

**A REPORT ON
THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS
IN KOREA**

by

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At the 24th meeting of the Central People's Government Council held on September 12, 1953, General Peng Teh-huai, Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers, made a report on the achievements of the Chinese People's Volunteers in resisting U.S. aggression and aiding Korea. The following is the full text of General Peng Teh-huai's report.

GENERAL PENG TEH-HUAI'S REPORT ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS IN RESISTING U.S. AGGRESSION AND AIDING KOREA

COMRADE Chairman, Members of the Council and Comrades:

The heroic Korean people's war against aggression and in defence of their independence and freedom lasted altogether for three years and thirty-two days. Two years and nine months have passed since the Chinese People's Volunteers left China on October 25, 1950, to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Korean People's Army. Now the Korean Armistice Agreement has been signed and the Korean war has ended. The Korean and Chinese peoples have achieved a great victory in the struggle for peace and against aggression. I now submit this report to you on behalf of the Chinese People's Volunteers.

I

ON June 25, 1950, the Syngman Rhee government of South Korea, instigated by the reactionary ruling clique of the United States, attacked the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Following this, the U.S. aggressors themselves directly joined in the attack. From then on the heroic Korean people's war of resistance against U.S. aggression began. At the same time as they unleashed their war of aggression against Korea, the U.S. aggressors occupied our territory of Taiwan. Their rabid aim was to subjugate the whole of Korea and then proceed to invade the People's Republic of China as part of their wild scheme in pursuit of world hegemony.

To attain this end, the U.S. aggressors, unwilling to accept the defeat they suffered at the hands of the Korean People's Army in the first month and more following the war instigated by them, mustered a numerically superior force made up of all possible troops of their own and of satellite countries that could be thrown into the Korean war.

They landed at Inchon on the west coast of Korea, cut off the rear communications of the Korean People's Army and inflicted heavy losses on the Korean people who had won independence, democracy and freedom. The insatiable aggressors then savagely pushed their invasion northwards in force.

After the outbreak of the Korean war, the Chinese people and Government time and again advocated a peaceful settlement of the Korean question. They issued repeated warnings and demanded that the armed forces of the United States withdraw from Taiwan, speedily end the war of aggression in Korea and seek a peaceful solution to the Korean and other Far Eastern questions. But the U.S. aggressors arrogantly ignored the warnings and took the Chinese people's demand for peace as a sign of weakness. Early in the winter of 1950, the U.S. forces of aggression crossed the 38th Parallel in force and advanced towards the Yalu and Tumen Rivers on the border of North-east China, seriously menacing the security of our country.

Only when the Chinese people were provoked to the limit of their tolerance did they organise a volunteer force to resist U.S. aggression, aid Korea, protect their homes and defend their country. Only then did they leave for Korea to fight side by side with the Korean People's Army against U.S. imperialist aggression. On November 4, 1950, all democratic parties of China issued a joint declaration in which they supported this just action and pointed out:

If lovers of peace in the world desire to have peace, they must use positive action to resist atrocities and halt aggression. It is only resistance that can possibly teach the imperialists a lesson and justly settle the question of independence and liberation in Korea and other areas according to the will of the people.

During the past two years and more, the Korean and Chinese peoples have had a succession of brilliant victories in their great war of resistance to U.S. aggression. Between October 25, 1950, and the latter part of May, 1951, the heroic Korean and Chinese people's forces launched five offensives driving the U.S. troops of aggression back from the banks of the Yalu River and the Tumen River to the south of the 38th Parallel. They put out of action more than 190,000 enemy troops including upwards of 80,000 American troops. Thereafter, the Korean and Chinese people's forces immediately changed over to defensive, positional warfare of a positive character. They built impregnable, deep defensive positions across the 250-kilometre Korean battlefield. They not only stabilised the battlefield around the 38th Parallel but also launched many victorious counter-attacks, inflicting still heavier losses on the enemy. In December, 1951, the U.S. forces of aggression betrayed the principles of humanity and violated international conventions by unleashing bacteriological warfare. But this inhuman weapon also was smashed by us.

Supported by the people of our great motherland and by the Korean people, our forces became stronger and stronger in the course of fighting. They laid the foundations of victory amidst the hardships of the war.

The just action of the Korean and Chinese peoples in waging war against aggression was directed at winning conditions that would make possible the settling of the Korean question by peaceful means and on a fair and reasonable basis. Therefore, the Korean and Chinese peoples and their governments quickly responded to the peace proposals for a cease-fire and armistice negotiations put forward by the Soviet Government on June 23, 1951. They reiterated their demand for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and entered into the Korean armistice negotiations with the United Nations Command side on July 10, 1951.

The U.S. Government, though forced by its military defeats and by pressure both at home and abroad to accept armistice negotiations, still persistently followed a highhanded and unreasonable policy of delay and sabotage throughout the Korean armistice negotiations; hence the two years of long twists and turns in the Korean armistice negotiations.

Throughout the truce talks, the Korean-Chinese delegation firmly maintained its stand of reaching agreement on a fair and reasonable basis. With great firmness and patience, the delegation time and again defeated the U.S. "military pressure," refusal to negotiate, provocations and other schemes

to obstruct the realisation of an armistice. By May, 1952, the opposing sides had reached agreement on the question of drawing up a Military Demarcation Line, on the concrete arrangements for a cease-fire and truce and on recommendations to the governments of the countries concerned on both sides. The only remaining issue was the P.O.W. question. But due to unwillingness of the U.S. side, from the outset, to abide by the provisions of the Geneva Convention and its obstinate persistence in favour of unreasonable forced detention of prisoners of war, the negotiations on the P.O.W. question were dragged out and became difficult to settle. Then on October 8, 1952, the U.S. side unilaterally recessed the meetings and broke off the armistice talks.

On March 30 and 31 of this year, Chou En-lai, Premier and Foreign Minister of the Central People's Government of China, and Kim Il Sung, Prime Minister of the Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, respectively put forward on behalf of the Chinese and Korean side a new proposal for the settlement in two separate stages of the P.O.W. question. This called for the repatriation, immediately after the armistice, of all prisoners of war in the custody of both sides who insisted on repatriation, with the remaining prisoners of war to be handed over to a neutral nation, so as to ensure a just settlement of the question of their repatriation. This new proposal of the Chinese and Korean side met with the sympathy and support of public opinion throughout the world. It led to a resumption of the truce talks and brought about the agreement on the P.O.W. question which was finally reached on June 8, 1953.

Following the settlement of the P.O.W. question, the U.S. side connived with the Syngman Rhee clique in seizing 27,000 prisoners of war belonging to our side, intending thereby to sabotage the achievement of the armistice. But this plot of sabotage failed, and agreement was finally reached in the two-year-old Korean armistice negotiations as a result of the Korean and Chinese peoples' persistence in the policy of peaceful settlement of the Korean question and the vigorous efforts of the people of the world in the cause of peace. The armistice agreement was signed by both sides at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953. Thus the Korean armistice, deeply desired throughout the world, finally materialised.

The signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement is a great victory for the heroic Korean and Chinese peoples, for the democratic camp headed by the Soviet Union and for the peace-loving forces of the whole world. The rejoicing and elation of

peace-lovers throughout the world is fully understandable.

II

THE great victory of the Korean and Chinese peoples in their struggle for peace and against aggression is of vital significance. Its effects on the situation in the Far East and the world are tremendous and far-reaching.

When the U.S. imperialists first unleashed their war of aggression, they thought the young Korean Democratic People's Republic would not be able to withstand a single attack and that the Chinese people, liberated only a year earlier, would not dare to support their neighbour in joint resistance to U.S. aggression. They hoped by means of a blitzkrieg to carry out their rabid aim of occupying the whole of Korea and then invading North-east China. Syngman Rhee, lackey of the U.S. imperialists, even bragged about finishing the "northern punitive expedition" within three days. On October 15, 1950, MacArthur, then Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations forces, met the then U.S. President, Truman, on Wake Island, where he made the fantastic statement that formal resistance throughout South and North Korea would come to an end before Thanksgiving Day. He added further that there was very little likelihood of the Chinese putting up any resistance. And when the U.S. invading forces pushed on to the banks of the Yalu River, bellicose elements in the U.S. made the crazy assertion that historically the Yalu River was not an uncrossable barrier clearly dividing China and Korea. But the U.S. interventionists miscalculated. Their rabid, aggressive ambitions were smashed. The heroic Korean people withstood the severe test of war. They fought unswervingly against the U.S.-led United Nations forces in defence of the independence and freedom of their motherland. The valiant Chinese People's Volunteers waged a just struggle, defended the security of their motherland and helped the Korean people, thus safeguarding the smooth carrying out of China's work of economic restoration and construction. After three years of fighting, the crack troops of the biggest industrial power of the capitalist world were held at the place where they first unleashed their aggression. Not only were they unable to advance a single step forward, but they found themselves daily falling into increasing difficulties. This is a lesson of great international significance. It conclusively proves that the days have gone forever when a Western aggressor was able—as for several hundred years past—to occupy a country by merely setting up some cannons along a sea coast in the East; that today any form of imperialist aggression can be defeated by relying on the strength of the people.

It also convincingly proves that an awakened nation which dares to rise up and fight for the glory, independence and security of its motherland is invincible. Since the Second World War, particularly since the victory of China's revolution, the advancing wheels of history in the Asia where profound changes have taken place positively cannot be turned back by aggressive forces. There is no doubt whatever that the lesson of Korea will inspire the peoples of all the colonies and semi-colonies in their determination and confidence to defend their motherlands and to resist the imperialists. It will inspire them to intensify their struggle for the independence, peace, democracy and unification of their own countries. This is a vital contribution to the defence of peace in the Far East.

The victory of the Korean and Chinese peoples in the war against aggression was won under conditions in which our military equipment could not compare with that of the enemy. For 37 months, the U.S. forces of aggression used Korea as a testing ground for new weapons of mass murder. Many new weapons were used, and on a large scale. Apart from coercing 15 satellite states into sending forces to participate in the war, the U.S. aggressors largely relied on mobilising one-third of their army, one-fifth of their air force and the major part of their navy as the main force in the war of aggression against Korea. They placed the entire national economy of the United States on a military footing and threw colossal quantities of military equipment and supplies into the war. Yet the Korean and Chinese people's forces, with inferior military equipment, were able to wipe out the enemy's manpower on a large scale and force him to use up vast quantities of military equipment and supplies. From June 25, 1950, up to the armistice on July 27, 1953 Korean and Chinese people's forces killed, wounded and captured more than 1,090,000 of the enemy. Of these, over 390,000 were U.S. troops. More than 12,200 enemy planes were brought down or damaged. Two hundred and fifty-seven enemy naval craft of various kinds were sunk or damaged. Numerous quantities of other enemy war supplies were destroyed or captured. During this period, war supplies shipped by the enemy to Korea exceeded 73 million tons. Direct war expenditure of the enemy amounted to more than 20,000 million U.S. dollars. At the same time, the Korean and Chinese people's forces not only rapidly improved and raised the level of their equipment and technique, organised and reinforced new branches of the armed forces, but also gained rich experience in modern warfare, thus daily increasing their fighting power. The cost to the enemy in manpower grew with each passing

day, while the cost in manpower to our side kept diminishing. Both the strategic situation and balance of forces became increasingly favourable to our forces. In these circumstances, even George Marshall, the former U.S. Secretary of Defence, had to declare in speaking of the Korean war that a myth had been exploded and that the United States was, after all, not such a great power as had been imagined. Other U.S. generals were forced to admit that superiority on the sea and in the air could not determine the outcome of the Korean war; that the Korean war was one of the most costly and bloody wars the U.S. had ever engaged in; that it was a long-drawn-out war with no prospect of a decision. The brilliant record of victories won by the Korean and Chinese people's forces with inferior equipment against the troops of aggression armed with superior equipment has completely shattered the lie with which the U.S. imperialists, ever since the end of the Second World War, have been blackmailing, intimidating and scaring others, the lie of the "all powerfulness" of their new weapons. It has thoroughly exposed the poverty of the military thinking of the imperialist camp and revealed the truth about the fragility of their so-called all-powerful war machine. It has upset their plans and preparations for another world war. The Korean and Chinese people's forces have proved to the whole world that the U.S. imperialists only appear to be strong but are actually weak, and that their aggression can be completely defeated.

On the battlefield the enemy revealed its cruelty and weakness; in the course of the Korean armistice negotiations, it revealed its imperialist thirst for war and utter unreasonableness which increasingly isolated it from all the peoples of the world. The Korean armistice negotiations are unprecedented in history. They were not armistice negotiations where the imperialists had subjugated other nations and forced them to accept terms of surrender; neither were they armistice negotiations where imperialist powers, after having fought among themselves without a decision, were forced to divide up colonies among themselves for the sake of a temporary and short peace. The Korean armistice negotiations were talks where an imperialist power, which had attempted to establish its supremacy over the whole world, after meeting the resistance of young, newly-born People's Democracies and being checked by them, was forced to end its war of aggression and had reluctantly to accept armistice negotiations. Clearly, the imperialists did not willingly accept negotiations of this kind, and they tried all the time to get out of them. Thus, the Korean armistice negotiations could not be but a very acute, com-

plicated and long-drawn-out military and diplomatic struggle. Throughout the negotiations, the U.S. side maintained an insolent attitude, denying its military failures and refusing to negotiate on an equal footing or observe the most elementary principles of international law. During the discussions in 1951 on Item 2 of the agenda—the fixing of the Military Demarcation Line—the U.S. side claimed possession of more than 12,000 square kilometres north of the 38th Parallel and even spoke in terms of letting "bombs, guns and machine-guns do the talking." At the same time, it launched its so-called "summer offensive" and then its "autumn offensive," in a futile attempt to bring military pressure on our side; but the consequence was that it suffered heavy losses. When the negotiations came to Item 3 of the agenda, the U.S. side raised many unreasonable demands, trying to interfere in the internal affairs of the Korean Democratic People's Republic. They brazenly advanced the ludicrous theory at one meeting that sovereignty and internal affairs were just irrelevant and meaningless terms which should be discarded, and that full sovereignty was merely an abstract concept which no longer had real existence anywhere in the world. When all these desperate, base methods proved useless and the armistice negotiations came near to reaching an understanding, they launched their shameful delaying policy on the question of prisoners of war. In the course of the negotiations, the Korean-Chinese side repeatedly smashed the "military pressure" of the enemy and stripped the enemy of his arrogance, thus not allowing him to obtain at the negotiating table what he failed to acquire on the battlefield. At the same time, the Korean-Chinese side persevered resolutely and patiently to attain agreement in the negotiations, thus exposing the true character of the reactionary bloc of warmongers in the United States who thirst for war and hate peace.

During three years of war and two years of negotiations, the U.S. imperialists became more and more isolated after suffering serious setbacks not only militarily but also politically and morally. At the same time, more and more people in all countries came to see clearly the real face of the U.S. imperialists and daily gave still greater support to the rightful claim of the Korean-Chinese side to bring about a Korean armistice and seek a peaceful settlement of international disputes.

The U.S. imperialists tried to use the international tension created by the Korean war to bring the capitalist world under stricter control and convert the capitalist countries into their military, political and economic satellites. But as a result of their defeat in the Korean war, their plan to enslave these countries was frustrated.

The U.S. imperialists pushed 15 countries including Britain, France and Canada into the war of aggression against Korea. They used this war to strengthen greatly their political and economic control over these countries. They penetrated deeply into the British and French colonies and spheres of influence, seizing their sources of materials and markets. France's position in Vietnam is gradually being taken over by the United States. The "European Army" treaty—under which the participating countries are compelled to sell their national sovereignty to the U.S.-controlled, so-called supra-state European organisation—is being forced upon the West European countries. Using as a pretext the situation caused by the Korean war, the U.S. Government has done its utmost to foster the militarisation of West Germany and Japan in order to revive these two hot-beds of world wars. It has thus endangered the security of many countries in both West Europe and the Far East. Arrogantly assuming the role of a dominant nation, the U.S. ruling bloc has ordered all the countries which took part in the war of aggression against Korea to do its bidding.

The U.S. Government has also compelled its allies to carry out an embargo and blockade against the People's Republic of China, thus robbing them of their economic sovereignty. "Aided" by the U.S. "Marshall Plan" and "Foreign Aid Act," these countries have carried out armament programmes and militarised their national economies. This has resulted in deepening economic crisis, the worsening of the people's livelihood and the steady growth of internal economic and political difficulties. This policy of enslavement and plunder pursued by the U.S. aggressors could not but arouse the profoundest discontent among its partners, thus sharpening and increasing the contradictions between them. All along, these countries have nurtured their resentment, but have not dared to say anything. Now, however, the myth of U.S. invincibility has been exploded by the Korean war, and the so-called Communist menace about which the bellicose elements of the U.S. have been shouting has proved groundless. This has enabled a section of the bourgeoisie in these countries to see clearly that no good can come of following the U.S.; that in fact it is a suicidal course. This has developed in them an even stronger urge to free themselves from U.S. control and to adopt a comparatively independent policy. The recent third meeting of the seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly proved that this sentiment against submission to U.S. control has already begun to reach the stage of open defiance.

On the whole, the Korean armistice has shown that the real balance of forces in the present in-

ternational situation is favourable to the camp of peace and democracy and unfavourable to the imperialist camp of aggression. Back in 1951, Chairman Mao Tse-tung pointed out in his opening speech to the third session of the First National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on October 23:

Our enemies are short-sighted. They fail to see our great and united strength, internally and internationally. They fail to see that the founding of the People's Republic of China announced the end, forever, of the era of the subjection of the Chinese people to foreign imperialism. They fail to see that the founding of the Socialist Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the various People's Democracies; the solidarity and unity between the two great countries of China and the Soviet Union on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance; the solidarity and unity within the entire camp of peace and democracy and the profound sympathy of the broad masses of peace-loving peoples throughout the world towards this great camp, have announced the end, forever, of the era in which imperialism dominated the world. Our enemies fail to see this and are still thinking of bullying the People's Republic of China and of achieving world domination. However, I can tell you with certainty, comrades, that their way of thinking is both insane and futile. They cannot achieve their ends. On the contrary, the People's Republic of China cannot be bullied. The great peace camp headed by the Soviet Union is inviolable. The peaceful people throughout the world cannot be deceived.

The whole course of the Korean war has proved the correctness of Chairman Mao Tse-tung's analysis. The achievement of the Korean armistice is the outcome of the failure of the imperialist military adventures and the result of the great victory won by the Korean and Chinese peoples with the sympathy and support of the camp of peace and democracy led by the Soviet Union and of the peace-loving peoples of the world. It shows most vividly how, by pursuing a war policy, the imperialist camp has caused ever-deepening internal political and economic difficulties and disintegration. It also shows how, by persisting in a policy of peaceful construction, the entire camp of peace and democracy has brought about a steady growth in its political and economic power and is united as firmly as rock.

The victory of the just struggle of the Korean and Chinese peoples shows that, in the present international situation, the only possible and correct way to solve international disputes is by peaceful consultation between the countries concerned.

More than three years ago, the U.S. reactionary ruling bloc tore to pieces the resolutions of the Moscow Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain. They refused a solution to the Korean question by peaceful means and took the path of military adventure.

Now, the cruel realities of the Korean battlefield have proved that this path is impassable. As a result, they have had to accept the armistice and return to the path of solving the Korean problem through peaceful consultation. This is a stern lesson and warning to the adventurers who blindly believe in settling international disputes by a "policy of strength" and a great encouragement to the peoples of all lands struggling for the peaceful solution of international disputes. All peace-loving people recognise that if an armistice could be attained by consultation in the bitter Korean war which lasted for more than three years, then a peaceful solution can be found for any international question and dispute still unsettled, including the settlement of the Korean question following the armistice, on the basis of agreement between the countries concerned. Owing to the success of the Korean armistice, the present international situation has become even more favourable to the struggle of the peoples of the world for peace. But, at the same time, as a result of the setback of the imperialist war plans, the aggressive bloc headed by the U.S. is waging a desperate struggle. Thus, the Korean and Chinese peoples and all peace-loving peoples of the world must exert even greater efforts than before to lessen the present international tension and strive for world peace. At the same time, they must raise their vigilance even more sharply against the attempts of the imperialists to hold back the advancing tide of peace. There is no doubt that, with the existing balance of forces, as G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., pointed out, "if the peoples are vigilant and bend all their energies to prevent the aggressors from carrying out their plans—peace will be ensured."

III

THE source of strength of the Chinese People's Volunteers and the fundamental cause for their victory lie in the righteousness of the great struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea.

The Chinese People's Volunteers are a force genuinely springing from the people; they are possessed of a high political consciousness and nobility of character. They have continued the glorious tradition of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. They have been reared in the spirit of patriotism

and internationalism, a spirit that respects and loves other nations. Furthermore, they were built up and grew in strength during the struggle for the defence of peace in the Far East and the rest of the world.

All commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Volunteers are deeply aware that the war they have waged is a just war against aggression, representing the will and aspirations of the people of their motherland as well as of the peace-loving peoples throughout the world; that the task they have performed is a great and glorious task in defence of the security of their motherland, the independence and freedom of the Korean people and peace in the Far East and the rest of the world. Hence, their morale is extraordinarily high, and their will to fight is exceptionally strong. All fighters have displayed on the battlefield unsurpassed valour, invincibility and resourcefulness in taking the initiative; they have displayed unexampled revolutionary heroism and self-sacrifice. In the past three years, there have emerged among the Chinese People's Volunteers more than 300,000 meritorious fighters, many of them brilliant heroes and models like Yang Ken-szu, Huang Chi-kuang, Kuo Chung-tien, Huang Chia-fu, Sun Chan-yuan and Chiu Shao-yun. Their outstanding heroic exploits, their bravery, fortitude, staunchness and dauntlessness have developed the righteous power of the peoples of the world and will shine forever in the history of the world's people in their struggle for the defence of peace.

Since justice and truth are with us and our confidence in the cause of peace is deep rooted, our delegates to the armistice negotiations have always been able, throughout the Korean truce talks, to fight on and win victories by firmly presenting our just views in dignified and serious terms. They untiringly exposed and frustrated the manifold schemes and tricks of the enemy to drag out, obstruct and sabotage the negotiations, and brought forward our just and reasonable views, clearly pointing out right from wrong. They resolutely yet patiently waged a serious struggle and at length led the unprecedentedly long, complicated and tense Korean armistice negotiations to success, thus opening the way for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

In the past three years, the Chinese People's Volunteers fought shoulder to shoulder with the Korean People's Army, supporting each other like brothers. We and the Korean people have fought together and lived together; we profoundly realise that the Chinese and the Korean peoples vitally depend upon each other. We saw more clearly that U.S. aggressive and bellicose elements are the

common sworn enemies of the Chinese and the Korean peoples, and understood profoundly that if we wanted to protect our homes and defend our country we had to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea. During the three years' common struggle, the fighting friendship sealed in blood between our forces and the Korean people and the Korean People's Army was further consolidated and the feeling of internationalism deepened. During intervals in the fighting, our troops always helped the Korean people in their ploughing and harvesting; they helped them to build ditches, control floods, plant trees, build houses, prevent diseases and render aid to victims of war and natural calamities. In the past year, our forces saved more than 5 million kilogrammes of grain from their own supplies for the relief of Korean sufferers. In Korea, we felt as if we were in our motherland. The example of Lo Sheng-chiao (a Volunteer who gave up his life to save a drowning Korean child—Editor) is a model of the spirit of internationalism of the Volunteers. The heroic Korean people under the leadership of Marshal Kim Il Sung lavished loving care on and supported our troops with unparalleled enthusiasm. The Korean Nodong Dang and the Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic always showed us great concern and gave us constant assistance. The Korean people let us live in their houses, lent us furniture and helped us to transport supplies and wounded personnel. Such moving feats as performed by Pak Jai Kyn, the hero who rescued our wounded at the cost of his life, were to be found everywhere. All this helped us to feel that the Korean people were just like our own brothers and sisters. We got along very well and the relations between us were like those of kinsmen.

We shall always be grateful for the loving care and support of the Korean people. Their valour, industriousness and indomitable fighting spirit not only inspired our militancy in combat, but also gave a profound education to all the commanders and fighters of our troops and raised their spirit of internationalism to a still higher level. We are gloriously proud that we have such a valiant and industrious neighbour.

The struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea has been a grave test for the people of our country. Now, after three years of struggle, it can be seen that our people have not only successfully withstood the test but have become stronger. Our people have never been so closely united morally and politically as today; the relations between the peoples of all nationalities in our country have never been so friendly and they have never been as united; the spirit of patriotism of our people has never soared to such heights.

The unreserved support from our people played an extremely important role in the great victory we won on the Korean front. In the past three years, under the slogan "resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea; protect our homes and defend our country," the people of our great motherland carried on their tremendous work of economic restoration and construction, and at the same time launched the great movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea in support of the Volunteers, making available to us an unending flow of supplies. They inspired us with a full sense of justice to deliver successful blows at the enemy until the present victory. On behalf of all the Volunteers, I express my heartfelt thanks and pay tribute to the people of our country who have supported us wholeheartedly. We are fully justified in saying that the enthusiastic and mighty support of our people will have its place in the pages of history alongside the heroic struggle of the Volunteers. It has been a brilliant contribution to the cause of defending peace in the Far East and the rest of the world.

People of all nationalities and from all walks of life registered with unprecedented enthusiasm to join the ranks of the Volunteers. Everywhere were moving examples of mothers sending off their sons, wives sending off their husbands and brothers who vied with each other to join the Volunteers. New militant forces continuously joined the ranks of the Volunteers. Railwaymen, truck drivers and civilian workers went in their tens of thousands to work in transport and supply services at the Korean front, ensuring successful carrying out of the tasks of war. Medical workers organised teams to serve the Chinese and Korean forces. The nation-wide campaign of support for the Volunteers and the Korean People's Army, the arms donation campaign and the patriotic health campaign for the complete defeat of bacteriological warfare waged by the U.S. imperialists were all carried out successfully.

The working class warmly responded to Chairman Mao Tse-tung's call to "increase production and practise economy in support of the Chinese People's Volunteers." Under the militant slogan: "Factories are battlefields and machines are guns," they unfolded a patriotic emulation drive, developed their initiative and creativeness in production, ensured the restoration and development of the national economy and fully met the vast needs of the front on time.

The peasants also supported the Volunteers by unfolding a patriotic movement for increased production, enabling agricultural production throughout the country to recover rapidly and surpass the highest levels in history, thus providing a powerful

guarantee for the provision of food to the Korean front.

In the patriotic cause of supporting the front, the intellectuals of our country did not lag behind the working class and the peasantry. In the course of the movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea, they made advances in the fields of science, culture and education in the interests of national construction and defence.

The patriotic people of other strata of society also contributed greatly to the movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea.

The entire people of the country carried out a large-scale campaign of care for the families of revolutionary martyrs and army-men, which they regarded as a vital task in support of the front. In response to the slogan: "Families of army-men first," people everywhere in the towns and countryside made a tremendous effort to safeguard the livelihood of these families and help them to engage in production. This not only stimulated the production enthusiasm of the families of the revolutionary martyrs and army-men but also enhanced the morale of the armed forces at the front.

The movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea educated the entire people in patriotism and internationalism, greatly furthered their national self-respect and self-confidence, intensified their common hatred for the enemy and strengthened their determination to repulse U.S. aggression. It was this ideological basis that created a great material force of support for the Chinese People's Volunteers and the Korean people in their resistance to aggression and their defence of peace in the Far East and the world over. At the same time, the great and profound change in our motherland brought about by the movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea and the unprecedented advance of the people's political consciousness and sense of organisation became, in turn, a most important force in inspiring all Volunteers with immeasurable courage in battle and enabled them to grow ever stronger as they fought.

The organisations at all levels of the Communist Party of China and all other democratic parties, the people's organisations and patriotic people of all strata of society, thanks to their firm unity and painstaking efforts, succeeded in rapidly developing a successful movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea. Guided by the Communist Party of China and our great and wise leader Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the efforts of the entire people converged in a mighty torrent which swept aside all difficulties and led to a great victory the struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea.

The victory of the struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea is indivisible from the support and assistance of our great ally, the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the peace-loving peoples all over the world. For more than three years, this support and assistance inspired our Volunteers to advance heroically. I wish to take this opportunity to extend, on behalf of all Volunteers, my heartfelt thanks and profound respect to the fraternal countries of the democratic camp headed by the Soviet Union and to the peace-loving peoples of the whole world. We will strengthen further our friendship and unity with the Soviet Union, our great ally, and the People's Democracies, and raise still higher the invincible banner of internationalism!

IV

COMRADES! The Korean armistice has now been achieved. Under the leadership of Marshal Kim Il Sung, the Nodong Dang and the Korean Government, the Korean people who have won the war against aggression are enthusiastically responding to the call: "All for the strengthening of the democratic base and for the restoration and development of the post-war people's economy." They are striving to heal the wounds of war, to rebuild a peaceful life, to strengthen their armed forces, to effect peace and unity in their country. The Chinese people sincerely wish the Korean people an early and successful fulfilment of these great yet complicated and arduous tasks. The Chinese people are prepared to do everything possible to assist the Korean people. The Chinese People's Volunteers regard the difficulties confronting the Korean people as their own and will do their utmost, through their own labour, to help the Korean people overcome these difficulties, a task which they regard as a high honour. I am convinced that the Korean people, with the resolute leadership of the Korean Nodong Dang and Marshal Kim Il Sung and the support of the countries of the democratic camp headed by the Soviet Union, with their five years' experience of peaceful construction after liberation, with their boundless loyalty to their motherland and their heroism which they have proved in conquering difficulties during the three years of war, will bring their great strength into play and achieve new, brilliant successes in their arduous task of strengthening their armed forces and rebuilding a peaceful life. I wish the Korean Democratic People's Republic a boundless, bright future!

However, the conclusion of the Korean armistice is only the beginning of a peaceful settlement of the Korean question. The present task is to consolidate the Korean armistice, to

ensure strict observance of the terms of the armistice in order to absolutely prevent a renewed outbreak of aggressive war, to facilitate the successful convening of the Political Conference and thus to advance a step further in securing a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

The Chinese People's Volunteers, together with the Korean People's Army, have strictly kept to and carried out all the provisions of the Armistice Agreement and will continue to do so. The Chinese People's Volunteers firmly support the statements on the Political Conference made by Chou En-lai, our Foreign Minister, on August 24, and by Nam Il, the Foreign Minister of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, on August 25, and the proposal regarding the principle of the composition of the Political Conference put forward in the Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly on August 25 by Andrei Vyshinsky, head of the Soviet delegation. The attitude of China, Korea and the Soviet Union towards the Political Conference conforms completely to Paragraph 60, Article 4, of the Korean Armistice Agreement. Moreover, it is only in this way that the Political Conference can be called together on a sound and reasonable basis and carried through in the harmonious atmosphere necessary to ensure the possibility of a successful conference.

The strict observance of the Armistice Agreement by China and Korea and their reasonable attitude towards the Political Conference express fully the sincere desire and the great efforts of the Chinese and Korean peoples for a stable armistice in Korea, for a successful Political Conference and for a solution of the Korean question through negotiation.

But the Chinese and Korean peoples and all other peace-loving peoples cannot help keeping a careful watch on the scheme of the U.S. aggressors to create instability in the Korean armistice and their deliberate efforts to obstruct and sabotage the calling of the Political Conference which is to discuss the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. Before the Armistice Agreement was signed, the U.S. aggressors connived with the Syngman Rhee gang to violate the provisions of the Armistice Agreement on the repatriation of war prisoners. Violations of the Armistice Agreement by the U.S. forces have continued since the signing of the Armistice Agreement. The so-called "mutual defence treaty," signed by U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Syngman Rhee on August 8, provided the United States with the right to station armed forces permanently in South Korea. At the same time, they

publicly declared that if they failed to achieve their pre-conceived ends in the Political Conference, the United States and Syngman Rhee would withdraw from the Political Conference after three months. The U.S. Government compelled the other 15 nations which have taken part in the aggressive war in Korea to issue a "16-Nation Declaration" in an attempt to intimidate the Chinese and Korean peoples and the peoples of the whole world with the demented threat of a resumption of the Korean war which would not be limited to Korea. In his speech to the convention of the American Legion on September 2, Dulles repeated this threat. Thus, even before the Political Conference begins, the U.S. Government has already set out unreasonable conditions for the negotiation within the Conference of the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea and the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

To help its manipulation of the Political Conference, the U.S. Government used the most outrageous methods to keep India and other nations concerned out of the Conference and forced the U.N. General Assembly to pass the so-called 15-Nation Proposal on the composition of the Conference, in its efforts to turn the Political Conference into a reproduction of the Panmunjom negotiations and prepare the ground for the criminal Dulles-Rhee scheme of withdrawing from the Conference after 90 days. This arrogant behaviour of the U.S. ruling bloc cannot but rouse the people the world over to serious vigilance concerning the coming Political Conference.

The U.S. Navy is continuing its occupation of our territory of Taiwan. The bellicose elements of the U.S. have publicly declared their continued opposition to our country being granted its legitimate rights in the United Nations and in the whole sphere of international affairs. The U.S. Government is doing its best to prevent the resumption of normal economic relations between East and West and is continuing its embargo and blockade against our country.

These facts prove convincingly that the U.S. aggressors are not willing to accept their defeat in Korea. They have not abandoned their aggressive ambitions, and they are capable at any time of starting up their lunatic schemes of provocation.

We have to issue this grave warning to the bellicose elements of the U.S.: If you or your lackeys, the Syngman Rhee gang, dare to act in treacherous violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and start aggressive war again, your skulls will be severely cracked. Your tricky attempts to undermine the Political Conference will encounter the firmest opposition of the Korean

and Chinese peoples and the peace-loving peoples of the world and will be utterly defeated.

All commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Volunteers are maintaining the keenest vigilance regarding any intrigues or provocations by the bellicose elements of the U.S. and the Syngman Rhee gang. They are closely guarding their positions, ready at any moment to crush all possible sudden assaults by the enemy and to fulfil the glorious duty of self-defence.

All our commanders and fighters will take seriously the experience of the three years of war and two years of negotiations. We will learn the advanced military science of the Soviet Union, raise our knowledge of military affairs and our political level and strengthen the fighting power of our troops. We will enhance the glorious spirit of internationalism, protect the interests of the Korean people, guard, together with the Korean People's Army, more closely the Military Demarcation Line and the Korean coasts. We will consolidate and strengthen our militant friendship with the Korean people and the Korean People's Army.

In the same way, all the people of our country must continue to be keenly vigilant and not relax their alertness in the slightest degree; carry out the directives of the Communist Party of China and the Central People's Government to make the

maximum efforts to fulfil and overfulfil ahead of schedule the first year's task of the five-year plan of economic development and to strengthen our national defence. At the same time, our people must continue to develop the movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea, and to support the Korean people, the Chinese People's Volunteers and the Korean People's Army until the reconstruction work of the Korean people is completed and the Korean question is peacefully settled.

Let us unite our front and rear still more firmly and go forward in our efforts to carry through the Korean Armistice Agreement, to strive for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and to strive for still greater victories in the cause of peace in the Far East!

Eternal glory to the martyrs who have heroically laid down their lives in the struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea!

Long live the victory of the great struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea!

Long live the unbreakable and lasting friendship of the Chinese and Korean peoples!

Long live the world camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union!

Long live our great motherland and people!

Long live our great leader, Chairman Mao Tse-tung!

