



A happy snapshot for two.

Photo by Tan Enkuan



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Beijing Asiad Rounded Off

☐ The Beijing 11th Asian Games ended on October 7 as China's Zhao Jianhua beat out his fellow player Yang Yang to win the badminton men's signles title. A review of the thrilling competitions of the final days and of the closing ceremony performances, along with public comments on the opening ceremony and the Asiad, is presented (p. 15).

Consumer Market Recovering

□ Business in China's major consumer markets began to recover in August from its year-long slump. Retail sales have shown remarkable activity with the sales volume in 35 major department stores reaching US\$132 million, a 25 percent increase over the same period last year. Beijing's retail market is even more encouraging with the sales volume growing faster than any other city in China (p. 6).

Can Apartheid Be Eradicated?

☐ Despite a tortuous process, South Africa's reform is moving in a positive direction. Now, the future of apartheid will be decided by negotiations between the African National Congress and the South African government (p. 16).

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Photo by Xue Chao

COVER: Asian athletes at the Beijing

Badaling Great Wall.



Fireworks bring the closing ceremony of the Asiad to a triumphant end.

11th Asian Games Comes to Golden End

Cilver

October 7 marked the end of the 11th Asian Games which lasted 16 days in Beijing.

Roy de Silva, vice president of

the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), told an audience of 70,000 at the Beijing Workers' Stadium that Asia's young people should "celebrate the Asian"

Total

Table I: Medals Tally of the 11th Asiad

| | Countries (Regions) | Gold | Silver | Bronze | 1 otai |
|---|---------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| | China | 183 | 107 | 51 | 341 |
| | South Korea | 54 | 54 | 73 | 181 |
| | Japan | 38 | 60 | 76 | 174 |
| | Korea | 12 | 31 | 39 | 82 |
| | Iran | 4 | 6 | 8 | 18 |
| | Pakistan | 4 | 1 | 7 | 12 |
| | Indonesia | 3 | 6 | 21 | 30 |
| | Qatar | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| | Thailand | 2 | 7 | 8 | 17 |
| | Malaysia | 2 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| | India | 1 | 8 | 14 | 23 |
| | Mongolia | 1 | 7 | 9 | 17 |
| | the Philipines | 1 | 2 | 7 | 10 |
| | Syria | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| | Oman | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Chinese Taibei | 0 | 10 | 21 | 31 |
| | Hong Kong | 0 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| | Sri Lanka | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| l | Singapore | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| | Bangladesh | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| ĺ | Burma | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | Laos | 0 _ | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| l | Macao | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| l | Nepal | 0 | 0 . | 1 | 1 |
| ١ | Saudi Arabia | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | Total | 310 | 309 | 357 | 976 |
| | | | | | |

Games in the spirit of brother-hood and for the good of humanity."

The Asiad attacted a record high of more than 6,000 participants from 37 countries and regions in Asia.

In the 16 days, the athletes had competed with vigour and confidence in the Olympic spirit of "Faster, Higher, and Stronger."

A letter written by China's State Council to the Games' Organizing Committee says that the achievements and standard of the 11th Asian Games as well as the Chinese people's organizing ability have attracted world attention. The letter owes much of the success of the 11th Asiad to China's political and social stability and economic development.

Sino-Singaporean Diplomatic Ties

China and Singapore announced in New York on October 3 the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

"The government of the People's Republic of China and the government of the Republic of Singapore will establish diplomatic relations beginning October 3, 1990, which follow the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the Charter of the United Nations (UN)," stated a joint communique signed at the UN headquarters by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Singaporean Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng.

Qian said, after the signing ceremony, that the establishment of diplomatic ties with Singapore has ushered China's relationship with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in a period of all-round development. China has friendly and co-operative relations with the

ASEAN countries, having established diplomatic relations with five of the six member states.

The new relations between the two countries will also produce positive impacts on resolving regional conflicts and maintaining peace and stability in the region, particularly on the settlement of the Cambodian issue, Qian said.

Singapore is an important trading partner of China, Qian said. He expected that the economic and trade relations between the two countries will grow further

Singapore became China's sixth largest trade partner last year, when the two-way trade totalled US\$3.2 billion, a 27 percent increase over the previous year.

Latest customs statistics show that current bilateral trade volume stands at US\$1.73 billion, a 10 percent drop from the corresponding period of last year. However, the slump was not significant as large quantities of goods will be delivered in the last quarter of this year.

Qian, on behalf of the Chinese government, invited Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew to pay an official visit to China in the near future.

"The signing of this agreement formalizes the diplomatic ties and it will, of course, only strengthen the relations between Singapore and China," stated Foreign Minister Wong.

China Launches 30th Satellite

hina successfully launched another scientific experimental satellite from the space centre in Jiuquan, northwest China, at 2:15 pm on October 5.

The satellite was sent into orbit by a Long March 2 carrier rocket.

The satellite tracking and control centre in Xian, capital of Shaanxi Province, has been monitoring the satellite, and various technical parameters show that the meters and instruments on the satellite have been working well.

The satellite carried animals and plants so that their reactions under conditions of weightlessness can be observed.

The satellite is scheduled to return to earth in eight days. It is the 30th satellite successfully launched by China.

Plane Crash Takes 127 Lives

ne hundred and twentyseven people died and 53 were injured in a plane crash at Guangzhou's Baiyun Airport on the morning of October 2.

According to report by an investigating team dealing with the aftermath of the crash, of the dead 36 were from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, 90 from the mainland of China, and one

Table II: 11th Asian Games' Gold Medal Tally (Sept. 28 - Oct. 6)

| Date | Event | | Ctr/Regn | Winners | Records |
|---------|--------|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Sept.28 | Shoot. | W.'s s-b s.r. 3x20 M.'s air psl.60 | China | team team | 1,722 1,739 |
| | | M.'s air psl.60 ind. | | Zheng Shengge | 680.8 |
| | | W.'s s-b s.r. 3x20 ind. | Japan | Minamoto Yoko | 674.1 |
| | | M.'s 50m r.t. 40 M.'s 50m r.t. | China | team | 1,168 |
| | Swimm. | W.'s 200m W.'s 200m | China | Huang Shiping | 393 |
| | | butterfly W.'s 200m | China | Wang Xiaohong | 2.09'62 |
| | | backstroke M.'s 1500m | China | Lin Li | 2.13'81 |
| | | freestyle | Japan | Fujimoto Masayuki | 15.43'24 |
| | | M.'s 200m medley ind. | Japan | Fujimoto Takahiro | 2.05150 |
| | | W.'s 50m freestyle | China | Yang Wenyi | 2.05'50 25'86 |
| | | M.'s 4x100 medley relay | China | Talig Wellyl | 3.45'18 |
| (| Cycl. | M.'s 50km points race | S.Korea | Park Min-soo | 3.13 10 |
| | | W.'s 3km ind. pursuit | China | Zhao Yi | 4.01'57 |
| 1 | Athle. | M.'s 4km ind. pursuit M.'d 100m | S.Korea Qatar | Park Min-soo Talal Mansoor | 4.55'16 _. 10'30 |
| | | | China | Mao Xinyuan | 1:23.16' |
| | | M.'s shot put | China China Japan | Yu Zhicheng Cheng Shaobo Morishita | 13'82 18.89 |
| | | , | | | |

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woman from the United States. There were 100 survivors.

The Boeing 737, Flight 8301 of the Xiamen Airline, Co., was hijacked after taking off from Xiamen at 6:57 am on October 2 en route to Guangzhou.

Upon learning of the hijacking, the civil aviation authorities immediately authorized the crew to land at any airport, domestic or otherwise, for the safety of the airliner and its passengers.

The plane touched down at Baiyun Airport in Guangzhou at about 9:00 am, overshooting the main runway and slamming into two other planes on the apron.

The Boeing 737 burst into flames. One of the two other planes, with passengers aboard, was destroyed while the other, empty, suffered severe damage. Following the accident, local leaders rushed to the scene to direct the rescue efforts.

Premier Li Peng flew to Guangzhou from Beijing that afternoon. He inspected the crash site, heard a report on the accident and visited the injured at a local hospital.

The airport returned to normal operation on the evening of that day. The accident is still under investigation.

Consumer Market Picks up in Cities

Business in the country's major consumer markets began to recover from the year-long slump as urban sales volume picked up in August.

Although there has not been a basic turnaround in the overall sluggish market, retail sales in China's urban areas showed remarkable activity recently.

August saw the sales volume in the country's 35 major dapartment stores reach \$US132 million, 25 percent up from the same period of last year. And the

| <u> </u> | A DIA 19 | IKLIIDS | | | |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|---|----------|
| | | | | | 20 47107 |
| | | | | Koichi | 28.47'96 |
| | | W.'s 200m | China | Han Qing | 23'42 |
| | | W.'s javelin | China | Zhang Li | 66.00 |
| | | | China | Li Wenhong | 2.01'04 |
| | | W.'s 400m | | • | |
| | | | China | Chen Juying | 56'05 |
| | | | | Chen Juying | 30 03 |
| | Fencing | M.'s foil team | | | |
| | Kabaddi | | India | | 200.0 |
| | Wgtlif. | M.'s 60kg | China | He Yingqiang | 300.0 |
| | | M.'s 67.5kg | DPRK | King Myong Nam | 342.5 |
| | Judo | W.'s 72kg | Japan | Yoko Tanabe | |
| | | W.'s over 72kg | China | Zhang Ying | |
| | | M.'s 95kg | Japan | Kai Yasuhiro | |
| | | M.'s over 95kg | | Hwang Jae Gil | |
| | Softball | 141. 3 O VC1 75 Rg | China | 11 | |
| | Sortoan | | Cililia | | |
| | | 3.63 | | | |
| Sept.29 | Shoot. | M.'s skeet | DDD17 | | 120 |
| ļ | | team | DPRK | | 438 |
| | | W.'s skeet | | | |
| | | team | China | | 434 |
| | | W.'s air psl. | | | |
| | | team | China | | 1,130 |
| | | W.'s air psl. | | | |
| | y 4, 4 | ind. | China | Wang Lina | 482.0 |
| | 128 C | M.'s centre | 01111111 | | |
| | | fire psl. | China | team | 1,747 |
| | • | * | Cililia | icam | 1,717 |
| Ì | | M.'s centre | C TZ | D D tools | 589 |
| | | fire psl. | S.Korea | Park Byung-taek | 369 |
| ļ | | M.'s s-b f.r. | | | |
| | | 3x40 | S.Korea | team | 3,459 |
| | | M.'s s-b f.r. | | | |
| | | 3x40 ind. | S.Korea | Lee Eun-chul | 1,253.7 |
| | Cycl. | M.'s sprint | Japan | Miwa Hideki | |
| | Cycl. | W.'s sprint | China | Zhou Shumin | |
| | | M.'s 4km team | | 211000011111111111111111111111111111111 | |
| | | | | | 4.34'47 |
| | | pursuit | Japan | Mohammed | 1.51 17 |
| | Athle. | M.'s 400m | Oman | | 45'81 |
| | | | | Al-Maliki | 43 01 |
| - | | W.'s high | | | 1.04 |
| | | jump | Japan | Megumi Sato | 1.94 |
| Ì | | M.'s 1,500m | Qatar | Mohd Sulaiman | 3.43'56 |
| | | W.'s 4x400m | | | |
| - | | relay | China | • | 3.33'57 |
| | | M.'s decathlor | n Japan | Munehiro | |
| | | | | Kaneko | 7,799 |
| | Fencing | M.'s team | | ** | • |
| | Lencing | | China | | |
| | 337 1 | sabre | | Chen Lihong | 9.80 |
| | Wushu | W.'s nanquan | | | 345 |
| | Wgtlif. | M.'s 75kg | DPRK | Chon Chol Ho | |
| | | M.'s 82.5kg | S.Korea | Yeom Dong-chul | 357.5 |
| | Judo | W.'s 66kg | China | Zhang Di | |
| | | W.'s 61kg | China | Jin Xianglan | |
| | | M.'s 86kg | Japan | Hirotaka Okada | |
| | | M.'s 78kg | S.Korea | Kim Byung-joo | |
| | Sepak | Takraw | Malaysia | | |
| | J-pun | | | | |
| Sant 20 | Shoot. | M.'s s.p. 60 | | | |
| 3cpt.30 | SHOOT. | team | China | | 1,708 |
| | | M.'s s.p. 60 | Jiiiia | | -, - |
| 1 | | • | China | Wang Hui | 575 |
| | | ind | | | |
| | | ind. | Cillia | wang mu | |
| | | ind. M.'s 10m r.t. team | China | wang mu | 1,707 |

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sales of 20 major commodities, including durable household electric appliances, also registered increases.

Economists and market analysts often refer to sales of these durables, such as colour television sets and other household electrical appliances, as the barometer of market trends.

Since May, sales volume of durable goods has continuously risen and the country's total sales of 35 major stores, reached \$US27.4 million, 38.3 percent over the same period last year.

The sales of gold jewelry were also up in August with sales volume in 35 major stores reaching \$US9.9 million, an increase of 58.7 percent over August of last year.

Although sales of clothes didn't achieve the same success as gold jewelry, stores sold 40.3 million yuan worth of clothes, 0.9 percent more than they did in August last year.

The market situation in Beijing seemed even more encouraging. The sales volume of Beijing's major stores grew faster than any other city in the country.

In August, the capital's four major supermarkets saw a record sales volume, and in the first 10 days of September, sales in these markets reached \$US10.3 million, an 11.6 percent increase over the same period of the previous month.

Daily sales in Beijing's Wangfujing Dapartment Store and Xidan Bazaar now total \$US320,000.

China's Population Down to Size

In the 18 years from 1971 to 1988 there were 200 million fewer babies born in China than would have been the case in the absence of a conprehensive family planning programme.

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| _ | | | M.'s 10m r.t | | | |
| 1 | | | ind. | • | D - Ct -1 Ct- | |
| | | | M.'s skeet in | DPRK d China | Ro Chol Sik | 660 |
| 1 | | | W.'s skeet in | | Wang Zhonghua | 220 |
| | | | w.sskeet in | | Zhang Shan | 197 |
| . | | Cual | W/1, 70.031 | DPRK | Pak Jong Ran | 197 |
| : | | Cycl. | W.'s 70.03km | | | |
| . | | 4 41-1 | road race | China | Lu Suyan | 2:07,06'396 |
| - | | Athle. | M.'s marath | | Kim Won Tak | 2:12.56' |
| | | . . | W.'s marath | | Zhao Youfeng | 2:35.19' |
| | | Swimm. | Water pole | China | | |
| | | Wushu | M.'s taijiqua | n China | Chen Sitan | 9.75 |
| | | Wgtlif. | M.'s 90kg | S.Korea | Kim Byung Chan | 367.5 |
| | | | M.'s 100kg | S.Korea | Hwang Woo Won | 355 |
| ı | | Judo | W.'s 56kg | China | Li Zhongyun | |
| | | | W.'s 52kg | Japan | Mutsumi Ueda | |
| - | | | M.'s 71kg | S.Korea | Chung Hoon | |
| | | | M.'s 65kg | Japan | Masahiko Okuma | |
| | | Tab.Tns. | Mixed doubl | es China | Wei Qingguang | |
| ı | | | | | Deng Yaping | |
| | | Badminto | on. M.'s team | China | - one ruping | |
| 1 | | | W.'s team | China | | |
| | | Yacht. | Laser class | S.Korea | Park Gil Chul | |
| Ì | | 2 | Enterprise | S.Roica | I alk Oli Citul | |
| | | | class | Pakistan | | |
| | | | OP class | | Vorus Calai | |
| 1 | | | M.'s 470 class | Japan | Kazuto Seki | |
| | | | W.'s 470 class | Japan | | |
| | | | W. s 4/0 class W.'s L.A-390 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | class | China | Zhang Xiaodong | |
| | | | M.'s L.A-390 | | T1 04 | |
| | | | class | China | Jiang Chen | |
| | Oct.1 | Athle. | M.'s 50km | | | |
| | | | walk | China | Zhou Zhaowen | 4.00 22, |
| | | | M.'s long jum | | Chen Zunrong | 4:08.33 |
| | | | M.'s discus | China | Zhang Jinglong | 8.04 |
| | | | W.'s shot put | China | Sui Xinmei | 61.18 |
| | | | W.'s 3000 put | China | | 20.55 |
| | | | M.'s 4x400m | Cililia | Zhong Huandi | 8.57'12 |
| | | | relay | Tomor. | | 2.05102 |
| | | Wgtlif. | • | Japan | Tr: m rr | 3.05'82 |
| | | wgiii. | M.'s 110kg | S.Korea | Kim Tae Hyun | 380 |
| | | | M.'s over | O1 : | 0.171 | |
| | | Famain a | 110kg | China | Cai Li | 397.5 |
| | | Fencing | W.'s epee ind. | | Zhai Xiumin | |
| | | Wushu | M.'s nanquan | _ | He Qiang | 9.80 |
| ļ | | Judo | W.'s 48kg | Japan | Fumiko Esaki | |
| | | | W.'s open clas | | Zhuang Xiaoyan | |
| | | | M.'s 60kg | Japan | Tadanori Koshino | |
| İ | | ~ . | M.'s open clas | | Hideyuki Sekine | |
| | | Cycl. | M.'s 177.99km | | | |
| | | | road race | China | Tang Xuezhong | 4:20.48'683 |
| | | Tab.Tns. | W.'s singles | China | Deng Yaping | |
| | | | M.'s singles | China | Ma Wenge | |
| | | | W.'s doubles | S.Korea | Hyun Jung-hwa | |
| | | | | | Hong Cha-ok | 1 |
| | | | M.'s doubles | China | Ma Wenge, Chen Z | hibin |
| _ | | | | | | |
| C | Oct.2 | Athle. | M.'s pole vault | China | Liang Xueren | 5.62 |
| | | | W.'s 100m | | | |
| | | | hurdles | China | Liu Huajin | 12'73 |
| | | | M.'s javelin | Japan | Masami Yoshida | 77.26 |
| | | | W.'s 100m | China | Tian Yumei | 11'80 |
| | | | | | | 1 |

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"China's family planning programme is the most successful of its kind in the world," commented Manfred Kulessa, representative of the United Nations (UN) Fund for Population Activities in China. The efforts, he said. have helped delay the world population from reaching five billion by two years and the Asian population from reaching three billion by four years. He attributed the 20 per thousand growth rate of world population to China's family planning endeavors.

It was in the 1970s that China first introduced the nationwide policy of family planning, which caused the birth rate to drop dramatically from 33.59 per thousand in 1970 to 20.83 per thousand in 1989. Meanwhile, the natural growth rate decreased from 25.83 per thousand to 14.32 per thousand.

Based on the consumption levels of 1986, this campaign saved China 3,000 billion yuan in child-rearing expenses, equal to 2.15 times the country's GNP of 1988. This sum of money could cover the expenses of 1,000 schools of higher learning for the next 50 years.

Family planning has also contributed a great deal to the improvement of the quality of life for the population. Thanks to economic developments and improved medical conditions, China's mortality rate dropped from an average of 14.77 per thousand in the 1950s to 6.62 per thousand in 1988. The infant mortality rate dropped from 107.64 per thousand in the 1950s to 38.28 per thousand in 1988.

The family planning policy, which is being understood and practised by more and more people these days, has rendered the traditional concept of "more children, more happiness" obsolete.

In 1988, the proportion of onechild families had increased 1.5

| | | M 2a 2000m | | | |
|-------|----------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| | | M.'s 3000m | T | Varuhita yamada | 8.34'64 |
| | | steeplechase | | | 52'13 |
| | . | W.'s 400m | China | Li Guilian | |
| | Diving | W.'s 1m sb. | China | Gao Min | 526.62 |
| | | M.'s 1m sb. | China | Tan Liangde | 642.75 |
| | Wrestl. | M.'s fs. 48kg | S.Korea | Kim Jong-shin | |
| | | M.'s fs. 57kg | DPRK | Kim Yong-sik | |
| | | M.'s fs. 68kg | S.Korea | Park Jang-soon | |
| | | M.'s fs. 82kg | Mongolia | Suhbat Puntsagin | |
| , | | M.'s fs. 100kg | S.Korea | Kim Tae-woo | |
| | Fencing | M.'s epee ind. | | Yang Dal-sik | |
| | Hockey | W.'s team | S.Korea | | |
| Oct.3 | Athle. | W.'s heptathon | China | Ma Miaolan | 6,231 |
| | • | W.'s discus | China | Hou Xuemei | 63.56 |
| | | M.'s high | | | |
| | | jump | China | Zhou Zhongge | 2.26 |
| | | M.'s 800m | S.Korea | Kim Bong-yoo | 1.49'48 |
| | | M.'s triple | | | |
| | | jump | China | Chen Yanping | 17.51 |
| | | W.'s 1,500m | China | Zheng Lijuan | 4.23'11 |
| | | M.'s 200m | Japan | Susumu Takano | 20'94 |
| | | M,'s 5,000m | Qatar | Mohd Sulaiman | 13.50'22 |
| | , | M.'s 400m | Quiui | Willia Bulaman | |
| | | hurdles | Pakistan | Ghulam Abbas | 50'15 |
| | | M.'s 4x100m | rakistan | Onulain Aooas | 50 15 |
| | | | China | | 38'99 |
| | | relay | Cillia | | 30 77 |
| | | W.'s 4x100m | O1 : | | 44'36 |
| | | relay | China | | 44 30 |
| | Sepak | Takraw Regu | | | |
| | Fencing | W.'s epee team | | 0. 7710 | 0.05 |
| | Wushu | W.'s taijiquan | | Su Zifang | 9.85 |
| | Wrestl. | M.'s fs. 52kg | Iran | Oveis Mallahi | |
| | | M.'s fs. 62kg | Japan | Takumi Adachi | |
| | | M.'s fs. 74kg | Iran | Behruz Yari-kalvan | i . |
| | | M.'s fs. 90kg | S.Korea | Oh Hyo-chul | |
| | | M.'s fs. over | | | |
| | | 130kg | Iran | Sokhteh-Saraee Rez | a |
| | Boxing | Up to 48kg | S.Korea | Yang Suk-jin | |
| | | 51kg | S.Korea | Lee Chang-hwan | |
| | | 54kg | Philippines | Roberto Jalnaiz | |
| | | 57kg | Thailand | Boomthom Raiman | |
| | | 60kg | S.Korea | Lee Jae-kwon | |
| | | 63.5kg | Syria | Ahmadmayz Khanj | i |
| | | 67kg | Thailand | Chainarong Kanha | |
| | | 71kg | Pakistan | Abrar Hussain | |
| | | | Indonesia | Pino Bahari | |
| | | 75kg | China | Bai Chongguang | |
| | | 81kg | | | |
| | | 91kg | S.Korea | Chae Sung-bae Baik Hyun-man | |
| | | Over 91kg | S.Korea | Baik fryun-man | |
| Oct.4 | Tennis | M.'s doubles | China | Xia Jiaping | |
| | | | | Meng Qianghua | |
| | | W.'s doubles | Indonesia | Yayuk basuki | |
| | | | | Suzanna Wibowo | |
| | Archery | M.'s grand fit | a | | |
| | Arenery | round | S.Korea | Yang Chang-hoon | 336 |
| | | W.'s grand fit: | | | |
| | | - | s.Korea | Lee Jang-mi | 339 |
| | Dis-i | round | | Sun Shuwei | 690.93 |
| | Diving | M.'s platform | | Xu Yanmei | 501.09 |
| | 3371 | W.'s platform | Cililia | Au Taninei | 201.07 |
| | Wushu | M.'s 3 events | | | |
| | | | | | |

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times compared with the figure for 1970. Meanwhile, the number of families with more than two children dropped by 75 percent.

In 1989 more than 34 million couples nationwide had received certificates to prove they were "one-child" families.

Before the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the average life expectancy was only 35 years and this rose to 69.05 years in 1987. The results of population control also changed the age structure of China's population. Children under 14 years of age constituted only 28.04 percent of the population in 1988 campared with 40.7 percent in 1964, while the proportion of people from 15 to 64 years of age increased from 61.66 percent in 1982 to 66.53 percent in 1988. Those over 65 accounted for 5.33 percent.

However, according to experts, while China has made remarkable progress in population control, a new baby boom has begun. In the first few years of the 1990s some 13 million women annually will reach child-bearing age. As the the baby boom progresses, people above 65 years of age will constitute 6.9 percent of the population by the end of the century, nearing the seven percent ceiling recommended by the UN for a stable population.

Experts suggest that China's population should stabilize at just under 1.28 billion by the end of the century. Efforts should be made to reduce the speed of growth in the rural population.

To attain this goal, it is vital to set more regulations on population control. Meanwhile, retirement insurance systems for the elderly should be developed and services in various communities should be set up to meet the needs of childless families.

| | | combined W.'s 3 events | China | Yuan Wenqing | 29.52 |
|-------|------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | F . | combined | China | Wang Ping | 29.49 |
| | Fencing | M.'s epee tea | | | |
| Oct.5 | Canoeing | | | Liang Zhisheng | 1.56'63 |
| | | M.'s 500m c- | ·2 China | Jiang Wenbiao | |
| İ | | | | Wang Boqing | 1.45'78 |
| | | M.'s 1000m | c-2China | Kuang Rizhong | |
| | | | | Wang Xinqiang | 3.47'53 |
| | | M.'s 1000m | c-1China | Guo Daen | 4.23'34 |
| | | M.'s 1000m | | O ao Daon | T.23 3T |
| | | k-1 | S.Korea | Chun In-shik | 3.59'29 |
| | | W.'s 500m k- | | Chan in shir | 1.40'43 |
| | | M.'s 500m k- | | Ma Fuliang | 1.48'38 |
| | | W.'s 500m k- | | Xu Zhijuan | |
| | | M.'s 500m k- | | - | 2.02'12 |
| | | 1V1. 5 JUUIII K | 2 S.Korea | Chun In-shik | |
| | | W/20 500 1- | 2.01: | Park Cha-keun | 1.37'30 |
| | | W.'s 500m k- | 2 China | Sun Yuhong | |
| İ | | 141 500 - | | Zhou Ronghua | 1.50'67 |
| | | M.'s 500m k- | 4 China | | 1.28'34 |
| | | M.'s 1000m | | | |
| | | k-2 | S.Korea | Chun In-shik | |
| | | | | Park Cha-keun | 3.31'44 |
| | | M.'s 1000m | | | |
| | | k-4 | China | | 3.11'98 |
| | Tennis | M.'s singles | China | Pan Bing | |
| | | W.'s singles | Japan | Akiko Kijimuta | |
| | | Mixed double | es Indonesia | Yayuk Basuki | |
| | | | | Suharyadi | |
| | Hockey | M.'s field | ·Pakistan | | |
| | Archery | M.'s team | S.Korea | | 1005 |
| | | W.'s team | S.Korea | | 1003 |
| | Diving | W.'s team | China | | 3056.40 |
| | | M.'s team | China | | 4099.05 |
| | Volleyball | Women | China | | , , , , , , , |
| | - | Men | China | | |
| 1 | Handball | Men | S.Korea | | |
| | | Women | S.Korea | | |
| | | | | | |
| Oct.6 | Diving | M.'s 3m sb. | China | Tan Liangde | 759.63 |
| | ū | W.'s 3m sb. | China | Gao Min | 630.66 |
| | Basketball | Women | S.Korea | C40 111111 | 030.00 |
| | | Men | China | | |
| | Soccer | Women | China | | |
| | 200001 | Men | Iran | | |
| | Badminton | Mixed double | | Chung Myong Haa | |
| | Duamimon | THIACA GOUDIE | sp.Kulca | Chung Myong Hee Park Joo Bong | |
| | | W.'s doubles | China | Guan Weizhen | |
| | | | -11111a | Nong Qunhua | |
| | | M.'s doubles | China | Tian Bingyi | |
| | | 1.0 2040103 | | Li Yongbo | |
| | | W.'s singles | China | Tang Jiuhong | |
| | | M.'s singles | China | Zhao Jianhua | |
| | | | | | |

NOTES: W. — women, M. — men, s-b — small-bore, s.r. — standard rifle, psl. — pistol, r.t. — running target, ind. — individual, Swimm. — Swimming, Cycl. — Cycling, Athle.: — Athletics, Wgtlif. — Weightlifting, f.r. — free rifle, s.p. — standard pistol, sb. — springboard, fs. — freestyle, Tab. Tns — table tennis, Wrestl. — Wrestling, c — canoeing, k — kayak; 2.09' — 2 minutes and 9 seconds, 1: — an hour

China's Important Role in World Affairs

China plays an important and unique role in the United Nations. Most Western nations have adopted an active attitude towards relations with China. China's internal stability creates a favourable situation for diplomatic work.

t his interview with Renmin Ribao (People's Daily) on October 4 in New York, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, head of Chinese delegation participating the United Nations's 45th General Assembly, spoke about China's recent diplomatic activities.

Asked of his impressions on the 45th UN General Assembly, Qian Qichen responded that the 45th UN General Assembly took place when a crisis was threathening peace and stability in the Gulf. Seeking a solution to the Gulf crisis became the major discussion of representatives from all countries attending the assembly.

Oian also told the reporter that atmosphere towards China at the 45th General Assembly has significantly changed. Qian stated he has had extensive contacts with delegates of other countries. state leaders or foreign ministers of 63 countries, including dialogues with regional organizations, such as the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the European Communitv. All countries have closely watched China's role in the United Nations, as well as in international affairs. •

Commenting on China's role in the United Nations, the Chinese foreign minister said that as one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, China plays a unique and important role in the United Nations. For example, China has

played a major role in seeking an overall political solution to the Cambodian problem. When the UN Security Council discussed resolutions concerning the recent crisis in the Gulf area, China's opinions and positions were respected. China opposes resorting to force, and maintains the position that while imposing economic sanctions on Iraq, humanitarian aid in food and medicine should not be barred.

During the 45th UN General Assembly, when the Security Council discussed a resolution about an air embargo towards Iraq, China insisted that the Chicago Convention be followed and efforts be made to guarantee the safe operation of civil aviation. These recommendations were

written into the resolution.

Foreign ministers of the five permanent members of the Security Council also held a meeting, rare in the UN history, to discuss the Gulf crisis. As a permament Security Council member, China always maintains that the five permanent members, when making resolutions on international issues, should consult with non-permament members and fully respect the opinions of all UN members.

Concerning China's relations with Western countries, Qian stated that recently he has established extensive contacts with representatives from Western countries and has met with foreign ministers of most member states of the European Commun-

On September 26, Chinese Foreign Minister (left) meets with UN Secretary-General Perez De Cuellar.



ity, the United States, Canada, Australia and Japan. The majority of them assume a positive attitude in their relations with China. Japan, for example, has already resumed the Japanese yen loan to China. The foreign minister of Italy, whose duties include the Chairmanship of the EC, has supported normalizing EC's relations with China. Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez planned to visit China soon and the United States expressed hope to restore normal ties with China as soon as possible.

More and more Western countries have realized that continuing sanctions against China does not confirm with their own in-

terests. Presently, although the sanctions against China imposed by Western countries have not been completely lifted, their attitude has shifted to restore, improve and develop connections with China.

Speaking about recent Chinese diplomatic activities, Qian said that the following events prove China has been active in this aspect. Since July, China has resumed diplomatic ties with Indonesia and established diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia and Singapore. Diplomacy is the extension of internal affairs. China's political situation and social order are stable. The economy continues to grow with the poli-

cies of reform and opening up to the outside world being implemented. This creates favourable conditions for diplomatic work.

China has maintained friendly relations with other countries of the third world and has many friends throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Many countries desire to win China's sympathy and understanding in international affairs. Over the past year, the world has witnessed China's persistence in the policies of reform and opening up to the outside world and in its independent foreign policy for peace. China is playing a positive role in the world arena.

Can Apartheid Be Eliminated?

by Wang Yingying

Whether the apartheid in South Africa can be cancelled or not is decided by the outcome of the negotiations between the African National Congress and the South African authorities. The two sides differ on a number of issues and their own constraint factors are numerous. But many believe they will see the apartheid's doom before the end of this century.

s soon as he came into power, President of South Africa F.W. de Klerk appeared as a "reformist." Making speeches at various public meetings, he claimed to establish a "new South Africa" without racial oppression. At the same time he adopted some reform measures, which included the following aspects:

1. Nelson Mandela and some other political prisoners were released. In October of last year, soon after he took office, De Klerk declared the release of eight major black political prisoners including former Secretary General of the African Na-

tional Congress (ANC) Walter Sisulu. On February 11 of this year the black people's movement leader Nelson Mandela, who had been in prison for 27 years, was released without conditions. Earlier, the South African authorities also had declared to release 374 political prisoners. In early June, 48 prisoners of the State were also released. Presently outsiders estimate that political prisoners number 500 and the ANC estimates that 1,500 persons remain in jail.

2. On February 2 the South African authorities declared to lift the ban on more than 30 liberation organizations of the black people including the ANC, Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania and the South African Communist Party.

The above two measures have created a favourable atmosphere and provided necessary conditons for the beginning of dialogue between the government and the African National Congress.

3. On June 7, De Klerk in the parliament declared to remove the four-year the State of emergency in all the areas except Natal Province. Considering the armed conflict between the ANC and another black organization—the Zulu-based Inkatha Free-

dom Party, De Klerk said he had not immediately been able to lift the State of emergency in the promise.

4. Some racial segregation laws in social and economic fields were abolished. On June 19 the South Africa's parliament formally abolished the apartheid law in all the public places which had been carried out for 37 years. Earlier this year the South African authorities also announced to abolish press censorship with conditions. Furthermore, they decided to reduce military expenditure by 15 percent.

5. The government delegation headed by De Klerk held talks with the ANC delegation led by Nelson Mandela on May 2-4. The talks were aimed at overcoming the difficulties of formal negotiations on the constitution. Although the talks had not gained substantial results, the two sides showed an active and flexible attitude. Afterwards the negotiations had twists and turns. The government again arrested more than 100 leaders of the ANC and the Communist Party and their members under the pretext that it had evidence that the South African Communist Party attempted to start armed rebellion to seize power should the talks fail. De Klerk excluded Joe Slovo, leader of the South African Communist Party, from the negotiations. Mandela sternly refuted the charge of the South African regime as a fabrication, which was meant to divide the ranks of the black people and exert pressure upon the ANC. After a trial of political strength, the second round of talks began on August 6 and reached several major agreements: The ANC declared to suspend all armed actions against the government for the time being; the government promised to release political prisoners, allowed about 20,000

South African people in exile abroad to return and agreed to review the security law and consider to lift the State of emergency in Natal Province. If all these agreements are carried out, the obstacles to formal negotiations on the constitution will fundamentally be removed.

Furthermore, De Klerk visited West European and African countries in May of this year in an attempt to improve the South African image. He intended to improve relations with other African countries and especially his neighbours, and persuade Western countries to lift economic sanctions against his country.

Positive Trend

In view of the current situation, the South Africa's reform is tortuous, but the general trend is positive.

Since the National Party of South Africa came into power in 1948, it has pursued policies of racial discrimination and apartheid, deprived the black majority of political rights and trampled on their fundamental human rights and social and economic interests. These policies have naturally been opposed by the black people, whose struggle has gone on uninterruptedly for decades. Even after the South African authorities pursued a tougher policy under the pressure of the right-wing forces and proclaimed the State of emergency in 1986, the struggle did not stop. The struggle has given a heavy blow to the economy and the position of the ruling classs of South Africa. Recently the ANC, in accordance with changes in the situation at home and abroad. has readjusted the tactics of contest and mobilized black people to launch various forms of political struggle on the precondition that the armed struggle will not be given up. Mandela had persisted in the struggle from prison for a long time, so he has enjoyed high prestige both at home and abroad. The tactical readjustment of the African National Congress has extensively won appreciation and Mandela's prestige has also forced the South African authorities to accept him as a political adversary. The pragmatical faction of the National Party represented by De Klerk realized that relaxation of the racial contradictions could be achieved only through political negotiation and acceleration of reform when former South African President P. W. Botha's policv had encountered a dead end during the late period of his rule. De Klerk acknowledged that the economy could not steadily develop within a continuously unstable society and a stable situation not realized without complete settlement of racial contradictions.

Meanwhile, the international community has unanimously condemned the South African apartheid policy. Western countries have, one after another, taken economic sanctions against South Africa, which have caused an unfavourable influence on its economy. Statistics show that more than 300 foreign corporations have withdrawn from South Africa since 1985. The sanctions have resulted in South Africa not gaining any new loans or investment. The gross domestic product decreased. In 1989 the foreign exchange reserve was only US\$1.88 billion, money devalued and the unemployment rate increased. De Klerk has to speed up the reform in order to reduce political and economic pressures from the international community. He publicly admitted that South Africa could not seek economic development in isolation and confrontation with the world's enterprises.

In addition, the relaxation between the United States and the

Soviet Union has provided conditions for a political settlement of regional disputes. With the easing of the situation in southern Africa, the problem of South Africa has become glaring. The United States and the Soviet Union, for their own interests. have jointly urged the South African regime to speed up its political reform. Recently, the Soviet Union has reduced its presence in Africa and the United States and Western Europe have focused their attention on changes in the Eastern European countries. A series of disorders in some African countries have paved the way for South Africa to enter the market of these countries. South Africa contributes 40 percent of the total industrial productive capability of the African countries. Its imports and exports play a main role in its gross domestic product. As most of African countries used to export raw materials and import manufactured products, they and South Africa can compliment each other's economies.

South Africa's apartheid policy, however, has been held in detestation by other African countries. In order to correct this situation, de Klerk visited some African countries, trying to appear as a reformist and leave a good impression with the leaders of these countries. It shows that de Klerk has no other option than to make reformations in light of the current international situation.

Deeply Rooted Causes

Peaceful settlement of the South African problem through dialogues among different racial groups has become a trend which cannot be turned back. However, because of the historical character of South Africa, it will not be an easy job to overturn the apartheid system. De Klerk's re-

formation is still moving at a slow pace and directed only at relaxing the sharp contradiction between the white and black and stabilizing the domestic situation so as to reduce both domestic and foreign pressure. As Mandela pointed out, de Klerk's reformation has not touched the core of the apartheid system.

In the world today, the hated apartheid system has been universally opposed. But why are a small number of South African whites still clinging to it? The primary reason is that the white ruling clique benefits from the apartheid policies. The economy of the country is established on the basis of the clique's crucial exploitation of blacks and other racial people. For whites, abandoning the apartheid policies means losing all exclusive rights and invested interests. Secondly, the view of "white supremacy" is deeply rooted in the minds of some whites, and they fear the coming of the majority rule of black people.

The two basic conditions for a revolutionary reformation have been ripe in South Africa, according to the conception of historical materialism. They are, first, the people can no longer live under the old system, and second, the ruling class can no longer rule the country in the same way. Some members of the National Party led by de Klerk have verbally repeated the need to draw up a constitution acceptable by each side, establishing a new racially equal South Africa. Whether the apartheid system in South Africa can be eradicated and a democratic South Africa can be established will depend on how successful is the political struggle of the black people against the white authority, on how many concessions the whites may offer to the black people, and on how much political and economic pressure the international community will exert

on the white authority of South Africa. Presently, the outcome is determined by talks between the blacks, led by ANC, and the white authority. In the negotiations there is a large gap between the two sides in addition to many elements which will restrict their positions.

Existing Differences

After talks in May and August, the majority of differences in the preconditions for formal negotiations on a new constitution between ANC and South African government have been resolved. If all differences are ironed out, negotiations will open. ANC requests that:

- an interim government, including representatives of all races, should be established during the drafting of a new constitution, and it will govern the country;
- the new constitution should provide that South Africa is a "unified, democratic and nonracist state;"
- all citizens will be granted true equal rights, and all levels of government officials will be elected according to the "one person, one vote" rule;
- the judicial departments should be independent, and all persons are equal before law;
- the apartheid system and related acts, such as the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act, must be completely abolished.

Economically, ANC advocates nationalizing mines, banks and other key economic departments and practising a mixed economy.

De Klerk has expressed an unwillingness to establish an interim government. He has also not made any concessions on "one person, one vote" election system, because he believes that would mean a black president in the country with a black majority. He insists that rule by majority and rule by minority are equally unacceptable. The National Party's reform gramme, proposed in June of last year, attempted to enlarge the three-house parliamentary system to blacks, establishing a fourth house for black people to enjoy the right to vote. This completely differs from black's demands, showing that the white government is still not willing to give up its privileges. Moreover, de Klerk opposes nationalization and favours privatization and a market economy. As for the apartheid, although he has repeatedly expressed a desire to abolish the system, he has not made it clear which policies will be abandoned.

Restricting Factors

ANC's present policies are supported by the South African Communist Party, the United Democratic Front and other organizations striving for black liberation. They represent the main trend of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. However. the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania and the Azanian People's Organization oppose ANC's dialogue with the government, regarding it as talks between master and servant which betrav black's interests. They have indicated to continue armed struggle and have great influence over radical black youths. Despite its approval to eliminate apartheid in a non-violent and negotiating manner, the Zulu-supported Inkatha Movement disagrees with the ANC's nationalization policy. Last March, bloody conflicts broke out in Natal between the Zulus and pro-ANC blacks.

On the other hand, there are pressures and threats from the Right and ultra-Right whites.

Some right-wing and extreme right-wing white organizations, such as the Conservative Party, the main white opposition party,

and Reconstituted National Party, vigorously oppose de Klerk's current reform policies. They consider them a betraval of white's interests and say the reform would result in bloody revolution, not peace. They demonstrated and rallied, asking to re-elect a white parliament and that de Klerk leave office so as to restore white's absolute privileges and rebuild a white South Africa. They also stole weapons in an attempt to murder President de Klerk, black leader Nelson Mandela, other leaders and even correspondents who objectively report matters. Afrikaner Resistance Movement, for example, is engaged in various terrorist and sabotage activities. Despite a few members, the extreme right-wing forces may endanger the situation, resulting in unexpected consequences. Although de Klerk warned them to stop terrorist activities, the government still avoids taking severe measures which may enrage them.

Another factor is international sanctions.

Western countries have changed their attitudes after de Klerk carried out some initial reforms. Britain cancelled its economic sanctions against South Africa last February, Although other countries state they will continue sanctions, they become flexible, and some have expressed reconsiderations to the question. In order to appeal to Western countries to continue their sanctions, Mandela visited 20 African, European and American countries in June and July, winning positive support. It seems that sanctions will not end quickly.

Prospects

In view of the abovementioned facts, future developments of the South African situation will see the following possibilities:

First, ANC insists on political struggle and persuade and unite a broad support of black people so as to enable them to become a united political force. On this basis and with the help of international sanctions, it can exert pressures on the government, undertake flexible tactics and initiate proper concessions, so that de Klerk may compromise with blacks on a new constitution which will eliminate the apartheid.

Second, ultra-right terrorist activities spread unchecked and talks and reform processes are affected or even suspended. If such a situation occurs, the consequences will be most difficult to predict. Of course, radical blacks may also be unsatisfied with some agreements reached in the talks, and will not implement, for example, the agreement to stop the violent struggle, resulting in new conflicts. If so, the condition may give rightwing whites an excuse to carry out their hard-line policy, or force the government to take suppressive measures, retarding the reform.

Third, the future development of reform may encroach white people's vested interests, encouraging a further split. Some white parliamentary members may turn their backs on de Klerk so that the right-wing force will increase in the Parliament, threatening de Klerk's post.

In summary, whether or not the apartheid system will be completely eliminated will be decided by the smooth process of negotiation. Currently the international situation also favours elimination of apartheid. Despite a long and tortuous road, people are confident that the apartheid system will be replaced by a democratic and progressive system in South Africa within this century.

A Gala Meeting of 'Unity, Friendship, Progress'

by Our Staff Reporters Lou Linwei and Wei Liming

s the flames of Asian Games torch continued to burn for the 16th day over the sky of the Beijing Workers' Stadium, 1,500 singers sang the song of Beautiful Asia and "Mr Pan Pan," mascot of the Beijing Asian Games, presented a bouquet of flowers to Miss Dove of Hiroshima, Mascot of the next Asian Games. The heart-stirring 11th Asian Games which represented the spirit of unity and progress of 3 billion Asian people was declared closed amidst colourful acrobatic performances, a galaxy of songs and dances and firework display.

Sports Skills Improved

At the recent Asian Games, athletes broke world records seven times, Asian records 89 times and Asian Games records 189 times, achievements which far surpassed the 10th Seoul Asian Games. At those games, athletes broke the world records only two times and Asian Games records 83 times.

Perhaps the most notable were the achievements by Chinese swimmers. At the recent Asian Games, they surpassed, for the first time, the Japanese team which has held the championship for nine Asian Games. This time, China seized 23 out of 31 golds. They not only set 12 new Asian records, but scored many achievements approaching world level: the scores of Zhuang Yong's 100-metre freestyle, Lin Li's 200-metre medley and Wang Xiaohong's 100-metre butterfly were all among the world's best for the year while Oian Hong's 100-metre butterfly, Lin Li's 400-metre medley and Wang Xiaohong's 200-metre butterfly ranked second in the world. Chinese men's contestant Shen Jiangiang alone grabbed five golds, the most gold medal winner of recent Asian Games. Such an achievement proves that the Chinese swimming team is truly a team of winners. No wonder an official of the International Swimming Federation said, "This is a world-class swimming competition." A Japanese coach said, "The present swimming contest presages the arrival of a China epoch. The responsibility for mounting the world swimming arena on behalf of Asians has historically fallen on the shoulders of the Chinese."

Chinese woman Zhou Lingmei, 22, won a gold medal in the women's 1 km cycling event with a score of 1:13.899, breaking not only her own Asian record of 1:15,402, but also the world record of 1:14.249 left unbroken by the Soviet cyclist for six years. Zhou was thus the first Asian to set a world record in cycling.

In the one-eighth finals of the women's individual International Archery Federation, Kim Soonyung, South Korean archery star broke the world record of 343 rings with a score of 345 rings. In the women's butterfly two-way 200-target team event, three Chinese shooters. Wu Lanying, Zhang Shan and Shao Weiping, surpassed the world record of 429 hits set by an Italian team a month earlier with an excellent score of 434 hits. In the men's team semi-finals, South Korean archery team broke the

Cameramen at the 11th Asian Games.



XU XIANGJUN

world record of 999 rings set by the Soviet team in 1989 with a score of 1,004 rings. In the finals they again surpassed this world record with 1,005 rings.

In the men's table tennis team event, the Chinese team lost to the Korean team by a score of 1:5, while the Chinese women's team, in the group event, almost lost to the Hong Kong team, and defeated the South Korean team in the finals with only a slightly better score. This showed that the Chinese table tennis team is faced with fierce competition as the skill of other Asian teams improves. The Korean team with Li Gansang, known as the "world's No.1 ball cutter" as the mainstay, was quite impressive. Li Gansang defeated Chinese Ma Wenge and Chen Longcan with a dual score of 2:1.

On the evening of October 3, after nearly four hours of fierce battle, all 12 gold medals for the boxing event were awarded, putting an end to the South Korean monopoly of the Asian boxing arena.

In the 81 kg-class finals, Chinese boxer Bai Chongguang defeated the tough Iranian boxer



After the opening ceremony, athletes from Bahrain have their picture taken with the Chinese callisthenic performers.

Katemi Ali-Asghar to win the gold medal, the first one ever won in international competition since the boxing event was restored in China in 1986. The Chinese team's Yu Chuan, Liu Lijun, Wu Yawei, Wu Weixiong and Zhao Deling respectively got a silver medal at 60 kg, 67 kg, 71 kg, 91 kg and above 91 kg. Oliva

Perez Roberto, the Chinese coach of Cuban nationality, said, "Although it's been only a short time since boxing resumed in China, the boxers' level has risen rapidly. The Chinese boxing team has built on its initial strength to counter the other strong Asian teams." Oliva came from Cuba to China in April last year to teach boxing and, although he originally planned to stay for only three months, the Chinese boxing team urged him to stay longer. The team's success was due in part to his conscientious and responsible coaching attitude.

In the last Asian Games, South Korean pocketed all the gold medals for the boxing event. This time, however, the 12 golds were divided up by seven teams—the South Korean team took only five while contestants from the Philippines, Syria, Pakistan, and Indonesia each captured one and the Thai boxers got two and it was the first gold medal won by contenders from the Philippines, Thailand, Syria and Indonesia.

Chinese athlete Chen Lihong, the gold medal winner for the women's southern-style boxing. JIANG ENYU





Huang Bingshen of Hong Kong, the only disabled athlete, takes part in the men's 90-metre archery individual competition.

The Philippine boxer Jalniz Roberto knocked down South Korea's Hwang Kyung-sup with hurricane fists; the Thai contender Boonthom Raiman defeated his South Korean opponent and another Thai boxer Kanha Chainarong frustrated the Chinese boxer. Pakistan's Hussain Abrar and Indonesia's Bahari Pino won in the finals. During the event, the Mongolian contestant's stamina and toughness were remarkable.

On October 2, the Chinese volleyball team leader Zhang Reniiang threw the ball directly into the opponent's court, edging out the Japanese team from the finals. Prior to this, losing to the Chinese team was beyond the imaginatioon of the Japanese team because the Chinese team, since its reorganization last year, lost almost each time in five major finals. Unexpectedly, however, the Chinese men's volleyball team, displaying soaring morale and a strong will power, finally managed to win the game with a score of 3:2. During their preparations, the Chinese volleyballers, in order to get out of their slump, racked their brains

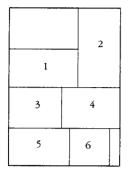
and changed coaches several times. Their defeat of the Japanese team is sure to greatly reinforce the self-confidence of the Chinese volleyballers. On the evening of October 5, the Chinese volleyballers pressed on without letup to frustrate the South Korean team to become the champion. It was noted that the Chinese volleyballers who seemed to have been quiet for sometime have dispelled the shadow of failure and eventually staged a comeback.

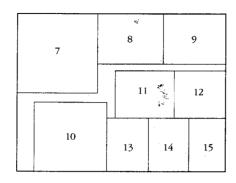
On October 1, the Thai football team repulsed an attack by the Chinese team and thus prevented the Chinese team from entering the semi-finals. The Chinese team's usual tactic of making a breakthrough on the side line and outflanking on the centre line had lost its power. Although the Chinese team obviously had control over the match, the Thai team kicked out the ball quickly and skilfully, and the full back followed closely and fiercely, making it impossible for the Chinese team to pass the ball effectively. In the second half, after seven minutes, the Thai team launched a quick counterattack and made a successful shot. A Thai sportsman commented that although the Chinese footballers have better physique and are taller, the Thai team members performed excellently and that several of the Thai team members are technically better than the Chinese.

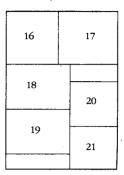
On October 3, there was an unexpected result in the semifinals of the men's football event. The Iranian team, reorganized only a year ago, eliminated the South Korean champion of the last Games with a score of 1:0, rendering the latter out of the running for the gold. There was still no indication of the outcome even after 90 minutes of fierce competition between both sides. Two minutes after the second half started, the Iranian team successfully took advantage of the South Korean team's tactical mistake when footballer No.3 Moharrami Mojtaba passed the ball to footballer No.6 Ghayeghran Cyrus (right into the left side of the "forbidden zone") who successfully kicked the ball into the goal. Weak though it was, the Iranian team succeeded in employing the tactic of lying in ambush and waiting for an opportunity to give a surprise attack. The prediction that the men's football champion and runner-up finals would take place between the South Korean and Chinese teams was an obvious underestimation of the strengths of the Iranian team.

Participation Is Important

The number of countries and regions and the number of athletes participating in the recent Asian Games were unprecedented with delegations as large as 800 people and as small as just a few athletes. Although the strength of the different delegations is uneven, however, it was the participation which was the







- 1. Talal Mansoor of Qatar wins the gold medal in men's 100 metres dash.
- 2. Zhou Zhongge from China, gold medalist in men's high jump.
- 3. Chinese women swimmers hail the audience at a victory ceremony.
- 4. The men's 110 metres hurdles.
- 5. China vs Iran in water polo competition.
- 6. The women's 3,000-metre race final.
- 7. Chinese woman cyclist Zhou Lingmei was clocked at 1:13.899 in the 1-km time trial, beating the world record of 1:14.249 set by a Soviet cyclist in 1984.
- 8. Kim Soon Yung of South Korea racked up 345 points to beat the world record in the archery competition.
 - 9. Kuwait and Thailand compete in a football match.
 - 10. Chinese men's basketball team scores a point against the Philippine team.
- 11. Japan's Tanabe Yoko beat China's Wu Weifeng to win the women's 72 kg category judo title.
 - 12. A Malaysia vs India hockey match.
 - 13. The Malaysian team won the gold medal in sepak takraw.
- 14. Kim Gwang Suk of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea on the balance beam.
 - 15. Pakistan and Bangledesh in a kabbadi match.
- 16. Indonesian athletes in a happy pose with Pan Pan—the panda, mascot of the 11th Asian Games.
 - 17. Athletes exchange souvenir badges.
 - 18. Athletes at a binge in the Asiad Village.
 - 19. The enthusiastic audience filled the stadium.
 - 20. Sports fans of Saudi Arabia cheer on their athletes.
- 21. Wuzhou (Five Continent) Hotel prepared a special cake for Huang Chao-he (left), a basketball referee from Taiwan, to celebrate his 36th birthday.

Photos by Xu Xiangjun and Xue Chao



The 11th Asian Games

(Sep. 22-Oct. 7, 1990)







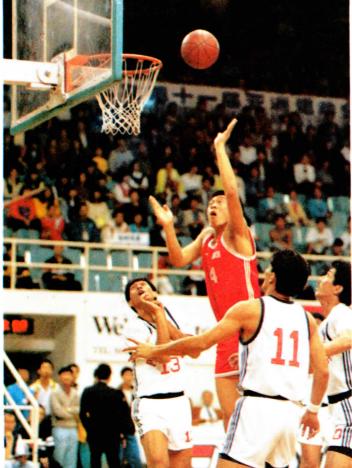










































most important factor for contributing to the success of the Asian Games.

Al-Thaidi J. R., head of the Kuwaiti delegation, said; "Al-though we have met difficulties, lacked training and our athletes could not chalk up good results, we sincerely hoped that the Asian Games would be a complete success, because that will inspire us and the people of Asia."

Mansoor Talal, a staff sergeant from Qatar, has still maintained his standing in the men's 100-metre sprint and walked off with the first gold medal for the Gulf countries with 10.30 seconds. On the evening of September 28, his room was full with flowers presented by the athletes from the Gulf countries. He also heard the celebration drumbeats of his countrymen over the telephone. He said that he would be proud to represent Asia in the next Olympic Games. Another Oatar athlete, Sulaiman

Hohd, captured a gold medal at the men's 1,500-metre race. Muftah Ibrahlm won the silver medal at the men's 400-metre race.

On September 29, Al-Maliki Mohammed, an Omani athlete, had an excellent performance at the men's 400-metre sprint with a record of 45.81 seconds. He won the first gold medal for the Oman delegation which was participating in the Asian Games for the second time. After his victory, Al-Maliki held high his national flag and marched around the arena, giving his best wishes to the spectators who encouraged him. Al-Maliki is thus the Asian record-holder for the men's 400-metre race and his record ranks third in the

world.

At the 63.5-kg boxing finals held on the evening of October 3, Khanji Ahmadmayz from Syria deeply impressed the audience with his vigorous and skilful attack and defeat of Japanese boxer Miura Kunihro. He carried away another gold medal for the Gulf countries.

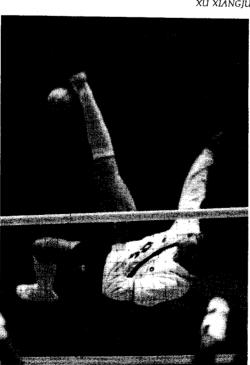
The Indian team members displayed their skills to the full at the kadaddi event, a new event at the Asian Games, and won a gold medal for their country. Bangladesh and Pakistani athletes were silver and bronze medalists in the event.

At the sepak takraw finals, after six hours of intense competition, Malaysia defeated Thailand by 2:1 and splashed home with the first sepak takraw gold medal in the history of the Asian Games.

At the badminton team event competition, the Hong Kong team met the South Korean team. In the first four games, the

Singapore sepak takraw athletes compete.

XU XIANGJUN



South Korean team built up scores all through the game by 4:0 and it was thought to be a foregone conclusion that the South Korean team would enter the semi-finals. Not much could be done about it by the Hong Kong team. But, Chan Kinngar, 20, defeated Choi Sang-Bum of the South Korean team at the fifth game by 2:0, thus scoring a valuable point.

The Korean team also caught the eye of spectators. Although the four-member badmintan team is weak and lost the first two matches by 0:5, the team still had a strong fighting will. Its coach said at the time, "We know we will lose. We don't come here for the standings. We come here mainly to learn from others and to temper ourselves."

In addition to the delegation head Wangchuk Penden and a coach, the delegation from the Kingdom of Bhutan had only four athletes taking part in the archery event. In an interview,

the delegation head said. " What we have seen and heard here has far surpassed our romantic daydreams." He said that it was the second time that Bhutan sent its delegation to the Asian Games. Archery is a popular sport in Bhutan and the four athletes were selected from nationwide trials. "I believe the size of the sports team is not important. The most important thing is participation. Active participation means contributing to mutual understanding, unity and friendship of the Asian people and the enhancement of Asia's sports level. It is a great honour for us to represent Bhutan and take part in this grand gathering. Among the ranks of unity, friendship and progress of the Asian

people, there is a country named Bhutan," he said emotionally.

Those who have won gold medals are, of course, admired. But the athletes who have put up a good fight in competition are also esteemed. At the men's 10,000-metre finals, Haieem Hussain from Maldive was 1,200 metres behind the gold medalist but he still tried his best to press to the finish. His spirit was warmly cheered by tens of thousands of Chinese spectators. One Chinese newspaper carried an article entitled, "We Have Known Our Maldive Friends" and spoke highly of Haieem Hussain who embodied the Olympic spirit of "participation."

When the spectators entered the track and field sports ground on the afternoon of October 1, athlete No. 499, who took part in the 50-kilometre-long heel-to-toe walking which started at nine o'clock in the morning, was just spurting across the finishing line. He was the last to finish, some 40 minutes later than Zhou Zhaowen, a Chinese athlete who was the gold medalist at the event. His name was Tuntin, an athlete from Nyan-

mar (Burma). He said that it was the first time he took part in the 50-kilometre heel-to-toe walking and he would treasure it for the experience he gained.

On the evening of September 28 at the Ying-tung Natatorium, when the men's 1,500-metre freestyle finals proceeded for 17: 07 seconds, seven swimmers had already reached the finishing line. Only Lahoud Emile from Lebanon was still swimming on in the eighth swimming lane. All the spectators, deeply moved by his spirit, applauded warmly as he finished the last lap. Although his speed was only 18:08.07 seconds, it was a new record for him.

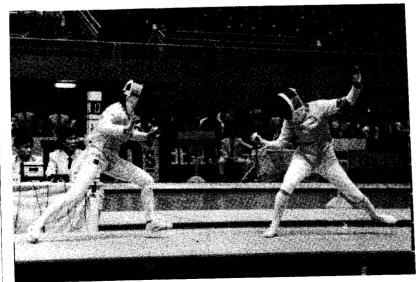
Friendship Promoted

In addition to the competitions, the far-reaching significance of the Asian Games was to promote friendship and to bring the Asian athletes together, regardless of their religious belief, different languages and colours.

Wartati Patang is an international referee from Indonesia. She shed tears because she finally had the opportunity to revisit China after 26 years and meet

South Korean Tak Jeong-Im (left) wins a gold medal at the women's epec finals.

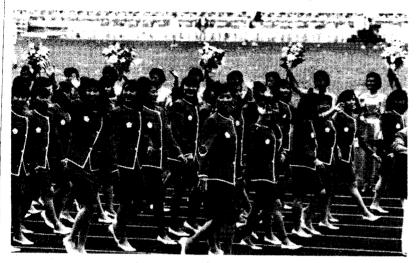
XUE CHAO



Wu Shude and Lan Yalan, a Chinese couple who advised her to take up gymnastics. In 1963, Mr. and Mrs Wu went to Indonesia to help promote gymnastics. Wartati Pafang, who was only 13 years old at that time, was one of the 100 students chosen by them. Later, Wartati Pafang became one of two international referees in Indonesia. For various reasons, she had no chance to meet her teachers until she had her wish fulfilled and came to the Beijing Asian Games.

Duong Nghiep Chi, head of the Vietnamese delegation was familiar with old Beijing but unfamiliar with the new. In 1961 when he was 20 years old, he studied at the Beijing Physical Culture Institute and majored in track and field events. During his four-year stay in Beijing, the city left an unforgettable impression on him. He is now 49 years old and is a sports master in Viet Nam. This time, he led a 68-member Vietnamese delegation to Beijing. When he saw the broad streets and clusters of modern buildings in the city, he could hardly believe his own eves. "There have been great changes in Beijing," he said. " I see that the living standards and the cultural level of the people have improved. I can hardly recognize the city." He expressed the hope that through the Asian Games the Vietnamese delegation would strengthen its unity and friendship with various countries in Asia. He especially hoped that he could make whatever contribution he could to restoring friendly relations between Viet Nam and the host country for the Games.

Because the athletes come for friendship, their competitors are not only opponents, but also friends. In the women's 61 kg judo on September 29, Jin Xianglan, 17, of the Chinese team, with a beautiful hook,



TANG MENGZONG

The Chinese Taibei sports delegation enters the arena at the opening ceremony of the 11th Asian Games.

tumbled the noted Japanese judo star Kobayashi Takako, and won the championship. When the umpire declared Jin's victory, Kobayashi, lying on a tatami with her right wrist dislocated, supported herself with the other arm to make a congratulatory bow to Jin. Jin rushed over to help ... and accompanied her off the ground. The act of comradeship brought the audience to applause.

A noted Chinese writer has pointed out that the Asian Games provides a big stage for different political entities and views within the Asian family.

North and South Korea in their first participation together in the Asian Games drew special attention. Their cheering squads encouraged players from both sides. On September 30, the leaders of both delegations jointly held a press conference. Head of the north-part delegation revealed that during the Asian Games, the two sides have held lots of talks beneficial to national unity and peace. The two sides declared that a series of football matches would be held in Pyongyang and Seoul this October in which the north and south men's

and women's football teams would participate. The title for the matches is "North and South Reunification Competitions."

After a 41-year division, Chinese athletes from the two sides of the Taiwan Straits got together at the Asiad. At the opening ceremony, when the Chinese Taibei team entered the arena, the audience burst into applause and cheers. The Beijing Asian Games provided people from both sides of the Straits an opportunity to express their

feelings and to encourage one another both inside and outside the competition ground.

A group of Taiwanese residing on the mainland was particularly active. During the women's basketball event between Japan and the Chinese Taibei, they hailed on Chinese Taibei in south Fuiian dialect until they were hoarse. At the end of the competition, the Taibei women who won the game made a grateful bow to their fellow-countrymen. When one of the cheerers-on asked the players if the team had heard their cries of encouragement, the women answered, "Yes, we did and we were touched very much."

In the softball event, when the Chinese mainland team met with the Chinese Taibei at the Fengtai Sports Centre, a slogan "Come on! Players of both sides" was hung on the stand. Also, a cheering squad sent by the Beijing February 7th Rolling Stock Plant was arm-in-arm with Taiwan compatriots, singing "Girls of the Ali Mountain," a well-known Taiwan song.

"As we sang and shouted 'Come on!', it seemed that we had known each other before. We did not feel like strangers at all," said a mainland spectator.

The men's 20-kilometre heel-to-toe walking in progress.





Public Opinion on the Asian Games

t the press conference in the Asian Games News Centre on September 23, Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, said that the 11th Asian Games' opening ceremony was one of the most successful he has ever eyewitnessed. He went on to say that the successful holding of the 11th Asian Games will beef up Beijing's bid to host the Olympic Games in the year 2000.

Taiwanese who were invited to attend the opening ceremony on September 22 said that the opening ceremony "fills every Chinese with pride." Hsieh Hsue-hsian, the president of the China United Alliance in Taiwan, said the success of the Asian Games will inevitably raise China's position in the world. Su Chiu-chen, the former member of the Taiwan "legislative yuan," said that the opening ceremony matched that of the previous Olympic Games in Seoul both in content and scale. Chen Ying-chen, a famous Taiwan writer, thought that the opening ceremony was rich in its Chinese flavour and clearly displayed the fine tradition of Chinese history and culture. He believes that the hosting of the Asian Games in China's mainland showed the world not only China's level of sports but also the nation's

Some veteran Chinese ath-

overall strength.

letes also spoke with deep feeling about the Asian Games. Xia Xiang, 87-year-old professor of the Qinghua University who attended the Far East Sports Meet three times as a Chinese athlete, knows very well about the humiliation felt by Chinese athletes at the time. "The leader of the Chinese delegation to the Second Far East Sports Meet was a foreigner," Prof. Xia said. "He even delivered a speech on behalf of the Chinese at the opening ceremony."

Mou Zuoyun, 76, was among



Mr. Den, 67, a retired Japanese shot-putter, told reporters, "The Chinese sports delegation to the first Asiad was composed of a dozen athletes. Today, however, China can host the 11th Asiad and build so many beautiful stadiums and it's done so well at the Asiad! It is really wonderful."

the Chinese delegation to the 11th Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936 and recalled bitterly that none of the Chinese won a medal at that sports meet. "We didn't even have money to buy return tickets," he added.

Fok Ying-tung (Henry Fok), a famous Hong Kong figure who donated HK\$100 million to the 11th Asian Games (the Ying-tung Natatorium at the Olympic Sports Centre was named after him) said that he had the honour to be present at the grand opening ceremony and still felt the

excitement. "The dream of generations of the Chinese has become true. We Chinese used to be called the 'sickmen in the East' but now we can hold a world-class sports event on a grand scale," he said. "The Asian Games is grand gathering second in scale only to the Olympic Games. Because it is sponsored, managed and organized by the Asian people themselves, it holds a special meaning for the nation."

"However, even more important is the fact that both the mainland and Taiwan dispatched their delegations to the games and that Hong Kong and Macao teams participated as representatives from the Hong Kong-Macao region. It was the first time that the Macao team attended the Asian Games. The medals which have been won belong to all descendents of Chinese origin," said Fok Ying-tung.



A meeting of the heads of the Olympic Committees of Asian countries to the 11th Asian Games was held in Beijing July 7.

"The world's people see the rising of a sports power and also the rise of a great nation. How can we not feel excited? How can we not take pride?"

An artist wrote to a Taiwan paper on September 23, "As the Beijing Asian Games opens, the wisdom of the Chinese nation is expressed in the Chinese dances and customs. The performances also add a Chinese touch to the Games....With the tradition and customs unique to the Chinese nation, the Beijing Asian Games shows off the artistry of the Chinese people and displays Chinese sports customs for the first time."

Ms Anna C. Chennault, chairwoman of the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, said the opening ceremony of the 11th Asian Games was a great success and one imbued with an atmosphere of warmth. She noted it was a major event which has brought happiness to all those of Chinese ancestry. She also said the exchange of education, culture and sports is the best way for other countries to understand China. Except the Great Wall and other ancient sites, China has many cultural traditions about which foreigners know little. Chinese sports is one

of them. Ms Chennault was very glad to see that sportsmen from both sides of the Taiwan Straits met at the 11th Asian Games.

An Indian who once worked as an expert in China in the 1950s watched the video tape of the opening ceremony with great interest, and discovered much changes that have taken place in the last few decades. "In their high spirits, the Chinese people are capable not only of hosting such events as the Asian Games but also of continuing to build their motherland," he said.

Various personages from a variety of organizations praised the work of the Asian Games. Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima, the host city of the next Asian Games, said the Organizing Committee of the 11th Asian Games did an excellent job. He thought its work was wonderful and stirring. The streets in Beijing were decorated with colourful flags and flowers and the warm enthusiasm of the local people was evident everywhere. The entire city performed the duties of a hospitable host.

Majeda Mohammed, a 31-year-old top player of the Saudi Arabian soccer team, one of the best in West Asia, talked about his feelings on his first visit to China, "Speaking frankly, we knew nothing about China before coming and only had a low opinion of what we would discover. After I arrived in Beijing, however, I discovered the mistake of my previous opinion. The Chinese people are very friendly and enthusiastic and Beijing is a beautiful city."

Zhang Zhong Zhe, head of the South Korean sports delegation, believes it is of far-reaching significance for China to have held the Asian Games. Speaking of Beijing, he said, "Here we see a high degree of support for the Asian Games, warm enthusiasm of the Chinese people, complete and excellent sports facilities and good services. We are quite satisfied with the results."

Wangchuk Penden, head of the sports delegation from Bhutan, said the Asiad Village has changed a lot compared with what he saw in July. The village then was nothing more than a dull collection of buildings. Now, the village impressed him with its warm atmosphere and rich colours. His delegation members told him that they were satisfied with the food in the village and that the rooms, communications and training facilities were excellent too. They felt like they were at home. The delegation head also said that China did its best to host the Asian Games and that the facilities China constructed for the games reflect the unique art and ability of the Chinese nation.

The Qatar sports delegation head Abdul Elah Al-Meer said his purpose coming to Beijing was to give support to the successful opening of the 11th Asian Games. He thanked the organizing committee for its good work done. "This is the first time I come to China and my first impression is quite good," he said.

An officer from the Mongolian Olympic Committee said the stadiums and gymnasiums for

the 11th Asian Games are magnificent. The athletic dormitories are nice and comfortable, somewhat better than those of the Seoul Asian Games in 1988. The Mongolian TV Station, he said, showed the 11th Asian Games in its half-hour special programme during the peak viewing time every day.

Most people think the 11th Asian Games has a greater significance than the individual

sports meets.

"Sports has become an important bridge of unity and understanding between peoples," said Tonib Khouri, head of the Lebonese sports delegation. For example, it was the first time that Brunei sent a sports delegation to the Asiad. Pengiran Asmalee, head of the Brunei delegation. thought the 11th Asian Games "a spectacular event of equality and respect." He said that although China was a big country, the nation showed equal respect towards all delegations. Nasir Ahmad, head of the Afghan delegation, said, "Sports is a universal language and a bridge of friendship. It is for such understanding that we come here. We may not win a single medal but we think participation itself is



XU XIANGJUN

Qi Cheng from Taibei talks about the Asian Games.

the best award."

about his When asked thoughts on the Asian Games. Zhang Wenjin, former Chinese ambassador to the United States. said the opening ceromony and the competition were very exciting and the Asian Games will have a far-reaching impact on China's international image. Sports has played and will continue to play a great role in deepening international understanding, stregthening the unity

and friendship between peoples, maintaining world peace and promoting international communication. "I still remember clearly the ping-pong diplomacy of the early 1970s: the late Premier Zhou Enlai invited the US table tennis team to visit China, a step which opened the gate for Sino-US diplomatic relations. I attended the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in 1984. At that event China, for the first time, won gold medals. This caused a great sensation in the United States and in the world," Zhang said.

Zhang went on to say that the 11th Asian Games is a good demonstration of the wisdom and strength of the Chinese people. The remarkable achievements of the athletes, the splendid architecture of the sports facilities and the warm and friendly atmosphere so evident in the opening ceremony have left a deep impression on the people of Asia and the rest of the world. The effects of the games will last for quite some time and that the people would take the memory of the Games with them to the next Olympic Games and into the 21st century.

A Kuwaiti soccer player (second from left) meets with reporters.

ZHANG MING



The Star-Spangled Night' —Pageantry at the closing ceremony of the XI Asiad

by Our Staff Reporter Hong Lanxing

n October 7, at the closing ceremony of the llth Asian Games, nearly 10,000 professional and amateur performers presented an imposing pageant called *The Star-Spangled Night*. The glittering spectacle was performed in eight parts.

Prologue: 'Beautiful Asia'

The lawn of the Beijing Workers' Stadium was covered by a 1,700-square-metre white plastic carpet to form the performance area. The evening activities began with an electronic musical piece which evoked imagination of wildness. While the music was

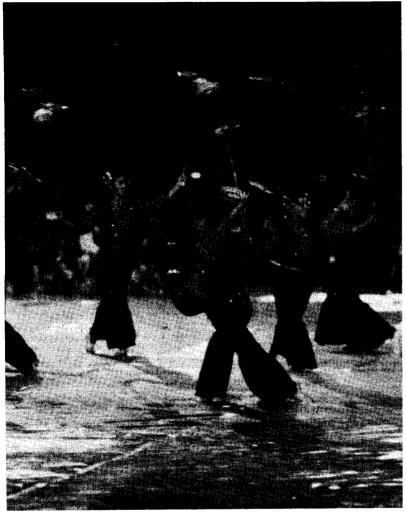
played, there appeared a pattern of the Great Wall, formed by university, secondary and primary school students. A few moments later, suddenly, there was a burst of clarion calls and 400 young buglers, clad in green clothes, emerged from the spectators' seats. The trumpet sounds, reverberating within the stadium walls, resounded through the night skies. The lively musical rhythm mixed with the scene of the green buglers in a vigorous blend of sound and colour.

As the trumpeting faded, the audience followed the stage lighting to find China's noted chorus master Yan Liangkun.

With a forceful upward movement of his baton, the symphony began. Under a flood of stage lighting, the orchestra of 800 musicians and the chorus of 800 singers performed the song Beautiful Asia." The lyrics, "You are at the remotest corner of the sea, I live at the end of the earth, we meet each other today, at a happy time. You like to chew betel, I love to drink milk tea, you wear sheep skin coat, I am attired in georgette. Asia, beautiful Asia, your home. my home. Our homes are all in Asia," stirred the emotions of everyone in the audience. The song, contributed jointly by famous lyric writer Qiao Yu and composer Zhang Peiji, brought the audience into an atmosphere as cordial and as friendly as is found between members of a family. Entering from four directions, 2,200 secondary school students danced to the sounds of the music towards the centre of the stadium. On the runners' tracks, 1.600 university students performed the Asian Youth Dance to symbolize the unity and friendship of the youth of Asia. The prelude ended in a climatic dance at the centre, radiating outward in all directions of the stadium with the performers chanting "Asia, Asia!"

"The Galloping Horse."





"Plate-Spinning" (acrobatics).

'Wishing You Good Luck'

The Peacock Dance an auspice of good luck and happiness, brought the audience into a beautiful world of tranquility and peace. The dance, created by noted choreographer Jin Ming of the Central Dance and Songs Ensemble, captured a gold medal at the World Youth Festival in 1957. Directed personally by Jin, the dance still seemed fresh and new in its lineup and content as it moved from the stage to the stadium. The famous dancer Yang Liping, dressed like a gold peacock, held centre stage on a high platform in the centre of the stadium. Around her, 120 amateur actresses, holding 2-metre-long "peacock feathers," glittered like stars which set apart the moon—the lead dancer. Another 100 professional actresses danced in a whirl towards the centre from four directions. The performance ended with all the dancers joining together in the pattern of a peacock with many coloured tail feathers.

'The Thriving Age'

The dance The Galloping Horse was performed by 120 voung men to commemorate the present year, the Year of the Horse according to China's traditional calendar. The Year of the Horse is also celebrated by many other Asian countries and the animal is regarded as a symbol of national prosperity and development. Accompanied by warm, rhythmical music, the actors, clad in red cloaks, pranced and leapt like galloping horses braving strong winds in a symbol of the animal's courageous and tenacious spirit.

'A Sea of Flowers'

The dance, adapted from a folk dance popular in northwest







"Red Leaves in Golden Autumn."

Photos by XUE CHAO

China, was strongly flavoured by the Hui nationality culture. It was followed by the theme song Flowers and Boys, a rising chorus of male and female voices. The dancers who held colourful fans in their hands, formed a pattern of many bright and colourful flower beds. Sixty-six young couples, clad in white, danced gracefully among the "peonies" of actresses dressed in red. In the twinkling of an eye, many colourful butterflies seemed to fly out of the flower beds one after another. The "butterflies" were actually a Plate-Spinning performance by 65 acrobats from more than a dozen acrobatic troupes in China. The Sea of Flowers was a display of colour and enchantment.

'The Dancing Fire Dragons'

With the sound of trumpets, 20 groups of acrobatic cyclists shot into the stadium from the four gates. As they raced anticlockwise along the runners' tracks, the number of acrobats sitting on each bike rose to seven. The trick-cycling performance was given by acrobats from the Shenyang Military Area Ac-

robatic Troupe, an international prize winner. Their performance was followed by a 175-person performance of Fire Meteors. On a platform, 25 professional acrobats played their "meteors" skillfully, spinning them swiftly in all directions. Their dazzling performance was repeated by other performers around them. Gradually, the lights in the stadium dimmed and finally went out. In the dark, many "fire dragons" seemed to dance magnificently in the air, a scene which applauded the audience warmly.

'I Love You, China'

In the spotlights, 18 ballet dancers gracefully performed Red Leaves in Golden Autumn, a performance meant to symbolize the fruit which the friendship of the Asian people has borne in the autumn harvest. Directed by Yan Liangkun, the chorus sang I Love You, China, as noted soprano Wang Xiufen took the lead. The colourful folding hats held by the 2,200 dancers constantly changed colours—from red to green to blue and to white-to mark the red flags, the green

waves of wheat, the blue sky and floating white clouds. The performance ended with dancers forming a pattern of the red Tiananmen Gate-Tower.

'Let's Meet in Hiroshima'

The 12th Asiad is scheduled to be held in Hiroshima, Japan, in 1994. Noted musician Lu Yuan was invited to compose the farewell song Let's Meet in Hiroshima to be sung by a "family." The roles of the father, mother and daughter were played by famous tenor Tong Tiexing, popular mezzo-soprano Guan Mucun and a teenage singer of the Children's Broadcasting Chorus. The deeply emotional and touching song was a call to cast away animosity and to look forward to meeting again in Hiroshima. During the music, the giant panda Mr. Panpan, mascot of the 11th Asiad, presented Miss Dove, mascot of the 12th Asiad, a bouquet, symbolizing the continuation of the Asian Games. It was the moment of farewell, a moment which swept up every member of the audience.

Epilogue: 'The Star-Spangled Night'

After a moment of silence, fireworks shot up to the sky and exploded like brightly coloured, blossoming flowers as searchlights criss-crossed one another and lit the sky in a blaze of kaleidoscopic light. Eight well-known Chinese pop singers at the centre of the stadium began to sing the song *The Star-Spangled Night* and, to the song's lively rhythm, a host of dancers kicked up their heels.

After a rousing, thunderous ovation, the pageant was concluded with the music *Magnificent Asia*.

Patriotism and Its Characteristics

GUANGMING RIBAO (Guangming Daily)

Dai Yi, head of the Chinese Society for the Study of History, has categorized patriotism in history.

In ancient times, patriotism was connected with sovereign loyalty and was greatly limited. In modern times, patriotism also mes as anti-imperialism. After the May 4 Movement in 1919, patriotism linked anti-imperialism and anti-feudalism. Today's patriotism is different from the past. It should at least include the following characteristics:

(1) Patriotism must combine with socialism. Practised in China for 41 years, socialism has ridded the country of poverty, backwardness and its humble status, and blazed a correct trail towards prosperity.

(2) Patriotism should combine with reform and opening up to the outside world. That's the only way to make China strong. Reform means democratization of politics, a rich and prosperous economy and progress in culture. In today's world, it is impossible for a country to go forward if it stands still, refuses to make progress and shuts the door to the outside world.

(3) Patriotism should combine with proletarian internationalism, oppose big-power chauvinism and narrow nationalism. It's easy for bourgeois patriotism to become chauvinistic. German fascism advocated patriotism too, but it invaded other countries. This will not do. The Chinese people must believe that when China becomes strong in the future, it should

never invade other countries. (May 20, 1990)

New Summer Resort at Nandaihe

RENMIN RIBAO (People's Daily)

The golden beach Nandaihe, has recently become a popular new summer resort and convalescence area. What used to be sandy beach is now replaced by beautiful buildings, forming a small yet modern town.

The bathing beach in this area is quite beautiful without any reef. Those who are able can enjoy themselves by swimming far into the blue sea; while others can content themselves by relaxing on the shore. Since buildings stand less than 100 metres from the beach, people can change into their swim suits at home and then go directly to the sea.

On the beach are erected sanatoriums for ordinary workers. They are buildings of various styles with roofs either look like helmets of ancient warriors or sculptured seagulls. They are owned by individual factories or coal mines.

The Changxindian February 7th Rolling Stock Plant has built a sanatorium at a cost of 1.2 million yuan, which included 600,000 yuan for the purchase of land. The factory has decided to let its workers who need convalescence to go there in turn for six days a year. The cost of travel and accommodation are covered by the plant. One day's food costs five yuan, but the factory subsidies each

worker four yuan. Each worker can bring one child of his own to the beach resort. Excess expenses are expected to be covered by the workers themselves. Workers exposed to harmful working environment can enjoy a a 20-day holiday.

(September 7, 1990)

China Builds Ecological Garden

ZHONGGUO HUAHUIBAO (China Flower and Plant News)

In recent years, with regard to environmental protection and ecological balance, China began to build ecological gardens with the following plants:

-Ornamental plants.

—Air-cleaning plants. They include trees, shrubs, vines and grass which can absorb sulfur dioxide in the air so as to produce fresh air for the city.

—Medical plants. These plants can produce a kind of antibiotic which is one of their natural immunity. So many nature hospitals such as "forest bathing area", "forest hospital" and "flower hospital" can be set up in scenic spots, natural preservation areas and forest. Medical herbs can be planted in parks and botanical gardens.

—Sample plants. Representative economic plants, fruit trees, medical plants, spice plants, ornamental plants and vegetables are chosen to form various plant zones to spread botanical knowledge apart from the purpose of environmental protection.

(Issue No. 280)

The Yangtze River Valley—A New Open Area

In 1990, China's opening to the outside world will continue to broaden.

Since the State Council announced the development and opening up of Shanghai's Pudong area and published nine policies and regulations regarding foreign investment and management of land on April 18 and September 10 this year, the Shanghai area has become the focus of increased attention. Some 8.000 businessmen from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan and foreign countries have come to Shanghai's Pudong area to look into the investment environment and express their intention to set up co-operative businesses. So far, some 100 investment programmes, representing a total investment of US\$200 million, have been approved.

The development and opening up of Shanghai's Pudong area has vigorously promoted the economic development of the entire Yangtze River valley. Anhui Province, for example, has decided to open up the Wanjiang industrial area of 37.-000 square kilometres, which includes the cities of Wuhu, Anging, Tongling and Maanshan, and the prefectures of Chaohu, Xuancheng and Chizhou. The area is not only rich in mineral, agricultural and tourist resources, but also has convenient transport facilities, a solid industrial foundation and a strong technical

Other provinces follow suit. Jiangsu Province has decided to set up two open economic

zones, one in Nanjing, the province's capital, and the other in Changzhou. Zhejiang Province has decided to set up a special economic area to absorb foreign investment in the city of Hangzhou and in the Qiantang River Basin. Jiangxi Province has decided to open up the rich land, mineral and forest resources in the Hedong area in order to absorb foreign investment to promote the development of its economy.

Economists believe that in the 1990s the focal point of China's opening up will gradually shift from the coastal areas in the south to the Yangtze River valley, the nation's most developed area. If their analysis is correct, Pudong and its surrounding provinces will be the centre of economic activities in the future.

The Yangtze River valley stretches over three economic zones in southwest, central and eastern China and includes 18 provinces, cities and autonomous regions. The total area is 1.8 million square kilometres and inhabited by nearly 400 million people. Statistics show that the valley's annual industrial and agricultural output value accounts for 40 percent of the nation's total.

There is an important new feature in this opening trend. The former emphasis on import and export and introduction of foreign capital and technology has shifted to direct participation in the international division of labour and to biliteral and multilateral economic cooperation with foreign coun-

ries.

The newly published policies and regulations for the new Pudong development area provide for the establishment of a free trade zone and foreign investment in the construction of airports, harbours, railways, highways, telecommunications and other infrastructure facilities. The policies also cover land development and management of the real estate and stock and exchange. To speed up the development of the Wanjiang economic area, while developing ioint ventures, co-operative enterprises and wholly foreignowned enterprises, Anhui Province has decided to open up vast expanses of land through leasing and contracting with foreign businessmen.

Currently, various provinces and cities on both sides of the Yangtze River are mapping out plans to speed up their development and are adjusting their industrial structure to accommodate a system of wider economic co-operation with foreign countries. Economists believe that during the Eighth Five-Year Plan period (1991-1995), China's economic co-operation with foreign countries will become closer and more extensive.

US-Funded Firms Do Well in Beijing

US-funded enterprises in Beijing which make up 13.9 percent of all foreign-funded enterprises in the city yield better economic returns than those financed by other countries. According to the Beijing Statistics Bureau, from January to August 31 the per capita output value of enterprises with US investment reached 83,000 yuan. This is 63.7 percent higher than is found in any other foreign in-

vestment enterprise. Moreover, the per capita sales income reached 89,000 yuan, 55 percent higher than the average and the per capita profit reached 5,700 yuan, 90 percent higher than the average.

At present, there are 45 enterprises with US investment in Beijing. The first to be established was the Jianguo Hotel.

The Sino-US enterprises include such trades and products as printing, food, machinery, rubber, electronics and telecommunications equipment and hotels. Between January and August, their total output value was 1.31 billion vuan, 43 percent of the total among such enterprises; sales income, 1.4 billion yuan, 40.8 percent of the total For each million yuan, the profit is 68.000 yuan and taxes, 150,000 yuan. This is respectively 17.2 percent and 41.5 percent higher than the average of any other foreign-invested enterprise.

Statistics also show that of all Sino-US enterprises the Yili Nabisco Biscuit & Food Co. Ltd., Pepsi-Cola, Bausch & Lomb Contact Lens Co., Kentucky Fried Chicken and Beijing Jeep Corp. Ltd., are the most profitable.

by Wu Qian

Foreign Exchange Market Brisk

From January to August, business at the Shanghai foreign exchange market was brisk with the transaction volume reaching US\$1.19 billion compared with US\$1.29 billion for the whole of last year. This year, the exchange rate for US dollars has fluctuated between a high of 5.93 yuan to a low of 5.49 yuan.

In September 1988, Shanghai

took the lead in setting up a foreign exchange market. It has transacted US\$2.7 billion of foreign exchange, 12 percent of the total nationwide and the highest among all the provinces. Purchased foreign exchange has been mainly used for importing raw materials and advanced technology and equipment as well as for improving science, education and public health care. September last year, the market commissioned the Shanghai branches of the Bank of China and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China to be its agencies for individual foreign exchange business. By the end of August this year, these agencies had bought in a total of US\$159,500 and US\$340,000. Foreign exchange was sold only for payment of TOEFL and GRE fees.

Luzhou Attracts Foreign Capital

Recently, Luzhou City promoted eight foreign-funded projects at the Economic and Cultural Exchange Conference of the Third Luzhou Famous Liquors held in early September. The projects include a large sulphanilamide-refined furnace business, a leather products factory which will be able to export 500,000 clothing and other products annually and thin glass bottle production technology.

According to Diao Shenggang, deputy director of the Luzhou Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Commission, the projects can be exclusively or jointly funded or leased through association. Talks with foreign businessmen are now under way.

Luzhou is abundant in mineral and forestry resources. The

municipal government welcomes foreigners to invest in the city and initiate chemical, machine-building and food industries. For these enterprises, the government will provide priority in the supply of energy, transportation, raw materials and telecommunication services.

Located in the southern edge of Sichuan Basin, Luzhou City has explored some new ways for the introduction of foreign funds and technology and for the processing according to foreign samples with supplied materials and compensation trade. Since 1988, the city has importproduction eight technology items, utilized US\$570,000 in foreign investment and developed economic and technological co-operation with more than ten countries and regions, including Federal Germany, Italy, Japan, Romania and Hong Kong. Of these, for example, the Italy-equipped floor and wall tile production lines imported by the Luzhou Building Ceramics Factory can produce 800,000 pieces of tiles annually. The company's products are sold on the world market.

Diao noted that Luzhou has always been an important base for export products on the upper reaches of Changjiang (Yangtze) River since the early days of the People's Republic. Now, the city has 120 exportoriented enterprises, nine enterprises which handle their foreign trade independently. They produce 28 kinds and more than 300 varieties of products, such as bristles, down, weed products, bamboo ware, Daqu liquor, chemicals and hydraulic pressure hoist which are exported to more than 100 countries and regions in Southeast Asia, Europe and America. Their 1989 export volume reached US\$10.5 million.

Diao added that the Luzhou people's government had done a lot to improve its investment environment and that there was now in place water, highway and air transport networks. The railway is expected to open next year.

Fujian Foreign Trade Booms

You Dexin, deputy governor of Fujian Province, said at a recent Foreign Investment and Trade Talk in Xiamen City that the year 1990 saw further development in the province's foreign economic relations and trade. By the end of August, the province's export value had amounted to US\$1.25 billion and an increase of US\$300 million, or 31.65 percent on the same period last year. Of this, exports by foreign-funded enterprises reached US\$360 million, up 78 percent on the same period last year. Between January and August, Fujian permitted 642 items of direct foreign investment with US\$569 million of contracted investments, up 25.6 percent on the same period last year. Of this, the contract investment by Taiwan businessmen reached US\$345 million, accounting for 60.6 percent of the total foreign investment absorbed by the province.

According to You, as the new projects are developed, a group of established foreign-funded enterprises have either increased their investment or expanded their production. By the end of July, 80 percent of the province's 1,800 foreign-funded enterprises had become exportoriented business and 85 percent of them made profits. Oneseventh of the foreign-funded enterprises in Xiamen in-

creased investment by a total of US\$80 million. Foreign investment has spread from Xiamen and Fuzhou to all parts of the province, from the processing industry to hotel, real estate, finance and raw materials industries. The method of investment has also expanded from exclusive foreign investment to conglomerates.

As one of the provinces which first introduced the open policy, Fujian Province saw a 5.53-fold increase in total industrial output value in the past decade, a 3.4-fold increase in revenue and a 8.8-fold increase in export. Fujian thus becomes famous for its rapid economic development across the country.

You added that Fujian would try to further improve its investment environment and attach greater importance to the absorption of foreign investment. He encouraged foreigners and Taiwan, Macao and Hong Kong compatriots to invest in Fujian. He said that small projects and medium-sized projects will be given the same attention as large ones; separated and individual investment will be treated equally as the development of adjoining tracks of land: the development of the raw materials industry will be combined with that of the processing industry; the new investment projects will be put on line simultaneously with the technological transformation of old enterprises; agricultural development projects will be put on a par with industrial projects.

China Exports Clogs to Japan

According to Liu Jiazhong, manager of the Handicrafts Import and Export Co. of Taian

City, Shandong Province, the Clogs Factory affiliated to his company has produced 230,000 pairs since its operation started this March. Of this volume, 170,000 pairs have been exported to Japan and sold well in the market there.

Liu said that his factory cooperated with the Marunaka Co. Ltd. of Japan through compensation trade. The Japanese side provided two production lines and sent technicians to China to train Chinese workers. The Chinese side provides raw materials, workshops and labour. The annual production capacity is expected to be 600,-000 pairs with an output value of 3 million yuan. The compensation term will last two years.

He added that, because the quality of Chinese workers is high and because they have grasped well the technology, all products have reached the required standard and smoothly entered the Japanese market.

The materials for the clogs of Taian come from Chinese parasol trees. Taian and its neighbours, like Feicheng, Ningyang and Dongping counties, are all abundant in Chinese parasol trees and their annual output all surpasses 5,000 cubic metres. The supply of raw materials is thus ensured. Because clog production is labour-intensive and because Japan is short of Chinese parasol trees, Japanese businessmen shifted clog production to China.

The factory is preparing to import another two advanced production lines and large stoving equipment by means of compensatory trade. By then, the production capacity will be doubled and the factory will be the biggest overseas clog producer for Japan.

by Kou Zhengling

Exhibition Puts Ancient Heritage in the Picture

s an ethnic minority group with a population of 252,-000, the Naxis of Southwest China's Yunnan Province possess a unique cultural heritage—the Dongba ideographic language.

The pictographs actually helped to give birth to and nurture the ancient Naxi Dongba religion and culture whose rich legacy is recorded in tens of thousands of the thick, coarse pages of the ancient Naxi manuscripts.

The writings cover history, language, religion, philosophy, ethics, customs, literature, art, astronomy and the calendar. The pictographs were also used extensively to note down dances at ritual ceremonies. It is the earliest known dance notation in the world.

The rich Naxi culture makes the current Exhibition of the Dongba Culture of the Ethnic Naxi at the Nationalities Cultural Palace one of the most outstanding of the more than 20 shows taking place during the 11th Asian Games.

To best display the Dongba ideograph, religion and culture, researchers and officials from the Lijiang Naxi Autonomous County of Yunnan Province have provided the exhibition with more than 200 showpieces.

There are four charts comparing ancient Naxi hieroglyphics with modern Chinese characters and Latinized English.

More than 30 ceremonial bamboo stakes bearing religious paintings show an ancient society in which people worshipped many gods, feared many ghosts, instituted strict ethics protecting

in particular the natural environment, and questioned why so many young men and women committed suicide for love.

The Spiritual Road Map (shenlutu) also on show is actually a pictographic code of ethics telling the Naxis what to do and what not to do. People who disobeyed the codes would be subjected to torture like the victims depicted in the map. For instance, a man who once spoke ill of others had his tongue stretched out by ghosts in hell.

More than a dozen books, published in Chinese, English, German and Japanese, are displayed in glass shelves.

Collected by the local county research institute on the Dongba culture, the books are testament to the interest of international scholars in the Dongba culture, and especially in its ideographic language.

In fact, the mysterious pictographic symbols are the envy of scholars the world over, since they represent an important stage in the development of ancient writing forms from pictures into hieroglyphics.

Moreover, unlike ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics which remained mute and have long been dead, the Dongba language is still very much alive in the minds of senior Dongba priests who have inherited the language from their forefathers.

While the deciphering of the ancient Egyptian pictographs owes much to the discovery of the Rosetta Stone in 1799, old *Dongba* priests started to help researchers translate the ideographs early this century.

Joseph F. Rock, an American

of Austrian origin, spent 27 years in today's Lijiang Naxi Autonomous Region, home of the Naxi people. By mingling with the Naxis and talking with the Dongba priests, he was able to write an encyclopaedic dictionary transcribing the ideographics into English.

On leaving China, he brought with him more than 2,000 volumes of the ancient Dongba manuscripts, which he donated to the State Library of Germany in West Berlin.

Yang Fuquan, a researcher of Naxi nationality with the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences in Kunming, spent three years there with his German colleagues sorting out and transcribing the manuscripts.

More than 18,000 existing volumes of the manuscripts are kept in the Beijing Library, the Library of the Central Institute of Nationalities, the Nanjing Museum, the Library of Congress in Washington DC in the United States, and also in Italy, according to Yang.

The showpieces relating to the Dongba religion make up a large part of the Dongba Culture of the Naxi Ethnic Exhibition.

According to local researchers, the religious exhibits comprise murals, scrolls, pottery figurines, scriptures and costumes.

The murals are replicas of those now hanging on the walls of a few temples in Naxi populated areas.

The rest have been and are still used by Dongba priests during ritual ceremonies that bestow fortune and happiness on the worshipers. The exhibits show that the Dongba religion bears the influence of Taoism, Buddhism and especially Bon Shamanism—a local Tibetan religion that was later overrun by Lamaism.

The preachers of the religion—most now in their 60s and even 80s—are apparently well trained in witchcraft, medicine, literature, and arts and crafts. They are the carriers of the ancient Naxi culture.

Contemporary artists, however, are now making use of the ideographic symbols of the ancient Dongba language in their own imaginative modern paintings, tapestry and other arts.

by Li Xing

Pipe Organ Makes Debut in Beijing

pipe organ recently installed in the Beijing Concert Hall has aroused great interest among music lovers. This is the first pipe organ in China's mainland used exclusively for concert performances.

On August 24, a pipe organ concert was held at the Beijing Concert Hall to mark the event. Tang Muhai, a noted young Chinese conductor, returned from Austria especially to lead the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra at the concert. One of the most impressive pieces presented at the concert was Saint-Saen's Organ Symphony.

Robert Doughen, a world-famous pipe organist from Australia, was invited to perform. In his opinion, the pipe organ was really a world-level instrument.

Besides playing at the opening concert, Doughen gave two solo concerts which featured world organ classics by famous composers ranging from the 17th to the 20th century. He also gave an introduction to the history of the pipe organ, its musical qualities and important works composed for it. His excellent presentation and vivid explanation won enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Sun Zhaoshen, vice-director of the Beijing Concert Hall, said, "We had hoped for many years to get a pipe organ and we have done a lot of preparatory work." He told us that in 1987 the famous Chinese conductor Yan Liangkun visited the Karnov Pipe Organ Factory in Czechoslovakia while attending the Prague Spring Festival. With the help of Zhang Dake. Chinese ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Yan commissioned the factory to make a pipe organ for China. With this China promptly sent piano technician Ma Guilin and sound technician Wang Shijin to Czechoslovakia to participate in the manufacture and to learn how to repair and maintain the instrument.

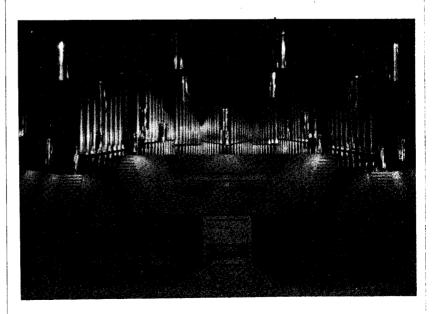
The pipe organ, 13.8 metres high and 19 metres wide, weighs 26 tons. It has 4,859 pipes and

two key boards, one mechanical, the other, computer-controlled. It has three rows of hand keys and two rows of foot keys. Its performing range includes all the classical and modern organ pieces. The pipe organ is not only a musical instrument but also a majestic work of art.

Sun said that the Chinese musicians were training pipe organ players. This work has been undertaken by Zuo Yin and Wang Meizhen, both teachers at the Chinese Academy of Music, who had studied organ playing in the Soviet Union and Japan.

"The pipe organ has been considered the most perfect musical instrument in the world," said Li Delun, noted Chinese conductor. "In the past, our Chinese orchestra could not perform many world classics because we did not have one. Now recitals, solo concerts and symphonies can be performed at the Beijing Concert Hall. It helps broaden our channels for international cultural exchanges," he added.

The Beijing Concert Hall is located at the southern side of Changan Boulevard. It is a white building on a black mar-



ble base, elegant and solemn. Since 1986, more than 1,000 concerts have been held here, many Chinese and foreign, musicians including Domingo, Seizi Ozawa, have also performed to large audiences here.

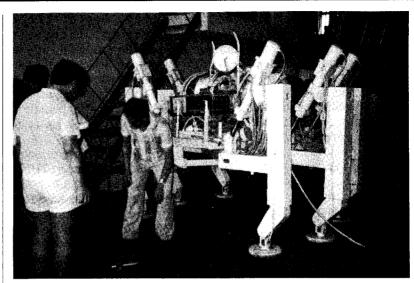
Following installation of this new instrument, a great number of musical programmes will be scheduled at the Beijing Concert Hall; for example, between late August and late October, there will be more than 50 concerts.

by Feng Jing

Underwater Robot Gets the Job Done

In October 1988, a golden floating object appeared on surface of the Songhua Lake in northeast China. After it dived deep down into the water, the underwater conditions at the Fengman Hydropower Station appeared clearly on a screen in its monitoring room. The eyes of the technicians and engineers sitting before the screen opened wide because no one had known the conditions underwater since 1944 when the Japanese built the hydropower station.

The golden, rectangularshaped object is no other than the robot named Goldfish No.2, made by scientists of the Shenyang Automation Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The robot had helped amass a great deal of data for the reconstruction of the Fengman Hydropower Station. The dam of the station has ten sluice gates, but only eight generating sets had been installed. As the national economy developed, engineers wanted to install two more generating sets on the ninth and tenth sluice gates. However they had too little information about the conditions



The underwater robot for seabed investigation

WEI LIMING

underwater. A conventional investigation would have involved stopping all the generating sets and incurring a huge economic loss.

Goldfish No.2 solved the problem. It dived underwater and recorded the conditions near the dam, giving the scientists solid basis for making a decision. The scientists were highly satisfied with the robot and decided to buy one to help them in their routine work.

According to Feng Xisheng, director of the third research department of the Shenyang Automation Institute, China has more than 20,000 dams including more than 2,000 large and middle-sized ones. More than 50 of them have been used for many years. All the dams need the robot to make investigations underwater.

The Shenyang Automation Institute began to do research on this type of robot at the end of the 1970s. The first robot for underwater investigation, named Seaman No.2, was made in December 1985. It successfully fulfilled its functional experiment 60 metres underwater in the Bohai Sea.

In 1986, the Seaman No.2 robot dived 199 metres deep in the South China Sea where the waves were strong. In this fairly complicated situation it fulfilled the task of installing the required apparatus at a depth of 200 metres. The Seaman No.1 was an outstanding technological achievement. Its electronic control system has surpassed that of the SCORP-10 sea robot which is a world-famous type, and reached the international level of the early 1980s. The success of the Seaman No.1 is one of the important indications of China's advance in the research of robot.

In 1987, the institute introduced advanced foreign technology and made the first medium-sized robot which passed necessary checks and appraisals. In December 1988, the robot successfully performed offshore drilling for the South China Sea No.2 Petroleum Platform and was highly appraised by both Chinese and foreign technicians. At present, the Shenyang Automation Institute is doing research on the making of an intelligence underwater robot.

by Wei Liming

Finger Paintings by Li Bingqi

Li Bingqi, born in Weifang, Shandong Province in 1947, is now both an associate researcher with the Mass Art Hall in Weifang and a guest painter of the Chinese Painting Research Institute. His paintings are created without the use of the brush. He instead paints by dabbing his finger and palm after dipping them in ink and water.



Forest in Autumn.



Lotus.

ART PAGE



Bamboo.

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