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Editors: Pyon Il Jin, Kim Kyu Song, Jo Chol Ju, Sung Ryong

Celebration of 80th Anniversary of Korea's Liberation Held

All the people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea celebrated the 80th anniversary of their country's liberation as a great revolutionary event with great pride and self-confidence as they have been dynamically advancing along the road of independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence, ushering in a great new era of comprehensive national rejuvenation under the leadership of the ever-victorious Workers' Party of Korea.

A celebration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation took place in Pyongyang on August 14.

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

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the venue of the celebration amid the welcome music, fireworks were set off and a lot of balloons flew to beautifully decorate the sky of significant August.

Schoolchildren presented fragrant bouquets to Kim Jong Un reflecting the unanimous desire of the people across the country.

Other schoolchildren presented bouquets to senior officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs and Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation.

Present there were members of the central leadership body of the Party, senior officials of ministries and national agencies, descendants of those related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, meritorious persons of socialist patriotism and other officials, working people, youth and students in Pyongyang, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, and teaching staff and students of the revolutionary schools.

Present there on invitation were members of the delegation of the State Duma and the delegation of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation who were on a congratulatory visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, the Russian ambassador to the DPRK and his embassy staff members.

Also present there were overseas Korean compatriots staying in their socialist homeland including a group of the General Association of Koreans in China for a study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played solemnly.

A 21-gun salute was fired.





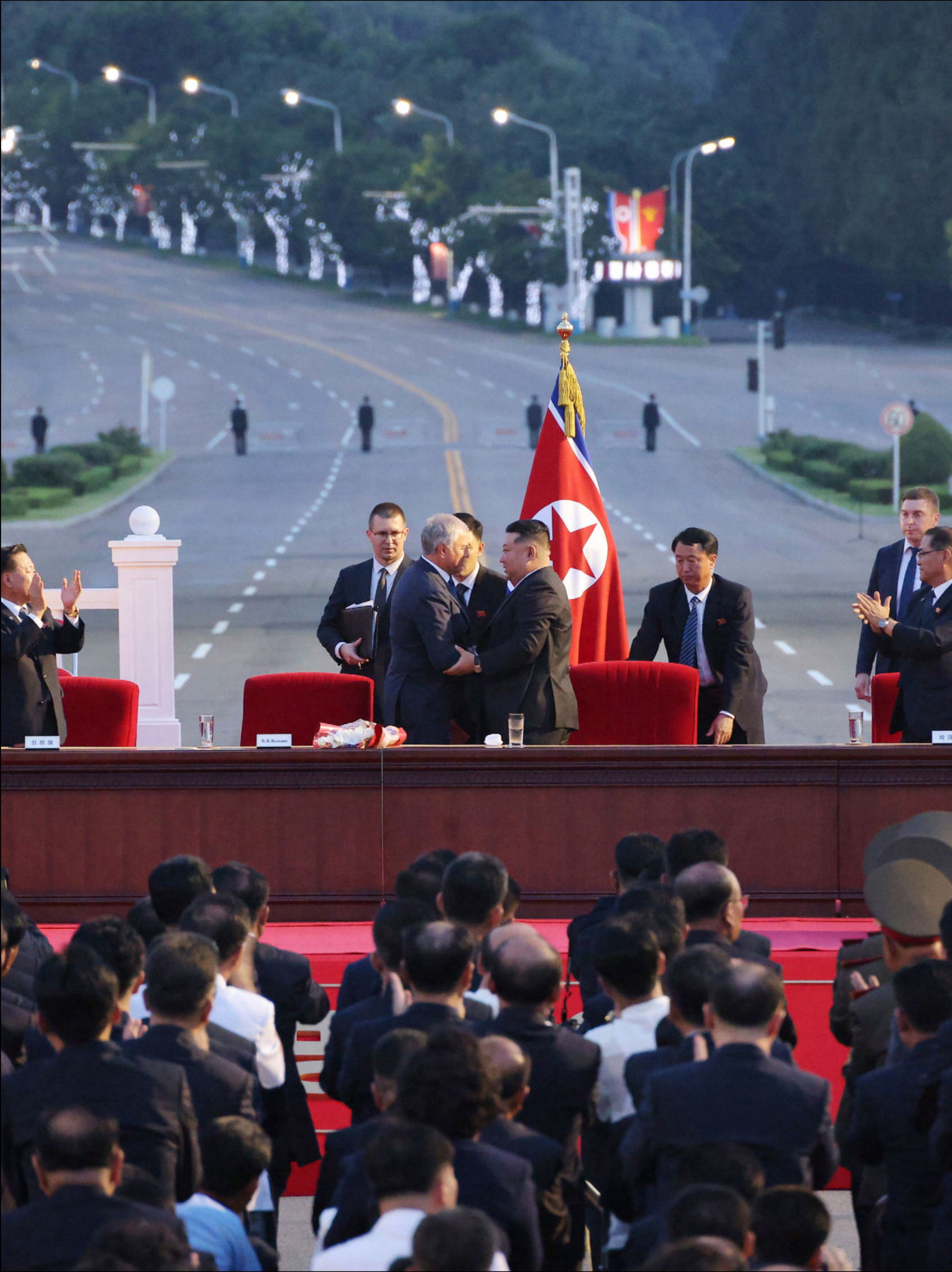
Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, made a congratulatory speech.

Noting that the Korean people were greeting the 80th anniversary of their country's liberation, the first precious victory in the glorious history of the Korean revolution spanning a century and an epoch-making event in 5 000 years of their history, the speaker paid immortal glory and highest tribute to President Kim Il Sung who aroused the people, who had been forced to suffer the disgrace and misfortune of a ruined nation, to the anti-Japanese national salvation struggle, put an end to the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists, and thus achieved the epochal cause of restoring national sovereignty.

He said that the 40-odd years of struggle of the Korean people for the independence of their country teaches the truth that a country and people without correct leadership and strength cannot escape humiliation as a ruined nation and that the lost dignity can be regained and defended only on the strength of the powerful internal forces of the people themselves rallied closely around a great leader.

Referring to the noble internationalist spirit and distinguished military feats of the service personnel of the Soviet army who fought shoulder to shoulder





The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made a speech on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Saying that today's celebration that makes us recall with deep emotion the birth of our state and the sacred course of its development constitutes an affirmation of the times and a proud review of the immortal spirit that brought about a turn in the people's destiny and the history of decades-long resistance as well as of how the 80-year-long history of the new Korea could reach the height of dignity and honour, he made clear the revolutionary character and political importance of the cause of liberation, in which the Korean people regained their dignity as an independent people.



with the Korean revolutionary army for Korea's liberation, he said that the unity and comradeship forged at the cost of blood in the struggle for the common cause are fully displayed in the battlefields in the 21st century to frustrate the imperialists' outrageous arbitrary practices and aggressive moves and are developing into a powerful alliance, which is clear proof of the eternal vitality of the DPRK-Russia friendship.

Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, made a speech.

Saying that he was pleased to attend the grand celebration, he read out the congratulatory letter sent to Comrade Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, by Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Expressing the will to value the Russia-DPRK friendly relations, to thoroughly implement all the provisions of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the Russian Federation and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to strive for the development of the relations between the two countries, he wished the DPRK people prosperity and happiness.

Kim Jong Un made a speech on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Saying that today's celebration that makes us recall with deep emotion the birth of our state and the sacred course of its development

constitutes an affirmation of the times and a proud review of the immortal spirit that brought about a turn in the people's destiny and the history of decades-long resistance as well as of how the 80-year-long history of the new Korea could reach the height of dignity and honour, he made clear the revolutionary character and political importance of the cause of liberation, in which the Korean people regained their dignity as an independent people.

Referring to his boundless reverence for the great people's ennobling view of life that they can lead a most worthwhile and happiest life by devoting themselves to the victory and glory of their motherland, he said that no force can bring the people with such a strong sense of justice, great fortitude and high self-respect to their knees, and the state built up and supported by such patriotic and proud people will continue to exist as a powerful country for all ages.

Noting that the Korean people's great history of dignity and glory will shine down through the generations, for all eternity, he called for continuing to brave undauntedly the challenges facing them for the building of a great powerful country and for the eternal security and prosperity of the beloved state which will shine its brilliance for ever.

When he finished his speech, enthusiastic cheers resounded reflecting the firm will of all the participants to remain boundlessly loyal to the historic mission and duty of their era and generation, boundlessly loving and upholding the country which provides them with a genuine life and happiness.

The celebration ended with the playing of *The Internationale*.



Artistic Performance Given to Mark 80th Anniversary of Korea's Liberation





An artistic performance was given at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph on August 14 in celebration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, adding to the joy and excitement of celebrating with splendour the significant holiday, which marks the origin of all victories and glories of socialist Korea and the 80 years of the independent power, as a grand political festival to be specially recorded in the history of the country.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un enjoyed the performance. When he appeared together with Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, stormy cheers were raised.

Among the audience were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, leading officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs, chief secretaries of provincial committees of the Party, descendants of those related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, officials of ministries and national agencies, officials and persons of merits in Pyongyang, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, students of revolutionary schools and Pyongyang citizens and youth and students.

Members of the delegations of the State Duma and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Russian ambassador to





the DPRK and the staff members of his embassy also enjoyed the performance.

Overseas Korean compatriots visiting their socialist homeland on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation took their seats.

There was a collective landing stunt of paratroopers, decorating the prelude to the performance.

The paratroopers, who were dropped from the altitude of 4 500 metres, displayed high stunts with their controlled parachutes, decorating the nocturnal sky like dazzling flowers as a gift to the glorious history of their motherland.

When the national flag of the DPRK fluttered by a paratrooper approached nearer, the audience paid respect to the sacred flag with applause and cheers, recalling the proud days when the Korean people have advanced to the acme of a powerful country, braving many difficulties and ordeals that no one had ever experienced.

Put on the stage were colourful numbers including all-people hymns to the national leaders, revolutionary songs and famous songs on the theme of patriotism.

The stage, filled with solemn memories, resounded with revolutionary songs and other songs created in the period of the anti-Japanese war depicting the images of the heroic anti-Japanese

forerunners recorded on the first page of the history of the Korean revolution.

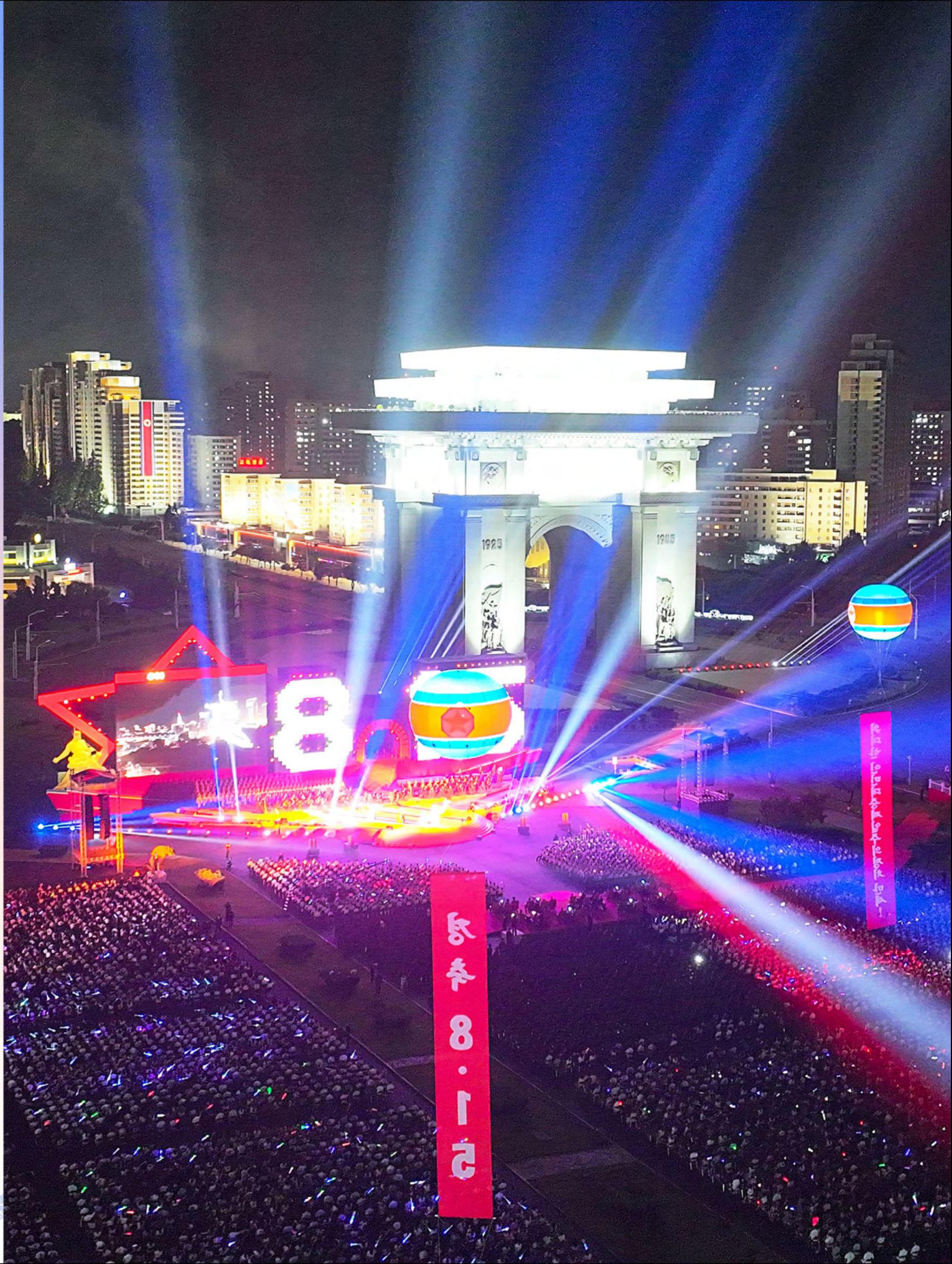
The audience enthusiastically applauded the famous songs full of strong desire to continue to add, though the historic day of August 15, 1945 is getting more distant, to the absolute dignity and glory of the DPRK with the might, which the Korean people have built up for 80 years and demonstrated before the world for the dignity and honour of their most precious country as desired by the revolutionary forerunners.

A medley of Russian songs specially prepared for the envoys of friendship added more colours to the performance.

The songs were acclaimed by the audience as they reflected the bravery and stubbornness, ardent patriotism and optimism of the Russian army and people fighting for the sovereignty and dignity of their country and peace and security of the planet.

The performance, which demonstrated the friendship and solidarity growing stronger on the road of accomplishing the common cause of building prosperous and powerful states, ended with the national anthem of the Russian Federation.

When the performance was over, fireworks were set off decorating the nocturnal sky.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on August 14 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Present there were Pak Thae Song and Jo Yong Won, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and other senior Party and government officials, chief secretaries of provincial committees of the WPK, senior Party and administrative officials of commissions and ministries and commanding officers of armed forces organs.

A flower basket presented by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Also laid were flower baskets in the names of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un paid high tribute to the statues of the great leaders.

He visited the halls where the great leaders lie in state and paid tribute to them with great reverence.

Saying that the feats performed by the President who liberated the country through the 20-year-long anti-Japanese war, overcoming hardships and trials, and provided the glorious history and traditions of the ever-victorious Korean revolution will be immortal along with the victorious advance of the cause of Juche, he expressed his solemn will to glorify the country, which is associated with the noble desires of the great leaders, as the most powerful and dignified country in the world and the people's ideal land.

All the participants pledged to remain loyal to the ideology and leadership of Kim Jong Un, who is ushering in a new era of great victory and gigantic change of socialist Korea, and strive with a single mind to accomplish the historic cause for the comprehensive rejuvenation of the state and the promotion of the people's wellbeing.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong on August 14 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Present there were Pak Thae Song and Jo Yong Won, members

of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other senior Party and government officials, chief secretaries of provincial committees of the WPK, senior Party and administrative officials of commissions and ministries and commanding officers of armed forces organs.

The guard of honour of the Korean People's Army lined up at the

Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played solemnly.

Amid the playing of the wreath-laying music, a wreath bearing the name of Kim Jong Un was laid at the wreath-laying stand of the cemetery.

Also laid were wreaths in the names of the WPK Central

Committee, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un, together with all the participants, observed a moment's silence in memory of the revolutionary martyrs who devoted their lives to the sacred cause for the liberation of the



country, the defending of its sovereignty, the freedom of its people and the happiness of all the generations to come.

There was a march-past of the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army.

Kim Jong Un went round the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery together with the participants.

He laid flowers before the busts of O Jin U, O Paek Ryong, Kim Il, Choe Chun Guk, Kang Kon, Kim Chaek, An Kil, Ryu Kyong Su, Choe Hyon and Rim Chun Chu, recollecting with reverence the immortal feats and worthwhile life of the first generation of

the revolution, who courageously turned out in the anti-Japanese war with a staunch spirit and ardent patriotism and achieved the independence of the country at the cost of their blood.

He said that national liberation, the first precious gain of the sacred Korean revolution, started on the strength of arms, was the victory of President Kim Il Sung's original idea of winning national independence and sovereignty and his sacred leadership practice covering 20 years, as well as the victory of the heroic struggle of the pioneering generation of the Korean revolution, who had waged death-defying resistance with the firm faith that they would surely

liberate the country as long as they were led by Kim Il Sung.

The history of the anti-Japanese war is so sacred as every bloody battle was associated with the spiritual world of revolutionary comradeship that cannot be bartered for anything else and with the indomitable struggle spirit of beating the enemy even though one may die a thousand times, he said, adding that the fighters who had created the great spirit of Mt Paektu and the revolutionary traditions of Paektu to be handed down through generations are genuine revolutionaries and models of true patriots whom all the generations to come should remember and learn from.

Confirming that our state will prosper forever as the world's most powerful country on the eternal foundations of victory and glory consolidated by the first generation of the revolution, Kim Jong Un sincerely wished that the noble soul and spirit of the fighters will be immortal along with the red flag of the revolution.

Under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, symbol of the absolute strength and great dignity of our powerful socialist state, the Korean people will glorify the history and tradition of sure victory generation after generation and accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Liberation Tower



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, visited the Liberation Tower on August 15 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea’s liberation.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by senior officials of the Central Committee of the WPK, leading officials of the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK and commanders of the services of the Korean People’s Army.

The guard of honour of the KPA lined up in front of the Liberation Tower.

The national anthems of the Russian Federation and the DPRK were played.

A wreath in the name of Kim Jong Un was laid before the tower amid the playing of the wreath-laying music.

Written on the ribbon of the wreath were letters reading “We do not forget the exploits of the martyrs of the Soviet army.”

Kim Jong Un paid high tribute to the martyrs of the Soviet army who had fought bravely in the sacred war for Korea’s liberation.

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

Kim Jong Un looked round the Liberation Tower with the participants.

The sacred history of national liberation of the Korean people is associated with the matchless heroism and undying feats performed by the service personnel of the Soviet army in the anti-Japanese revolutionary war against the common enemy, he said, adding that the militant friendship and blood ties forged between the armies and peoples of the two countries amid the fierce flames of war are a true example of international justice and solidarity.

He expressed his belief that the invincible DPRK-Russia friendship consolidated century after century by inheriting the noble spirit of the forerunners of the two countries would grow stronger in the future.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Holds Phone Conversation with Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin



Comrade Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, held a phone conversation with Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, on August 12.

They exchanged greetings with each other and had a conversation in a warm and comradely atmosphere.

Kim Jong Un expressed heartfelt thanks to his most esteemed Vladimir Putin for warmly congratulating all the people of the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

He said that all the Korean people greeting the 80th anniversary of their country's liberation will recollect with reverence the heroic feats performed by the officers and men of the Red Army 80 years ago as a genuine example of true internationalism and pay a high tribute to the fallen fighters of the Soviet army who sacrificed themselves for Korea's liberation.

The heads of state of the two countries highly appreciated the further development of relations of cooperation in all fields in accordance with the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership concluded between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, confirming their will to strengthen cooperation in the future.

The Russian president spoke highly once again of the support provided by the DPRK and the bravery, heroism and self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the service personnel of the Korean People's Army in liberating Kursk, part of the Russian territory.

Expressing his heartfelt thanks to Putin for his high appreciation of the DPRK and its soldiers, Kim Jong Un expressed firm conviction that the DPRK will always remain faithful to the spirit of the DPRK-Russia treaty and fully support in the future, too, all measures to be taken by the Russian leadership.

The heads of state of the two countries exchanged their views on the issues of mutual concern.

They agreed to keep closer contact in the future.

The heads of state of the two countries highly appreciated the further development of relations of cooperation in all fields in accordance with the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership concluded between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, confirming their will to strengthen cooperation in the future.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Meets Speaker of State Duma of Russian Federation



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met on the afternoon of August 14 Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, who was on a congratulatory visit to the DPRK leading a delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly greeted Comrade Vyacheslav Volodin and had a friendly talk with him.

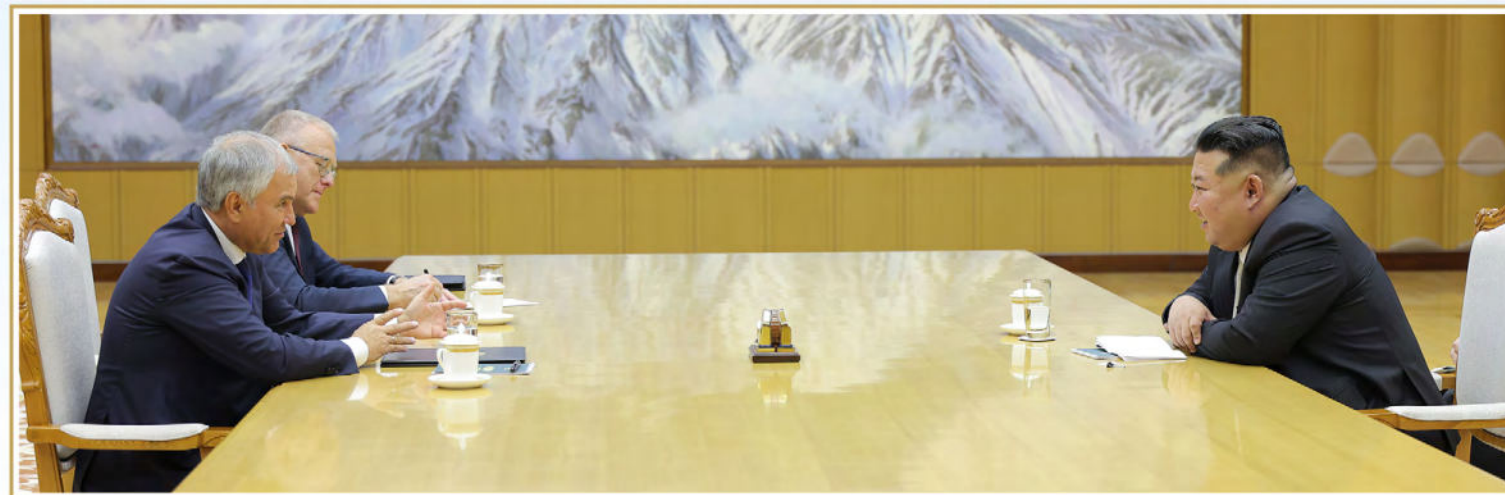
Volodin courteously conveyed the friendly greetings and a congratulatory letter sent by Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's

liberation.

Kim Jong Un expressed deep thanks to President Putin for sending warm congratulations.

Warmly welcoming Volodin and the delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation on their visit to Pyongyang, he said that the visit would serve as an occasion for adding more to the significance of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, further promoting the development of the DPRK-Russia relations already on a new level and deepening the friendly and fraternal feelings between the peoples of the two countries.

He referred to the fact that two days before he had had a phone conversation with Putin and agreed to expand and develop the bilateral cooperation between the two countries in an all-round



way and keep closer contact and communication between the state leaderships.

Stressing the importance of the position and role of their parliaments in strengthening the relations of political cooperation between the two countries and creating a political and legislative environment favourable for the development of bilateral relations, he wished that the parliaments of the two countries would make joint efforts to ensure that the new inter-state treaty and agreements are fully implemented in all fields.

Expressing his heartfelt thanks to the DPRK for dispatching excellent soldiers to the Kursk liberation operations for driving out the Ukrainian aggressors and taking many measures helpful to defending the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Russia,

Volodin said that Russia would never forget the Korean people and government that rendered decisive assistance to it at the most crucial time and the heroic feats performed by the service personnel of the Korean People's Army who fought at the cost of their lives in Russia.

Conveying warm greetings of the DPRK government and people to the esteemed Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and the Russian people, Kim Jong Un wished Volodin and all the deputies to the State Duma of Russia greater successes in their legislative activities for ensuring the socio-political stability of the country and promoting the economic development and people's wellbeing.

The talk proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Russian Artistes Give Artistic Performance



The peoples of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, who are opening a new phase of unity and friendship in the struggle for building theirs into great, prosperous and powerful countries, significantly celebrated August 15, when the independence and sovereignty of Korea were achieved, as a common auspicious event and holiday.

An artistic performance was given at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on August 15 by the Russian art mission on a visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of historic Korea's liberation, writing another page in the annals of the invincible DPRK-Russia friendship.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, enjoyed the performance together with the Russian friends.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium together with Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State

Duma of the Russian Federation, all the participants welcomed them with enthusiastic applause.

Among the audience were the minister of Foreign Affairs and the minister of Culture of the DPRK, other officials of the ministries, artistes and creators of art troupes at all levels, teaching staff and students of art education institutions and Pyongyang citizens.

Also enjoying the performance were the members of the delegations of the State Duma and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Russian ambassador to the DPRK and his embassy staff members.

The artistic performance was given by Russian artistes of high repute, and the "Red Star" Song and Dance Ensemble of the Strategic Rocket Forces and the Airborne Forces Song and Dance Ensemble under the Ministry of Defence.

Put on the stage were a medley of songs on the theme of the Great Patriotic War which are full of matchless heroism, stubbornness,





noble patriotism and optimism of the Russian army and people, and martial songs of the armed forces of the Russian Federation and other colourful numbers.

The performers also staged famous Russian songs full of national sentiments which reflect the traditional culture, customs and long history of Russia.

Such patriotic songs as *My Russia* and *We Will Rise* sung by the Russian popular singer Shaman were enthusiastically acclaimed by the audience for the singer's rich artistic skill and vigorous representation.

Flower baskets were conveyed to the performers who staged a significant performance.

Kim Jong Un expressed thanks to the Russian artistes for their performance in Pyongyang which added to the joy of the National Liberation Day of the DPRK and made a tangible contribution to the ever-developing DPRK-Russia friendship.

The performance given by the Russian artistes in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation served as an occasion for further strengthening the fraternal ties between the peoples of the two countries.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Meets Major Commanding Officers of Overseas Military Operations Units of KPA



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met major commanding officers of the overseas military operations units of the Korean People's Army, who had returned home to participate in the ceremony of awarding state commendations of the DPRK, at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the WPK on August 20.

After receiving a detailed report on the military activities of the combat units of our armed forces in the theatre of overseas operations from the commanding officers, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the feats they had performed in leading to victory the combat units of our armed forces in the operations to liberate the Kursk Region of the Russian Federation.

Saying that the country assigned them and their combat units

to carry out the most important duty, Kim Jong Un conveyed warm militant encouragement to all the commanding officers and combatants of the units that had participated in the operations for liberating Kursk and lived up to the trust of the country with the greatest loyalty and legendary military merits.

At the significant meeting, Kim Jong Un spoke highly of the KPA's heroic mettle, before saying:

"Ours is a heroic army. It is because our army is made up of the sons whose lives were given by our heroic people and who have been raised by them. Our army has fully demonstrated its unique qualities. Such a result has cemented its appellation and reputation as the most powerful army in the world, giving everyone a clear understanding of it. Our army is now doing what it ought to do and what needs to be done. It will do so in the future, too."





Highest Glory to Representatives of Great Honour of DPRK, Admirable Sons

Ceremony of Awarding State Commendations to Commanding Officers and Combatants of Overseas Military Operations Units of KPA Takes Place





Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made a speech at the ceremony of awarding state commendations.

Expressing his emotion of seeing again at the meaningful ceremony the proud sons, the heroes of the country, who are a source of great pride for the state and for whom all the people have waited, and of awarding the title of Hero of the DPRK and other high commendations to them, he, on behalf of the Party and the government, extended heartfelt thanks and warm militant greetings to the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas military operations units, who fought bravely as befits Koreans and the Korean People's Army under a hail of bullets and bombs in the do-or-die battles in the alien land and have returned home with dignity.

A ceremony of awarding state commendations to the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas military operations units of the Korean People's Army was held at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Officials of the WPK Central Committee warmly greeted the brave soldiers who participated in the war, as they entered the yard of the Party Central Committee after travelling thousands of miles in response to the ardent desire and affectionate call of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un eager to glorify the life of the great successors and representatives, who firmly carried forward into the new century the tradition of victory peculiar to our state, with the

honour of gold star.

The venue of the ceremony was full of respect for the brave combatants boundlessly loyal to the order of the country.

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

Present at the ceremony were commanding officers and combatants who performed distinguished feats in the overseas military operations, and bereaved families of the martyrs.

Present there were members of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, major commanding officers of the Ministry of National



Defence and military and political commanding officers of the large combined units of the KPA.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played solemnly.

Kim Jong Un made a significant speech.

Expressing his emotion of seeing again at the meaningful ceremony the proud sons, the heroes of the country, who are a source of great pride for the state and for whom all the people have waited, and of awarding the title of Hero of the DPRK and other

high commendations to them, he, on behalf of the Party and the government, extended heartfelt thanks and warm militant greetings to the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas military operations units, who fought bravely as befits Koreans and the Korean People's Army under a hail of bullets and bombs in the do-or-die battles in the alien land and have returned home with dignity.

He continued: Out of the desire to put forward in front of their country and fellow people the laudable heroes who have performed





feats on the battlefields in the alien country in defence of the sacred prestige and dignity of their motherland and to make the whole country hold them in respect and esteem, the Central Committee of our Party has arranged a grand ceremony of awarding state commendations to them at its headquarters building.

These are special and valuable commendations the country and people confer on the honourable victors for their great feats that can be performed only in a bloody struggle.

As we are holding the first awarding ceremony today, I am reminded of the combatants who must be totally engaged in their

tasks, even at this moment, true to the order of their motherland, as well as of the martyrs; and I am sorely sorry for failing to share this place of honour with all of them.

Then he proposed a moment of silence praying for the eternity of the martyrs who laid down their lives in the overseas military operations.

At the proposal of Kim Jong Un, all the participants observed a moment of silence in memory of the martyrs who won the priceless victory with their indomitable fighting spirit and noble self-sacrifice.

Saying that all the combatants in the war are all great men, great

heroes and great patriots as they performed great exploits to be etched in history for all eternity to bring lasting prosperity and strength to their country, Kim Jong Un proudly declared that the victory won by the combatants constitutes a great exploit that firmly defended the great honour of the Korean People's Army, which must never be allowed to be stained, and provided a sure guarantee for the existence of our state and its development, a victory worth being recorded as a miracle in the history of our army building and in the chronicles of anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle, and at the same time, an epochal event in the world history of wars, which reformulated the thousands-of-years-old logic of the strong.

Stressing that the combat actions, which the overseas operations units, representing the armed forces of our Republic, carried out on the battlefields in the limelight of the world, fully demonstrated the mightiness of the heroic Korean People's Army whose invincibility is based on the definite superiority of the ideological and spiritual preparedness and the Juche-oriented strategy and tactics, he continued that what the Party Central Committee prioritizes and appreciates with satisfaction before anything else is the fact that the prestige of the ever-victorious Korean People's Army has been verified most rigorously in its history of over 70 years, and that the true picture of our army fully prepared for war has been clearly confirmed.

Today's ceremony is an expression of gratitude and high praise

of our Party, state and people for your historic feats of having carried out perfectly the political decision of the Party and the government for the destiny and future of the country and safeguarded the great honour maintained by all the generations of the Republic for decades, he added.

Referring to the outstanding valour and noble self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the service personnel in the operational area where bullets and bombs showered, he stressed that they deserve to be called model heroes, and the overseas operations units, heroic units and that the secret to victory in the recent overseas military operations lies not in the exploits performed by some outstanding military commanders or heroes, but entirely in the mass character of heroism and the spiritual and moral traits, both ennobling and beautiful, which definitely dominated the thoughts and feelings of all the service personnel of the overseas operations units.

He continued: They were thoroughgoing in implementing the orders from their superiors, as they ought to be as soldiers, and every one of them cherished a high sense of patriotism, loved their comrades-in-arms so ardently and was strong in the spirit of devotion. They were all excellent in terms of morality, performing their duties with credit and choosing to act honourably as dictated by their conscience, even when they were facing death. Witnessing such exceptional, unique traits of yours, the world has come to realize why



our army is so powerful and what the key factor is in guaranteeing its victory in whatever battle it engages in. This is a landmark event in which the concept of a powerful army and the law of war victory have been clearly inscribed in the annals of the times and history.

Having such an army as the pioneer and defender of their revolutionary cause is a source of pride and honour for the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The country defended by this heroic army will remain powerful forever, and the cause advancing forward with such an army standing in the vanguard will be ever-victorious.

Referring to the important measures to be carried out as a national undertaking to hand down forever the feats of the great war participants, he affirmed that the glorious path pioneered by the combatants at the cost of their blood on the battlefields in the alien land and the ennobling lives of the martyrs will not come to an end and that the blood-stained combat records inscribed with their names will shine their eternal brilliance in the most precious pages of the history of the country.

Then he added: Our state will remain dignified, powerful and strong forever as it has such great heroes as you. Our army will carry forward the great history of war victory for all ages by displaying its unique loyalty and heroic mettle. I wish immortal glory to the heroic officers and soldiers of the overseas operations units who

have elevated our people's long history of victory and the absolute strength of our revolutionary armed forces to the highest and most glorious plane.

The speech of Kim Jong Un, full of ardent love and true heart of the great father, stirred up the hearts of all the participants.

A decree of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on conferring the title of DPRK Hero, orders and medals on the commanding officers and combatants who performed feats in the overseas military operations was read out.

Kim Jong Un personally awarded the title of DPRK Hero to the skilled military commanding officers who led the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the Republic to victory and to the soldiers who performed distinguished feats.

He personally fixed the DPRK Hero Medal beside each of the portraits of the martyrs, recollecting with reverence the noble images and last moments of the martyrs, who sacrificed their youth and lives with their hearts pulsating with one faith and one will to thoroughly carry out the order of the country.

Kim Jong Un laid a flower before the memorial wall and paid silent tribute, wishing that the noble life of the martyrs who participated in the war to defend the dignity and honour of the great state with their precious lives would shine forever as a star of eternal feats in the memory of the country and the people.



Members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, military and political commanding officers of the large combined units of the KPA and the bereaved families of the martyrs laid flowers before the memorial wall.

Kim Jong Un met the bereaved families of the martyrs and consoled them, sharing the pain of loss with them.

Army Colonel General Kim Yong Bok, commander of the special operations units, made an oath-taking speech on behalf of all the



officers and men of the overseas operations units.

Kim Jong Un once again extended sincere thanks and noble tribute to all the officers and men of the overseas operations units who defended the trust of the Party and the country in the KPA and fully displayed the great honour of the KPA, braving the fierce battle fire with the glorious national flag kept in their hearts, and to the heroic martyrs who laid the foundation of sure victory of our state and army with great feats and biographies to be handed down to posterity.

Artistic Performance Given in Honour of Commanding Officers and Combatants of Overseas Military Operations Units of KPA

An artistic performance was given with splendour at the April 25 House of Culture in Pyongyang to congratulate the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas military operations units of the Korean People's Army who had performed immortal feats in the sacred battle for defending the dignity and honour of the powerful DPRK.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, enjoyed the performance together with the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas operations units.

After arriving at the venue of the performance, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un laid a flower before the memorial wall erected in the lobby and paid noble tribute to the martyrs who will live forever in the memory of the country and the people as the eternal stars.

Saying that the patriotic deeds of the brave combatants who had fully demonstrated before the whole world the mightiness of the KPA through the overseas military operations would go down for all ages, he had a photo taken with the major commanding officers who had skilfully led the units to victory in the overseas military operations.

Among the audience were bereaved families of the martyrs, officials of the WPK Central Committee, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, military and political commanding officers of the large combined units of the KPA, officials of ministries, national agencies and Pyongyang Municipality and working people.

When Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium, all the participants broke into stormy cheers of "hurrah!" looking up to the iron-willed brilliant commander who trained our People's Army into the strongest revolutionary armed forces in the world that are overwhelming any formidable enemy ideologically, mentally, militarily and technologically with his outstanding military strategic idea, extraordinary commanding art and great trust and affection and put the army on the highest level of the times.

The performers paid high tribute to the combat heroes in Kim Jong Un's era who had demonstrated the fame of the state and set a good example of indomitable heroic mettle and fighting spirit of the army with legendary military feats by enthusiastically singing songs about the motherland that the combatants had never forgotten even in their dreams and songs about the invincible revolutionary army.

The numbers depicting the loyalty and patriotism of the heroes who had devoted their lives to the great Party, the inexhaustible





might of the great state and the peace and happiness of the great people highly demonstrated the fact that the brilliant world-startling war results of the KPA are the gains of the great ideological firmness, a precious tradition of the Korean revolution which was pioneered and has emerged victorious on the strength of ideology.

When the songs *Stars of the Motherland*, *We Will Remember* and *Only Victory* in memory of the brave soldiers who had participated in the overseas military operations resounded, all the audience warmly recollected with deep emotion the indomitable images of the brave soldiers who had ardently loved their motherland, sacrificed themselves in response to the call of the motherland and made the enemies shudder by displaying mass heroism and matchless self-sacrificing spirit which cannot be found in any other armies in the world.

The audience enthusiastically acclaimed the performance pulsating with the firm faith and indomitable stamina of the service personnel of the KPA who are determined to continuously update a proud record of heroic feats for all generations to come by developing the heroic spirit of the generation of army founding and the generation who won the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War onto a higher level in the new era of building a powerful army when the revolutionary armed forces are demonstrating the golden age of their development.

When the performance was over, the audience broke into enthusiastic cheers again, looking up to Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un warmly shook hands with each of the brave soldiers, who were cheering at the top of their voices with great emotion, and encouraged them.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Completed Ragwon County Offshore Farm and Fishermen's Residential District



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the completed Ragwon County Offshore Farm and the modern fishermen's residential district on August 26.

Thanks to the spirit of devotedly implementing the Party's policies and great power of execution of the soldier-builders who have turned out as one, regarding the call of the Party as a battle order, modern and advanced production facilities of the farm, low- and single-storey houses of various styles and neighbourhood-serving amenities have been built only a little over 190 days after the groundbreaking for the project in good harmony with the surrounding natural landscape and along with the meaningful name of "Ragwonpho."

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un went round the Ragwon County Offshore Farm.

Enjoying the picturesque panorama of Ragwonpho, he said with





pleasure that it was early this year that the groundbreaking ceremony was held at the sandy beach and that the place now achieved beautiful scenery. And he added that the project which had been planned since last year in order to build a fishing base which is more characteristic than the Sinpho City Offshore Farm was successfully completed, making it possible to present the fishing village in the most beautiful port in the world to the people of Ragwon County.

Going round the combined control room, raw material

preprocessing plant and other production facilities, he learned about the completion of the load test and technical synchronized test of the equipment.

He went round the fishermen's residential district.

Visiting different styles of single- and low-storey houses, he referred to the measures taken by the Party to design the houses in a unique way to be in good harmony with the natural environment of the seashore. He repeatedly expressed his pleasure over the fact that



every house in the residential district was perfectly built, saying that construction had been carried out in a very qualitative way to meet the design and technical requirements.

Appreciating that all the buildings erected in Ragwonpho are the outcome of the high ideological readiness and redoubled efforts of the Korean People's Army soldiers who uphold the Party's policy on regional development with absolute loyalty and devoted struggle, he said that they should never be satisfied in doing things for the people and that even though the production buildings and dwelling houses built there are excellent, wonderful monumental entities that surpass them should be constructed in the future.

He set forth important tasks to be carried out in steadily pushing ahead with the construction of regional-industry factories and rural dwelling houses on a high level.

Enjoying a bird's-eye view of Ragwonpho together with officials, he discussed a new long-term plan for developing the economic potential of the county.

Saying that he would like to see the people in the county smiling happily as soon as possible and that the evaluation of the project would be made by the residents, he gave an instruction to hold the inauguration ceremony of the Ragwon County Offshore Farm in a splendid way in several days.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Destroyer *Choe Hyon* and Learns about Training and Life of Sailors

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the destroyer *Choe Hyon* on August 18 and acquainted himself with the course of the integrated operation tests of the weapon systems of the destroyer and the training and life of the sailors of the destroyer.

Admiral Pak Kwang Sop, commander of the Navy of the Korean People's Army, greeted the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un on the spot.

Kim Jong Un met the sailors of the destroyer *Choe Hyon* and acquainted himself in detail with their training and living conditions. And he set the goal of military and technical qualifications to be attained by the sailors for the operation of the new-type destroyer and expressed his view on the training mode for its realization.

After receiving a report on the course of the sectional tests of the various weapon systems of the warship and the composition of the integrated operation system, he expressed satisfaction over the fact that the major tasks for making the Navy high-tech and nuclear-armed are progressing on a stage-by-stage basis and as planned.

He underlined the need to complete the tasks slated for August and September and move on to the next stage, the process of assessing the ship's performance and capability for conducting operations, in October as planned.

That day, he received a report on the third *Choe Hyon*-class new-type multi-mission destroyer being built at the Nampho Shipyard and the project's long-term plan. And he had an important talk with technicians and experts in the field of the shipbuilding industry.

He said that it is the most important of state affairs that brooks no delay from the viewpoint of the development of the Republic's armed forces and in view of the military theory based on the geopolitical peculiarities of our state to extremely rapidly develop the capability for operations of our Navy which is performing its duty in the major space of national defence.

He said that, as he had stressed before, the security environment around our state is getting more serious day by day and the prevailing situation





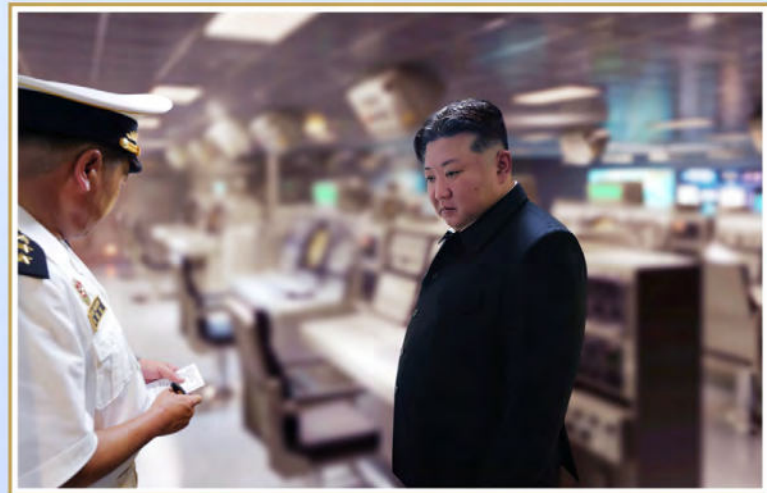
to respond with proactive and overwhelming changes, he stressed.

He said that the DPRK will continue to bring about with uninterrupted struggle and strenuous efforts important and epochal changes in the position and activities of its Navy defending the core of the national sovereignty, and that the Navy will become reliable forces fully performing a part in the composition of the state's nuclear forces and in the realm of nuclear use in the near future. It means that the combat strength of our Navy is growing more adaptable to the fulfilment of the national defence strategy and the use of war deterrent, he added.



The most reliable and steadfast way and guarantee for controlling and keeping the security environment of the region and firmly defending the sovereignty and security of the DPRK is only to make enemies afraid of the DPRK, he said, adding that such a view of the DPRK on controlling the situation and on the national defence strategy will remain unchanged.

He affirmed that important measures for the accelerated growth of the national defence capabilities will surely be taken continuously and the firm will and capabilities of the DPRK to defend its sovereignty and security will be expressed through practical actions.



requires us to make a radical and swift change in the existing military theory and practice and rapidly expand nuclear armaments.

Labelling the US-ROK joint military exercises being staged again from today as a clear expression of their stand of openly revealing their intention to remain most hostile and confrontational to the DPRK, he said that the US-ROK intensified military nexus and muscle-flexing are the most obvious manifestation of their will

to ignite a war and the source of destroying the peace and security environment in the region.

He said that the US-ROK military exercises, which had become a long-time habitual practice, have always been provocative and dangerous in their nature but the gravity is increasing, given the characteristics that they are recently plotting military nexus with nuclear element involved. And such changing situation requires us



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Visits Special Operations Training Base under General Staff of KPA and Learns about Training of Soldiers



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on August 27 visited the special operations training base under the direct control of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army and learned about the training of a sniper sub-unit and a special operations sub-unit there.

At the training base the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un met the members of the sniper sub-unit, which had been organized for a special mission, and the soldiers of the special operations sub-unit

and familiarized himself with the military equipment of the sub-units and their training.

He acquainted himself with the new-type sniper rifles being produced and supplied to the units.

He appreciated the high-precision long-range sniping character and superiority of the new-type sniper rifle designed and developed by the DPRK Academy of Defence Sciences this year in our own way to improve the ergonomic efficiency of the weapon and the tactical mobility of snipers, and satisfactorily said it is very good

for our units to have come to be armed with such a new-generation weapon for sniping.

Saying that the sniper forces have a very important duty in the combat capability composition of units, he noted that a sniper is a specially selected soldier, who has been prepared for independent and voluntary military actions and, like a hunter, shoots enemy soldiers to death with perfect marksmanship in the battlefields. He added that it is an important task in building up our armed forces to substantially strengthen the special operations forces and specialized

sniper forces.

He said that the Central Military Commission of the WPK would examine the matter of organizing a central sniper training centre under the direct control of the General Staff.

He instructed the Ministry of National Defence that from this year it must produce quality camouflage uniforms to be supplied to the sniper sub-units in conformity with the conditions and seasonal characteristics of the mission zones.

The most urgent task for the KPA in war preparations at present is



to thoroughly implement the Party’s policy on effecting a revolution in training, ideology and equipment and thus more firmly prepare the special operations forces to be the pivotal and core forces in fighting a war and the strongest combat group, he said.

He oversaw a live shooting drill of the sniper sub-unit.

Watching with pleasure the training of the combatants demonstrating their perfect marksmanship, he said that they are

really good at shooting and that no enemy within their sight will be able to survive.

Then he watched the general special physical exercises of the combatants of the special operations unit.

Highly appreciating the ideological and moral world of the combatants who always think about the battle, true to the Party’s idea of building special operations forces, and do their utmost to remain



faithful to the noble mission and duty they have assumed for the country and people, he had a photo session with them.

He warmly encouraged the dependable, passionate warriors full of a firm resolve to win only victory by carrying out any combat mission at any time, saying, “You must make enemies tremble with terror at the mere sight of you.”

That day he congratulated three snipers who showed their

distinguished marksmanship, fully displaying their high-precision long-range sniping capability, and had a photo taken with each one of them.

He also had a photo session with the officers and soldiers of the sniper sub-unit who had been cultivating perfect marksmanship in the intensive drill for an actual war.



Dedicated Effort to Lay Foundation of Independent National Economy



President Kim Il Sung presides over a consultative meeting of the officials and model workers at the Kangson Steel Plant in December 1956.

The founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed on September 9, 1948.

On the occasion of the founding anniversary of their country, the Korean people look back upon the imperishable exploits President Kim Il Sung performed in building a genuine people's country and illuminating the road for the new Korea to follow after its liberation.

As have been picked up by the Editorial Board, the following photos offer a brief glimpse of how President Kim Il Sung led the efforts to build an independent national economy for the prosperity of the DPRK.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is now pushing ahead with the programme of building a powerful socialist country through stable and sustained development of the national economy on the strength of its own exertions and technology.

The energy for the ongoing forceful forward march comes from the strong foundation of the independent national economy laid by President Kim Il Sung.

Building an independent national economy is a consistent line the

DPRK has maintained since it was put forth by the President in the early years of the nation building.

An independent national economy is the one that stands on its own feet and serves the interests of the people of a relevant country.

What the Korean people had when their country was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation on August 15, 1945, was no more than empty coffers and backward economy, which the Japanese had totally destroyed as they were defeated.



Kim Il Sung inspects the February 8 Vinalon Factory in October 1961.

The Koreans had no experience in economic construction, and there was a great shortage of national technicians and skilled workers.

As is well known, when they were liberated from the colonial fetters with the end of the Second World War, most of the countries chose to seek aid from big and developed nations or to model their economies on the ones of the advanced nations or adopt them as a whole.

Against all the prevailing practices, the President put forth two principles to be maintained in carrying out the important cause of economic construction which he believed was decisive of the destiny of the country and the people.

One of them was that they should build up their own economy by their own efforts as they could hardly free themselves from the disgrace of being a debtor as long as they tried to live on foreign aid while making no effort to lay their own economic foundations.

Another one was that since the Korean people decided to live an independent life, they would inevitably encounter pressure and embargo from the dominationists and thus they should by all means develop their own strong material and economic potentials to break through the subsequent difficulties.

The President was well aware that it would be in no way easy to build an independent economy when the country had an old and backward one that had been left over with national liberation, the one that had been utterly destroyed by the United States in the three-year war.

Nevertheless, he was sure that it was the only way to keep the national sovereignty, the achievement gained at the cost of blood, safe and secure and bring prosperity to the country and the people.

Taking into consideration the interests of the Korean people, the requirements of the revolution and the prevailing situation in the



Kim Il Sung visits the Kangson Steel Plant in April 1969, where he sees a 6 000-ton press developed by the Ryongsong Machine Factory.

country, he advanced an original theory on economic construction, which demanded giving precedence to the development of heavy industry while developing light industry and agriculture simultaneously.

When some foreign countries, pursuing revisionist policies, were attempting to put the DPRK's economy under their control by making it join the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, he made sure that there was no change in following the line of building an independent national economy; when factionalists within the ruling Workers' Party of Korea were decrying the Party's economic line

by arguing that machines could not produce rice, he refuted their accusations flatly while encouraging all the people to turn out in the effort to build an independent national economy.

The President suggested self-reliance as one of the principles to be maintained in building the independent national economy and made sure that the country's own technical personnel, raw materials and fuels constituted the mainstay in the endeavour.

One day when he was visiting a machine factory, he told the workers and technicians about the urgent necessity for local production of tractors and automobiles and the situation in the



Kim Il Sung visits the general chemical fibre spinning workshop at the Pyongyang Textile Combine in May 1973.

country, and called on them to give up mysticism about their manufacture and make a daring effort to make them by themselves as it would be absurd to continue to ask others for machinery.

Encouraged by his appeal, the workers developed tractors, automobiles, excavators and other kinds of machines, even large-sized ones, in a single year, and this led to a nationwide innovation in machine industry.

When the foundation of industrialization had been laid, the President roused the entire Party, the whole country and all the people to the effort to develop an independent and modern industry.

As a result, the country accomplished the socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years.

As was shown by history, the country's industrial output grew 3.5 times in the four years from 1957 to 1960, and the socialist industrialization was completed by 1970.

Later, in the 1970-1979 period the industrial output grew at a high speed of 15.9% on an yearly basis, and all the industrial sectors reached a record-high level in the late 1980s.

One must carry out the revolution in one's country by mobilizing the effort of one's own nation and by taking a specific situation into consideration—this was the thoroughgoing stand maintained by the President, who never yielded to any pressure. Thanks to his independent stand and unshakable conviction, the country built a self-supporting economic structure based on a comprehensive and all-round heavy industry.

Now in the DPRK the independent national economy is a valuable asset in building a powerful socialist country on the strength of self-reliance in the face of extreme economic blockade applied by the hostile forces.

Text: Pak Ui Chol



Kim Il Sung sees in May 1975 the diesel engine *Kumsong* newly developed by the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Factory.



Kim Il Sung sees in July 1980 a coal cutter and a multipurpose excavating machine made by the May 10 Factory.



Kim Il Sung inspects the Tae'an Heavy Machine Complex in June 1986.



80th Anniversary of Korea's Liberation Celebrated Across the Country



Officials and other working people, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, youth and students visit the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill to lay flower baskets and bouquets.

Demonstrating the invincibility of the Juche cause through a braver and more dynamic struggle and exalting the honour and dignity of the country under the leadership of the great Workers' Party of Korea, all the people across the country celebrated the 80th anniversary of their national liberation as a great auspicious event to be etched in its history.

People from all walks of life visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme sanctuary of Juche where President

Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

Officials and other working people, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, youth and students visited the statues of the great leaders—including those on Mansu Hill—and mosaics of their smiling images in different parts of the country to lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers and pay homage to them.

Eight decades have passed since the day when 400 000 people made loud cheers of

delight in praise of Kim Il Sung, the great man of Pyongyang and the most respected legendary hero they longed for. Recalling the day, a sea of people headed for the Arch of Triumph where the Koreans met him for the first time after his triumphant return.

A lot of people visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the revolutionary martyrs cemetery in Hyesan and other similar places, and paid high tribute to the first-generation revolutionaries who, with the spirit of self-reliance and



Party, government and military cadres, and officials of the Party Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet and armed forces organs visit the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri to lay bouquets and flowers before the graves of the martyrs and pay homage to them.



Working people, service personnel, youth and students visit the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong to lay bouquets and flowers before the graves of the martyrs.



A fine art exhibition held to mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation



A national photo exhibition held to mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation



Youth and students hold oratorical meetings and a procession to carry forward the revolutionary spirit of Paektu.



Gala evening of youth and students and a firework display held to mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation



Hwaepul Cup men's football match between the Kigwancha and Amnokgang teams held to mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation



Opening ceremony of the renovated Ice Rink held to mark the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, and a figure skating demonstration given at the opening ceremony

the immutable faith that they were sure to win victory as long as they were led by the great Comrade Kim Il Sung, pioneered and advanced the revolution by clearing the untrodden path of history while braving the snowstorms of Paektu.

A national symposium, national photo exhibition, gala evening of youth and

students with a firework display, oratorical meeting of officials and members of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, banquet and other events were held to mark the 80th anniversary of national liberation.

Colourful artistic performances and dancing parties took place in the capital city of Pyongyang and provinces.

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok,
Ri Jin Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong



SONGDOWON General Foodstuff Factory



The Songdowon General Foodstuff Factory is well known for its *Songdowon*-brand products.

Situated in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, the factory, with a history of just over ten years, produces tasty and nutritional

foodstuffs, which are competitive in the domestic market.

It is equipped with modern production facilities and a well-regulated advanced quality control system. Now, it produces hundreds of kinds of foodstuffs of ten-odd

varieties.

All its production lines have won the food safety management system certification, and scores of kinds of its products were registered as good products of the country.



The factory focuses on ensuring the hygienic safety of all its products and their high quality, so they are gaining in popularity.

Every year its products are highly appreciated at various exhibitions held in the country.

Producing world-famous products—this is the goal the factory aspires to attain.

The *Songdowon*-brand foodstuffs are gaining in popularity thanks to the enterprising work style of the management and workers of the factory, who are making a contribution to improving the people's living standards with the production of varieties of tasty and nutritional foodstuffs.

Photo: Ra Phyoung Ryol
Text: Pak Ui Chol



*Mountain Registered as World Cultural
and Natural Heritage Element:*

KUMGANG

The 47th meeting of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO recognized Mt Kumgang as an area of world-class cultural legacy and natural beauty, in which cultural tradition, natural ecosystem and scenic spots are in delicate harmony, and decided to put it on the world cultural and natural heritage list.

Mt Kumgang, a famous mountain in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was registered as a world cultural and natural heritage element.

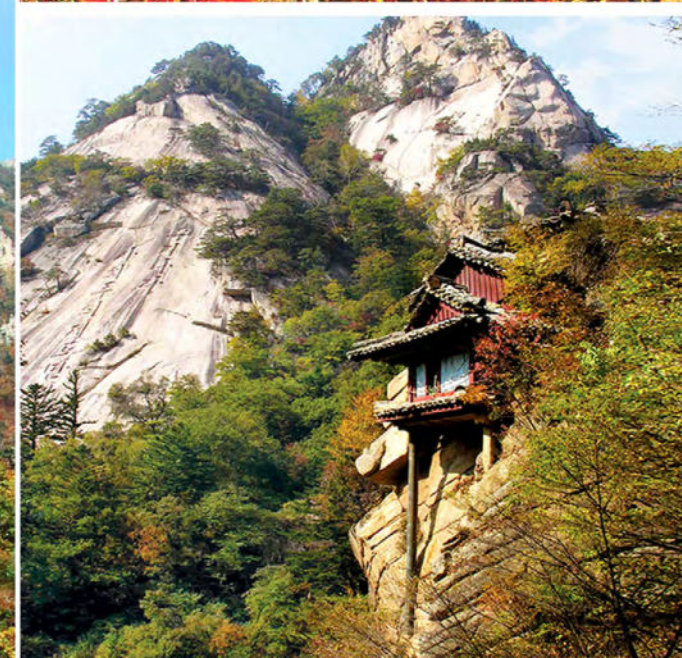
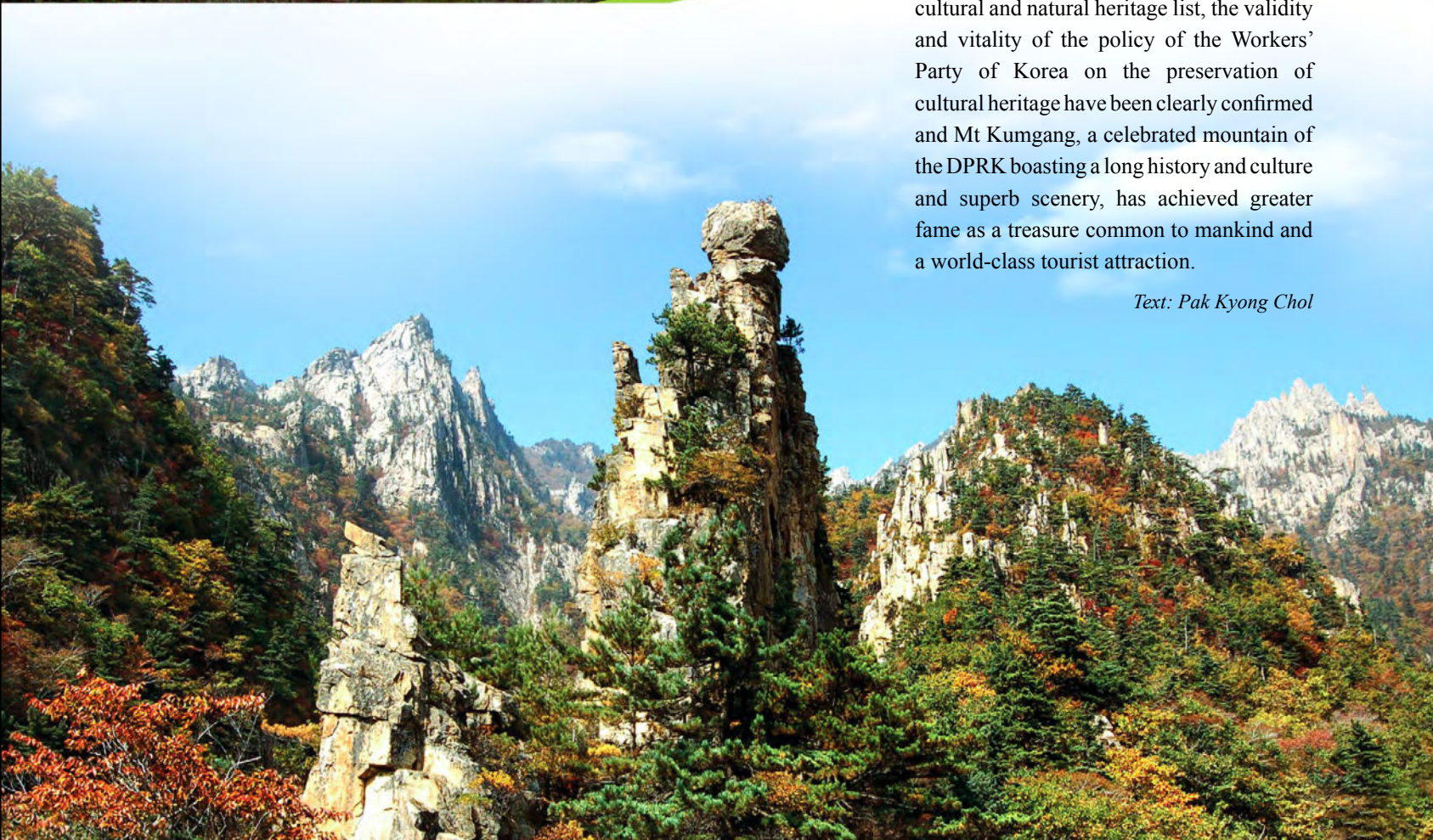
The 47th meeting of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO recognized Mt Kumgang as an area of world-class cultural legacy and natural beauty, in which cultural tradition, natural ecosystem and scenic spots are in delicate harmony, and decided to put it on the world cultural and natural heritage list.

The mountain has been one of the celebrated mountains in the country since long ago. It has the beautiful natural spots of Inner Kumgang, Outer Kumgang and Sea Kumgang, 12 000 peaks, fantastic rocks, beautiful waterfalls and ponds, lakes, fresh air, crystal-clear water, seasonal colours and other sorts of unique natural beauty, diverse biota, cultural heritage such as old temples, temple sites and stone sculptures, and such intangible heritage elements as the legendary tale of Mt Kumgang.



As Mt Kumgang was put on the world cultural and natural heritage list, the validity and vitality of the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on the preservation of cultural heritage have been clearly confirmed and Mt Kumgang, a celebrated mountain of the DPRK boasting a long history and culture and superb scenery, has achieved greater fame as a treasure common to mankind and a world-class tourist attraction.

Text: Pak Kyong Chol





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