country, and solidly safeguarded the nation's sovereignty by quitting the unequal Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and what else. As the days went by, the strategic position of the DPRK rose higher, and a lot of countries including those in Europe established diplomatic relations with the country.

Scared at the ever-growing position of the DPRK the US imperialists mobilized huge forces of aggression to conduct frantic nuclear war drills in south Korea and the vicinity of the Korean peninsula, aggravating the situation intentionally. Under the backstage manipulation of the US the UN Security Council, shunning the principle of impartiality, systematically fabricated anti-DPRK resolutions which are aimed at violating and stamping out Korea's right to existence and development. But nothing could check the advance of the Korean people. The more ferociously the hostile forces enforce pressure and blockade upon them, the faster the Koreans move ahead by dint of their own effort, technology and resources; the more harshly the enemy intensifies the scheme of aggression, the more firmly the Koreans regard it as the best opportunity to wipe out the origin of war on this land—this is the Korean people's mettle and fighting mode.

The WPK put forward the line of pushing ahead with the economic construction and the buildup of the nuclear force simultaneously in order to frustrate the high-handed policy of the outrageous and heinous US and other imperialists and firmly guarantee the nation's sovereignty and the prosperity of all generations to come. True to the line the Korean people are struggling vigorously to build a thriving socialist nation, holding high the slogan "Let us accelerate the victorious advance of socialism with the great spirit of self-reliance and self-development as the dynamic force!"

Commenting on this the world media is reporting that the DPRK has undergone a complete facelift for several years under Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's guidance, that the strategic position of the country has been placed on a new phase, and that the international community will watch it with a keen interest to see what will happen in the future.

The US alone has no idea of Korea. The industrious, resourceful and dauntless Korean people are blazing the trail towards the bright future firmly united behind their great leader. They will not deviate one iota from the road of independence, Songun and socialism they adopted, and will surely make the US president pay dear for his thoughtless words.

The world will clearly see that victory belongs to Korea and that extermination is suitable for the US that seeks world hegemony.

Kim Ye Ryong

In the Flames of the Mallima Speed Movement

IN RETROSPECT, THE SOCIALIST construction in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has never been a smooth sailing because the US and other imperialists have tenaciously clung to the schemes to isolate and stifle the country century after century.

A typical example came in the period of the country's Chollima upsurge. At that time, the Korean people engaged in the postwar rehabilitation and construction to heal the aftermath of the Korean war (1950–1953) unleashed by the US imperialists. The enemies were arguing that Korea would not be able to rise up again even in a hundred years, and the reactionaries at home and abroad were disturbing its rehabilitation and construction directly and indirectly.

At this juncture, the workers of the Chollima Steel Complex, true to the intention of their national leader Kim Il Sung, turned out 120 000 tons of steel billets from a blooming mill with an annual rated capacity of 60 000 tons. The flame of their collective innovation movement flared up into the torch for the grand march of Chollima across Korea. Holding up the slogan "Advance at the speed of Chollima!", all the working people across the country brought about a revolutionary upsurge in all sectors of the socialist

construction by taking ten or a hundred steps when others did one.

The spirit of the era created by the aforesaid complex, home of Chollima, swept the country like a prairie fire, leading to the miracle of completing the socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years.

Decades have passed since then. Now Korea is accelerating the building of a socialist power vigorously.

And the US and its stooges, who still don't want the country to be powerful and well off, are intensifying their unprecedented manoeuvres to suffocate it. So the Korean people regard the building of a powerful socialist country just as a struggle to safeguard the dignity of their socialist country and defend socialism. In other words, their building of a socialist power is a fierce confrontation with the enemies who are desperately trying to check the development of the country. The spiritual strength of the Korean people who are determined to surely win the confrontation is now fully displayed by the Mallima speed movement.

During his visit to the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un earnestly said that they should live and struggle in such a way as to answer the question of *Are you a Mallima* ►

Ryomyong Street, birthplace of the Mallima Speed.



The campaign to create the Mallima Speed is in full swing in all sectors of the national economy.



► *rider?* like their predecessors had done to perform miraculous merits to answer the question of *Are you a Chollima rider?*

True to his intention, the Mallima movement is in full swing across the country. The Spirit of Kangwon Province created as the model spirit of the Mallima era is strongly stimulating the Korean people's enthusiasm for the grand march of Mallima.

An example was set during the construction of Ryomyong Street, where the Mallima speed movement started. The construction of Ryomyong Street was a great project that required the construction of

over 40 buildings including a 70-storey skyscraper, high and many-storeyed apartment houses for over 4 800 families, nurseries, kindergartens and other public buildings in an area of more than 90 hectares, and the renovation of over 70 apartment and public buildings. In view of the existing formula it would have taken some years to complete the project. The builders, however, built the street into the people's ideal one representative of socialist civilization in less than a year while restoring the flood-afflicted northern areas in North Hamgyong Province.

To answer the question of *Are you a Mallima rider?* by emulating the builders of the street, all the people launched an enthusiastic competition to be the first to win the title of a pioneer or similar unit of the Mallima movement. All sectors and units strove to bring about a new upsurge in production by emulating the collective feats performed by the members of the Ko Kyong Chan-led Hero Workteam of April 5 Kumgol Mine, Komdok Mining Complex, who became the first to be honoured with the title of Workteam of Pioneers of the Mallima Movement.

This resulted in appearance of lots of model units including the Sangwon Cement Complex, the Suphung Power Station, the Tukjang Area Coal-Mining Complex, the Pupho Offshore Fish Farm, the Rangnang Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory, the Osoksan Granite Mine, the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory, Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University and the Korea April 26 Animation Studio, and successive amazing achievements from the campaign by which to overtake and learn from one another and swap experience.



Stirring

Song of Chollima Pioneers

SONG OF CHOLLIMA PIONEERS IS A reflection of the vigorous reality of the Chollima era. It reminds you of the historic era when the entire nation performed heroic feats and produced great creations under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

In December 1956 Kim Il Sung inspected the then Kangson Steel Works, when he earnestly told the workers that if they produced 10 000 tons of extra steel the following year it would relieve the nation of the great economic difficulty. He called upon them to stoke up the flames of collective innovation campaign true to the decision of the December 1956 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and use them to encourage all other working people of the country to make an upsurge in socialist construction.

Inspired strongly by the trust of the leader, the Kangson workers wrought a miracle the following year of producing 120 000 tons of steel billets from the blooming mill whose annual rated capacity was believed to be 60 000 tons.

Kim Il Sung initiated the Chollima workteam movement at the steel works where the Chollima movement started. The Chollima workteam movement rapidly swept through all factories and enterprises.

Addressing the National Meeting of Vanguarders of the Chollima Workteam Movement in August 1960, Kim Il Sung instructed that the movement should be expanded from the scale of Chollima workteam to that of Chollima workshop and then to Chollima factory and launched on a wider scale not only in industry but in all fields of the economy and culture.

Thanks to his wise guidance the Chollima workteam movement expanded and developed into a grand all-people forward movement. His energetic leadership given on his continued tours of factories and rural communities for effecting a Chollima upsurge brought forth the story of the socialist Korea

► The enthusiasm for collective competition was the key to working the miracles. The motive force for the acceleration of the grand march of Mallima for the building of an economic giant is self-reliance and self-development.

The sector of science and technology solved many sci-tech problems arising in activating the national economy, including the invention of the technology of producing electrodes for the UHP electric arc furnace and an unmanned production system of Korean style.

Important industrial sectors were made Juche-oriented, modern and IT-based, for example, the metallurgical industrial sector laid a firm foundation for producing Juche iron by successfully building an oxygen-blast furnace of Korean style, and the chemical industrial sector succeeded in establishing an acrylic paint production process.

The machine-building industrial sector strove to perfect processes to produce new kinds of tractors and vehicles and multipurpose farm machines in a serial way, and the workers of the Ryongnam Shipyard built and launched the trading cargo ship *Jaryok*.

And an underground protosalt water-based salt production method was invented, thus making it possible to fully meet the increasing demand for salt for the economic construction and people's life.

The agricultural sector laid a solid foundation for rich harvest, and fruit farms produced large yields of fruit and fishing ports were filled with large quantities of fish to the great pleasure of the whole country.

A modern quilt production process was installed at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, and lots of factories and enterprises were built including the Pyongyang Bag Factory and the Ryongaksan Soap Factory.

The great heyday of construction was glorified in: The Natural History Museum, the Central Zoo and other modern facility project were completed; the first-stage reclamation of Honggondo tideland was completed; and monumental edifices were erected across the country including Ryesonggang Youth Power Station No. 3 and Hungju Youth Power Station No. 3.

Now the grand march of the Korean people to create socialist assets is becoming brisker day by day.

Ri Jong Nam

Songs of Great Eras

- leaping forward like the legendary horse of Chollima to the tune of *Song of Chollima Pioneers*.

Gallop Farther, Chollima of Songun Korea

In December 2008 Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the Chollima Steel Complex, which is the birthplace of Chollima. Seeing a UHP electric arc furnace with the red molten steel in, he felt immensely satisfied. Setting a grand target and direction for the complex clearly, the leader said that the complex should make great flames of a new revolutionary upsurge the following year. Reenergizing the steel industry rapidly alone would make it possible to activate all other sectors of the national economy and reach the height of a thriving nation in 2012 when they would celebrate the 100th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung, he said, and expressed his belief that the complex would bring about another revolutionary upswing in the spirit and mettle they had displayed during the great Chollima upsurge. He noted that only when Kangson, the birthplace of Chollima, pulsated with vigour, would the whole country become vigorous, and that only when the workers of Kangson made a dash, would the entire nation get invigorated enough to hasten the general forward march at all units and in all fields of the national economy for the building of a powerful country. He reiterated his expectation that the workers of Kangson would stoke up furious flames of another revolutionary upsurge like they sparked the torch of great Chollima upsurge in hearty response to the decision of the December 1956 Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee in the postwar years.

The torch of a new revolutionary upsurge sparked by Kangson spread quickly all across the country.

The strong will of the entire nation to build a powerful socialist country without fail by riding the Chollima of Songun Korea that was provided by

Chairman Kim Jong Il gave rise to the famous song *Gallop Farther, Chollima of Songun Korea*.

We Are Mallima Riders

The song *We Are Mallima Riders* is ringing throughout the country as the march of struggle.

The Mallima speed movement initiated by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un became much more animated during the 70- and 200-day campaigns last year. The campaigns were a formidable battle to shatter to smithereens the enemy's vicious moves of isolation and strangulation and make a radical turn on all fronts of the struggle for the building of a thriving socialist country. The resolute all-people drives gave birth to a new era of Mallima.

In June last year Kim Jong Un inspected the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill. Saying he was there to see the workers making miraculous innovations day after day in the 200-day campaign of loyalty, he looked round a number of places in the factory.

Having understood details of the production and management, he praised that the factory's way of work was really admirable probably because it had been under the boundless care and trust of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. It was the best of all the factories he had inspected in those days, he appreciated.

He expressed his belief that the managers and workers of the mill would rush ahead forcefully by riding Mallima—provided by the Party—just as the older-generation workers raced against time by riding Chollima given by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, and thus honour their factory as model of the whole country in the era of Mallima as they did in the era of Chollima.

His trust touched all the hearts in the country, to say nothing of those of the mill. Living on the trust, the Korean people are developing the heyday of the revolution into a golden age.

An Chol Ho

Through Power Station Project



The Wonsan Army-People Power Station built on the strength of the spirit of self-reliance and self-development.

IN KANGWON PROVINCE THERE IS A POWER station the local people call Wonsan Army-People Power Station with pride. It was completed last year.

The power station now makes it possible for the province to fully solve the electricity and water problems, put its local industrial factories into full operation and provide the local residents with electricity for their everyday life. But they take pride not only in enjoying improved living standards and economic profitability thanks to the power station.

Recollecting those days when the construction of the power station, which had been stagnating because of economic difficulties, resumed, the vice chairman of the Kangwon Provincial People's Committee said, "We didn't regard the construction of the power station as merely a project to solve the power problem. All the provincial residents were determined to build it by their own efforts so as to demonstrate how they were rising above difficulties to the hostile forces that tried to stifle our country economically."

With the very determination all the local people

turned out in the project. But it was not an easy job. The dam construction required a great deal of labour and the excavation of a tens of kilometres-long waterway tunnel was attended by obstacles step by step. In particular, the completion of the last two-kilometre-long section of the tunnel was as good as a war with nature. This can be proved by the fact that it took more than three years to break through the section.

The tunnel project also needed lots of materials and facilities. In the face of the difficulties, some people often spoke about importing the materials and asking for help from the State. But the construction headquarters resolved to train drillers and tunnelling workers by themselves and obtain compressors, drill jumpers and bits and fuel by their own effort. All the local people themselves turned out and helped hasten the project by carrying the muck and mixture on boats they had made of tubes from the back wheels of tractors and drums.

Even when they were trapped by a sudden collapse of the tunnel roof, the builders never stopped



A consultation of officials on construction of a power station.

► working, and all of them joined in the dangerous work to pull down the watertight section.

Their such devoted efforts made it possible to complete the coating of the tunnel in a short period of only ten months—not the previously calculated period of over two years—and present the power station as a gift of loyalty to the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In December last year, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un visited the completed Wonsan Army-People Power Station. Then he said that the dam of

the power station seemed to demonstrate all the army and people's determination to throw in their lot with the Party even if the sky falls over and over again and the invincible might of the army and people who are firmly united behind the Party. Noting that if the people of the province continued to struggle in that spirit and way, they would be able to make the province into a civilized one in the near future, he expressed his firm belief that they would be the first to open a gate to a socialist power.

In April last Pyongyang citizens had a meeting with the builders of the power station in the city. At the meeting, Kang Kyong Hun, vice-chairman of the medium and small-size power stations management bureau of the Kangwon Provincial People's Committee, said, "While constructing some large-sized power stations in the province, we were firmly confident that the self-reliance and self-development is the only way for us to live and we can do anything if we turn out relying on our own strength."

The people of Kangwon Province are now striving to make a contribution to the building of a socialist power by setting a bold goal of building another power station.

Kim Chol Ung

Production is going up.



Area of the Land Increases

ANOTHER MIRACLE IS being made on the West Sea of Korea.

Officials and workers of the Tideland Reclamation Complex of North Phyongan Province, after completing the first-stage reclamation of the Honggondo tideland by setting new standards and records, buckled down to the building of the first bank in the third section of the second stage.

The second-stage reclamation of the Honggondo tideland is a gigantic nature-harnessing project for obtaining as many as 5 500 hectares of land by building a 20km-long embankment which links Taesamgot Islet to Sinmi Islet through some other islets.

Officials and workers of the

complex set a bold target to finish the project without fail in the period of the five-year strategy, not in the previously estimated period of over eight years, with the existing capability of the complex. The first-stage target was to finish construction of the first bank in the third section of the tideland in six months, not in one year as envisaged in the conventional formula.

They had to build the embankment while undertaking several other projects. To make matters worse, they lacked fuel, vehicles and accessories owing to the US and hostile forces' tenacious economic sanctions and blockade, and the winter wind of the West Sea challenged them.

The project demanded extraordinary courage and even self-sacrifice, but they turned out in it as one. After making the preparation for the second-stage project, they got down to it with a blasting of 70 000 cubic metres of earth on December 2 last year. Blasting rocks and earth every two days, they built 50-60m of embankment a day, 70 metres to the maximum, breaking thick blocks of ice.

Workers organized competitions by workshops and machines. To save the time of going to their lodging, quarrymen put up tents near their workplaces and pushed ahead with tunnelling and heading workers performed a quick succession drilling and blasting. ►



► Officials did their best to obtain spare parts so that vehicles could run at full capacity. Their efforts bore fruition: The embankment was built at a high speed.

But they encountered an unprecedented obstacle in the construction of the final section of the embankment. A 100m-long section of the embankment in the second district of Sinmi Islet tumbled down by the extrusion of mud layer. This phenomenon had happened over 30 times since the

beginning, but this was the worst of its kind. Every time they built the section, it tumbled down. Field officials with years of experience in tideland reclamation said that they had never faced such toilsome labour.

At this moment, an official recollected, “This happened during the tideland reclamation on Pidan Islet. We lacked many things, but we completed the designing and engineering drawing by placing the struts of surveying

instruments on our backs while we were on all fours in the mud. We ran and ran carrying earth and rocks on our shoulders and in our bosom while singing. We protected the final section of the embankment from the tidal wave at the risk of our lives.”

Looking back upon the days when their predecessors expanded the area of the land of the country, workers made up their minds. “We reclaimed the Taegyedo tideland, shouting the slogan, ‘Korea does what it is determined to do.’ Last year when we finished the first-stage project, our motherland spoke highly of us, and this year it put us forward as pioneers of the Mallima era. Let’s live up to the motherland’s expectation of labour feats.”

Fully aware of their strength, they overcame the extrusion as many as 60 times, thus completing the construction of the first bank in the third section of the tideland in mid-May last, four months ahead of schedule.

Soon the world will see a new map of Korea.

Sim Hyon Jin



Popular Lace Knitwear Is Produced

IN RECENT YEARS, *Kalmaegi*-brand knitwear produced by the Songyo Knitwear Factory is very popular among the people. The factory is producing varieties of knitwear including children's swimsuits, women's dresses, exercise wear, underwear for spring and winter, as well as seasonal clothes for girls.

Having completed the Lace Knitwear CAD for the production of elastic lace, the factory is now producing laces of various patterns. According to Pak Chol Ung, leader of the weaving workshop, the factory had produced laces of a few patterns with an RS-34 warp knitting machine until some years ago. But the people's developing material and cultural life demanded various kinds of laces.

The prerequisite was designing. So they set a plan for developing a new pattern editing program. Soon a technical team was organized with designer Pak Ok Ju and senior engineer Kim Hyok Chol and skilled workers at the weaving workshop. They were determined that they would develop the program without fail after getting a good understanding of the machine.

Pak Ok Ju visited the Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and the Grand People's Study House several times. However, it was not all smooth sailing. She had to experience failures in thousands of rounds of simulation experiments in developing the pattern editing

program. The technical group and skilled workers of the factory threw their weight behind her.

After completing the editing program, she made another program of editing ground patterns and pattern reed distribution. As a good beginning makes a good ending, after developing the program she engaged in the research of controlling the warp threads. The program notwithstanding, ground textures mixed one another and the lace was torn with holes when the warp threads were not controlled.

To find the exact value of controlling the supply amount of the warp threads, she kept on her research with other technicians. At last they completed the CAD, enjoying the support of the factory, and varieties of elastic laces were produced. It has now become

possible not only to produce various kinds of laces but wide laces, and a foundation for increasing the number of world-famous products has been laid.

As lace clothes are popular among women in recent years, the factory is exerting itself to present new designs of wide lace-trimmed clothes.

The Lace Knitwear CAD was highly appreciated at the 32nd national sci-tech festival held in April this year and took first place at the 15th National Invention and New Technology Exhibition held in the Sci-Tech Complex in July.

Now the lace clothes produced at the factory are favourably commented on by women. At present the employees of the factory are busy producing high-quality knitwear for the people.

Kim Il Ryong



Varieties of laces are made.

Key to Rich Harvest

THESE DAYS A PK compound nutrient solution developed by the life science faculty of Kim Il Sung University is regarded as a key factor in ensuring rich harvest in agriculture in Korea.

Officials concerned, who have used the new solution, say that when maize seeds are treated with the solution alone the per-hectare yield increases more than 500 to 1 000 kilograms.

There was a similar solution in the past. It was also a compound solution developed by a foreign company, and a county applied it to its farms, achieving good results. But the high price made it difficult to ensure its application on a nationwide scale.

Then, teachers and researchers of the aforesaid faculty volunteered to solve the problem. The foreign company argued that they would not make a solution as effective as its own however hard they might try. Actually, other companies in that country had tried to make a similar solution but in vain.

It was known that a certain photosynthetic promoter was the key to the development of the new solution. *What then is the photosynthetic promoter?* The substance could not be identified in the solution, and it did not reveal itself in a detailed analysis as well.

In order to find the unknown, highly capable material the researchers of the faculty widened the investigation of the relevant data, analysed the solution from different angles and studied its physical properties for several months. They finally succeeded in discovering the material.

Still, they had a lot of prob-

lems to develop the solution. One of the problems was to make the solution contain highly enriched microelements in such a way that the elements could maintain their individual properties as nutrients without reacting on one another. Especially, concentration of phosphorus had to be heightened. In this case the element would act on potassium and iron, producing a large amount of useless deposits.

Through a serious work the researchers successfully developed a method of concentrating the nutrients in their own way.

The solution was applied to paddy, maize, soya bean and other crops, which led to stronger stems, better rooting and faster growth and ripening.

An official concerned in Jaeryong County says that the solution is also effective as a photosynthesis accelerator in the rainy season, explaining that spraying of the solution on leaves obviously improves the photosynthetic capacity of crops even in that season with poor sunshine.

The characteristic indexes of the solution are superior to those of the previous one, while the cost is one fifth of the older one. So, the new PK compound nutritious solution won the first prize at the 31st national sci-tech festival held last year. When asked about how they achieved the success, Om Ki Su, head of the relevant department of the faculty, said, "Of course we had a lot of tasks, but we knew we scientists should first find the key to rich harvest ourselves. This sense of duty encouraged us to achieve the success."

Chae Kwang Myong

The researchers who have made highly-enriched PK compound nutrient solution.



By Their Own Technology and Resources

“THE IMPERIALISTS’ tenacious sanctions and economic blockade inspired us to further efforts. At last we’ve done it despite the bottlenecks and difficulties,” said Pak Pyong Cho, head of the technical development section of the Sangwon Refractory Factory of the Sangwon Cement Complex while introducing varieties of firebricks they produced.

The imperialists’ economic blockade and sanctions against Korea also affected the refractory production of the factory. The problem was heavy oil. With a great concern, the complex as well as the factory groped for a substitute material and conducted the necessary production process research. But it was very difficult to find the solution to the problem.

With the beginning of this year, the oil problem became more acute. The US imperialists, taken aback by Korea’s steady growth in comprehensive power, imposed unprecedented sanctions and blockade on the country.

This enraged and motivated all the officials, technicians and workers of the factory to struggle with redoubled efforts. Full of

ambition and self-confidence, they pushed ahead with the research to develop a refractory production process based on their own resources and technology. Other research institutes helped them in the work.

This, however, required many scientific and technical problems to be solved. Above all, they had to build a process for production of coal briquettes. What mattered was to solve the problem of the relevant bonding agent. There



The control room for anthracite gasification and high-temperature air combustion calcination processes.

After concrete and deep analyses, they decided to turn to anthracite abundant in Korea.

was a similar material used worldwide. But it had to be imported 100 per cent. This did not

Recycling of Urban Sewage

RESEARCHERS OF THE natural energy institute of the State Academy of Sciences applied a process for producing electricity and nutritive vegetable solution by using urban sewage to a farm greenhouse of Hamhung City. The process is designed to ferment liquid deposits of sewage to produce gas for use in running gas-engine

driven generators, and to separate the leftover into solids and liquid to produce nutritive solution and organic fertilizer.

The generators produce over 9 000 kilowatts of power that is used for operation of the production process and lighting of the greenhouse. And the heat of waste gas from the generators is used to ensure temperature for

methane fermentation.

The nutritive solution and organic fertilizer are used for soilless cultivation of vegetables. As a result, the greenhouse produces thousands of tons of vegetables per year. The method of soilless cultivation makes it possible to save a lot of money and produce vegetables 1.5 times more than soil cultivation. □

► suit the actual conditions of the factory.

Through repeated researches and experiments, the researchers finally got the scientific result that by-products from the cement production process could be used as a bonding agent. The complex abounded with the by-products.

Another problem was the calorific value of anthracite. The anthracite supplied to the complex was poor in calorific value, and

thus it could not provide the temperature for calcination of the refractory. So, it was decided to employ the high-temperature air combustion technique widely used in the metallurgical industry. This would make it possible to uninterruptedly produce the refractory with any anthracite regardless of its calorific value.

Soon the research team set about designing and manufacturing of the equipment. On the principle of ensuring profitability to the full, they designed the equipment in such a way as to use the infrastructure of the existing production process. They invented by themselves such facilities as a blower and a coal briquette moulding machine to suit the technical demands of the International Standards Organization. The officials, technicians and workers each presented one or more technical innovation schemes and inventions for the building of the new production

process, thus helping cut the building cost by half of the previously calculated.

As a result, the new production process was completed in a short span of time. According to a plan of recycling waste materials, washing and cooling water and anthracite cinders from the new process are used effectively. The washing and cooling water goes through a settling pond to be used as cooling water, and the anthracite cinders are used as cement additives, building materials or soil modifier.

Ok In Se, chief engineer of the factory, says, "However desperately the US and its stooges may impose sanctions and pressure, we are able to produce the refractory without letup. This time we have become confident that when we are determined, we can build any production process by our own technology and resources."

Kim Ye Ryong

Efforts are made to improve the quality of firebricks.



Insatiable Researchers

THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH is one of the most dynamic efforts in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the moment. One of these days I, as a *Korea Today* reporter, visited the Central Weather Forecast Station of the State Hydrometeorological Administration that plays the pivotal role in the research.

Welcoming me, Ri Yong Nam, a weather forecaster, said, "We have made serious efforts to improve the scientific accuracy in weather forecasting, and thus achieved a lot of successes."

These days the world is faced with an increasing density of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which causes abnormal climatic phenomena. The reality shows that the conventional weather forecasting system could hardly provide scientific accuracy and quickness in weather forecast as it depends on old observation and forecasting data.

Well aware of this, the forecasting officers and researchers of the station set a target of developing a far quicker and more precise forecast support system that would be fit for the local physiographical condition and environment. It was a project that demanded

the solution of enormous and challenging problems, including building a database on dozens of years of observation and forecast, estimating abnormal climatic phenomena and suggesting relevant countermeasures, considering specific physiographical condition and environment of Korea, and completing a more comprehensive and scientific analogue search system by improving the analogue scales and comparison standards. Even a small miss or mistake might lead to irreversible calamity to the lives and safety of the people and the economic development.

Undaunted at the formidable challenges, the researchers carried out the tasks one by one in close contact with teachers and researchers of Kim Il Sung University. In the course of this the database, the core of the forecast support system, was fully prepared, a rapid variables calculation process was established which is essential for analogue examination demanding high precision, and programs were designed to display the weather map and set up network-based communication.

At last the researchers developed and applied a weather map analogue examination system in a matter of several months. This new weather forecast support system helps to give a comprehensive and much more scientific forecast relying on the analogue-based examination of the factors of weather conditions while referring much less to old observation data and experience.

Weather forecasting is getting on a more accurate footing.



Bright Eyes

IN KOREA THERE IS AN OLD SAYING: THE eye is the pearl of the face. Considering the fact that over 80 percent of information necessary for man is the image information obtained through vision, the saying is not an exaggerated expression. This is why it is regarded as important today to put eye treatment on a more scientific footing and further improve its clinical and practical efficacy before any other part of the body.

The Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University has intensified inquiries to apply a cutting-edge technique to eye treatment, and finally developed a new visual electrophysiologic testing instrument. The core of this latest medical instrument, which measures bioelectric potential originating from the optic nerve system and diagnoses eye diseases according to the measured value, is the bioelectric potential amplifier.

On the basis of the principle that the optic nerve cells cause different electric potential value when they are exposed to photic stimulation, and that electric potential values differ at each focus, the members of the research team confirmed electric potential values suited to the constitutional peculiarity of the Koreans. And they also made it possible to magnify minute bioelectric potential 10 000 times by using the electromyography similar to bioelectric potential amplifier. As a result, relevant diagnoses, which were previously given by the subjective examination of doctors as there was no quantitative measured index, can be done on a thoroughly scientific footing.

This testing instrument can discriminate between the normal and the abnormal from characteristic end values and detect eye diseases which have the same symptoms as those revealed by macroscopic examination. In particular, it can diagnose exactly retinal diseases like retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy and other eye diseases with differ-



A visual electrophysiologic testing instrument.

ent symptoms such as ocular movement disorder and optic nerve disease. Today the relevant patients say in admiration that the instrument is a marvellous one which can find out quickly the cause of diseases which it was hard to decide how to treat, and that it is a treasure machine making it possible to treat with eye drops the diseases which was recognized by macroscopic diagnosis had had to be treated through operation.

Jon Yong Guk, a department head of the teaching hospital, said on the secret of their success, "The combination of insight into the world and self-development helped the patients recover from eye diseases, and enabled us to diagnose eye diseases."

The instrument is very accurate in analysis as it causes less clutter, and in particular, it costs one tenth of those of the previous equipment, so it is considered to be widely used in the future.

Chae Kwang Myong

► That's not all the researchers have achieved. In keeping with the developing reality, they refashioned the observation network and necessary facilities, and improved the time-analysing capability and density of meteorological observation by installing real-time automatic observation instruments in every corner of the country. The well-regulated consultation system involving all provincial branches of the Administration they have set up is going a long way to drastic elevation of the scientific accuracy of weather forecast through dynamic online discussions.

These days the researchers are positively applying to their projects the cloud and precipitation forecast support system, the integrated observation data analysis system, the typhoon forecast support system and other important results they have already obtained.

All forecasters and researchers contribute articles on their experience and general knowledge about weather forecast to different periodicals like *Meteorology and Hydrology* and *Information of Science and Technology*. A mobile phone-based data service system is also becoming perfect thanks to their effort.

Choe Kwang Guk, head of the station, says, "The public is getting more and more interested in hydro-meteorology, and we know we are not allowed to feel satisfied with our work. We have to continue to improve the scientific accuracy and speed in weather forecast."

Their effort is growing more energetic with international joint research and cooperation, and exchange of experience and relevant data.

Kim Son Myong



Kim Chol Ju University of Education

IN RECENT YEARS THE KIM CHOL JU University of Education has attracted people's attention by inventing new teaching methods to be exemplary on a nationwide scale. Grasping the importance of creating new teaching methods in improving the students' cognitive faculty and practical ability, the university paid primary attention to the relevant work. Officials of the university attached importance to invention of new teaching methods based on modern educational equipment as required by the developing reality. Through a collective dis-

cussion they reached the conclusion that students' ability could be further improved by employing a new teaching method based on organic combination of computers and various experiments. Then they had to create a model for developing teachers' discrimination.

The officials concerned inspected dozens of classes at work, gave the teachers creative opinions and helped them pool their wisdom so that they could perfect their teaching methods. As a result, there were created teaching methods to make it possible to ►



The administrators and teachers endeavour to study and introduce new teaching methods.

- ▶ do experiments and conduct two-way data exchange by making effective use of the environment of multi-functional classrooms. An experiment in physics can be cited. Previously, it was done only by experimental apparatuses. But now it is combined with a computer simulation. This encourages students to try to get the most accurate numerical values while judging the accuracy of an experiment and adjusting mistakes by themselves, and thus they can have a scientific understanding of the experiment's content.

The university then tried to generalize such successes. They saw to it that the developers of new teaching methods gave model lectures for all other teachers several times, that every department created a similar teaching method, and that teaching contests were held between departments. This further activated a campaign for overtaking and learning from others and exchanging experience. In those days teaching methods invented by three teachers of the university were generalized on a nationwide scale, and several teachers of the university took first place in two rounds of a national teacher training institutions' university teaching contest. And scores of its teachers received certificates of registered new teaching methods and the title of October 8 model teacher.

The improvement of the teachers' scientific and theoretical qualifications and teaching ability led to that of students' scholarly performance. The university produced students who took first place in a foreign language conversation and listening and quick reading contest of those from teacher-training institutions across the country. And members of the university's computer circle amazed the public by measuring their level with students from able central and engineering universities at the 41st ACM-ICPC Asia Pyongyang Regional Contest.

At a recent national meeting for presentation of experience in developing new teaching methods, Won Yong Suk, director of the university's teaching guidance section, said, "Our university trains teachers for junior and



A chemical experiment.



A foreign language lecture.



Practice in education.

senior middle schools. We have only made efforts to become models for the future teachers."

Kim Chol Ung

Cultivating Budding Talent

IN THE PAST WASAN Primary School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, was famous for women's football. Now it is well known across the country as a school with good educational conditions and environment and high educational standards.

Recently we visited the school, and Pak Kyong Suk, vice-headmaster, told us the following story.

After the Sixth Session of the Twelfth Supreme People's Assembly, at which the law on enforcing universal 12-year compulsory education was enacted, teachers of the school made innovative ideas connected with execution of new educational programmes. The law had moved them more than others. Aware of their direct responsibility for the educational work they demonstrated their high spirit in improving the educational environment. They directed utmost care to making teaching aids in order to turn the whole space of the corridors of the school building into places of education and edification.

It was when they were mak-



A discussion on education and visual aids.

ing a teaching aid, titled, *Be a Well-mannered Pupil*. There was a repeated discussion on representing the aid manners in the bus, over the phone, and between friends as suited to children's mentality. They decided to represent these scenes in cuts like a film. As those which pupils learn were portrayed in different styles and methods on the corridor and stair walls, pupils were attracted

to them and consolidated their knowledge while watching them with curiosity. Watching the teaching aids on the walls, pupils' parents said that they are silent textbooks which teach pupils what they as well as teachers want to teach. By drawing on this experience, teachers spruced up the drawing room, singing and dancing room, English studying room and IT room. When laying out the nature room, they displayed photographs and plant specimens they had taken or collected during school excursion. The room was laid out for lessons not only in nature but also in other subjects.

Then the school proceeded to create new teaching methods. One day the vice-headmaster inspected O Myong Hui's mother tongue lesson at work. The pupils were attracted unawares to the teacher as O showed several species of bean plants, explaining what kind of crop bean is and how good it is for human health. Then she organized groups of pupils and encouraged them to play a game of finding words with the

They learn dribbling skills.



► noun *bean* while clapping their hands. This method of teaching helped the pupils to find out answers after they grasped the essence of the question. In the lesson the pupils learned lots of words while playing the game. This kindled the flames of a drive for overtaking, learning from others and swapping experience among the teachers, and excellent teaching methods were created one after another.

In recent years the school has produced many model teachers and they were highly evaluated in teaching method seminars and teaching competitions. This year multimedia presentations and teaching aids associated with the teachers' wisdom were made and introduced in teaching. Kim Sol Hui, who took first place in a municipal-level teaching competition, says, "Teachers are often likened to gardeners. I wonder

how I would feel when my pupils become heroes and competent scientists. Cherishing this pride, I devote my all to education." Having gained rich experience in this preparatory stage, the teachers greeted a new school year this year when the universal 12-year compulsory education was enforced on a full scale.

The vice-headmaster says, "Enforcement of the universal 12-year compulsory education is not confined to increasing the teaching course by one year; it is a great revolution in education in perfecting the educational system and bringing about fundamental changes in the educational content, methods, conditions and environment."

Kim Chol Hyon



The cognitive faculty of the pupils is rising thanks to the radically improved educational environment.



Sixty-four Days and Nights



A consultative meeting to save a critical case.

EARLY IN MAY LAST AN emergency case was rushed to Chollima District People's Hospital in Nampho City.

The clinical chart reads:

Name: Kim Hak

Sex: Male

Age: 25

Occupation: Worker

Symptoms: Second- and third-degree burns on 75 percent of the body; 55 percent of the burns are of third degree; and in shock.

Doctors of the hospital gave first-aid treatment to the patient as good as dead for two and half an hour. There was held a doctors' consultation which was in a tense atmosphere from the beginning. At the time Kim Yong Chol, head of the orthopaedic surgery department, encouraged the members of the department, saying, "We can save him without fail if we sincerely treat him like we do our own brother or relative." In

fact they had rich experience in treating such cases. So the doctors and nurses believed that they could restore him to life on the basis of their experience and sincere treatment. Doctor Kim Rin Song, chief nurse Jo Yong Ok and nurse Won Hyon Ju were put in charge of the patient.

The treatment of the patient was like a battle. It took three hours at a time for all members of the department to dress the wounds. As it got warmer they exerted themselves to observe him. Nobody would leave for home even though it was late at night. They unanimously strove to bring the patient back to life. Four days had passed since they began the treatment in super tension.

Finally the patient was saved from shock. However, his condition was critical as he was in the state of burn poisoning. He was apt to die for he was unconscious with low blood pressure, high fever, fast heart rate, gasping, anasarca and tympanites. Moreover, he was not free from poisoning for over ten days as he had wide and deep burns.

All members of the department spent tight days. To

help the doctor in charge of the patient, Yong Chol took measures for raising blood pressure, stimulating the heart, neutralizing the poison and preventing the degeneration of the parenchymatous viscera, and applied ice and boiled onion roots on the burns. The application of boiled onion roots and hot stones on the burns was a combination of modern and Koryo medicines that had successfully treated similar cases.

And they used a burn ointment of their own invention to remove dead tissues and help the wounds skin faster. Then they shed tears of joy at the thought that they were now able to save him.

Fifteen days after the patient was taken to the hospital, he had an operation for skin transplant. The director and other senior officials of the hospital were the first to donate skin followed by members of the department and all other department heads and doctors of the hospital, and over 60 workers of the Chollima Steel Complex to which the patient's father belongs. It is said all the donors that day numbered 168. Three days later there took place the second similar operation, and not only members of the hospital but also 200 youth league members in the district volunteered to donate skin. The aforesaid department also put efforts in improving the nutritive conditions of the patient.

After scores of days of tension

Kim Hak (middle).



Top Shooting Coach

KIM CHOL HO, A shooting coach of the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club, is well known as a competent coach in the pistol shooting event. His career is largely associated with his father's influence.

When Chol Ho was a middle-school student, he used to visit the Korean People's Army Defence Sports Club where his father was a shooting coach. On those occasions his father taught his son kinds of guns and shooting methods. Especially, when the young boy saw people some years his senior practising the shooting, he made a determination to become a shooter in the future. Whenever he had spare time he went to the shooting gallery of his father's club, and the shooters offered him a "special favour," explaining in detail about shooting.

Later, he, after finishing the middle school, attended a one-year course of fast training at the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club, and grew up into a professional shooter. During his career he made fine records at several national competitions, and the State saw to it that he learned professional knowledge at the Korea University of Physical Education. After graduating from the university in 2001 he worked as coach at the aforesaid club. *I'll train world champions without fail*—this was his ambition.

He always had a deep thought to give scientific education and

training suited to the developing tendency of shooting skills in view of the fact that the physical preparedness of shooters differs from person to person. In the course of this he found out new training apparatuses conducive to raising the consistency of supporting gun, aiming and breathing control in pulling the trigger. He also introduced advanced training methods to improve efficiency of training. It is attributable to his sincere effort that Kim Song Guk became one of the top shooters of the DPRK in 2016.

While Chol Ho was selecting 50-m pistol shooters among his trainees, he noticed that Song Guk could maintain the shooting speed and posture even when he shot for a long time, getting remarkably high scores. Song Guk, however, often got low scores in the rapid fire. So, Chol Ho chose him for the 50-m pistol shooting. As this event is to shoot 60 shots in an hour and a half, players need to have perseverance and patience. The coach decided that the event suits Song Guk's constitutional feature and aptitude. Now an intensive training began under the positive guidance.

Chol Ho used different training apparatuses and methods lest Song Guk would feel bored with the daily repeated schedule. He made strenuous efforts to give him training on a more accurate footing in close connection with a researcher in charge of the event. When Song Guk reached a cer-



tain level, the coach would set him a higher target, making exact demands on him. As a result, Song Guk made his debut in the 50-m pistol shooting at the youth championships in 2003 and ranked among the top three. He won several gold medals and over 20 medals at a lot of domestic competitions. He also won medals at several international competitions. In 2014 he made a contribution for his team to rank among the top three places in the team event at the world championships held in Spain, and won a medal in the men's 50-m pistol shooting at the 31st Olympic Games.

Kim Chol Ho was selected as one of the ten best coaches and Kim Song Guk as one of the ten best sportspersons of Korea 2016. Now they are redoubling their effort to win gold medals at international competitions.

Sim Hyon Jin

► the patient was finally restored to life with the wounds completely healed unbelievably. Looking at him his parents said, "We never thought he would revive. The doctors and nurses and many other people donated skin for his sake and took sincere care of him. This made me keenly realize that

our system and our medical workers are really the best."

It totally took 64 days to cure the patient, and it was like a miracle. Asked about the key to the success, Kim Chi U, director of the hospital, said, "Warm love for and boundless devotion to the people—this is the secret of our

success. We'll continue to fully discharge our duty as doctors responsible for the people's health."

The revived man left the hospital, seen off by its members on the fourth of July last.

Kim Hyon Ju



Strongest Taekwon-Do Club

RECORDS OF THE Kangwon Provincial Taekwon-Do Club are attracting the attention of the public. Last year there took place the Jongilbong Prize national youth and school-children's Taekwon-Do championships, one of large-scale sports meetings held every year. A team of the aforesaid Taekwon-Do club won the total first place by beating all likely winners including that from the famously powerful North Hwanghae Provincial Taekwon-Do Club. Thus, the Kangwon team won two consecutive victories to the surprise of all spectators.

The club had not left any remarkable record in the nearly 20-year-long history of the contest.

Several years ago when they won a national Taekwon-Do technical innovation competition held in the province, the club set a goal of becoming the strongest in the country. The secret of their success at that time lay in scientific training.

From then on the club kept maintaining scientific training as

the main point in the effort to attain the goal. Coaches strove to develop special techniques to suit the constitutional features of their charges and find out proper training methods and knacks. And they made trainees develop muscles of the parts related to their individual events in particular, and pushed ahead with the invention and making of physical training instruments that could help harden all muscles of the body in accordance with the characteristics of each age group.

They also introduced in training a method of accurately evaluating the physical exhaustion, speed sensibilities and mental states of the trainees and adjusting the aspects to be helpful to the performers in competitions. In the course of this the trainees managed to master such difficult techniques as 180° turn and side kick in the air and 360° turn and free kick in the air, and the accuracy and power of their fist and foot blows reached a high level.

Meanwhile, the club made a plan of tactical measures to help

the performers fully display their special abilities in any complex situation of competition, and saw to it that training was intensified on the basis of the plan. This enabled lots of trainees to achieve good results at both national and international competitions.

The club has produced a lot of reserve performers, who are promising. One of the rising stars is Ro Kuk Hwa, a 16-year-old girl, who won the women's 52kg-category individual sparring event at the 12th Juvenile and 7th Veteran Taekwon-Do World Championships held in Italy last year. All the trainees are determined to become world-class Taekwon-Do stars. Coaches of the club are not content with this.

The deputy director of the club for technical affairs, says, "What is more important than immediate wins, I think, is to develop the trainees into qualified stars of my country, which is the home of Taekwon-Do. So, we still have lots of things to do."

Ri Kum Chol



Like My Mother

A CONFERENCE OF MAL-lima movement pioneers will soon be held. This makes me recall the life of my mother [Kil Hwak Sil] once a leader of the Thrice Chollima Workteam. She was born in May 1937 as a third daughter of a poor peasant family in Pakchon County (at that time), North Phyongan Province. Her family was so poor that its members had to put on the only clothes they had in turn when each of them was to go out. Moreover, my grandfather was disabled, so her family was in a woeful state. Months after the country's liberation (August 1945) her family received a field distributed by the State, and they gradually became better off. She and her brothers and sisters turned out in the building of a new country, in order to repay the benefit of the country even a bit.

Two years after the end of the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950–July 1953), my mother followed her maternal uncle to Pyongyang. Thinking of the miserable past days when she could hardly go out without her clothes, she began to work at the then Pyongyang Silk Mill with the determination to contribute to silk production. She had little knowledge, and she was small in stature. But she worked hard. Soon afterwards, she became a highly skilled worker and then a workteam leader.

She often recalled the days when she was working as the workteam leader. At the time her workteam consisted of over 70 workers, and 80 percent of them were war orphans. And they were different in personality and hobby. This often caused troubles in her work.

One day one of the workteam

members was absent from work. So she visited her lodging after work and found her seriously ill. She told my mother that she had a good stomach for eggs. Then she left on a trip without any plan even though it was late at night. It was hardly possible to get eggs for it was not long after the end of the abovementioned war and the people were not so well off. She had no other choice but to go to a suburb of the city. She found an old couple's house. Impressed by the fact that she walked tens of miles at night for the sake of her workteam member, the couple gave her ten eggs free. Later the woman followed my mother like her own sister, and she became famous as a model worker by effecting an innovation in producing silk thread.

Then, on the occasion of a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in December 1956, there was launched a drive for a great leap forward at socialist construction sites and a Chollima workteam campaign in every workplace under the slogan "One for all and all for one!", reflecting our people's intention to advance faster than others. My mother worked hard and devoted all her efforts to settlement of problems arising among its members in order to make her workteam a collective in which all helped and led one another. In July 1959 her workteam No. 4 of silk reeling workshop No. 2 became the first Chollima workteam of the mill. Later she took two backward workteams in her charge and developed them into Chollima workteams by employing advanced technology-based working methods including that of multi-machine operation. The work-



Han Jong Gum.

teams would overfulfil their annual plan by 10-20 percent.

In recognition of her services, the State conferred on her high decorations including Kim Il Sung Order, the highest honour for the citizens of the country, and the title of Labour Hero. Not only my mother but also almost all other workers became Chollima riders, and the mill's production results rose to a high level. Following in the steps of my mother's generation, workers of our mill are performing labour exploits in the van of the grand march for creation of Mal-lima speed to carry out the decision of the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. There is an increase in the number of those who fulfil their annual production plan through the campaigns for collective innovation including a multi-spindle, multi-machine tending campaign. Our workers will celebrate the aforesaid conference with increased production of silk thread.

*Han Jong Gum,
Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk
Silk Mill*

Real Attraction

RECENTLY I HEARD THAT SCHOOLCHILDREN started camping at the renovated Yonphungho Children's Camp located in Kaechon City, South Phyongan Province. So I visited the camp. As I walked along the verdant shore of Lake Yonphung, my eye was caught by the picturesque buildings of the camp with a flag fluttering.

I entered the compound of the camp, seeing campers go mountaineering singing cheerfully, and Ryang Chun Gil, head of the camp, welcomed me. He said, "My camp was established in 1983, and it is an extracurricular education centre for schoolchildren in the province. Recently it has been renovated on a modern basis. From April to October every year, we organize a week's camping for 700 schoolchildren at a time." According to him, the camp consists of a ten-storey building for lodging and boarding, a hall of culture, a sports and amusement hall, a video game hall, a boating ground, an open-air swimming pool, a playground for football, volleyball and other sports activities and welfare service facilities.

The head now led me to a comprehensive knowledge room on the first floor of the main building. The walls of the corridor I passed on the way to the room were hung with visual aids that give answers to such questions about common knowledge as "What is an animal's apparent sleep?" or "How can you distinguish an edible mushroom from a poisonous mushroom?" and that help schoolchildren easily understand general knowledge on history, geography and so on. Ri Pyong Ho, an instructor in charge of the room, said, "Here in this room students consolidate what they learned at school through stuffed animals, mineral samples, botanical specimens and multimedia data. And I suggest to them problems of common knowledge they will face while camping, and explain the problems so that they can acquire relevant practical knowledge during their stay here."

Then I came out to the open-air swimming pool that I was told the children liked most.

The head of the camp said, "Lake Yonphung and its vicinity have a microclimate, so it is cool there

even in a sultry summer. And waves lap the shore, so though it is inland, you feel as if you were seeing the sea from the coast."

I felt as if I were a child again, seeing children enjoying themselves swimming, boating and sailing on an excursion ship. The sports and amusement hall, the video game hall and the playground reverberated with happy laughter of other campers. ►



► Kim Chang Nam, head of the education department, said, “The children are also eager to go to the cooking practice hall that is provided with all conditions for them to cook rice and various other dishes for themselves.” When I entered the hall, some children vyingly invited me to taste the dishes they had made—they seemed to ask me to comment on their foods.

Now I made for the hall of culture, attracted by cheerful singing. A recreation party by class was under way there. Kim Song I, a student from Toksong Junior Middle School in Phyongsong, sang the

song *We Are the Happiest in the World* so well as to get an enthusiastic applause. She said, “I will never forget the pleasant camping days. I really learned a lot while enjoying myself during the dream-like period. I wish to come here again and again. I’ll strive to do better in my studies so as to become a scientist and add lustre to the honour of our country which regards us children as its kings and queens.”

I left the camp with the confidence that the happy children have a bright future.

Pak Un Yong



They enjoy camping days.



Traffic Safety Education Park for Children

SOME TIME AGO THE TRAFFIC SAFETY Education Park for Children was built in the Ryonmot-dong area, Pyongyang. Now the park is

What is conspicuous in the park is an outdoor practice ground. It consists of a street with three lines and inclined sections, a bicycle way, a tunnel, ►



Education is given to children and pupils to let them know traffic rules and regulations easily.

always crowded with children.

What catches your eye first in the park is a two-storey traffic safety education house in the shape of a car. Its exterior well matches the appearance of the park, and the interior is characterized by harmonious artistic quality and practicality. The house is furnished very well, including rooms in which children can get education on the traffic safety rules, the corridors whose walls are covered with interesting animation pictures on the traffic safety rules and the relevant common knowledge, the stairs with carved foot patterns on to show the order of traffic on the right, low cosy ceilings with beautiful chandeliers and flower-patterned decorations.

On both sides of the spacious central hall are simulation halls where pupils and other children can practise driving with aids. The house also has a room, where children can see 4-D films on the traffic safety rules, so it is always full of children.

On the first floor is a classroom, in which children of pre-school and school ages attend lessons on the traffic safety rules by an instructor who is a traffic officer of the Pyongyang Municipal Bureau of People's Security.



- ▶ an elevated bridge, a railway observation post, an intersection with overhead traffic lights, road signs and so on, all in miniature. The place enables children to experience various traffic circumstances by driving toy vehicles through the tunnel or past the crossroads as the traffic lights guided.

The park also has sections for amusements, physical training and playing with the sand lest children should feel boredom and dullness.

Kim Hyang, an instructor there, says, “Frankly speaking, I was at a loss what to do when I was tasked with teaching children the traffic safety rules in the park. But all the children who entered the park tried to learn more traffic safety rules and practise out of curiosity. This encouraged me, and I saw the future masters of a civilized power.”

Ri Song Chol



Spring

By Ri Myong



(Continued from the last issue)

3

USANG GI CAME WHILE Ok Ra Hyon was putting in her bag medicines necessary for treatment of Kwon Yong Sok. She found herself in quite an awkward position as she had to keep her countenance and behave herself as usual. So looking at Sang Gi's clear eyes, she blurted, "Do you have a problem on your eyes?"

Sang Gi, who was going to raise his hat to her, shrugged his shoulders.

"Sorry to hear that. Do I have to come here only when I have an illness? You have no idea except that, don't you?"

"Ho, ho, I think I might have caught in an occupational disease. All persons look like patients to me."

She blushed scarlet. Her reddening face and innocent figure, palatable like a ripening strawberry, aroused him. Now his heart seemed to burn with a passion for love. He turned toward a window. "Oh, what a wonderful evening! A lot of stars in the sky, pure love in

my mind... You light spring breeze, when will you return my pure love?... Ha ha! Why don't we go for a walk?"

Ra Hyon caught a glimpse of the wall clock, which greatly disappointed him and excited his suspicion—she had no idea of it. "I thought you were always busy. I have heard that there happened a special incident," she said.

"He will be caught soon. We have spread dragnets in many places. So I could have time to spare, and moreover I have something to say to you."

His words frightened her, so she paid no attention to the last sentence. They came out of the hospital. Still, she was worried about Kwon's safety.

Have they really spread a dragnet even around the ramshackle straw-thatched cottage out of the walled city? If so, I might be under their surveillance... I don't mind. I'm a doctor. But how about Kwon?

"I was here about this time yesterday. But the office was empty. You seemed to be busier these days," Sang Gi said. She halted in her stride because of his suspicious tone. She got angry all

of a sudden. "You also fell into occupational illness as a detective. Remember! As you know I'm a doctor so I have a duty to treat anyone, and anyone has the right to be treated irrespective of his political view or religious belief. I think medicine is a benevolent art, and life is more important than political view and religion. At any time you will see I've been loyal to my duty, and my conscience and mind have been clear."

Sang Gi's thick eyebrow twitched. *She is expressing again her view of the so-called virtue she always advocates. She might be ruined by the virtue transcending political view.*

In fact his affection for her was suddenly kindled last year. One midnight in the bad summer of the year he was wriggling with a sudden splitting pain in the intestines. His parents were so confused that they invited Ra Hyon. She examined him and diagnosed his sickness as acute peritonitis. She then said that as it was an illness of urgency he should have an operation without delay, and that otherwise he would be in danger. She was not a surgeon. So he was taken to the

► garrison's hospital to have an operation before returning to life. Since then, he regarded her as his saviour as she had diagnosed his illness correctly in time, and perhaps for that reason he began to have unusual feelings about her.

There were few passers-by on the street. Sang Gi said, "I would be happy if merely sympathy and good deed rescued our nation from poverty and starvation. It is impossible for a king, God or your virtue transcending political view and religious belief to relieve the people from poverty. Our children cannot help but blame us, their predecessors, for their suffering from hunger in rags. We Koreans were not free from the conservative and isolationist national character. Thus we rode donkeys with horse-hair hats on when others drove steam engines. In order to civilize this backward nation, each of the members must develop their ability and get aboard the engine rushing to modern civilization."

"Is that why you've become a detective on the Japanese government payroll?"

"That's thanks to my ability. I only overcame the backwardness of our nation by dint of my ability."

Sang Gi's father had sent him to a police school under the control of the Japanese government-general as soon as the private school was closed. His father, once owner of several fishing boats, now became an entrepreneur who monopolized the sardine oil refining industry in this area. So he needed legal protection of his ever-increasing assets. Sang Gi graduated from the police school with honours. But he was not

content with it. So he managed to get the post as a detective that even the Japanese thought highly of.

"Until now, I remember. It was maybe when we were in the secondary third-year class of the private school. You moved all the classmates to tears by reciting Mr. Ri Sang Hwa's lyric," Ra Hyon said. Coming across Sang Gi's outlook on life, she found herself missing their childhood in the past.

*Now it's a land of others.
Does spring come to the
deprived land?
Bathing wholly in the sun,
I walk and walk like
in a dream
Along the paddy path like
a parting of hair
To the horizon between the
blue sky and the green field.
...*

It was during a lesson. The boys and girls were looking with twinkling eyes at their teacher Song Min Cho reciting the poem in a deep and full voice, from the bottom of his heart, re-presenting the feelings of the lyric's hero who walks along a steamy paddy path like a woman's parting of hair in spring. Then his tone was mixed with a heart-rending long-drawn sigh like that of a peasant shedding bitter tears at cereals that wilted in the scorching sunlight of the dog days. "You closed sky and field," he went on, now in a sorrowful, hoarse voice. "I do feel choked. Open your lips." And he failed to go ahead unable to repress his tears.

Then Sang Gi sitting in the front row rose and began to recite the following, reflecting Song's feelings.

*Give me a hoe.
I want to walk and walk on
the soil as soft as ample bosom,
And I want to sweat to
the full.
...
But now the field is lost,
And even spring is lost...*

Sang Gi, who was reciting while calming down his surging sorrow, broke into sobs without finishing the last passage. This immediately made all others in the classroom burst into floods of tears. Ra Hyon shed tears embracing her neighbour. But one child remained calm. It was Kwon Yong Sok, who was only obstinately looking out of the window with burning eyes below his budding forehead while gnawing at his underlip....

"Perhaps it was a childish feeling, I think. That day Mr. Song's reciting of the poem seemed to excessively represent the sufferings of our nation. We were too innocent to know how things were developing in the world," said Sang Gi. He seemed to be horrified to recollect his childhood. Ra Hyon felt unpleasant at his stale talk about his childhood soul as clear and pure as crystal.

"Honest and simple childhood soul is like a mirror of life. How dare you insult that pure soul? I think I have never felt our nation's sufferings from the bottom of my heart like in that lesson."

Sang Gi only walked silently. He was lost in thought while twitching his mouth. Then he suddenly snatched willow branches swaying above his head.

(To be continued)

Kumnung Sports Centre



A shooting gallery.



An aerobics room.



KUMNUNG SPORTS CENTRE which is housed in a two-storyed building started operation only three years ago. It has earned fame quickly, and now it is crowded with a lot of people as the centre is equipped with different facilities good for improving health and relieving fatigue in people of different ages, mentalities and physical conditions. Especially, table-tennis, aerobics, squash and gym are the most popular.

Kim Jin Hyok, teacher of Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, after winning single table tennis game with his merit of cut and backhand shot, said, "It is an old story that I had too little time to do exercises since I am a teacher. I come here every Sunday. I think I'm attaining not only table tennis techniques but also a great asset for education of younger generations."

The aerobics room with combination of restrained and swinging music echoed is spectacular. It

is intended for women in general. A lot of women are absorbed in improving their waist and leg muscles, oblivious of the passage of time.

Jang Kum Ju, service worker who learned aerobics at the Korea University of Physical Education, said, "Clients say pleasantly that they feel very refreshed after receiving kind services from workers with ample knowledge and experience in the field. Their words renew my sense of duty—I know I bear an important task."

She added that not only women scientists and teachers but also women officials take their pleasure in the centre and that she would redouble her efforts to train her clients scientifically in accord with their different ages and constitutions.

We came to hear an exciting story from Kim Chol Su, worker of the Ryuwon Footwear Factory in the squash room. To those who were envious of his stout body, he said boastfully, "I used to lose my

appetite due to a digestive disorder. But I got a good appetite playing squash after the day's work. Now I have developed muscles all over as you see."

The most attractive is the gym with hand apparatuses. The room is filled with a dozen kinds of equipment in more than 20 units, including leg press, chest press, shoulder press and mechanism treadmill.

Clients build their bodies as well as conduct physical training of their body parts—arms, legs and abdomens—keeping step with Kim Yon Hui, a service worker.

The centre is also furnished with a bathhouse, a swimming pool, a shooting gallery and a restaurant.

Ri So Hyang, a service worker, said, "A flower in a rich ground has greater fragrance. Seeing our clients full of enthusiasm and animation, we are determined to work harder for our service."

Ri Chung Ho



A gym.

Veteran Speed Skater

NOT LONG AGO I MET People's Athlete Han Phil Hwa at the Ice Rink. In the 1960s and early 1970s she was a famous speed skater who caused a great sensation in the speed skating world. Though past 70, she is as enthusiastic as in her girlhood.

Star on the Ice

Born in Nampho City, Han was good at basketball, volleyball, leaping, long jump and all other sports.

One day, when she was active as a racer of her school, Kim Nam Uk, the school's physical education teacher, asked her, "We're going to form a skating circle at our school. Don't you want to join it?"

Han had never gone skating. As a matter of fact, she was regarded as a promising racer because she had taken second place in the 100-metre sprint at a national sports meeting.

If I skate, she then thought, I may run faster on the ice than on the ground. So she unhesitatingly accepted the teacher's suggestion.

As she was in a good physical condition and had learned track and field first, she got the knack of speed skating in several days which would take others several

months. Twenty days after beginning to skate, she took second place at a national middle-school students' skating competition. This enabled her at the age of 16 to be selected as a member of a national team.

At that time they were undergoing a lot of difficulties in training as it was not long after the ceasefire of the Korean war. The most difficult problem was the skates. With unshapely skates on they could hardly take part in international competitions. Then they received fine skates from Kim Il Sung, national leader of Korea. With a pair of the skates on Han achieved an amazing success at a world speed skating championship held in Japan in February 1963. Especially she made a new record in the 500-metre race of the championship. She also did well in the 3 000-metre race at the 9th winter Olympics held in Innsbruck, Austria in February 1964, and her name was inscribed on the signal tower symbolic of the Olympics in Innsbruck. The world press

widely commented that Asian woman Han Phil Hwa smashed the myth of Europeans' obtaining the exclusive possession of medals at the winter Olympics.

Han went on to achieve successes in many other international competitions, making a reputation as a star on the ice and a world-class speed skater.

Her country awarded her the titles of Kim Il Sung Prize winner and People's Athlete.

Zenith of Happiness

Han's family was rather ordinary. Her father was a farmhand before Korea's liberation from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, and he died when she was 6. So she always envied other children their fathers.

She attended the Korea University of Physical Education



Han Phil Hwa (second right) instructs coaches to give scientific and technical training to the players.



after finishing her career as a skater. After graduation from the university she married a speed skating coach. On their way to and from work the couple often had a discussion about how to develop the ice sports of the country. The husband treasured the

National Intangible Cultural Heritage (12)

Terrapin Dish



TERRAPINS LIVE IN several rivers and lakes in Korea.

Koreans have widely used the reptile for food and as a valuable tonic. Its meat, carapace, head, blood and bones are used as materials of Koryo medicines.

In view of Koryo medicine, terrapin meat helps detoxify and strengthen the body, make up weak points, ensure balanced nourishment and make blood in the body. As the meat contains plenty of animal collagen, copper and vitamin D it can make the body more resistive and adjust the endocrine function of the body. These days the meat is in great demand since its anticancer function has been proved

scientifically.

The country saw to it that the terrapins living in some areas including Kurak-ri of Singye County, North Hwanghae Province were designated as precious natural monuments, and is protecting and multiplying them positively. The Pyongyang Terrapin Farm is now cultivating the reptiles in numbers. Now the Delicacy House under Okryu Restaurant serves various kinds of famous dishes made of terrapins from the farm, including terrapin meat soup, terrapin egg soup, terrapin porridge, terrapin broth, terrapin fry, steamed terrapin, hard-boiled terrapin, seasoned slices of raw terrapin and terrapin tea. Having set an ex-

ample in making terrapin dishes, the house often organizes a course to pass on the technique of making terrapin dishes.

The terrapin dishes are widely spread through the cooking festival held in celebration of the Day of the Sun, a national dish contest and a national dish show, all held every year. The Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce and cooking schools, catering establishments and hotels in Pyongyang and other provinces, have selected terrapin dishes as famous ones and teach the relevant cuisine.

Now the terrapin dishes are becoming more popular day by day.

Rim Ok

► wife and assisted her in her work as an athletic instructor. But he died unexpectedly. Then the unforgettable past days rose before her mind.

In 1966 a sudden illness was threatening her life. She and her mother and brothers and sisters were driven to despair. Then a medical team was formed with able doctors for her, and expensive medicines were administered unsparingly. This was a measure Kim Il Sung had taken after being reported about her condition. He said that her disease should be quickly treated so as to bring her back to health, and he often acquainted himself with the process of her treatment. Thus she recovered from the illness.

In 1986 she was troubled with

a disease once again. Then Chairman Kim Jong Il took a measure for the treatment of her disease, and provided her with tonics. Thus she got well again.

The memory of the past encouraged her to brace herself. She worked at important posts of the sports sector.

After graduation from the aforesaid university, her daughter became a mother with two children, and developed into an official of the sports sector.

Han made a speech at the 7th national conference of sports-persons held in 2015. When the conference participants posed for a souvenir picture, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un recognized her and warmly shook hands with her. All the other participants

envied Han her honour, and she shed tears of emotion. Earlier in 2012 the Supreme Leader sent a birthday feast to her on her 70th birthday.

When posing for the souvenir picture with the leader she said to her father and husband inwardly, "I am not lonely at all because I live under the care of the great leaders. It is a far greater care than that between blood relatives. Now I know I am the happiest. I will continue to work on the ice to return their benevolence."

Now Han works as an official at the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports and vice-chairman of the Asian Skating Union.

Rim Ok

Though Disabled

ONE DAY SIX YEARS AGO a little schoolboy was rushed to a central hospital. The nine-year-old, who had lost consciousness in an accident, was Kim Yong Rok from Chollima District, Nampho City. Doctors of the hospital managed to bring him back to life, but he lost his two hands because of fatal injury. After coming to his senses he would not speak, and ate little. This worried his parents very much.

One day he went out for a walk and was seated deep in thought in the hospital compound's quiet resting place. At the moment a man approached and asked him why he was there alone. It was Kim Song Chol, a department head of the hospital. The boy dropped his head silently. Now Song Chol noticed that he had lost his forearms, and could understand the boy's mind.

From then on the doctor often met the boy to give him tonics and palatable dishes. Sometimes he spent a pleasant time with the youngster, telling interesting stories. Now the boy came to be fond of the doctor, calling him uncle.

One day he went out for a walk, when the doctor saw him going to a quiet place to avoid other people. Then he said to the

boy, "Yong Rok, don't be shy anywhere at all. Our country legally protects disabled people and helps them realize their wishes. Have self-confidence, and you will find what you can do. What is important is to have confidence."

What can I do? The boy always thought. One day, while having a walk together with the doctor, he heard sounds of table tennis coming from somewhere. Out of curiosity he headed there. While watching boys of his age pleasantly playing ping-pong, Yong Rok asked his uncle if he could learn to play it. "Sure," the doctor said and began to teach the boy the ABC.

The boy made a rapid progress. After leaving the hospital he continued to learn table tennis from his classmates.

With the passage of time his enthusiasm grew stronger. Then he went to meet people good at the sport to have a match and improve his skill.

In 2015 two years after he began to learn table tennis, the boy won the table tennis singles at a Nampho City table tennis competition of disabled people sponsored by the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled (KSAD).

The KSAD recognized Yong Rok's high skill and allowed him to take part in a national disabled people's table tennis competition to be held in Pyongyang the following year. He then was trained in the sport under the professional guidance thanks to the association's officials. Thus he won the table tennis

singles at the competition held in spring, and took third place in the same category at the next round of the competition held in autumn. Now he became a promising player, drawing the attention of experts.

One day, during his training for the competition in 2017, Yong Rok was startled to read the competition program, which specified doubles alone for the coming disabled people and table tennis fans' spring competition.

Who should I take for my partner? He thought. Then he learned from the KSAD that Kim Song Chol was to participate in the competition. He wanted to play doubles with his uncle who had taken care of and guided him like he would do his own child. So he went and told the doctor his desire. Seeing the boy who had grown up well physically and mentally, the doctor said, "I knew I'd have this day. Let's play together and win the game without fail."

The spring competition consisted of disabled persons and table tennis fans' doubles, table tennis fans' doubles by age and table tennis fans' mixed doubles. What was attractive was the first doubles.

The boy and the doctor went for the first doubles, and unfolded exciting scenes. They won the event and received the trophy, gold medals and diploma.

When lots of spectators asked Yong Rok how he had won, he said, "I have nothing special. I could grow happily without any worry because I live under the disabled person protection policy of the benevolent socialist system. Here in our country everybody can realize their hopes to their heart's content."

As a registered player of the KSAD Yong Rok is now engrossed in training to win competitions at home and abroad.

Pak Thae Ho

Kim Yong Rok (left) wins first place at the disabled people and table tennis fans' competition in the spring of 2017.



Heritage Conservation Work Gets Momentum

SOME DAYS AGO, KOREA Today reporter Choe Sol Mi had a talk with Ro Chol Su, vice-director of the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage. Excerpts:

Korea has long regarded the conservation of national heritage as an important work to carry on the nation's history and bloodline and put primary efforts in the undertaking, I think.

As you know ours is a civilized country with a long history spanning five thousand years. It has lots of valuable cultural heritage including edifices, ancient tombs, pictures, sculptures and ceramics, all showing the extent to which the nation's culture developed.

But the Japanese imperialists' policy of obliterating the nation's culture during their occupation of Korea resulted in serious distortion of the Korean history and destruction and plunder of lots of cultural relics and artifacts. After the national liberation on August 15, 1945, the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) set it as a consistent policy to survey and properly preserve and manage the national heritage on a nationwide scale and has pushed the undertaking steadily.

The Presidential Decree No. 35 of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) *On the Careful Preservation and Management of Cultural Sites and Relics* issued on July 11, 1985 stipulated the establishment of a system whereby certain entities take charge of the cultural

sites and relics, and the fixing of April and November each year as months for their protection. This provides a foundation for conducting the cultural heritage preservation as a nationwide and all-people work.

Would you tell me in detail about the work?

As the central authority for the cultural heritage preservation, we have relevant branches in all provinces, thus establishing a regular system for its unified guidance in the work. In addition, the provincial, city and county people's committees put organs, enterprises, cooperative farms and schools in charge of the local historical relics, scenic spots and natural monuments so that the work has been conducted as an all-people undertaking. And the work goes intensively in April and November, the months for the protection of cultural sites and relics.

In recent years certain progress has been made, I think.

First, many relics have been unearthed. For example, relics from the early years of the Palaeolithic era were unearthed in Tongam-dong, Sunchon City, South Phyongan Province in October 2015; and those from primitive and ancient times in Ungsang-dong, Sonbong District, Rason City in 2016.

And the study of national classics has intensified, including translation and publication of *Jungbomunhonbigo* in March 2017, and lots of books on historical sites and relics and folk customs and tradition have been



Ro Chol Su.

published.

Meanwhile, much more tangible, intangible and natural heritage have been unearthed and collected. In this course, Koguryo tomb murals and several historical relics in Kaesong City were registered in the list of the world cultural heritage.

I believe that the work will be more briskly conducted.

As required by the developing reality, we are putting the work on a scientific basis. In close cooperation with scientific research institutes, we are intensifying the research to produce pigments for red and blue painting and a reagent for preservation of the painting by introducing our own new sci-tech achievements. We are also conducting the work to prepare a database related to all historical sites and relics, scenic spots, natural monuments and intangible cultural heritage and exchange relevant information with our foreign counterparts and international organizations.

Thanks to the WPK's consistent policy of preserving the national heritage, the public interest in the work will increase day by day. □

Traces of War Still Remain

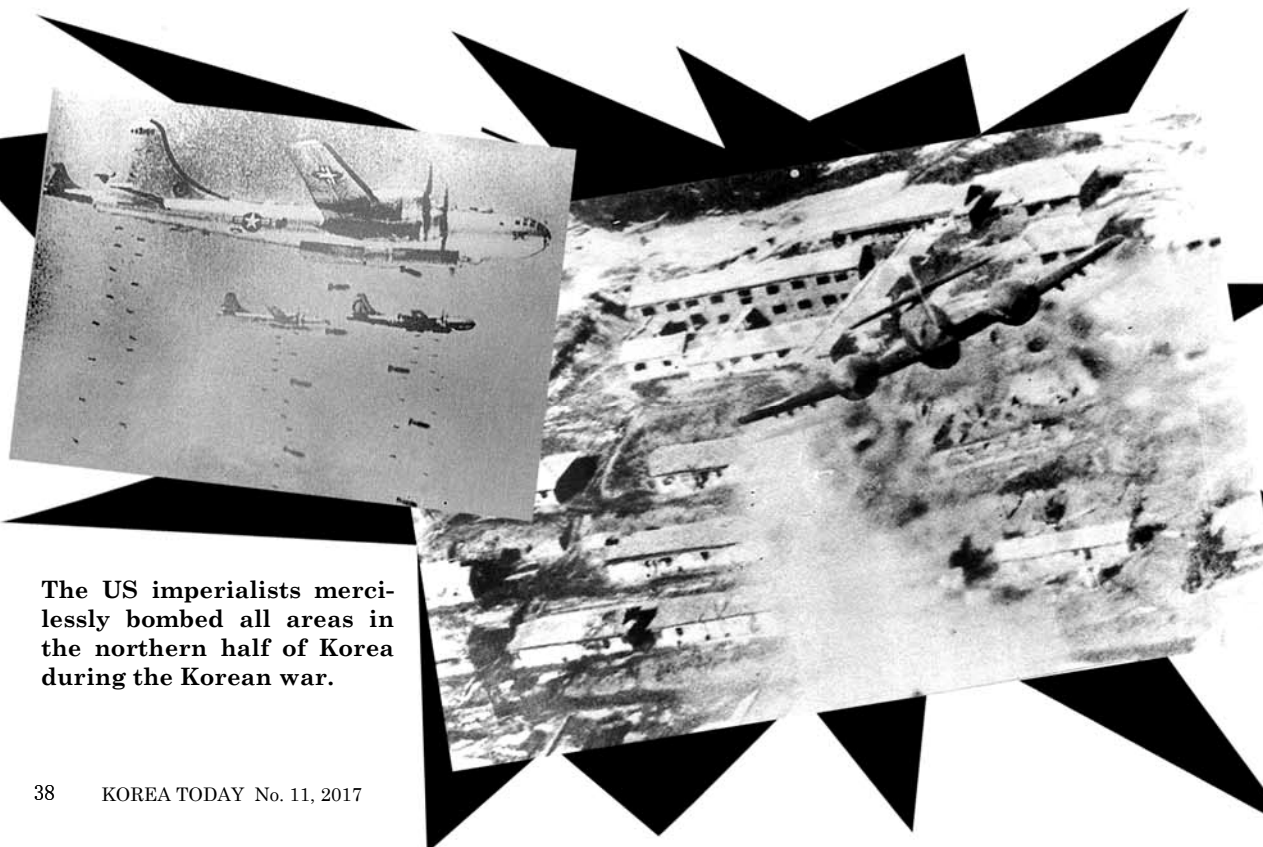
A FEW YEARS AGO members of a West European NGO delegation looked around the construction site of the Wisong Scientists Residential District, when they saw an unexploded US-made butterfly bomb unearthed there. They were shocked to know the fact that such lethal bombs were used by the US imperialists in large quantities during the Korean war (1950–1953) over 60 years ago. They had never imagined that the butterfly bomb, whose use is prohibited internationally, was buried in this peaceful land where people are working full of joy and optimism at their workplaces. The “heinous bombs” that are found from time to time today vividly testify to the fierceness of the war.

In the Korean war the US

imperialists used in bulk all kinds of bombs, even napalm bombs, butterfly bombs—a kind of today’s cluster bomb—germ bombs and poison-gas bombs for causing both tears and suffocation, which were and are banned by international conventions, turning the whole land of Korea into ashes. Talking they would completely remove 78 north Korean cities from the map so that there would be left nothing to be swept, they dropped about 600 000 tons of bombs in all regions of the northern half of Korea, which was equivalent to 18 bombs per 1 km², amounting to 3.7 times more than those they had dropped in Japan proper during the Pacific war (161 425 tons). The then commander of the bomber corps of the US Far East Air Force, in the MacArthur

hearing, testified that almost all parts of the Korean peninsula had been destructed in the American Air Force’s bombings in the early Korean war...with no safe place worth being called street.

From the outset of the war the US applied “strike,” “scorched-earth” and “strangulation” operations. In the three-year-long war the US Air Force made 800 000 sorties and the planes of the US Marine Corps and Navy over 250 000 sorties over the northern half of Korea, 85% of which targeted peaceful establishments and civilians. The bombs and shells they poured recklessly caused unimaginable manpower, material and environmental damages, and the unexploded ones, buried in the mountains, rivers and streams, and shores of seas of



The US imperialists mercilessly bombed all areas in the northern half of Korea during the Korean war.



Some of the cleared US-made explosives.



► Korea, have been a constant threat to the lives and wealth of the Korean people since wartime.

In September 2010 a 1-ton bomb dropped by the Americans was found in the five-metre-deep water in the Taedong River near the May Day Stadium, and in 2012 more than 70 bombs were discovered at the construction sites of the Munsu Water Park and the Mirim Riding Club. In 2014 six 250-kg bombs and 900-odd shells were removed from the construction site of the Mirae Scientists Street. And over 37 000 explosives including three 500-kg bombs were dug out in the Sepho area where the construction of a stockbreeding base was underway.

This year over 760 dud explosives involving eight 500-kg bombs and ten 250-kg bombs have been cleared in Kungang and Kosong counties, Kangwon Province, which were heavily bombarded by the Americans during the Korean war. In the Yonbaek area they have cleared over 58 000 mines which were laid by the US imperialists during the war, and over 2 800 explosives were removed along the railways in Unjon County which had been buried for scores of years. For over 60

years since the Korean war, no less than 800 000 explosives of American make have been removed throughout the northern half of Korea. Of them over, 350 000 were dud butterfly bombs.

Still, the US imperialists are running amuck to inflict a nuclear holocaust on this land, the one that will be incomparably more calamitous than those of Hiroshima and Nakasaki. They, lamenting that it is regrettable that they failed to use A-bombs in the Korean war, have turned south Korea into the largest nuclear arsenal in the Far East by shipping into it a huge amount of nuclear missiles, atomic guns, backpack nukes, nuclear mines and even neutron bombs, accelerating preparations for a nuclear war.

This year, too, the US mobilized means of pre-emptive nuclear strike including nuclear-powered carriers *Carl Vinson* and *Ronald Reagan*, a nuclear-powered submarine and B-1B nuclear strategic bombers and waged Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises frantically, which are geared to a nuclear war. Worse still, it shipped into south Korea the THAAD equipment without notice, which

is causing a concern for the neighbouring countries, and rapidly deployed long-range air-to-surface missiles at the US air base in Kunsan, which are aimed at the major objects in the DPRK. Some time ago *South China Morning Post* of Hong Kong, China, commented that the US's pre-emptive strike on north Korea is not impossible at all, and that that strike can be a "triple air raid" using a new kind of blockbuster, a submarine-launched cruise missile and a strategic bomber.

If one truly needs peace, one should be ready for war. In order to prevent the cloud of war from scudding to the blue sky of the country where children sing merrily and people live a happy life, the Korean people have prepared a powerful nuclear deterrent while tightening their belt. The test fire of intercontinental ballistic missiles Hwasong 14 in July last demonstrated Korea's practical ability to strike the heart of the US. The traces of the past Korean war on this land of creation and construction teach the Korean people that great national strength alone can provide eternal peace on this land.

Kim Ye Ryoung

Eight Famous Scenes on Mt. Paektu (3)



Blizzards of Paektu.

Blizzards of Paektu

THE BLIZZARDS OF Paektu throw up white snow and raise raging waves in the blue water of Lake Chon to beat against rocks and cliffs on the lake, rending heaven and earth. Owing to the topographical feature of Mt. Paektu—it soars high in the northern plateau—the snowstorm rises for more than 230 days a year, and the maximum wind speed is 60 metres per second and the maximum instantaneous wind speed is 78.6 metres per second on Janggun Peak.

The snowstorm peculiar to Mt. Paektu accompanied by a cutting wind creates a fantastic and marvellous phenomenon. The snowflakes of the mountain are much smaller in structure than those of flatland, and they are character-

istic of much less humidity and sharp coldness. So, when a snowstorm blows in the mountain, a mountain of snow appears and disappears several times a day like a sand dune in the desert is moved by a fierce gale. In particular, when there is a biting wind in winter, the snow piled up scores of metres deep on a ridge and a ravine disappears to a faraway forest in an instant.

In October 2014 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un went up Mt. Paektu in the blizzards of Paektu which were shaking heaven and earth. Saying that only those who experience the blizzards of Paektu can understand the genuine quality and attraction of the mountain, he solemnly stated that they should go along the road of revolution to the last without forgetting the ►



Janggun Peak.

► blizzards of Paektu that deepen their revolutionary faith and enhance their confidence in final victory.

Janggun Peak Commanding a Bird's-Eye View of the 3 000-ri Land of Korea

The Janggun Peak (2 750 m above sea level) is the highest among the peaks on Mt. Paektu and the highest one in Korea. The top of the peak protrudes about 45 metres towards Lake Chon. The protruding part forms a two-metre-wide precipice from the wall of the crater, its front form-

ing about five-metre-wide cliff. When looking at the peak frontways, you can find both flanks very steep while the front facing Lake Chon is an almost vertical cliff and the back is gently-sloping, so the peak looks like a towering platform.

A granite monument inscribed with the words *Janggun Peak* stands on the top of the peak. On a rather flat place halfway up the northeast slope of the peak is the Monument to Mt. Paektu to convey the immortal revolutionary exploits of President Kim Il Sung through all generations, and near the monument is the site where President Kim Il Sung and

Chairman Kim Jong Il had a photograph taken together against Lake Chon.

The top of the peak seems to overlook the Paektu forest, high and low mountains, and the tip of the South Sea of Korea. When the President went up Mt. Paektu in August 1963, he said that if they don't climb up the Janggun Peak when they are on Mt. Paektu, it is just like eating only nine of the ten necessary packages of medicine leaving one behind.

The Janggun Peak is regarded as one of the famous scenes of Mt. Paektu because it presents a vast and boundless view.

Mun Il Jin



Historical Relics in Kaesong (4)

Kwanum Temple

THE KWANUM TEMPLE WAS BUILT FIRST in 970. Later it was expanded and repaired several times. The present buildings are what were rebuilt in 1646. The temple was originally comprised of five buildings. But now there remain only the Taeung Hall, *Sungbang* (nuns' living quarters), a seven-storeyed stone pagoda and the Kwanum Cave.

At the centre of the temple is the Taeung Hall in front of which there are L-shaped *Sungbang* and the seven-storeyed stone pagoda 4.77 metres in height.

Well based on the traditional layout of temples in Korea, the Kwanum Temple is characterized by a unique and magnificent style of architecture. Typi-

double eaves, and that of Sungbang with the gabled roof.

The architectural uniqueness of the temple is related to an old tale associated with the rear door. Half of the wooden door, 9cm thick, is decorated with openwork lotus patterns, but the other part is left unfinished. During the construction of the temple, it is said, an excellent sculptor, named Unna, was assigned to carve the door. One day he heard that his mother's illness was critical, so he entreated officers concerned to allow him to go to see his mother. The officers, however, did not allow his request.

Days later he heard that his mother had died. Out of sorrow and resentment he cut off one of his hands and left the temple to join a peasant riot army.

At that time there was no one else whose sculpture could match his, so the door had to be fixed in place with the decoration of one half remaining unfinished.

Fineness and formative artistic peculiarity of the temple's architecture can be found in the Stone Buddha of the Kwanum Temple in the Kwanum Cave at the back of the temple. The Stone Buddha is about 1.2 metres high and in natural seated posture. The thoughtful expression, splendid crown, various trinkets on the body and folds of the softly suspended dress are very delicate and beautiful. Made of milk-white marble, the sculpture is a rare one to be seen among old ones.

As seen above, the temple is a precious historical relic that testifies to the Korean ancestors' excellent architecture and stone and wood sculpture.

The temple is located near the Pagyon Falls at the foot of Mt. Chonma in Pagyon-ri, Kaesong.

Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory

Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory lies west of Manwoltae in Manwol-dong, Kaesong. It is an astronomical observatory that dates back to the period of Koryo (918–1392). According to an old record, it was built in the early period of Koryo when Manwoltae (the royal palace of Koryo) was under construction.

The observatory testifies to Koryo's high astro- ►



The Taeung Hall at the Kwanum Temple.

cal are the pillars of the Taeung Hall: The pillars on the four corners are a little thicker and higher than the central ones, and their bottoms set a little outside so that their tops lean inside a bit, making the building strong and good-looking as Korea's traditional style of wooden construction.

And the roofs of the building are decorated in a splendid and diversified manner.

Seven brackets outside and nine ones inside are put on the pillars of the building. Sculptures of dragon heads are on the tops of the brackets on the four corner pillars and on the central pillars. And the entire building is painted with gold designs, so the building itself looks just like an artifact. The top of the building is covered with the hipped roof with



Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory.

► nomical and meteorological observation technology.

The Koreans made astronomical and meteorological observations from ancient times. During the period of Koryo they established a relevant professional agency that employed the observatory to observe meteorological phenomena and recorded the results in detail. There are over 50 records on observation of sunspot from 1105 to the late period of Koryo, and those on detailed data on solar eclipses, comets, falling stars and a strange celestial object.

They also developed the manufacture of observation instruments. In the 11th century they already began to compile and use five kinds of calendar based on the relevant observation data.

The observatory is also representative of Koryo's masonry and architecture. Now there remains the embankment alone made of trimmed granite pieces. The azimuth of the structure agrees well with the cardinal points, and the stone pillars and the stone board are interlocked precisely and strongly. This hints at the high level of masonry and architecture in those days.

The Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory was registered in the UNESCO list of world cultural heritage on June 23, 2013.

Yonboksa Bell

The Yonboksa Bell on the Nam Gate in Pugandong, Kaesong dates from the period of Koryo (918–1392).

In 1346, the bell was hung in the Yonbok Temple in Kaegyong, the capital of Koryo (Kaesong at

present), before it was moved to the Nam Gate after the temple was burnt in 1563.

Made of copper alloy, it weighs about 14 tons with its mouth 1.9 metres across, and it is 3.12 metres high and 0.23 metres thick. The exterior is decorated in refined, elegant and impressive manners. It is said that its clear, sweet sound was heard from a place over 40 kilometres away.

The bell is unlike others from the period of Koryo in shape and form and arrangement of patterns. Several broad stripes go around the middle of its exterior, dividing it into two parts that are inscribed with Buddhist images, Buddhist scriptures, varieties of patterns and the name of the bell. The rim of the mouth is in the shape of a rolling wave and inscribed with patterns of fish, dragons and other animals.

The bell was used to toll the hour at 10 p.m. (when the gate of the walls was to be closed) and 4 a.m. (when the gate was to be opened).

The bell was damaged on 27 spots when the Nam Gate was destroyed by the US imperialists' barbarous bombing in December 1950 during the Korean war (1950–1953).

In 1954 the Nam Gate was restored to its original state, and the bell was hung there again.

As one of Korea's five famous bells, the Yonboksa Bell testifies to the extent to which Koryo's metal casting and processing techniques developed.

Kim Yu Jin

The Yonboksa Bell.



Gold and Silver Work of Koguryo

THE PEOPLE OF KOGURYO (277 BC–AD 668) inherited the cultural tradition of the ancient states of Korea like Ancient Joseon and Puyo, thus creating and developing the excellent national culture catering for their inherent customs and sentiments of life. This can be proved by the gold earrings and other gold and silver articles from the period of Koguryo.

From its early days Koguryo's mining and refining techniques made progress, making it possible to produce lots of various luxuries made of precious metals and metallic daily necessities. Gold earrings were famous in particular. A historical document from a neighbouring country at that time says that the Koguryo people loved gold and silver articles, and another document says that what was characteristic of Koguryo artistes' appearances was that they painted their foreheads red and wore gold earrings. This shows that gold and silver workmanship of Koguryo was very advanced, and that gold and silver articles formed an important aspect of their cultural life.

Gold earrings of Koguryo were well known worldwide as they are diverse in kind and shape and of excellent formative and artistic value and the relevant workmanship was very polished. In view of kind and shape the earrings are divided into thick and thin styles according to their forms.

All the earrings have drooping decorations of different forms like abacus beads, cones, a combination of globular and cone shapes, an openwork of a globular shape in the middle and an apricot-leaf pattern at the end that resembles a flower basket and one with a chilli-patterned gold ornament on a long twisted chain of gold thread. The most common form was the openwork with a globular shape in the middle and an apricot-leaf pattern at the end. Its workmanship was the same as that of Ancient Joseon. In the period of Ancient Joseon earrings were usually made of jade. Typical of them was the aforesaid form. This proves that Koguryo was the rightful successor to Ancient Joseon and its culture.



Gold earrings.

Gold earrings of Koguryo were also very exquisite with wonderful formative and artistic value. Cone-shaped drooping decoration was very harmonious, beautiful and sophisticated as if dew had gathered on the rings to the admiration of the beholders. The glittering open-worked beads were linked with an apricot-leaf pattern at the end, adding beauty to the form and colour. And the drooping chain swayed in motion, producing sweet sounds.

Filigree work of Koguryo was also delicate. It is a kind of metal workmanship whereby to attach gold thread on the metal ground or make a pattern by sticking tiny metal granules. The skill was mainly used to complete the form of open-worked beads or semi-globular beads.

Koguryo's gold earrings, which had beautiful and gorgeous colour and smooth and graceful rhythmical beauty and produced sweet sounds, were typical of gold and silver articles in the medieval age of Korea, and they helped develop similar workmanship in its brother countries like Paekje, Silla and Kaya. Gold earrings made in those countries were quite similar to those of Koguryo in forms and decoration.

All the abovementioned vividly shows the extent to which Koguryo people's resourcefulness and creative ability and their culture developed.

Sim Chol Yong

Rash Acts Leading to Self-destruction

WITH A HARSH sanctions resolution against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea adopted recently by the UN Security Council, hawks in the USA are now acting recklessly. President Trump let loose the blast that it would be better to fight a war than to cope with the rapid development of ICBM by the DPRK without any plan. Brass hats of the Pentagon, including the Secretary of Defense, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and commander of the Joint Special Warfare kept chiming with Trump, while deploying strategic nuclear means in south Korea.

These rash acts remind people of President Johnson and his aides 49 years previously. On January 23, 1968, the *Pueblo*, a US armed spy ship, was captured by the Navy of the Korean People's Army while perpetrating acts of espionage in the territorial waters of the DPRK. President Johnson and his aides were beside themselves, saying that the *Pueblo* was the first US ship captured in the sea after the Civil War. They claimed that they must "retaliate," and that they must take the ship back by even wielding a "stick." They dispatched a carrier battle group led by the *Enterprise* to the East Sea of Korea, bringing the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of

war. They even threatened the DPRK that if it did not send the ship back, the US would not hesitate to use nuclear weapons. The DPRK's answer was that it would return retaliation for retaliation and an all-out war for an all-out war. Eleven months later, the USA signed a letter of apology, in which it acknowledged the fact that the *Pueblo* had intruded into the territorial waters of the DPRK and committed acts of espionage and hostility and gave firm assurance that no US ships would intrude again into the territorial waters of the DPRK. At that time a British newspaper wrote that the USA, proud of its omnipotence, betrayed its incompetence, adding that through the *Pueblo* incident, it, as a matter of fact, surrendered to the DPRK in all respects.

Today Trump is falling deep into the depths of ruin rather than making the DPRK surrender, following in his predecessor's steps. After taking office this year, Trump aggravated the situation on the Korean peninsula from the beginning of the year. The USA's increasing nuclear blackmail only produced the result of the DPRK opting for the last choice. Trump and his aides did everything possible to stifle the country, claiming that meaningful measures should be taken to check the DPRK's advance,

that they might choose a way for regime change, and that they were ready to fight a war.

In August, dubbing the DPRK's self-defensive measure as a "threat to global peace and security," the USA railroaded Resolution 2371 at the UN Security Council, aimed at completely blocking the DPRK's economic development and improvement of its people's standard of living. What is more absurd is that the resolution, which was worked out by the concerted efforts of the USA and its satellite countries, and their military actions are what Johnson and his aides had already done in the past. The DPRK government, through a statement, declared that it would never hesitate to take any last measure if the US behaves rashly, instead of giving up the reckless attempts to stifle the country. As a link in the whole chain of its measures, it declared that it would launch IRBM Hwasong 12 on the waters near Guam. The DPRK has a dagger in its hand and is wringing the neck of the US.

What is serious is that at the time of the *Pueblo* incident in the 1960s the US could get out of it with an apology, but now it is rushing to self-destruction with rash military acts.

Kim Kwang Chol

“War on Terror,” New Version of Aggressive War

WITH THE BEGINNING of the 21st century the world was caught up in the whirl of “war on terror” by the US. In the form of local war, the war has rapidly spread to a lot of countries and regions of the world. This now makes it inevitable to think again if it is really a war against terrorists.

Target of the War?

Taking advantage of the 9/11 incident, the US declared a “war on terror” to the world in “retaliation.” At that time the world thought the US was waging a war against terrorists after being “mercilessly attacked” by them. The first target was Afghanistan the US attacked under the pretext of sweeping it clear of “al-Qaeda” terrorists. Today, however, activities of “al-Qaeda” are still continuing. And GIs are continuing to fight against “terror” in Afghanistan under the excuse that its situation remains unstable.

Then the US haphazardly crushed Iraq, a sovereign state, under the pretext of the country’s “threat of weapons of mass destruction” and “production of biochemical weapons.” After the Iraq war lots of experts combed the country but could not find any weapons of mass destruction. After a seven-year-long investigation, the Iraq-war fact-finding committee organized by the British government concluded that Washington’s insistence on Iraq’s

“production of biochemical weapons” and “threat of weapons of mass destruction”—that had become the direct motive of the war—had been totally groundless. Later the US, too, confessed that the main object of the war was to remove the country’s leadership.

The same was the case with Libya. In Africa it had been a country stable politically and economically and strong in defences. And the country had maintained an independent stand and pursued an anti-US policy. Simply because it had historically rejected a pro-US, pro-West policy, the US and the West branded the country as “human rights violator” and “despotic state” and devastated its land.

The US is now intensifying its intervention in the internal affairs of Syria and its military invasion of the country on the pretext of waging the “war on terror” to get rid of the ISIS.

All the abovementioned things clearly show that the US’s “war on terror” is obviously not the one against terrorists but that aimed at destroying and neutralizing the countries that are located in geopolitical positions favourable to the realization of the American ambition of world supremacy, especially, those that go against its grain and have strong anti-US sentiments.

The US’s “war on terror” has resulted in the appearance of GIs’ military bases in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and other countries, and thus the countries are turn-

ing into stepping-stones for the US to gain ascendancy over its potential enemies in future.

As the US is expanding the war the terrorist forces are further increasing instead of being exterminated. Availing itself of this the US is further escalating the war.

If the US’s real intention is misunderstood and the “war on terror” is regarded as true, another country will fall a victim to the war, deprived of its sovereign right—that’s for sure.

Another Object of “War on Terror”

It is not the Middle East countries alone that have fallen victims to the “war on terror.” It can be said that the European countries that have availed themselves of the US’s campaign are as good as victims of the war.

From the first day of the American war in Afghanistan the European countries have engaged themselves in the war by mobilizing NATO forces.

But the war has led to collapse of the local governments and the ensuing civil wars and bloody conflicts between political forces, tribes and religious denominations in several Middle East countries. This resulted in a large number of refugees.

Many of them thronged to Europe across the Mediterranean. As a result, Europe has encountered the largest flood of refugees since the end of the Second

▶ World War.

The problem of refugees is causing social confusion and disorder—for example, constant antagonism and strife between local residents and refugees—in European countries, entailing declaration of an emergency.

As a desperate measure to solve the problem, Germany, France and other West European countries put forward a proposal for “fairly dividing” the refugees, but the East European countries are protesting against the proposal, condemning it as unfair. This is intensifying diplomatic friction between European countries, shaking the entire foundation of the European Union. The UK has already stated its will to secede from the EU because of the refugee problem and so on.

As the flood of refugees has swept Europe as a whole, lots of local countries are taking a series of countermeasures such as setting wire entanglements and more checkpoints on their borders.

Germany has begun to intro-

duce the inspection system again in the areas bordering Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg for the purpose of checking the inflow of refugees. Then France and the Netherlands, too, restarted their border inspection system, endangering the foundation of the Shengen Agreement that supports the European unification project.

The chairman of the EU Committee said he is feeling every moment that the dream of a unified Europe is failing in the face of the refugee crisis.

As the situation is lasting, the world public opinion has strongly blamed the US for the flood of refugees in Europe. Even the American AP commented that it was none other than the US that caused the refugee crisis in Europe, and that the crisis originated from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the protracted civil war in Syria and the lasting anarchy in Libya after the collapse of the government.

But the US, far away from Europe across the ocean, is look-

ing on, indifferent to the crisis of its allies in the “war on terror.” This is because the US feels uneasy at the existence of the European Union: With a goal of “building a unified Europe” the EU is taking an independent position in the international arena and striving to further strengthen its identity and influence in the fields of politics, the economy, security and diplomacy while aspiring towards a multipolarized world.

There are actual signs in the EU of trying to achieve independent security and economic unity free from the American “umbrella.”

Although the EU is its ally, the US would hardly feel happy about the EU growing strong enough to get on a par with it.

It is strongly advised to approach with vigilance the sinister intention of the US to remove or weaken its enemy or even its allies with the big stick of “war on terror” in an attempt to win its world supremacy.

Kim Ye Ryong

The happy “funeral” of warmaniac Trump held in front of the US embassy in Seoul, south Korea, in August 2017.



Where Is Japan Going?

NO ONE IS MORE vociferous about reconciliation and peace than the Japanese chief executive. Since he took office he has persistently peddled his theory on “positive peace.”

He visited Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, the US, in the capacity of the Japanese prime minister in December last year, which was the first of its kind. Harping on the same string about peace, he babbled that the calamitous war should not “be repeated again” and that he was “inwardly proud of the peaceful course of Japan for over 70 years since the end of the war.” In his talks with the then US president Obama, however, he urged the need to expand the scope of the Japan-US alliance and build up the tripartite military alliance between the US, south Korea and Japan for the sake of peace and security of the Asia-Pacific region. Then, what is the meaning of his contradictory arguments for peace on the one hand and for stronger military alliance of aggression on the other hand?

His underhand pursuance is accomplishing the old dream of “Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere” by building up the military potentials under the cloak of peace. The first target is the conquest of the Korean peninsula, for the Japanese authorities have stressed the need to ratchet up the pressure on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the maximum, describing the self-defensive measures of the DPRK as serious “threat” to the global peace and security on all occasions they could avail themselves of, like the telephone conversation and talks with the American president, the American vice-president’s visit to Japan, negotiations with the American and puppet south Korean authorities

in Tokyo and what else. In March and April last when the US seemed to be turning to “military choice” and “pre-emptive attack” against the DPRK while maximizing the military pressure by conducting the Key Resolve and Foal Eagle 17 joint military exercises with south Korea, the Japanese welcomed the exercises readily and claimed the right to dispatch of their Self-Defense Forces to south Korea to rescue the Japanese there—this is immediately the expression of their scheme for reinvasion of the Korean peninsula.

What is notably serious is that they are giving spurs to the preparation of an actual war to be carried out by the US-led allied forces in case of contingency in the Korean peninsula by conducting joint sea- and air-borne drills with American aircraft carrier-based task force heading for the peninsula, and by conducting joint military rehearsals with the US, the UK and France.

The Japanese politicians are making a dramatic propaganda of the “threat from the DPRK” and the theory on “crisis in the Korean peninsula” in close cooperation with the US in the war moves against the DPRK. This is aimed at creating a “justification” for the achievement of their ambition of becoming a military power and launching overseas aggression.

Instead of making apology and reparation for their crime-riddled past, the ultra-rightists worship the war criminals as “immortal souls” and boast that they are their descendants, pursuing the “great cause” of a military power and overseas aggression, which their predecessors failed to attain.

For this reason the Japanese authorities are perniciously clinging to the scheme of revising the constitution. So far, the Japanese

authorities have consecutively issued legal and administrative measures which go against the so-called “pacifist constitution,” sometimes interpreting the constitution as they liked. This has been an energy to the effort to become a military power.

At the moment the ruling Liberal Democratic Party is trying hard to adopt the DPRK for an excuse to rid themselves from the “restrictions of the pacifist constitution” which bans retaliatory offensives of the SDF. Meanwhile, MPs from the ruling and opposition parties visit the US vyingly to argue for the need to exclude no choice including military strike against the DPRK. In this way the ultra-rightist conservatives are making a desperate attempt to justify revision of the constitution by pointedly illuminating the “crisis in the Korean peninsula” and thus accomplish the ambition of becoming a military power and carrying out overseas aggression.

These moves, however, are faced with a strong opposition at home and abroad. In early July this year the Prime Minister’s Liberal Democratic Party suffered a sweeping defeat at the Tokyo metropolis assembly elections, and the party’s approval rate is falling drastically. This is casting a dark shadow over the scheme of constitutional revision, and even over the existence of the Abe regime.

The way Japan is going under the cloak of peace clearly leads to the trap of greater depth.

It is a stark reality that even the US, its master from across the ocean, is desperately working to find a way out in the face of the daily diversifying and rising capabilities of the DPRK.

Rim Hye Gyong

Ulmil Pavilion

U LMIL PAVILION STANDS on the top of Ulmil Hill with a fine view in Moran Hill, a scenic spot in Pyongyang.

It is also called Saho Pavilion in the meaning that you can get a bird's-eye view of all sides. The beautiful landscape around the pavilion, called *ulmilsangchun* (enjoying spring on the pavilion), has long been regarded as one of the eight famous scenes of Pyongyang. It is said that the name of the pavilion was derived from a legend that once upon a time an Ulmil spirit often descended from the heaven to play on the spot, charmed by its scenery, or from the name of General Ulmil of Koguryo (277 BC–AD 668) who firmly defended his general's terrace.

At first the pavilion was built as northern command post of the inner fort of the Walled City of Pyongyang of Koguryo in the mid-sixth century. Its embankment and superstructure were rebuilt in 1714. Afterwards, it was repaired several times.

It stands on a stone embankment about 11 metres in height. The lower part of the embankment is like stairs and the edge of the cornerstone is elevated so as to prevent the upper part from sliding while stones are piled on the upper part pyramidically. So it shows its original appearance during the period of Koguryo. The embankment also consists of battlements. Each pillar of the superstructure consists of a wooden column supported by a quadrangular stone one metre in height so

as to prevent the damage by rain or wind.

The embankment shows Koguryo's high technique of architecture and the Korean ancestors' excellent skills. The superstructure, carved beautifully in the formative and artistic aspect, demonstrates the builders' exquisite and refined skills. It is 7.46 metres in width and 5.29 metres in length and covered with a hip-saddle roof. Spectacular about the

pavilion in particular are its wooden sculptural ornaments.

The pavilion was destroyed severely by the US imperialists' air raids during the Korean war (1950–1953). In the postwar days it was restored to its original state.

As a platform for observation of the magnificent city of Pyongyang, the pavilion is now used by the people for their recreation.

Pak Thae Ho



