

# PEKING

July 22, 1958

21

# REVIEW

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STOP

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THE MIDDLE EAST (p. 3).

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# PEKING REVIEW

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

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NEWS AND VIEWS

July 22, 1958

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## Stop U.S.-British Aggression in the Middle East

**N**AKED U.S.-British aggression against Lebanon and Jordan has aroused a violent storm of protest the world over. The cry "throw the imperialists out!" sounds louder and more insistent every day.

The mounting opposition of the people of Lebanon and Jordan is particularly significant. In Lebanon, the leaders of the people's forces indignantly accused the U.S. of open aggression and vowed to defend their fatherland at all costs. Even Reuter had to report that "influential Lebanese military quarters had been angered and wanted the U.S. Marines to withdraw entirely from Lebanon." News dispatches from Amman also indicate that the British invaders are having a pretty hot time of it too.

The march of events in the Middle East brings the issue into sharp focus.

The American and British hypocrisy about respecting each nation's right to choose its form of government now stands exposed before the entire world. In vain are the attempts of Washington and London to justify their aggression on the pretext of "protecting" the lives and property of their nationals. This hollow tale is nothing but the long discredited language of sabre-rattling imperialists.

In the Suez crisis, the U.S.A. pretended to take exception to the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt and posed as a friend of the Arab people. Now the Yankee imperialists are out in front in launching aggression in the Middle East. This shows what the notorious Eisenhower Doctrine really is.

For the Arab people in the Middle East, Britain's unsavoury record of imperialist plunder and bestiality is only too well known. Renewed British aggression against Jordan points up the truism that you can't expect the leopard to change its spots.

Washington and London made no secret of the fact that they resorted to armed intervention in order to cope with the highly "explosive" situation arising from the birth of the new Republic of Iraq. It is therefore only too clear that U.S.-British aggression against Lebanon and Jordan represents only one aspect of their military adventure. Their objective is to crush the national independence movements in the Middle East and to bolster up their colonial rule in that part of the world.

U.S.-British aggression violates international law and the U.N. Charter. It seriously menaces peace in western Asia and the world. This flagrant challenge must not go unchecked. The people of Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq enjoy world-wide support because justice is on their side. As reported elsewhere in this issue, the Chinese Government and people stand squarely behind the Arab people in their fight against foreign aggression. The miserable failure of U.S. aggression in Korea and the Anglo-French military adventure over the Suez show beyond doubt that imperialist aggression can be smashed and must be smashed.

Let the imperialists be shown once again that they cannot get away with lawless, gunboat piracy.



# "WE STAND BY OUR ARAB BROTHERS!"

— Peking Mass Rally Condemns U. S. Aggression —

Marching columns of half a million demonstrators—workers, peasants, students, government employees and residents—converged on Peking's Tien An Men Square on the afternoon of July 17 in a mammoth rally against U.S. aggression in Lebanon.

Demonstrating their solidarity with the Iraqi and Lebanese peoples and protesting against imperialist aggression in the Middle East, they turned the vast square into a sea of people and banners. By the time the mass meeting started at 4 o'clock the crowd was overflowing into the wide thoroughfares that flank the square. Up on the rostrum were representatives of China's mass organizations and diplomatic officials from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and from many Asian and African countries.

Mayor Peng Chen, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, first speaker at the rally, declared: "The 600 million Chinese people stand by the Arab people. Together with the other Asian and African peoples and all peace-loving people the world over, we shall give full support to the Arab people who now stand in the forefront of the struggle against imperialist aggression in the Middle East. We are confident that victory will go to the courageous Arab people. Justice is on their side."

A thunder of applause rolled over the square when he greeted the founding of the Iraqi Republic. "This," he said, "is a great victory not only for the Arab people, but for all the peace-loving peoples of the world. It is a telling blow to the colonial rule of the imperialists in the Middle East. The victory of the Iraqi people will stimulate a new upsurge of the national independence movements in Asia and Africa. The imperialists, who are trying to lord it over the Asian and African peoples, are courting even bigger defeats."

Peng Chen declared: "At this moment, the U.S. imperialists are still forcibly occupying our territory of Taiwan. But the Chinese people are determined to liberate Taiwan and they are fully confident that they can do so. U.S. troops must get out of Taiwan!" The great crowd roared approval and support.

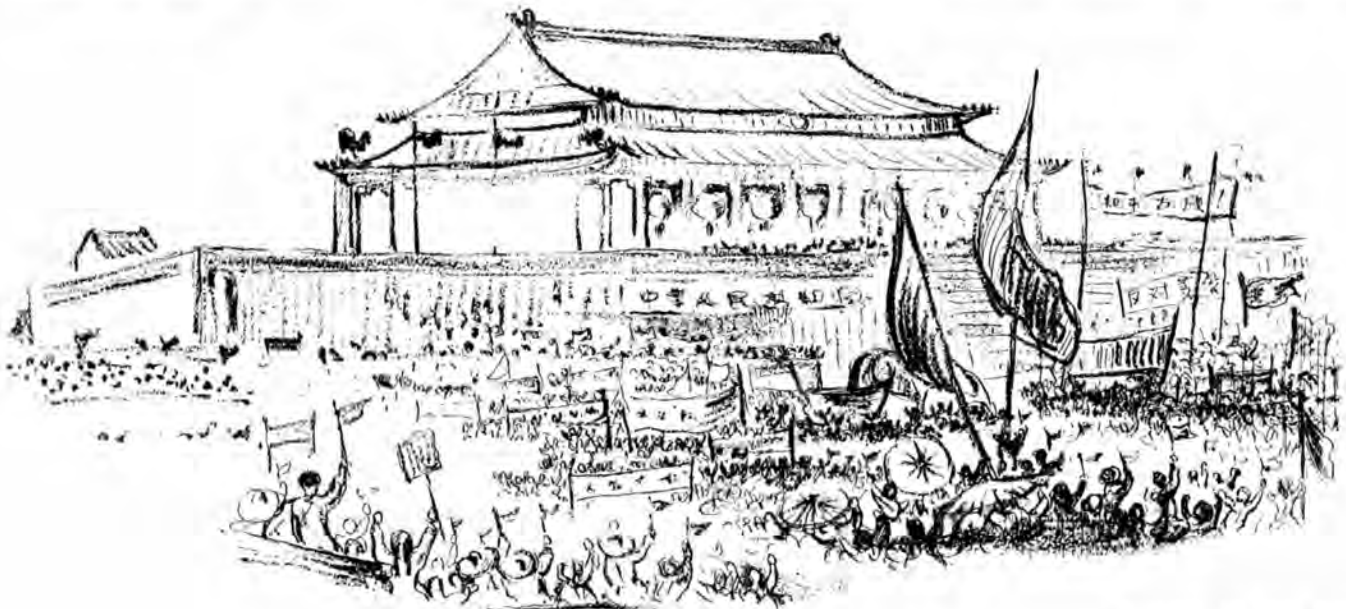
The meeting was addressed by many speakers prominent in various walks of life. As representatives of workers, peasants, students and various political parties mounted the rostrum to condemn U.S. aggression, the square echoed to shouts of "U.S. troops get out of Lebanon!" "Long live the Republic of Iraq!" "U.S. troops get out of Korea!" "U.S. troops clear out from Japan and the Philippines!" "Down with imperialist aggression!" "Defend world peace!" "Oppose U.S. inter-

ference in the internal affairs of the Arab peoples!" "Support the Lebanese people's national independence movement!" "Support the Republic of Iraq!" "Long live the victory of the national independence movement in Asia and Africa!"

The appearance of the U.A.R. Chargé d'Affaires in China, Zoheir Mohamed El Shibiny, before the microphone was greeted with tumultuous cheers. Condemning the U.S. aggression in Lebanon, he declared: "The Soviet Union and People's China have announced their recognition of the Republic of Iraq and condemned the occupation of Lebanon by the U.S. imperialists. Once again they have proved to be the true and faithful friends of the Arab people in their trials."

## Whole City Astir

Since early morning China's capital had been seething with the news of the American invasion of Lebanon. Meetings, discussions and spontaneous demonstrations were taking place in factories, schools, offices and farms. By midday, under a relentless July sun, demonstrators were filling Tien An Men Square, carrying flags, banners and hastily drawn posters and cartoons. One of the favourites was the *Renmin Ribao* cartoon of that morning: "No Time for Disguise"—a sodden, armed wolf—U.S. imperialism—coming ashore in Lebanon. The crowds were in



Sketches by Jack Chen



ferment. Students were singing anti-imperialist marching songs composed only a few hours previously. Some, to the delight of demonstrators around them, put on skits caricaturing the American aggressors.

A hefty, middle-aged crane-operator, holding a red flag, told your correspondent: "I'll tell you: I had enough of the imperialists. My mother was killed by the Japanese aggressors during the last war. I was orphaned at seven and had to tramp all the way from my native Shantung Province to Peking to find work to feed myself. I worked as a coolie in the Shihchingshan Iron Works which were run then by the Japanese. I slaved long hours. I nearly died of poor food and sickness. I hate the imperialists. I can't bear to see them lord it over our own people or any other nation!"

### Typical of China

Less than two years ago—on November 3—four hundred thousand people rallied on this same square to demonstrate the Chinese people's support of Egypt in her struggle against Anglo-French aggression during the Suez affair. Marching with a group of students through the east city during the demonstration following the rally, one could feel the same sentiments, with, perhaps, an even larger measure of confidence animating the demonstrators and the whole of Peking. Everywhere, in *hutongs* or avenues, slogans were written or posted on walls and telephone poles. Lorries carried slogans chalked on their sides and flags fluttered from cycles demonstrating support for the Iraqi and Lebanese peoples. The column was greeted all along its route with cheers and applause. Housewives ran out from houses to offer them tea and drinks. On Wangfuching, the city's busiest shopping centre, the current attraction was not the latest fancy goods produced during the "big leap," but shop-window displays of maps of the Middle East and cartoons condemning the U.S. imperialists.

In the afternoon and until late in the evening, meetings continued to be held in factories, mines, schools and universi-

ties throughout Peking. The latest news of the Middle East situation broadcast by the radio was eagerly handed on.

What has been happening in Peking these days is typical of the mood of the people throughout the country. On July 16 and 17, millions of people in scores of China's major cities such as Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton, Shenyang, Chungking, Wuhan, Sian, and Harbin were holding large-scale demonstrations and meetings. In fact, in all of China's vast regions, people are astir. In as massive a display of international solidarity as the world has ever witnessed, the Chinese people demonstrated that they stand by the Arab people in their fight for national independence.

### "British Forces, Get Out of Jordan!"

A fresh wave of demonstrations and meetings was set off throughout China on July 18 by news of the landing of British troops in Jordan. In Peking, angry citizens staged round-the-clock demonstrations before the British chargé d'affaires' office, demanding immediate withdrawal of U.S. and British troops from Lebanon and Jordan.

Reports of Britain's military intervention in the Middle East, carried in the morning press, aroused immediate popular reaction. Around noon demonstrators from all over the capital began to make their way to the British chargé d'affaires' office. By two in the afternoon the street in front of it was jammed with thousands of demonstrators, and more kept on arriving. Two members of the office stood embarrassed inside its main gate. At sight of them, demonstrators surged forward shouting: "Down with U.S.-British interference in the internal affairs of the Arab peoples!" "Hands off Jordan!" "British forces, get out of Jordan!" "U.S. forces, get out of Lebanon!" and "We support the national independence movements of the Arab peoples!"

During the demonstration, hundreds of protest messages were delivered to the British office. These notes from the people were hardly couched in "diplomatic" language. This message written by a group of workers is typical: "Pull your forces out of Jordan at once, or you will face as shameful a defeat as you did in Suez!"

Demonstrators brought along homemade posters and buckets of paste. Soon the tall grey wall of the British compound, a few hundred metres long, was plastered with posters and slogans in Chinese, Arabic and English. By the end of the day only the British emblem over the gateway was left uncovered.

The demonstration went on throughout the night of the 18th and continued on July 19. Many workers still in overalls went to the British office straight from work to add their voice to the protests. By noon on the 19th, it was estimated that over a million had demonstrated in the streets. Hundreds of thousands of these went to make their personal protest to the diplomatic representatives of Britain in Peking.

Throughout July 18 and 19, during the day and late at night, numerous meetings and gatherings were held throughout Peking in factories, mines, co-op farms, schools, universities, government offices, and on street corners. Speakers roundly condemned U.S. and British aggression in the Middle East and expressed support for the national independence movement in Lebanon and Iraq. Fresh posters in big Chinese characters have gone up everywhere denouncing imperialist aggression.

Never before has Peking seen mass protests on such a scale. The whole capital has become a tribune to express popular determination to back up whatever action is necessary to stop the imperialists now.

As we go to press, the demonstrations are continuing—in Peking and throughout China.

### China Recognizes the Republic of Iraq

The Governments of the People's Republic of China and the newly founded Republic of Iraq have extended mutual recognition.

In a cable to the Foreign Minister of the Iraqi Republic Abdal-Jabbar Aljamer on July 16, China's Foreign Minister Chen Yi informed him of the decision of the Chinese Government to recognize the Iraqi Government. On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, he extended hearty congratulations to the Iraqi people on their great victory. He declared: "I am deeply convinced that friendship and co-operation between China and Iraq and their peoples will develop continuously on the basis of the Bandung principles. The Chinese people will exert their utmost efforts to support your just struggle against imperialism and in defence of national independence and freedom."

In a cable to Premier Chou En-lai on July 18, Iraqi Premier Abdel Karim Kassem said: "I am pleased to inform you of the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Iraqi Republic to recognize the Government of the People's Republic of China. I hope that this recognition will lead to cordial co-operation between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Iraq and to the promotion of world peace."



# People of the World, Act Now!

*The following is the full text of an editorial published in "Renmin Ribao" (People's Daily), July 17, 1958, under the title "People Throughout the World, Go into Action to Stop U.S. Aggression." — Ed.*

**T**HE Government of the People's Republic of China on July 16 issued a statement demanding that the United States of America withdraw its armed forces from Lebanon. At the same time Chen Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, sent a cable to Abdal-Jabbar Aljamer, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, announcing the Chinese Government's recognition of the Government of the Republic of Iraq. Mass rallies have been held in Peking, Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton and other cities in opposition to U.S. armed intervention in Lebanon and in support of the struggle of the Arab people for national independence.

On July 15 the Soviet delegate to the Security Council meeting urged the Security Council to call on the Government of the United States to stop its armed intervention in the internal affairs of Arab states and to withdraw at once its armed forces from Lebanese territory. On July 16 the same just demands were made in the Soviet Government statement. On the same day, Khrushchov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., in a message to Abdel Karim Kassem, Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq, announced the Soviet Government's recognition of the Government of the Republic of Iraq.

It is obvious that to check the extremely dangerous acts of aggression undertaken by the United States in the Middle East and to support the anti-intervention struggle of the Arab people has become the most urgent task of the peoples of the world. Every country and people opposing aggression, not wanting war and advocating the upholding of the U.N. Charter should swing into action right away for the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. interventionist troops from Lebanon and for the safeguarding of peace in the Middle East and the whole world.

U.S. interference in Lebanon is utterly unjustified. The U.S. aggressors claimed that it was intended to protect their nationals and safeguard Lebanon's territorial integrity and independence. This pretext is completely groundless. If the protection of nationals can be used as a pretext for sending troops, then any country can conduct armed intervention against any other country. The struggle of the Lebanese people against the Chamoun group of traitors is purely Lebanon's internal affair. There can be no question of "territorial integrity and independence" being threatened. Even the U.N. observation group had to admit on the basis of its investigation in Lebanon that there did not exist in Lebanon the so-called "large-scale infiltration," although the mission of this observation group was to find grounds for U.S. intervention. In this situation, Eisenhower himself had to ask: "Does the stationing of some United States troops in Lebanon involve any interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon?" Although he answered "no," the situation there was just the opposite of what the U.S. aggressors said. Everybody

knows that the struggle of the Lebanese people against the Chamoun group of traitors is precisely for the defence of Lebanon's territorial integrity and independence. The country which is violating Lebanon's territorial integrity and independence is none other than the United States which acted under the pretext of "protecting U.S. nationals" and "defending Lebanon's territorial integrity and sovereignty."

**T**HESE acts of the U.S. aggressors grossly violate the principles of the U.N. Charter. The fourth clause of the second article of the Charter provided that "all members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." The U.S. imperialists who try to use the U.N. Charter to cover up their own aggressive acts are the most unscrupulous saboteurs of the principles of the U.N. Charter.

In his statement on U.S. aggression in Lebanon, Eisenhower went so far as to make the Iraqi people's victory in their revolution to overthrow the feudal monarchy the excuse for the United States' sending its troops to intervene in Lebanon. He indulged in a torrent of verbal attacks on the United Arab Republic. The Iraqi people's revolution, like the armed uprising of the Lebanese people, is a purely internal matter. But the United States went so far as to characterize this purely internal affair as "aggression." As to the nonsense spread by imperialism and its stooges about the United Arab Republic infiltrating into Lebanon, even United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold has denied it. Then, why should the United States want to build a case out of thin air? It is obvious that the United States aggressive plan is directed not only against Lebanon, but also against Iraq, the United Arab Republic and the people of the Middle East as a whole. Its ambitious scheme is to strangle the national independence movement in the whole Arab East in order to build up an American colonial empire in the Arab world and the Middle East as a whole.

**N**OW that the masses of the Arab people have stood up and the people throughout the world are closely watching the U.S. aggressive designs, it is fully possible to defeat completely the sinister ambitions of U.S. imperialism. The invasion of Egypt by British and French imperialism, it may be recalled, was smashed in just this way. However, the main thing is that all forces in the world in favour of peace and justice must go into action and must not appease or tolerate the acts of aggression of U.S. imperialism. The U.S. Government is at present trying to confuse world opinion by claiming that these acts are but a minor affair. We must not believe such sheer nonsense. The situation is very serious. If the people of the whole world and all governments in favour of peace act in unison, the United States will have no alternative but to withdraw its troops, and the independence and freedom of the Middle Eastern countries can then be ensured and

peace in the Middle East and the world saved. On the other hand, if the U.S. aggressors are given a free hand, the people of the Middle East will be doomed to slavery and what is more, a new world war would be unavoidable.

Therefore, people throughout the world, act at once for world peace and justice! Stop U.S. intervention in

Lebanon! Stop U.S. intervention in the whole Middle Eastern situation! The U.S. armed forces must withdraw from Lebanon at once! No interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon, Iraq and other Arab countries! No interference in the internal affairs of Asian and African nations!

## THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT DEMANDS: Withdrawal of U.S. Forces from Lebanon

*The following statement was issued by the Government of the People's Republic of China on July 16:*

ON July 15, the United States, in flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter, landed its armed forces in the Lebanon and launched armed intervention in the Lebanon's internal affairs under the pretext of "protecting American lives" and "defending Lebanese sovereignty." This is an extremely grave warlike adventure on the part of the United States to suppress the national independence movements of the Arab peoples and to create world tension. The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese people strongly condemn and protest against this United States act of aggression.

The United States and other Western countries craved for long to carry out armed intervention against the Lebanon, but failed to do so because of the resolute opposition of the Arab peoples and the peace-loving countries and people throughout the world. Now, with colonial rule in the Middle East shaken by the great victory of the national independence movement in Iraq, the United States Government, in a sudden rage and panic, has brazenly launched armed intervention against the Lebanon in defiance of universal censure, and also attempts to invade

Jordan to menace the Republic of Iraq. This act of aggression on the part of the United States is not only an outrageous provocation against the peoples of the Arab states, but also constitutes a grave threat to the peace of western Asia and the world. The pretexts of "protecting American lives" and "defending Lebanese sovereignty" absolutely cannot cover up this naked act of aggression on the part of the United States. All peace-loving countries and peoples of the world must firmly demand the immediate withdrawal of United States forces from the Lebanon and stop the United States' war provocation.

The people of all countries have the right to choose their own governments, in which no intervention is allowed. The armed intervention against the Arab peoples carried out by the United States imperialists is doomed to failure.

In their struggle for independence and freedom, the peoples of the Lebanon, Iraq and other Arab countries by no means stand alone! Together with the peoples of the Asian and African countries and other peace-loving countries and peoples the world over, the 600 million Chinese people will give all-out support to the Arab peoples' just struggle. Should the United States fail to withdraw its forces of aggression from the Lebanon at once, it will have to face the consequences of its action.

## Withdrawal of British Forces from Jordan

*The following is the text of the protest of the Chinese Government to the British Government.*

FOLLOWING the United States' armed intervention in the Lebanon, the British Government, fabricating an absurd pretext, openly sent troops to Jordan on July 17 to suppress the people of Jordan; at the same time it concentrated its forces in the eastern Mediterranean and in the area of the Persian Gulf, in an attempt to invade the Republic of Iraq from several directions. These British moves have aggravated the tension in the world situation and brought with them a grave danger of spreading the war. This is flagrant aggression against the Arab peoples as a whole by the British Government in league with the U.S. Government, an open provocation against the peace-loving countries and peoples of the world and a grave menace to world peace. The Chinese Government and people strongly condemn and protest against these acts of

aggression and war provocations on the part of the British Government.

There is absolutely no ground for the British Government to send troops to Jordan on the pretext of helping the Jordanian Government to resist aggression and stabilize the situation, because there is no aggression against Jordan at all, and the situation in Jordan is purely a matter for the people of Jordan themselves. Jordan's affairs should be managed by the people of Jordan themselves, and the affairs of the Arab countries should be managed by the Arab peoples themselves, in which no foreign intervention is allowed. Not only do the Arab peoples oppose the British war provocations in invading Jordan and threatening the Republic of Iraq, but the peace-loving countries and peoples throughout the world will certainly not look on with folded arms.

The Chinese Government deems it necessary to warn the British Government that it must immediately stop its



armed aggression against Jordan, withdraw all its armed forces from Jordan, and discontinue its acts of provocation in concentrating forces around the Republic of Iraq. Should the British Government refuse to come to its senses and heed the just condemnation and reasonable demand of

the people of the world and obstinately refuse to stop its acts of aggression and abandon its aggressive schemes, this will certainly give rise to extremely grave consequences.

Peking, July 18, 1958

## China Greets the Great Victory of the Iraqi People

*Following is the full text of an editorial published in "Renmin Ribao" (People's Daily), July 16, 1958, under the title "Hail to the Iraqi People's Great Victory."*

THE good news has come that Iraq's patriotic army men headed by General Kassem launched a revolution on July 13. They overthrew the reactionary rule of the Faisal monarchy, running-dog of U.S.-British imperialism, and set up an anti-imperialist republic. The government of the republic, immediately after it was established, proclaimed adherence to the principles of the Bandung Conference and withdrawal from the Bagdad Pact dominated by U.S.-British imperialism. With this, another country in Asia has broken off the chains of colonialism and attained national independence. Asia counts another country which cherishes peace and opposes aggression.

Now the backbone of imperialist aggression in western Asia is broken and the aggressive imperialist front and its war plans have been upset. The Arab peoples' struggle for independence, the movement for national liberation in all Asia and Africa, the struggle of the oppressed peoples throughout the world for emancipation and the world-wide struggle for peace and against a new war will be greatly inspired by this development and will reach new heights.

We Chinese people warmly greet the birth of the Iraqi Republic and heartily congratulate the Iraqi people on their great victory. Like the Iraqi people, we had long suffered from aggression and plunder by the imperialist powers and from oppression by the feudal rulers who were the agents of imperialism. We therefore have a particular fraternal sympathy for the heroic struggle of the Iraqi people. Though the people of our two countries are thousands of miles apart, we feel deeply that the struggle of the Iraqi people is our struggle and that their victory is our victory.

The Iraqi people's victory is a new development in the series of big victories won by the Asian and African peoples, especially the Arab peoples, in recent years. The Egyptian people's struggle in defence of the Suez Canal, the Syrian people's struggle against the U.S. aggressors, the Omani and Yemeni struggle against the British aggressors and the current struggle of the Lebanese people against the imperialist lackey, the Chamoun government, were the prelude to the Iraqi people's struggle.

The founding of the Iraqi Republic is especially significant for the Asian and African peoples, because the Faisal monarchy of Iraq was the initiator of the Bagdad Pact and a cornerstone of U.S. and British imperialist aggression in the Middle East. Now this corner-

stone has fallen with a bang, and, moreover, Iraq has become an anti-imperialist forefront.

The founding of the Iraqi Republic not only helps the struggle of the Lebanese people directly, but it fundamentally alters the situation in the Middle East and greatly accelerates the process of the complete destruction of the colonial forces in the Middle East and even in the world as a whole.

The imperialists are accustomed to thinking that they are sitting on a solid throne, but in the twinkling of an eye, the throne turns into a volcano. This is always the case with imperialism.

Obviously, the imperialists will not slacken their intervention against the peoples struggling for independence. Aggressive U.S. troops have landed in Lebanon. The wolves have dropped their sheep's clothing. They openly threaten armed intervention not only against the Lebanese people but also against the Iraqi people. But armed intervention can never intimidate the peoples fighting for independence. None of the countries in Asia and Africa was ever free from the threat of armed intervention in their struggle for emancipation. But what have been the results? The imperialists suffered ignominious defeats and the peoples struggling for independence won glorious victories.

The U.S.-British imperialist intervention in Lebanon and the entire Middle East can only evoke more widespread and more determined resistance from the people there. Their intervention is doomed to miserable failure, just as in the Suez Canal events. The Arab peoples today are stronger than they were at the time of the Suez Canal incident and their struggle is merging into one. The countries in the socialist camp—loyal friends of all national liberation movements—are more powerful than at that time. The interventionists will burn themselves in the flames of national liberation in the entire Middle East—flames which are beyond their control.

Deputy-Premier Aref of the Republic of Iraq put it well when he addressed the people of Iraq to the effect that this triumph must be completed by defending it against imperialist conspiracies and imperialist agents.

We believe that, with the sympathy and support of the people the world over, the awakened Arab peoples will surely defeat any imperialist conspiracies and direct intervention. Like the peoples in various Asian and African countries and the socialist countries, we Chinese people will resolutely stand on the side of the Iraqi and Lebanese peoples in their struggle for independence and freedom.

Long live the victory of the national independence movements in the countries of the Middle East! Down with imperialist intervention!



# Days with Chairman Mao

by CHEN CHANG-FENG

*The following is a slightly abridged version of the first two parts of a serial which the popular fortnightly "Xin Guancha" (New Observer) is currently publishing under the title "With Chairman Mao on the Long March." These are the reminiscences of Colonel Chen Chang-feng, now deputy commander of a sub-military zone, who worked with Chairman Mao from 1930 to 1935 first as an orderly and then as his bodyguard, and was with him throughout the famed Long March. The original is in ten parts. Additional instalments of this serial will appear in subsequent issues of "Peking Review."*

—Ed.

## I. EARLY DAYS

I WAS born in the village of Lingnao, in Ningtu County, Kiangsi Province in the autumn of 1915. Ours was a very poor family. When I was eleven, mother died. My father supported the family by working for the landlords. Because of our poverty and the oppression we suffered at the hands of the landlords and local despots, I hated this rapacious class of exploiters from the bottom of my heart ever since I was a child.

In 1928 our village suddenly buzzed with talk about a "Red Army" that had appeared in the near-by village of Wangfang as if from nowhere. It was passing Ningtu, heading for Juichin and Tapoti. This news stirred the whole village, and as it spread around, it took on the proportions of a legend. The poor were glad. They said these troops helped the poor. They were called the Communist Party or the Red Army, they would square accounts with the rich and throw the gold and silver of the landlords and despots on the streets so that the poor could pick it up themselves. The rich were scared. They called these men cut-throats and bandits. I was only thirteen at the time. I knew nothing of politics, but I agreed immediately with what the poor people said. Those few words: "Down with the rich! Up with the poor!" burnt themselves into my memory.

Several days passed. Some of the village pedlars who had been to Changting in Fukien Province gleefully recounted what they had seen. The Red Army had captured Changting, fought the local despots and overthrown the landlords. The poor were given land; now they were standing on their feet for the first time.

This news made me happy and I waited impatiently for the day when these soldiers of the poor would come to our village.

That New Year's Eve our house was searched and ransacked. We owed the local despot some money, and everything we owned—from the tiny plot of land on the wild heath to the tattered quilt in my room—was taken away. It was only thanks to the neighbours who begged pity for us that we were left a single broken saucepan for cooking rice in. Our life became harder than ever. Luckily I got jobs herding cattle for other people. But

I lived worse than the animals. When an ox or a horse finishes its work, it gets its fodder, but sometimes our whole family starved with not even a drop of gruel between us.

## How I Joined the Red Army

What should I do? Join the Red Army! The idea suddenly came into my mind, and the more I thought about it, the more determined I was to do it. Just after the Spring Festival the night of the second of the First Moon was pitch-black. I and a neighbour, a youngster named Wen, slipped out of the village secretly without even telling our families and headed for Changting. We were determined to find and join the Red Army.

We travelled on for I don't know how many days or how far without meeting a single Red Army soldier. We were famished but never thought of turning back. On a hill about fifteen li from Changting we came upon two soldier sentries with red stars on their caps. The Red Army at last! We immediately went up to them and declared that we had come to join the Red Army. After questioning us in detail, they pointed to Changting and told us that if we wanted to enlist, we should go there to the Red Recruiting Corps.

At Changting we found the Red Recruiting Corps stationed by a stone bridge. We were so happy that we wanted to join right away, without even listening to their explanations. We never expected that after going into our cases they would shake their heads and say: No! I was too young and could hardly shoulder a rifle, they said. Tears came to my eyes. But I wouldn't give up. I cried out, "I must join the Red Army! If you don't let me join, I'll still stay right here where I am!" At last, seeing that I was so set, they relented, and ever since that day I have been a member of our glorious people's army.

I was posted as a bugler with the headquarters of the Fourth Army of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army, under the command of Comrade Chu Teh. Later I became an orderly. One afternoon at the end of March 1930, when the headquarters was in Paisha Village, Yung-fung County, Kiangsi, Adjutant Officer Liu told me that I would be transferred. I wondered where I'd be transferred to. I wasn't too pleased because I was well satisfied where I was.

"You'll go to the Front Committee as orderly for Commissar Mao," he said with a smile.

I knew the Front Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, but who Commissar Mao was, I wasn't quite clear. He must be a leading officer, I reckoned, otherwise he couldn't have an orderly. But what sort of man was he? Was he good tempered?

Adjutant Liu, seeing my hesitation, patted me on the shoulder and said encouragingly: "You're a lucky little

devil. Commissar Mao is a wonderful man. You'll certainly have a wonderful future if you work together with him!" Then he handed me a letter of introduction, told me to pack up my things and be off. I had little to carry. All I had weighed just about three catties all told.

The Front Committee was in the same village, so I was soon there. I was a bit nervous. A comrade named Wu took me in to the Commissar. He lived in a typical Kiangsi wooden house with two rooms, one a bedroom and the other an office. We entered through the bedroom. In it was an ordinary wooden bed covered with a cotton sheet. It didn't even have a pillow. I grew less nervous. Judging from the room, the Commissar must be just the same as us, I thought. Two men were talking together in the office. Comrade Wu indicated the man in the chair and whispered: "That's Commissar Mao." I looked at him curiously. His grey uniform was the same as ours. The only difference was that the pockets on his coat seemed to be especially large. His face looked very pale. Maybe he was a bit too thin. His eyes seemed to be very big and keen. He seemed to be about forty at most. Talking to a man opposite him, he gesticulated with his hands; his voice was gentle. Although I didn't understand what he was talking about, I felt he was very sincere. A little time later, his visitor stood up to go. He too stood up. It was only then that I saw he was quite tall. As soon as the visitor went out, Comrade Wu said to Commissar Mao, pointing at me, "I have found an orderly for you."

### I Meet Commissar Mao

Although I felt a bit shy, I didn't forget the manners which I had learnt at army headquarters. I advanced a step, saluted and said "Report!" in a loud voice. Commissar Mao looked at me and smiled kindly. That smile swept away all my reservations.

"What's your surname?" he asked.

"Chen," I replied loudly, like a real soldier.

"What are you called?"

"Chang-feng."

"How old are you?"

"Sixteen." By this time my voice sounded a bit more natural.

"Why did you join the Red Army?" Commissar Mao asked me like a school teacher questioning a pupil.

"The Red Army is good. It beats the local despots!" I was still standing straight at attention. Commissar Mao made me sit down and asked with interest, "Are there local despots in your home village?"

"Yes," I said, "I was driven away by them myself."

And I told him in detail how I had lived with my family and how I had run away and joined the Red Army. He listened to me attentively, sometimes nodding and smiling slightly. This put me at ease, and so I talked on at great length. It was only when Comrade Wu nudged me that I realized I had talked too much. I felt a bit embarrassed and stopped.

"Well," said Commissar Mao. "Now you'll have to work and study hard." After a pause, he asked, "Can you write your name?"

I stood up and twisted the edge of my jacket in embarrassment. "I've never been to school. I don't know how to write," I replied.

Commissar Mao smiled and stood up.

"Then you'll have to learn to write. You'll like that, won't you?" He turned and addressed Comrade Wu.

"This is a new comrade, you must do your best to help him." Then he turned back to me, "If there is anything you're not clear about, just ask them."

As I went down the stairs with Comrade Wu, he said to me:

"Why did you gabble on so? Don't you know how busy he is?"

I shook my head.

"He's a busy man," Wu continued. "Remember not to make a noise when he's reading. Besides he always works late into the night. You must get him his breakfast, but not too early, mind!"

"Yes," I replied.

I was very happy and so excited that I didn't sleep a wink the whole night.

For some days after that I would set Commissar Mao's washing water for him by his door early in the morning without making a sound and then sit in a small hammock near the landing waiting there for his orders. But Commissar Mao rarely called me and I sat in this way for several days.

One day after washing, however, he asked me:

"Chen Chang-feng, why do you always sit there without stirring?"

I held the hammock still and answered, "I am afraid if I go away you'll not find me if you want me."

He smiled as if talking to a child. "From now on you must not just sit there doing nothing. When there is nothing for you to do here, you go and study with the others. There isn't much for you to do here."

### Always on the Move

At that time battles were being fought every day. We were constantly on the move. We'd seldom stay at a place for more than a month.

Commissar Mao's life was very simple and I soon got to know his habits. His personal possessions included only two blankets, one cotton sheet, two grey uniforms, just as we privates wore, and one grey woollen sweater. Then he had a broken umbrella, a bowl for eating and a knapsack with nine compartments for his maps, documents and books. When we were campaigning or on the march, he carried the knapsack and umbrella himself. I would carry the rest. When we came to our camp site, I would find two wooden boards, put them together and spread the blanket and sheet on them, folding up his uniforms to make a pillow. This was his bed.

He slept very little. We had a small lamp; during the march this was used as a torch to light the way, but when in camp it was set on a brick or stone for the use of the office. After supper he would light this lamp, open up his knapsack and take out his maps, documents and books, papers, and writing brush and work till dawn. It



was at this time that he wrote some of his best-known works.

At that time I was a youngster and couldn't sit up all night without sleep. When Commissar Mao was reading or writing, I would sit beside him, but very soon I'd doze off snoring away with my head on his desk. We would both smile whenever he woke me up and told me to go to bed.

On summer nights he would ask me to fetch some water.

Then I'd take the little wooden dipper and bring some cold water. Because we didn't have a basin, he would soak the towel in the dipper and rub his face and sometimes his body to freshen himself up. Then he'd feel hungry, and I'd warm up the "three-decker rice sandwich"\* left in the bowl since the afternoon for him to eat.

Sometimes he couldn't finish his bowl of rice so I would cover it up with a piece of paper for him to eat at the next meal. Once I threw away the rice he had left and the next day he asked:

"Chen Chang-feng, where is the rice I left yesterday?"

I told him the truth and he criticized me.

"There is a struggle for every grain of rice that the people grow. In future you mustn't throw away what I leave. Keep it for the next meal."

At one time we were marching and fighting every day. Commissar Mao did not even have time to get a sip of hot water. I grew worried. So I was always trying to get a thermos bottle for him. Often we captured a place and war booty came to us, but Commissar Mao never kept anything. He would always send what he got to his subordinates or the hospital. In the winter of 1931, when we captured Chian in Kiangsi, I found a thermos bottle there in the house of a local despot who had run away. I was overjoyed at this stroke of luck but I was afraid the Commissar would find out about it. On the march I used to get someone else to carry it for me so that he would not know about it. With that bottle I was always able to keep some hot water ready for him, but it was still difficult to prepare him a quick meal. His small bowl could not hold very much rice. It was enough for a supper, but on the march it was not of much use. Often we would be on the march again immediately after a battle. Then when we took a rest and ate our meal, Commissar Mao would still have to eat his cold "three-decker sandwich."

In November 1931, the Central Workers' and Peasants' Democratic Government was founded in Juiching and he was elected Chairman of the Republic. That's when we began to call him Chairman instead of Commissar Mao. But he still used his little bowl at meals. It was only in February 1934, when we captured Changchow, Fukien, that I managed to find a real three-decker enamel carrier for his food.

## II. A VISIT HOME

Whenever we captured a county seat or town, Chairman Mao would send people or go himself to the local

\*Two layers of rice made into a sandwich with cooked vegetables in between was his "three-decker rice sandwich." — Ed.

government office to get enemy documents and archives, and then to the local post-office to buy newspapers and magazines. Often we'd go with empty hands and come back loaded with packages of books and magazines. In the evening, Chairman Mao would mark them with red pencil so that we could clip and keep what was needed.

One day we came to Hsinfeng County, Kiangsi. We had been there several times before, so the local people knew the Red Army. All the shops were open and many people came out to welcome us. As soon as we settled down in our billet, Chairman Mao called to me: "Come, Chen Chang-feng! To the post-office!"

To my mind at that time a post-office was just a shop for buying and selling books.

When we got there Chairman Mao began to browse through the piles of books and papers. Sometimes he would pick one up and hand it to me. We had paid for what we wanted and when I was packaging up our purchases I asked him: "Chairman Mao, what does a post-office do?"

"Oh, they do a lot of things," he answered. "They deliver letters and newspapers; handle telegrams and telephone calls. If you want to send a letter home, they'll send it for you."

If I write a letter, could they really take it all the way home for me? I wondered.

As we left the post-office, the thought of this preoccupied my mind. I thought it was a wonderful thing. I hadn't been home for two or three years now; I didn't know how my father was or even if he were still alive. . . . Many questions flashed through my mind. It would be fine if I could send a letter home!

### My First Letter

When we came back to billets it was already dusk. I put down the books and papers and lit the lamp for Chairman Mao who immediately began to read. It was time for me to get the supper but I couldn't get the post-office out of my head. I stood there day-dreaming.

"What's wrong?" Chairman Mao asked me, noticing my worried look.

"Chairman Mao," I said, "can they really send a letter home?"

"Whom do you mean?" he asked.

"The post-office."

"Certainly they can. Your home is in the Soviet\* areas."

He guessed what was on my mind.

"Do you want to send a letter home?" he asked.

I nodded and said in a low voice, "I want to write a letter home, but. . . ."

"You still can't write it!" Chairman Mao completed my sentence for me. "Come, I'll write it for you."

This suggestion overjoyed me. But on second thoughts I was ill at ease because I knew he was so busy and this would be taking up his precious time, but he went on encouragingly:

\*Liberated areas at that time were called Soviet areas.

"What do you want to tell your father?" While saying this he pushed the newspapers aside and took out some letter paper and a writing brush.

"I . . ." What should I tell my father? I hadn't the slightest idea, so I said:

"Chairman Mao, you write what you think best. Anyway all I want to say is that things are fine in the Red Army. I feel all right with you. Very, very fine. That's all!"

He took down the address of my home and my father's name. Then I left to get the meal. When I came back with the food, Chairman Mao sat deep in thought, with his cheek cupped in one hand and a brush in the other. I knew it wasn't proper to ask him to eat at that moment, so I lightly placed the rice container on the table and went out.

I lay myself down on the soft straw bed. It was hot. I couldn't sleep, and turned over from side to side. I thought of myself and Chairman Mao. I, the son of an ordinary peasant, had joined our own army and become the bodyguard of the Chairman of the Republic. (At that time I was no longer his orderly, but his bodyguard.) And now our Chairman Mao himself was writing a letter for me. In these past few years Chairman Mao had become like a father to me, concerning himself with my daily life and training. I would never forget this kind teacher. As I thought of these things tears trickled down my cheeks and dropped onto the straw pallet. The night was very still. I went out. A light shone in Chairman Mao's room. He was still working.

In the autumn of 1933, when our troops were attacking Chienchangfu, Chairman Mao and some other Central Committee members arrived in Kwangchang. This was quite near my home village, Ningtu, and suddenly the idea of going home popped up in my head. That very day I said to Chairman Mao:

"I know Kwangchang well. If I were to go back and visit my home, I'd know how to get there!"

Chairman Mao grinned. "Don't be in such a hurry. Easy does it! The further we go, the nearer we'll be to your home."

"Really?" I exclaimed. I was so glad that my heart leapt to my throat.

### Home Leave

Two or three days later we arrived at the township that I had left so long ago. It was around two o'clock in the afternoon. Chairman Mao was staying with Comrade Li Fu-chun, then the Provincial Party Secretary of Kiangsi. When we had settled down, he sent for me and asked, "Want to go home?"

" . . . Yes!"

"Good!" he replied. "I'll be attending several meetings these few days. You go home and take a look at things." He paused and looked at me quizzically: "How many days do you want?"

My head grew hot. I couldn't very well answer his question. Spreading his big hands, he asked: "Ten days? How's that?"

"Good," I said, and wanted to be off immediately. But just as I was about to go I suddenly thought: if I go who will take care of his meals and drinking water? "No, Chairman. I'll not go!" I declared.

"What's up?" Chairman Mao looked at me curiously.

"If I go home, who'll prepare your meals?"

He smiled, and coming to me, put both hands on my shoulders, then said kindly, "Go and see your folks and then you'll work better when you come back. Your family is in the Soviet area now." He paused and then continued: "Don't come back here. Go straight to Changting and you'll find me there."

I nodded, but I was still reluctant to go. There was a conflict in my heart.

Then I was off on my way home in great excitement.

It was already very dark when I arrived at that small stream where once I used to herd cattle.

I got into the crowded ferry boat. They soon recognized me and right away I was among old acquaintances. As soon as the ice was broken the whole boat grew animated. Everybody was talking at once, all eager to tell me the news: how the village went Red, how the landlords and local despots were thrown down, how the land was distributed and my father had got his share. . . .

When we reached the opposite bank, the whole crowd accompanied me home. That evening there seemed to be a mass meeting at my house. All the village was there, including the chairman of the village Soviet. They asked me to tell them what it was like in the Red Army. As I spoke my father sat and smiled. It was the first time I had ever seen him smile so contentedly.



As I spoke my father sat and smiled

Drawing by Ah Lao



When they heard that I was Chairman Mao's bodyguard, they became still more interested and insisted I tell them more about our Chairman.

"Chairman Mao is just the same as we *lao pai hsing*,"\* I said.

They were not satisfied with this and insisted that I tell them more about him. That night we talked until the cock crowed twice.

On the ninth day I set off for Changting to find Chairman Mao. On enquiry I was told that he was at the Central Hospital. I was worried. Was he sick? I rushed off to the hospital, but he was all right. There was no cause to worry.

He was glad to see me back. I gave him a present of peanuts and *tikua* (a kind of tuber crop) that my father had sent him. He accepted these gifts with a smile and asked, "How's your family?"

\*"Old Hundred Names," colloquialism for "the common people."

"Things are fine with them now!" I couldn't contain my excitement and poured out the story to him. "There's a Soviet in our village now; all the landlords and local despots have been beaten down. My family was given three rooms and sixteen *mou* of land."

Chairman Mao nodded approval and said, "Good!" Then he asked, "Is the chairman of your village Soviet a rich man or a poor man?"

"A poor man who suffered just as my family suffered in the past!"

He wanted to know more about village affairs, and finally, half serious, half joking, asked: "Has your father found a mama for you?"

He had a good memory. It was when I had first met him over three years before that I had told him I had lost my mother.

"Yes. The neighbours told me it was a free choice marriage in new style," and Chairman Mao chuckled with satisfaction.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### Tomb of Po Ni King in Nanking

An ancient tomb of an Indonesian king who was buried in China has been discovered in the southern suburbs of Nanking. It is the tomb of the King of Po Ni (in Borneo, now Kalimantan in the Republic of Indonesia) built in the Ming dynasty (1368-1644 A.D.).

Fifty paces from the end of a long avenue lined with well-preserved pairs of stone horses, sheep and tigers, civil officials and military officers is a fabulous stone tortoise with a table mounted on its back. The tablet is 1.09 metres wide, but its height is uncertain as only little over a metre remains. The inscription bearing the words "The King of Po Ni came to China . . ." is still visible.

Written records show that the Kingdom of Po Ni had contacts with China as early as 977 A.D. in the reign of the Emperor Tai Tsung of the Sung dynasty. The Po Ni king buried in Nanking was named Manajechiana (transliterated from Chinese). Accompanied by his queen consort, other members of the royal family and a retinue numbering about 150, he had braved the sea and come to China for a visit. Arriving in Nanking in the sixth year of the Emperor Yung Lo (1408 A.D.), his party was received with elaborate ceremony by the Ming emperor and housed in Hui Tung Kuan, an imperial guest house specially set aside for the purpose. Two months after his arrival, the king took sick and died in Nanking at the age of 28. Complying

with his wish "to be buried in China," the Ming emperor had him interred in Nanking with ceremony befitting a foreign monarch.

The discovery of this tomb bears eloquent testimony to the long tradition of abiding friendship that unites the peoples of China and Indonesia.

### Changan in Tang Times

Ancient Changan, as Sian was called when it was the capital city of the Tang dynasty (618-907 A.D.), was a major centre of cultural contacts with the outside world. It has long been known that it was a city of great magnificence. Recent research and excavations now prove that it was also one of the biggest cities of the medieval world. Its limits stretched 9 kilometres from east to west and 7.5 kilometres from north to south, making it much larger than modern Sian, now provincial capital of Shensi, and the biggest city in north-west China, which has grown literally on the ruins of ancient Changan.

Changan was built as the capital in 582 A.D., in the reign of the Emperor Wenti of the Sui dynasty; in the succeeding Tang dynasty it was enlarged and its design was for long a model for many Eastern countries, especially Japan.

Systematic drilling has fixed the location of nine city gates. The central Mingte Gate in the south was the most imposing, with five gateways each with a width of 6.5 metres. The other gates had only three gateways each.

The remains of the Lotus Flower Garden, a beauty spot frequented by the court, have been discovered at the south-east corner of the city. To the west of

it is the famous Chuchiang Pond. Descriptions of these places in historical records vary. On-the-spot research is confirming some points, correcting previous misconceptions and giving us new knowledge of these places.

The Taming Palace in the northern part of the city has been described as the most splendid of all the palatial buildings of the Tang dynasty. The walls of this palace have now been located by drilling. It ran about 2.5 kilometres from south to north and 1.5 kilometres from east to west. Outside the northern and eastern walls of the palace, another outer wall not mentioned in historical records has been discovered. The ruins of the imperial court in this palace, used by the emperors and their ministers to discuss state affairs, are now being excavated and studied.

Near this site archaeologists have also discovered over 30 red seal impressions on clay used by the provincial officials to seal tribute sent to the emperors. Characters written in Chinese ink on clay seals 1,100 years old are still discernible.

Excavations have also been started at the site of the Hsingching Palace, another imperial building of that time.

The archaeological work now being done on ancient Changan is of particular importance for the study of the social and economic conditions of that time and the history of China's cultural relations with foreign countries.

### Aluminium 1,600 Years Old

The method of spectral analysis was recently used by the Institute of Applied Physics of the Chinese Academy of

Sciences to examine a 1,600-year-old belt with open-work ornament—one of the articles buried in the tomb of the famous West Tsin (265-316 A.D.) general, Chou Chu. It showed that the metal content of the belt was 85 per cent aluminium, 10 per cent copper and 5 per cent manganese.

Although aluminium is widely distributed over the earth, it is difficult to extract. The process of electrolysis, which is still the only known way of extracting aluminium, was not developed until 1808. That China was able to extract aluminium of such a purity 1,600 years ago is an important discovery in the world history of metallurgy. Chinese scientists are now studying how it was done.

General Chou Chu's tomb at Ihing, Kiangsu, was found in 1952. The tombstone bears the words "The Late General Chou, Twentieth of the Ninth Moon of the Seventh Year of Yuan Kang (297 A.D.)." Historical records show that this was the year Chou Chu was killed in a battle against the Chiang tribe in ancient west China. In addition to the ornamented belt mentioned above, the general's tomb included valuable yellowish-green proto-porcelains and gold ornaments.

### Chalcolithic Age Remains in Yunnan

Ruins dating from the early part of the Chalcolithic Age were recently discovered in Yunnan at Haimenkou, Chienchuan County, on the River Haiwei. Among the objects found amid the ruins of posts and pillars of ancient buildings are vessels of copper, stone, animal bones, and horns and pottery. This is the first find of copperware of the Chalcolithic Age ever made in China.

The over 200 well-preserved posts and pillars found are embedded in straight lines in the river-bed. Others nearer the river bank have not yet been excavated. They vary in size: some are little over four inches in diameter, others a good three feet. Most are planted separately or in clusters of three or four. All are of pine wood. Rows of such posts indicate that they were also used to partition houses into rooms. It appears that these houses were built partly over in the river and partly on the river bank, with doorways on the landward side.

In addition to pottery and other vessels, the most important finds are 14 articles of copper including axes, halberds, knives, chisels and fish-hooks typical of the Chalcolithic Age.

The riverside situation of the houses and finds of more than a hundred pottery fish-net weights and fish-hooks indicate

that fishing was the main occupation of this Chalcolithic Age people. Finds of stone knives, grains of rice, wheat, fares and millet, however, show that they also knew the art of farming. Numerous bones of animals and birds abound amid these ruins, but it has not yet been determined whether they are the remains of wild or domesticated animals.

The exact date of this settlement has not yet been fixed, but work continues on the site, and it is already clear that its full study will be of considerable importance in enlarging our knowledge of primitive society in China.

### Ancient Weapons

Some of the world's earliest barrelled firearms are on display at an exhibition of ancient Chinese weapons which opened early this month at the Peking Historical Museum. These are two bronze guns, one dated 1332 and the other 1351, made during the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368 A.D.).

The collection of weapons is arranged in chronological order from the Shang dynasty (1700 to 1200 B.C.) down to the Ching dynasty (1644 to 1911 A.D.).

Most of the arms of the Shang, Western Chou (1200 to 800 B.C.) and the Spring and Autumn Annals (722 to 481 B.C.) are made of bronze.

Iron weapons began to appear in the Warring States period (403-221 B.C.). The iron swords and falchions made in the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) show the highly developed metallurgical techniques of that period.

Weapons using gun powder, invented by Tang Fu and Chen Kuei during the Northern Sung dynasty (960 to 1127 A.D.), are also on display. China began using gun powder in military weapons about three to four hundred years before Europe.

Weapons used by the Chinese peasants against the imperialists and feudal rulers are also exhibited. These include bronze cannons and shells used during the Taiping Revolution (1851 to 1864 A.D.), and swords used by Yi Ho Tuan (Boxers) in the great uprising at the turn of the century.

### West Chou Chimes

Workers building a reservoir in Chung-hsiang County, Hupeh, in the spring of this year unearthed five bronze chimes (*pien chung*) of the West Chou dynasty (1200 to 800 B.C.). Few relics of this period have previously been found in this region, and this new discovery leads to the belief that close cultural relations existed between this area and north China in that period.

# BALLET AND OPERA

### "Swan Lake" in Peking

The performance of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* at Peking's Tienchiao Theatre was a big event in the history of dancing in China: it was the first full-length classical ballet ever staged by a Chinese ballet troupe. It was a pretty bold attempt. The Peking School of Dancing was only set up in 1954 and produced this ballet in a little over four months after rehearsals for it began.

A fifth-year student of the school, 18-year-old Pai Shu-hsiang danced Odette, the ill-fated princess bewitched and transformed into a swan, and also Odile, her sinister "double" conjured up by the wizard to deceive her lover, Prince Siegfried. The Prince, who by vanquishing the wizard frees her and her swan companions from the spell, was danced by Liu Ching-tang, a young teacher at the school. Despite the lack of experience of the dancers whose average age was sixteen, the success of the evening was due to three things: the expert nature of the general production—choreography, decor and costumes—the youthful zest and infectious sincerity of the dancers and the lovely music of Tchaikovsky ably performed by the symphony orchestra of the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio under Chang Ning-ho. The dances of the *corps de ballet* of courtiers and peasants in the first scene and the various *divertissements* in the palace scene, Italian and Spanish character dances, were skilfully and attractively executed.

All of this would have been impossible without the expert guidance of P.A. Gusev of the Soviet Union and the other Soviet teachers at the school. They taught the company the version of the ballet produced by the Moscow Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre, but made skilful adaptations to suit the level of attainments of their pupils, who with only four to five years of classical training, naturally still have quite a way to go to reach fully professional standards.

*Swan Lake* makes heavy demands on the dancer. Not only does it need a high level of technical skill and stamina, but comprehension of a foreign romantic tradition far removed from the experience of the average member of the





From Scene Two, "Swan Lake." Pai Shu-hsiang as Odette and Liu Ching-tang as the Prince with the corps de ballet of the Peking School of Dancing

young company. Rehearsals were intensive and, after dancing, every evening the whole company would gather together to familiarize themselves with the music, and to rehearse their parts again in their minds as they listened.

In essaying a part made famous by the leading ballerinas of the world, Pai Shu-hsiang took on a task of no few difficulties. The first was the traditional 32 *fouettés* in Odile's *coda*. Training for this demanded the ability to make at least two hundred of these rapid turns on her *pointes* in practice each day. Hardly had she mastered the more difficult set steps, solos and *pas de deux* than she was faced with fresh demands—character delineation and dramatic expression. Curiously enough this gentle-faced young dancer found it, as she says, and as her performance proved, easier to dance the wicked Odile than the good Odette.

This premiere showed that Peking now has the beginnings of a serious classical troupe that should be coming to maturity in the next few years.

—C.I.F.

### "Madame Butterfly"

If Puccini had written his *Madame Butterfly* today it would have been enough to put him on the *persona non grata* list of the U.S. State Department. As produced in Peking by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre and directed by Liu Yu-min to mark the centenary of the great Italian composer's birth, it is a telling anti-imperialist indictment. Puccini was a moralist; he would surely have liked this first presentation of his work in Chinese.

Lieutenant Pinkerton of the U.S. Navy, stationed in Japan, decides on a marriage of convenience with a *geisha*, Cho-Cho-San, who loves him trustingly and sincerely. Pinkerton cynically tells Sharpless, the American Consul, that he

is marrying Cho-Cho-San for nine hundred and ninety-nine years with the option of annulling the marriage any month. Puccini here ironically introduces a musical phrase from *The Star-Spangled Banner*. They drink to the toast "America For Ever!" and to the time when Pinkerton will have a "real" wedding back home in "God's country." The honeymoon is soon over. Cho-Cho-San is forsaken; and when Pinkerton returns with his American wife to adopt his own child, she kills herself.

This, the Theatre's second major effort (Verdi's *La Traviata* was the first), is a thoughtful production. The setting of the first act in the garden of the lovers' house in Nagasaki is beautifully designed and carried out, though perhaps a shade too sweet. The second act, inside the house with a great window opening on a verandah framing a branch of a pine tree—symbol of steadfastness—and a view of the distant sea, is set in perfect style. The delicacy of Cho-Cho-San's traditional Japanese surroundings contrast with the bitterness of her fate and the heavy-footed insensitiveness of her lover and Sharpless.

Cheng Hsing-li, who studied for five years at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory of Music in Moscow, played Madame Butterfly at the premiere. Accompanied by the Central Philharmonic Orchestra under Li Teh-lun, her voice, though not of great volume, came through well. She gracefully and sensitively interpreted her role as a romantic, warm-hearted young girl, unaffectedly

sincere in her love and brutally wronged. The acting of Su Feng-chuan, as her maid Suzuki, matched this interpretation well, particularly in the pathetic, fluttering excitement of the scene when the two women are expecting Pinkerton's return. The minor Japanese roles also fitted in well with the central theme. The loathsome mixture of hypocrisy, "white sahib" mentality and gentlemanly exterior which is Pinkerton, was suitably conveyed. But the style of acting was at times a bit reminiscent of old grand opera, and then it jarred, rather than meshed with, the smooth performance of Cheng Hsing-li. The Consul too was a bit stereotyped and the match-maker put somewhat too much of the *opera bouffe* in his servility. These characters might have been more effective and the integration of acting styles smoother if the shading had been subtler. But all in all the company has added a new feather to its cap. It is building up an attractive repertoire.

—C.I.F.



In the Second Act of "Madame Butterfly": Cho-Cho-San tells Suzuki of her faith in the faithless Pinkerton

# ROUND THE WEEK

## Best Year in the Northwest

Northwest China, always known as a poor, low-yield farming area, is transforming itself fast. Although not all the production figures are in, it is already clear that the output of summer crops will top last year's by more than 60 per cent. The autumn crops look very good, too, and barring serious natural calamities, 1958 will go down in history as the best year the peasants in these parts have ever known.

To size up the situation and co-ordinate agricultural work in the region, the Rural Work Department of the Communist Party's Central Committee recently held a conference, attended by Party secretaries and government cadres in charge of agriculture from the provinces of Kansu, Chinghai and Shensi, the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region and the Ninghsia Autonomous Region for the Huis, which is soon to be set up. It was the first inter-provincial conference on agricultural co-ordination ever held in northwest China.

The conference estimated that the output of grain per capita in northwest China would reach 1,100 catties this year and would rise steadily in the next few years. It adopted a series of measures to ensure a rich autumn harvest and increased yields next year and defined the targets for the Second Five-Year Plan in the output of grain, cotton, and oil-bearing crops. Increased yields will mean a big boost in living standards and northwest China's old tag—a poor, low-yield agricultural region—will become a matter of past history.

As in other regions, the enormous rise in agricultural output in northwest China was brought about by the hard work and the initiative of the peasants during the winter and spring months. And here, more than anything else, construction of water conservancy projects by every farm co-op and the collection of fertilizer, coupled with timely and better farm techniques, spelled the difference.

## Peasants and Scientists Swap Ideas

How did the peasants pull off such tremendous successes? How is all this to be explained in modern scientific terms? What accounted for wheat production at 7,320 catties per *mou* and rice

at 5,806 catties, to cite some of the outstanding examples? To find out, the All-China Federation of Scientific Societies recently invited a number of the best hands in farming to Peking—those who have set up wheat, rice, rapeseed and other production records—to discuss their successes with the agricultural scientists in the capital.

From various parts of the country came the “*tu* (native) experts,” as they are fondly called, “to talk shop” with the “*yang* experts (foreign-trained—those who are trained in modern Western methods)” of the academic institutions and research bodies. For more than a week these experts from the field, men with little or no school training, but with plenty of practical experience and ingenuity, swapped knowledge and experience with the laboratory experts, men with much book knowledge but little practical experience. The meeting of the “native” and “foreign-trained” experts was a joining of forces—of brain workers and manual workers, of book knowledge and practical experience, of the technical revolution in theory and the technical revolution in practice.

The scientists were at first sceptical about the achievements of the peasants because the record yields, not a few hundred catties but several thousand catties per *mou*, cannot be explained by the textbooks, Chinese or foreign. They listened to the stories and reports of the peasants, went over the ground with them and were convinced that these peasants had reached the highest output level in the world. The point now was to analyse their methods and results and give them scientific generalization.

On the other hand, the peasants were also learning quite a lot from the scientists. Their notebooks were full of new terms and ideas, names of fertilizers and how to use them, names of pests unheard of before and ways of dealing with them, etc. They put questions to the scientists and received answers which helped clear up many things. They indicated that they would tell the folks back home about what they saw in the laboratories in Peking and how the results there could be of use to their farming.

Although a lot of ground was covered, wheat remained the central

topic. They discussed how output could be raised further and over a wide area. After this intensive exchange of views both the native and foreign-trained experts came to the conclusion that the potentialities of increased output are just being tapped. They parted challenging each other to set still higher yield records—20,000 catties per *mou* for rice and 2,000 catties per *mou* for cotton next year.

## Accent on Versatility

Lately a new phrase has come into popular use—it is “the versatile man,” people of various skills, and in Chinese the literal phrase is “man of many hands.” Young and old in China today are striving to achieve a diversity of skills; to contribute to the country's development in an all-round way.

Many railwaymen have become “men of many hands.” The administrative staffs in Peking, Shenyang, Taiyuan and Tsinan are not only able to help repair passenger and freight trains, they can also lend a hand in building them and in producing machines as well.

In the factories workers are learning different trades and skills, trying to master the know-how not only of one workshop but of several. Chungking provides a clear example. In May,



The “Big Leap” Team as seen by the Shanxi Ribao (Shansi Daily)  
Drawing by Shih Ping



40,000 young workers launched a campaign "to master one trade but to learn several more." By now most of them have acquired several skills, some as many as 9 or 10. The result is that efficiency is up.

Shop assistants have high goals too. In Peking they not only study the merchandise they sell to the customers but also learn how to handle and repair it. Shop assistants at the chemists are not only taught first aid but how to take blood pressure, give injections and other helpful services.

The accent on versatility is a product of the times. It is one of the ways to solve the problem of labour shortage in the expanding economy of China today.

## University Factories

Universities and colleges in China, and quite a number of the technical schools too, now run factories, in addition to their laboratories and workshops. They are building them at the rate of several a day. Peking University built 20 small factories in a fortnight and the Peking Teachers' College set up 24 in a matter of three days. Quite a few of these factories were built up from laboratories and workshops and will have to expand as they go along, but already many are turning out products like regular production units and are filling orders placed with them. Small as they may be, these factories operated by the universities are mushrooming throughout the country. In Peking alone, more than 200 have come into being.

Most of the capital for building these factories and workshops come from the educational institutions themselves. The semi-conductor factory of Peking University, for example, was financed with the money obtained from working on nearby construction sites as part of the students' voluntary manual labour scheme. Or, they bought factory equipment from payments received for technical services, such as designing, rendered to industrial enterprises. Tsinghua University, the leading polytechnical institution in China, obtained scores of lathes in this way, with which it has equipped its newly-established workshops.

This is a new stage in the "Work While You Study" educational programme on which much emphasis has been laid in recent months. As Kang Sheng, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party's Central Com-

mittee, put it, a practical way has been found to combine education with labour, brain work with manual work. The schools must set up factories, and the factories must also set up schools. This should be the trend for the development of education in China. It has many advantages: the factories provide fixed and convenient places for the students to learn to work while still at school; they make the integration of theory and practice easier and more direct; and they enable the teachers and schools to map out a more satisfactory time-table as regards teaching, manual work and rest. This new stage in the "Work While You Study" educational scheme also means acceleration of China's industrial development. The Peking Iron and Steel Engineering Institute already has a small-sized iron and steel complex in operation. It is planning to build a medium-sized iron and steel complex with a capacity of 100,000 tons. All these factories add to China's industrial capacity.

## Han River Project

After the flood season this year work on a new water conservancy project will begin on the Han River in central China. It bids fair to be one of the biggest hydro-electric engineering jobs in the country, equal to the construction of the Sanmen Gorge reservoir and hydro-electric power station now in progress on the middle reaches of the Yel-



Map by Yu Chun-min

low River. The entire project will be completed in three years' time.

It will be known as the Tanchiangkou scheme since it will be built near the confluence of the Han River and its tributary, the Tanchiang River. It will be the key to the taming and development of the Han River which flows past Wuhan, the triple-city on the Yangtse, and will facilitate control of the flow of water in the Yangtse beyond Wuhan. When completed, the reservoir behind the main dam, 110 metres high, or as high as a 28-storeyed building, and the side dams will occupy an area of 900

square kilometres with a storage capacity of 28,300 million cubic metres of water. It will eliminate floods on the Han River and safeguard the lives and property of the millions of people on the middle and lower reaches of the river.

The reservoir, moreover, will divert water from the Han River to irrigate 12 million *mou* of farmland in the valley of the Tangpai River, a tributary of the Han. This, plus the area irrigated by the Tangpai River, will bring a total of 15.2 million *mou* of land under irrigation. It will directly benefit the peasants in the region by helping to raise their annual grain production by 7,400 million catties and cotton by 2 million piculs. There will also be a big income from breeding fish in the reservoir. The project will have an electric power generating capacity of some 700,000 kilowatts.

## More Price Cuts

Prices of a number of consumer goods have been cut in recent weeks.

Earlier this year the prices of wireless sets, alarm clocks, fluorescent light tubes and a wide range of medicines were slashed from 8 to 60 per cent. (See *Peking Review*, No. 5.) Then the prices of magazines and domestic air freight and air travel went down. Spirits and wines cost less now, and bottled soft drinks too. Last week the Tientsin Tobacco Company announced price reductions of about 10 per cent for several brands of cigarettes, among them two of the most popular brands in north China. Taxi fares in Peking were down 30 per cent from July 20. Internal air mail rates for both letters and parcels have been lowered since July 1. Air postage for printed matter is 75 per cent less. This will make books and magazines available more promptly to readers in many parts of the country.

Now the Ministry of Culture has announced reductions in the prices of books which benefit China's expanding reading public. Books, on the average, will sell for 15 per cent less. In the case of political and economic books, popular manuals, Marxist-Leninist classics, and contemporary literature, the reduction will be even greater.

Book prices have been cut several times since liberation, to enable the maximum number of copies to reach the people in town and country. Book prices in 1957 were about 44 per cent of the prices in 1936, the year before the Sino-Japanese war.

# SIDELIGHTS

## Shanghai Rivals Britain in Cotton.

Shanghai, which accounts for one-third of the country's cotton spindles, plans to produce more cotton yarn this year than Britain's entire output in 1956, which was 1,756,000 bales. In the first half of this year, the total output value of the city's cotton mills went up by 12.9 per cent and the output of cotton yarn by 14.9 per cent. 111 new products were turned out by the cotton mills, including many top-grade fabrics.

**Weather Forecasting.** A national network of meteorological stations will be set up to give better service to the peasants. In each administrative region there will be an observatory, in each county a meteorological station, and in each rural district one or several meteorological posts. The farm co-ops will set up weather-observing groups to round out the system. In 1957 there were 1,635 observatories and meteorological stations in the country, which was four times the 1952 number.

**Keep Fit Programme.** China's peasants are going in for sports. For the first time the National Physical Fitness Programme is coming to them in a big way.



The programme, which prescribes set standards for many events, such as running, throwing, jumping and weight-lifting, has so far only embraced the schools, factories and mines. Now, as the peasants take a growing interest in sports, the recent sports conference in Peking decided to extend the programme to the countryside. By the end of 1957 the programme had 1.73 million participants, mostly from the bigger cities. The target today is 100 million in the next few years.

**Taishan Sunrise.** Taishan, one of the five most celebrated mountains in China, is again attracting large numbers of tourists. Watching the sunrise on the peak of Taishan is considered a rare delight. The mountain is in the middle of Shantung Province and has quite a number of old monasteries and trees. Four cypresses in one of the monasteries are believed to be 2,000 years old. Since liberation the government has spent over a million yuan to restore several of the monasteries to their original beauty and to widen the flight of steps up the mountain. At present a road is being built to link the mountain with Tsinan, capital of the province.

**Rare Heart Operation.** A six-year-old boy in Sian, northwest China, who had been suffering from a dangerous congenital inter-ventricular septal defect, is on his way to health again after a successful heart operation of unusual surgical skill. An artificial lung and heart were used during the operation, which took 2 hours and 27 minutes and was carried out for the first time in China.

**Just Walk In, Please!** Kwangho Theatre, one of the oldest in Peking, has initiated a new system of ushering. It has dispensed with ticket collectors at the entrance. Theatre-goers just walk in, and once inside the ushers show them to their seats. This new system has been acclaimed by the public because it shows implicit trust in them and makes them feel very much at home. Since the introduction of this novel system, no one has tried to "gate-crash" or cheat. Now Chi Hsiang, Peking, Min Chu and other theatres in the capital are following Kwangho's example with great success.

**Factory Workers as Historians.** In the present mass campaign for creative writing, Chinese workers are being encouraged to take to the pen—to write the histories of their own factories. A call has been issued by the Union of Chinese Writers, and Tientsin, the north

China industrial centre, was the first to answer the call. In the current issue of the fortnightly *Wenyi Bao* (Literary Gazette), a special section is devoted to the pioneering experiment made by Tientsin where workers of the cotton mills have done valuable writing in the form of personal reminiscences. Some even turned to drawing to depict memorable events of the past.

## Local Trolley in Northwest China.

Tienschui, the railway hub in Kansu Province, is solving the problem of heavy traffic between the city and its suburban areas, where there are a good number of factories, with a trolley bus service. It will be 30 kilometres long. A section of it has already been opened to traffic. The entire line will be ready before National Day, October 1. As the line is being built with local resources, with iron wire substituting for copper wire and old generators reconditioned to provide motive power, other parts of the province are sending people to study Tienschui's experience.

**Floating Bookstore.** On the Pearl River, flowing by the south China city of Canton, there are thousands of what are known to many as the "boat people" who work and live on sampans. The state book distributor, Hsinhua, has opened a floating bookstore, on a specially designed sampan, to service them. The boat people and the co-operatives on the Pearl River can now get their books delivered on deck.

**Egg-Hatching Cocks.** The hens still have a monopoly in laying eggs, but not in hatching them. The peasants of a farm co-op in Shensi Province have found a way to make cocks hatch eggs. The secret? Here it is. They castrated the cocks, intoxicated them with spirits and then set them on the eggs. For three days the cocks kept sitting until the eggs were hatched. Some of the cocks would not stay on the eggs on becoming sober. They were fed more spirits so as to carry on with the hatching. The advantage of egg-hatching cocks, the peasants claim, is that the hens can be left free to go on laying eggs and a greater number of eggs are produced.

**Guide for Holiday Makers.** A guide book for vacationers going to Peitaiho, the famous north China beach, is now available, complete with maps. It carries a good deal of information about the historic spots in the vicinity and the famous Shanhaikuan Pass.



# CHINESE PRESS OPINION

## Hands Off Lebanon and Jordan

The Chinese press sharply condemns U.S. and British imperialist aggression in the Middle East. All Peking papers carry editorials reflecting the resolute mood of the Chinese people in defence of peace and the national aspirations of the Arab peoples.

"The present joint action of the U.S. and British aggressors in the Middle East is a joint endeavour to dig their own graves," states *Renmin Ribao* (July 18) editorially.

Warning the U.S. and British imperialists that they will have to bear full responsibility for all the grave consequences resulting from their aggressive acts in the Middle East, *Renmin Ribao* declares: "The Arab people and all people in Asia and Africa can now see the U.S. and British Governments for what they are. Casting aside their mask of decency and humanity they have appeared in their true colours as colonialists. The British empire builders, erstwhile masters of Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, the same who were kicked out by the peoples of Jordan and Egypt and who slaughtered Egyptian women and children in October 1956, have returned. And the Yankee imperialists who pretended to oppose Anglo-French aggression during the Suez incident, are now standing at the side of the British. They took off on their aggression even more promptly than the British. John Bull's record shows up the Americans; Uncle Sam's deeds clearly

explain what the British are up to. This will enable the peoples of Asia and Africa to see the truth faster and expose the shams of the American and British Governments. They will not have a shred of prestige left among the peoples of the world. Such is the inevitable political result of this joint U.S.-British aggression in the Middle East."

*Da Gong Bao* (July 19) writes: "The concerted U.S.-British action proves that they are working hand in glove to suppress the Arab national independence movement, and that imperialism is the sworn enemy of the Arab nation."

"The imperialists, like mad curs, are desperately attacking the peoples of Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan; they want to put the clock back and smother the struggle started by the Arab people against imperialism and for national independence. But the day is gone when the imperialists could lord it over others with a big stick. The Arab people will never again bend the knee to the imperialists."

*Guangming Ribao* (July 19) declares: "The criminal designs of the U.S.-British interventionists are not limited to the invasion of Lebanon and Jordan and the suppression of the mounting national independence movement in these two countries. Ample material exists to show that these invasions are a component part of an over-all plan of a military adventure directed against the surging national independence movement in the Middle East region as a whole."

*Da Gong Bao* (July 17) pours scorn on the American plea that the landing of

marines in Lebanon is to "protect American lives and property." "This is an old trick of the imperialists' gunboat policy," says the paper recalling innumerable instances from American history. According to this logic of the U.S. colonialists, the United States "will be justified in carrying out armed intervention in any part of the world where there are American residents."

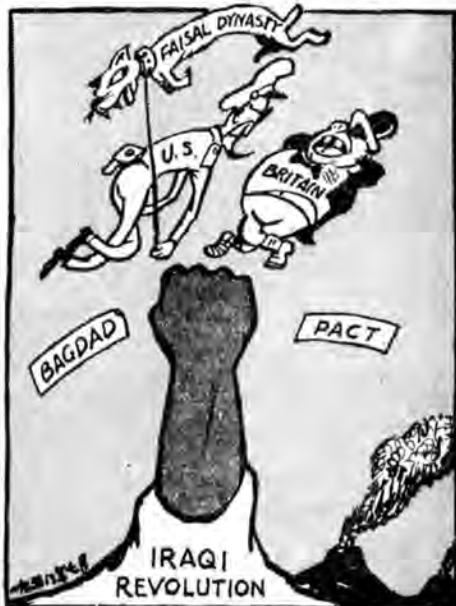
## Iraq: Anti-Imperialist Forepost

All Peking papers give prominent display to news of the Iraqi revolution, hailing it as a great victory for the Arab people.

A leader in *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao* (July 17) declares: "The victory of the Iraqi people has greatly changed the balance of power in the Middle East. A keystone of imperialist aggression has collapsed; a whole nation has turned its guns in a new direction and become a forepost of the anti-imperialist front. This is why the world hails the victory of the people of Iraq, while the handful of warmongers headed by U.S. imperialism are mortally scared and have been reduced to playing their last trump card."

*Guangming Ribao* (July 17) has this to say: "The Iraqi revolution shows that the wrath of the peoples trampled under foot and exploited by the imperialists is like a ball of consuming fire, which sooner or later will destroy the imperialists and their agents."

"It has also proved to the people of Lebanon and all the Middle East that imperialism is nothing to be afraid of, that the forces of feudalism will collapse at the first resolute blow, that as long as they remain united and persist in their struggle, final victory will surely be theirs."



The Middle East erupts again  
By Hua Chun-wu



Crusade of the blind and the lame  
By Mi Ku



No time for disguise!  
By Hua Chun-wu

# The U.S.-British Road to Disaster

From the four corners of the earth an angry wave of denunciation greeted the Beirut landing of U.S. Marines, the muscle men of the Eisenhower Doctrine, to shore up the Bagdad Pact which has no Bagdad. From the Washington welter of pious platitudes there finally emerged the naked figure of a wolf in wolf's clothing trying to sink its fangs into the Arab national movement and world peace. The outcry of revulsion to the U.S. troops in Lebanon and the British invasion of Jordan was world-wide, instantaneous and remarkably broad, ranging from left to right and including newspapers and political circles that only yesterday had no quarrel with Washington and London. The entire Arab world, backed by the socialist camp with all its strength, the entire press voicing the sentiments of Asia and Africa, and countless newspapers in Europe and the Americas were of like mind: the U.S. and Britain are guilty of military aggression that is doomed to fail. Here is a survey of initial press reactions during the first days following the invasions, available as we go to press.

*Pravda* declared that the reason for the U.S. military intervention in Lebanon was the desire of the oil monopolists to perpetuate their colonial domination and plunder in the Middle East which was tremendously profitable. This intervention, the Soviet daily stressed, is only the first step of a colonial war against the peoples of the Arab East, and it warned that the action of the U.S. imperialists created a grave danger to world peace and security.

An editorial in the Korean *Minjoo Chosen*, in Pyongyang, stated that the armed U.S. intervention in Lebanon thoroughly exposed the U.S. imperialists as the sworn enemies of peace and the

murderers of countries fighting for freedom and independence. Noting that the U.S. imperialists had launched open military intervention in Lebanon and simultaneously raised the question in the U.N. Security Council in an effort to legalize it, *Rodong Shinmoon* recalled that this was just what the U.S. imperialists had done in their aggression against Korea.

From Cairo, in the heart of the Arab world, *Al Goumhouria* pointed out that the arguments advanced by the U.S. Government for its armed occupation of Lebanon were unjustified and untenable. Its real motive was to undermine Arab nationalism. The same fate which befell the Anglo-French aggressors in Port Said awaited the U.S. forces that landed in Beirut, the influential Cairo daily predicted.

*Al Massa*, the Cairo evening paper, condemned the American intervention as "an act of flagrant and unjustifiable aggression against an independent country whose people had decided to get rid of a corrupt regime and a tyrannical ruler whom America from the start had tried to save by direct intervention."

"Chase Off the Dogs of War" was the heading of an editorial in *Bombay Chronicle* (English-language daily) which declared: "The decision to unleash the dogs of war in West Asia will go down as the most scatter-brained and atrocious of Eisenhower's decisions in all these six years as president."

Delhi's *Hindustan Times*, another English-language daily in India, refuted Eisenhower's arguments for intervention and said: "It is not only Arab nationalism that it has turned to fight, but the U.N. itself."

In Djakarta the daily *Suluh Indonesia* and the English-language *Times of Indonesia*

both pointed out that the pretext of "protecting American lives" advanced by the United States for its landing in Beirut "could not be accepted by people in their sound state of mind."

Rangoon's well-known and influential *New Light of Burma* declared editorially that the

landing of U.S. troops in Lebanon was an act of aggression and was unacceptable no matter what pretexts or reasons America put forward. The editorial urged members of the United Nations not to allow themselves to be dragged into the internal affairs of the Middle East and not to yield to U.S. pressure.

In Karachi the *Pakistan Times* stated editorially that the landing of U.S. troops in Lebanon was "a dangerous leap in the dark" and went on to say: "In Iraq, as in Lebanon, there is not the slightest justification for outsiders to claim the prerogative of taking sides in a purely internal quarrel."

Most of the Pakistani press, both left and right, took an editorial stand against the landing of the U.S. Marines in Lebanon and urged the Pakistan Government to take a realistic position towards the explosive situation in the Middle East. The *Times of Karachi* said editorially that "actually, the question of all questions is whether the Muslim Middle East is going to have an independent personality of its own, or is it going to continue to be an appendage of the imperial strategy of this power or that power."

In Japan, where the Kishi government is playing a two-faced game, public opinion has spoken out strongly against the U.S. intervention in Lebanon and this has been echoed in the leading Japanese dailies. *Asahi Shimbun* wrote that the Lebanese civil war was an internal question and foreign countries should not intervene. *Yomiuri Shimbun* said that the armed U.S. intervention would only worsen the Middle Eastern crisis.

In Britain, where the ruling circles don't seem to have digested the lesson of Suez and are playing ball with Dulles, workers and democratic organizations throughout the country, as the London *Daily Worker* reported, were condemning the U.S. invasion of Lebanon and demanding that the British Government refrain from supporting the United States in Middle East adventures. Notes of concern also appeared in some of the bourgeois papers. The *Daily Mirror* dubbed those clamouring for military intervention "mindless muscle men" and warned the Tory government against sending British troops to Jordan. The *Liberal News Chronicle* declared that what must be opposed at any cost "is war on Iraq cloaked in pious phrases about the British





nationals' safety." It emphasized: "Any attempt to restore by force the elements now in eclipse would be political folly as well as military aggression."

Across the Atlantic, Latin American popular sentiment was dramatically expressed by demonstrators marching through the streets of Buenos Aires, Argentina, shouting: "Down with Yankee Imperialism! The Invaders Should Quit Lebanon!" And in New York City the National Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A. issued a statement to the press denouncing the sending of U.S. troops to Lebanon and declaring: "Like millions of other Americans we American Communists are deeply alarmed at these actions. With them we say: Hands Off the Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and all the other Middle Eastern countries! We demand the removal of all the American military forces from the Lebanon and the Middle East. We call for the abandonment of the Eisenhower Doctrine, an end to the bypassing of the United Nations and adherence to the principles of the Bandung Conference."

Many papers viewed the invasion of Lebanon and Jordan not as isolated events, but as aimed also against the great victory of the Iraqi people in overthrowing the Faisal monarchy and establishing a republic.

With all the Cairo dailies that greeted the birth of the Iraqi Republic as a glorious day in the history of the Arabs, *Al Goumhouria* paid tribute to the Iraqi people who finally "stormed the big jail and overpowered its jailers." The paper

said the Iraqi revolution would help the people realize their aspirations for independence, liberty, national dignity and Arab unity.

In Indonesia *Harian Rakjat* voiced a typical Asian-African view declaring that the Iraqi revolution showed that the pillar of imperialism in the Arab world had collapsed and that there was already no "Bagdad" in the Bagdad Pact.

In India, the Calcutta English-language daily *Amrita Bazar Patrika* declared that the Iraqi revolution had "written the epitaph of the Bagdad Pact and the Eisenhower Doctrine," underlining another reason for the panic in the West.

The White House and Whitehall have flaunted world public opinion and have embarked on military adventures. But the peril of the U.S. and British positions is underscored even by some of the bourgeois papers. The London *News Chronicle* stated: "There is obvious temptation to intervene. . . . But such intervention would be a one-way road to disaster." Writing in the *Daily Mirror*, Labour M.P. Richard Crossman warned that the situation would end in another disastrous defeat for Anglo-American policy.

In India the Hindi daily *Nav Bharat Times* warned that any U.S. or British intervention against Arab nationalism would "give rise to a terrible whirlwind." The *Times of India* pointed out that "it is no accident that the fury of Arab nationalism has struck at the very stronghold of the Bagdad Pact." It warned that

"any kind of intervention, should the West be so reckless as to undertake such a suicidal expedition, would unite the entire Arab world" and therefore there was "no alternative for the West but to bury the Bagdad Pact and the Eisenhower Doctrine."

An active peace front is being forged throughout the world. Its sentiments were aptly expressed in a resolution unanimously adopted by the delegates of the Afro-Asian countries at the Congress for Disarmament and International Co-operation which is meeting in Stockholm as we go to press:

"We realize that these tragic happenings in the Arab world are not isolated or disconnected events but are an integral part of the larger pattern of imperialist domination which has for centuries overshadowed the destinies of the Afro-Asian peoples. China, Korea, Viet-nam, Indonesia, Egypt and now Algeria, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan are all links in the same infamous chain. Because of this we are deeply aware of the unity of interest which binds us together against the designs and interests of the imperialist aggressors—a unity which makes the tragedy of any member of the Afro-Asian family a collective tragedy for all of us, a unity which is already a mighty force and is not to be lightly trifled with.

"We appeal to the people of the world to exert their concerted pressure on their governments to stop this wanton aggression against Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, to bring about the withdrawal of all foreign troops from all Arab countries..."

JUST OFF THE PRESS

# Defend Yen-an!

by Tu Peng-cheng

A novel about the important battle of the 1947 campaign in China's northwest to protect Yen-an, the then headquarters of the Chinese revolution, from Kuomintang attack. The author himself took part in the campaign. In describing the men of the people's army who routed the numerically and technologically superior enemy, their way of life and their outlook, he is able to draw on first-hand experience. An exciting, well-told story, *Defend Yen-an!* conveys the facts and atmosphere of this crucial time in China's revolution.



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# WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

## — Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

Programmes are subject to change. Where times are not listed consult theatre or daily press.

### PEKING OPERA

▲ **AT THE CROSSROADS**, the well-known "fighting in the dark" acrobatic play; **BEATING THE DRUM AND REVILING TSAO TSAO**, the episode of the Three Kingdoms period in which Mi Heng, a just and upright man, reviles the treacherous Prime Minister of the Han, Tsao Tsao, to his face at a banquet; and **THE DRUNKEN BEAUTY**, the story of Lady Yang, a court favourite, who drowns her sorrow in wine when the emperor fails to come to her.

July 27 matinee Chi Hsiang Theatre

▲ **THE WATER CURTAIN CAVE** and **THE RED-MANED STEED** The first is the story of how Monkey Sun and his monkey followers set up their "kingdom" in a wonderful stone cave behind a waterfall. The second deals with some episodes from the classical story about Wang Pao-chuan, daughter of a wealthy mandarin, who defied the wishes of her father and chose love and poverty.

July 27 evg. Chi Hsiang Theatre

▲ **LOVE UNDER THE WILLOWS**— Otherwise known as *Liang Shan-po and Chu Ying-tai*, the tragic story of two lovers. The tale, popular throughout the centuries, has come to symbolize the people's resistance to feudal marriage conventions in ancient China.

July 26 People's Theatre

▲ **THE BOTTOMLESS PIT** Episode from the *Pilgrimage to the West*—Monkey Sun Wu-kung battles against evil spirits.

July 27 matinee People's Theatre

▲ **THE WILD BOAR FOREST** Lu Chi-shen, the "tattooed priest," saves Lin Chung, one of the 108 heroes in *Water Margin*, from an attempt on his life.

July 26 evg. Tienchiao Theatre

July 27 evg. People's Theatre

▲ **THE TIGER-HUNTERS** Adapted from *Water Margin*. Two brothers, both hunters, are imprisoned by a powerful landlord who wanted the tiger they had killed. Their sister-in-law rescues them and later all three join the heroes on the Liangshan Mountain.

July 28 evg. People's Theatre

(All operas listed above are produced by the China Peking Opera Company, starring such famous artists as Li Shao-chun, Tu Chin-fang, Yuan Shih-hai and others.)

### PINGCHU OPERA

▲ **BITTER FLOWERS** A new play describing how the Shantung peasants rose up against the bitter life they led under the traitors and landlords at the start of the Anti-Japanese War. Produced by the China Pingchu Opera Company.

July 22 & 23 evg. Ta Chung Theatre

### CHU YI

▲ **REGISTRATION** Adapted from a short story by Chao Shu-li. A young couple struggles against feudal attitudes to marriage. Set in the Chinese countryside just after the liberation. Produced by the Peking Chu Yi Troupe.

July 22 evg. Changan Theatre

### SONG AND DANCE

▲ **CHINESE FOLK SONGS AND DANCES** Performed by the Central Song and Dance Troupe.

July 24 & 25 evg. People's Theatre

### THEATRE

▲ **SON OF THE WORKING CLASS** Based on the autobiography of Wu Yun-to, one of China's best-loved revolutionary heroes. Thrice severely wounded, he never stopped working for the revolution. Produced by the Tientsin People's Art Theatre.

July 27-30 Tienchiao Theatre

▲ **KUAN HAN-CHING** A play by Tien Han in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the great 13th century playwright. This play shows the indomitable spirit of Kuan Han-ching as he struggles to overcome the difficulties that beset him while writing and staging his famous *Snow in Midsummer*. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

July 22-31 Capital Theatre

▲ **BALLAD OF THE MING TOMBS** Tien Han's latest—a play on the past, present and future of the great Ming Tombs Reservoir. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

July 23-25 Tienchiao Theatre

### FILMS

▲ **THE COURTESAN'S JEWEL BOX** Coloured film of the Szechuan opera. A beautiful and talented courtesan, seeking love and happiness, marries a scholar. On discovering that the scholar married her only to sell her for a high price, she throws her immensely valuable box of jewels into the river and drowns herself.

July 22-24 Hsin Chieh Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Ta Hua, Chiao Tao Kou

July 25-28 Chung Yang

July 25-26 Kwangan Men

▲ **THE ROOT OF LIFE** A Mexican feature film comprised of four short stories reflecting the present life of the Mexican Indians. Dubbed in Chinese.

July 22-24 Chung Yang, Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club

July 25-27 Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Chiao Tao Kou

▲ **LIN CHUNG** An episode from *Water Margin*. Originally a law-abiding citizen, Lin Chung is forced by corrupt officialdom to join the peasant outlaws on Liangshan Mountain.

July 22-24 Children's Cinema, Capital Theatre, Sheng Li, Hsin Chung Kuo, Kwangho Theatre

▲ **TWO ROADS OF LIFE** Coloured Soviet feature film on the two different roads taken by some Soviet youth—one of work and happiness, the other of vanity and emptiness. Dubbed in Chinese.

July 25-28 Hsin Chieh Kou, Peking Workers' Club, Chiao Tao Kou

July 26-28 Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Kwangan Men, Ta Hua

▲ **THE SILENT WORLD** A coloured French film. An oceanographer and his party take us on a trip to the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean and open before us a world of underwater beauty. In French, with Chinese titles.

July 22-24 Peking Theatre

July 25-28 Hsin Chung Kuo, Kwangho Theatre

### EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF THE "LEAP FORWARD" IN PEKING'S INDUSTRY** Displayed are new industrial machinery and products produced and renovated by Peking workers mostly in the first half of this year since the "big leap." Many products have reached international standards. Daily 9:00-11:30 a.m., 2-8 p.m.

At the Working People's Palace of Culture

▲ **NATIONAL FARM TOOLS EXHIBITION** Daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at the College of Agricultural Mechanization, outside Teh Sheng Men Gate, north city.

▲ **EXHIBITION OF SOVIET PAINTINGS, SCULPTURES AND WOODCUTS** Over 500 representative works by Soviet artists produced during the period 1955-57. Daily (except Mon.) 9-12 a.m., 3-8 p.m. till August 8.

At the Palace Museum, inside Tung Hua Men Gate

▲ **PALACE MUSEUM** Exhibition of Articles Used by Feudal Emperors—The valuable collection of jewellery and other treasures of former emperors. Among them is the largest piece of carved jade in the world, depicting the people's struggle against flood in the time of Emperor Yu.

Daily 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Exhibition of Ancient Chinese Weapons—from the Shang dynasty up to the Ching dynasty. Exhibited in the Historical Museum inside the Palace Museum.

6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

### SPORTS

▲ **CITY WATER POLO TOURNAMENT** Matches to select a team to represent Peking in the national championships scheduled to take place in Lushun-Talien later in the summer.

July 27 at Tao Jan Ting Swimming Pool

### SWIMMING

▲ **OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS**

The Tao Jan Ting Swimming Pool

Daily 12:30-2:30 3:30-5:30 p.m.

The Shih Cha Hai Swimming Pools

Mon.-Sat. 9-11 a.m. 12:30-2:30 3:30-5:30 7-9 p.m.

Sun. 9-11 a.m. 12:00-2:30 3:30-6:00 p.m.

### PEKING PLANETARIUM

▲ **ANOTHER NEW FEATURE** "A Summer Night"—daily showings: 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Also

"Trip Through the Universe"—2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

### BUS TOURS

SEE TWO OF CHINA'S FAMOUS HISTORICAL SITES IN ONE TRIP! Special buses with guides leave every Wednesday and Sunday for:

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and

▲ **THE MING TOMBS**—The 13 magnificent tombs of the Ming emperors approached through an avenue of giant statues carved out of white marble. The first tomb was built in 1540.

Buses start from the east end of Lang Fan Tou Tiao St. (just outside Chienmen Gate) at 8 a.m. and will stop for passengers at the north end of Pei Chang Chieh St., at Ti An Men Gate, and at Teh Sheng Men Gate (near the No. 5 bus stops).

Tickets cost 4 yuan. They are obtainable at all taxi stations, or, by ringing 5-7661 you can have them delivered to your door.

Apart from travelling time 5½ hours will be spent at the Wall and the Tombs.





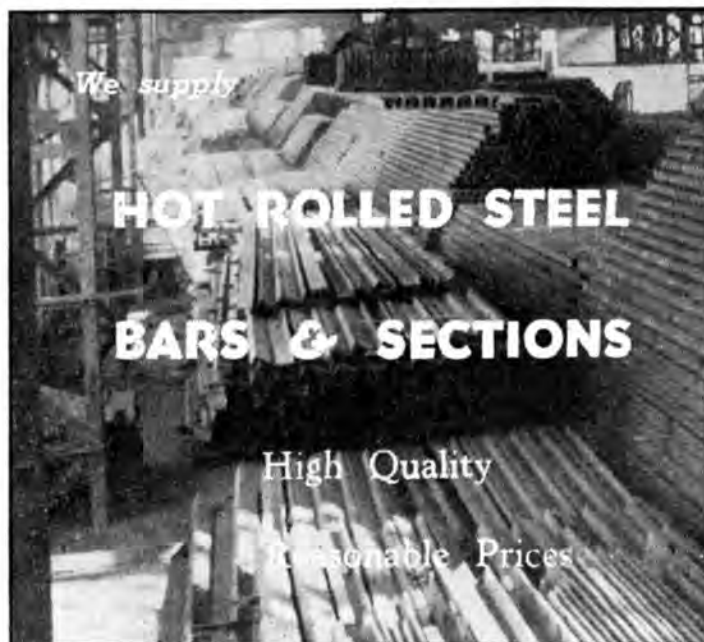
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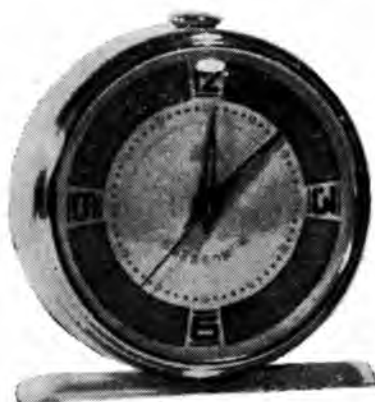
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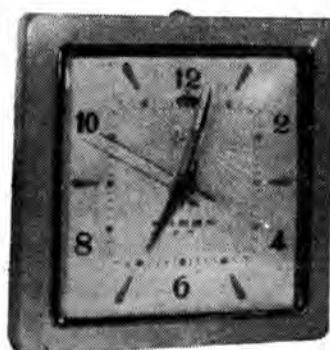
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