





FRONT COVER: With pride as citizens of the DPRK (in front of board of voters' list)

Photo: Choe Won Chol

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Kim Jong Un, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, casts his vote
for a Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly in March Juche 103 (2014)

Elections of Deputies to the 13th SPA of the DPRK Was Held Amidst High Political Enthusiasm



The elections of Deputies to the 13th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK took place on March 9 amidst high political enthusiasm of service personnel and people who are vigorously advancing towards the final victory in the building of a thriving socialist country with full confidence in victory.

The whole country was in festive mood by the voters filled with the confidence that they would display the invincible might of the DPRK, making great strides with the vibrant youth.

Kim Jong Un, First Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, First Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, visited that day Kim Il Sung University of Politics to cast his vote at Sub-constituency No. 43 of Constituency No. 105 together with service personnel. He voted for Kim Kwang Hyok, commander of KPA Unit 855 and a candidate Deputy.

Amidst the burning enthusiasm of the voters to strengthen in an all-round way the people's government, the political weapon in the building of a thriving country, by dint of single-hearted unity, all the voters at Paektusan Constituency No. 111 participated in the election, very proud of electing Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un a Deputy to the 13th Supreme People's Assembly, on behalf of the unanimous will and desire of the service personnel and people across the country. They were also firmly determined to uphold his leadership with arms and defend firmly the DPRK, carrying forward the history and traditions of invincibility.

Senior Party and government officials went to

the polls and voted with other electors.

The service personnel and working people voted for bills, saying that the DPRK government is the very representative of the people's independent rights, the organizer of their creative abilities and activities and the master responsible for their livelihood.

The elections were held in full compliance with the Rules on the Elections of Deputies to People's Assemblies at All Levels of the DPRK. 99.97 per cent of the voters on the electoral registers went to the polls and voted for every candidate deputy at each constituency.

The home-visiting overseas Korean citizens also took part in the elections according to their wish.

Aged people and those who suffered from infirmity voted to the mobile ballot boxes.

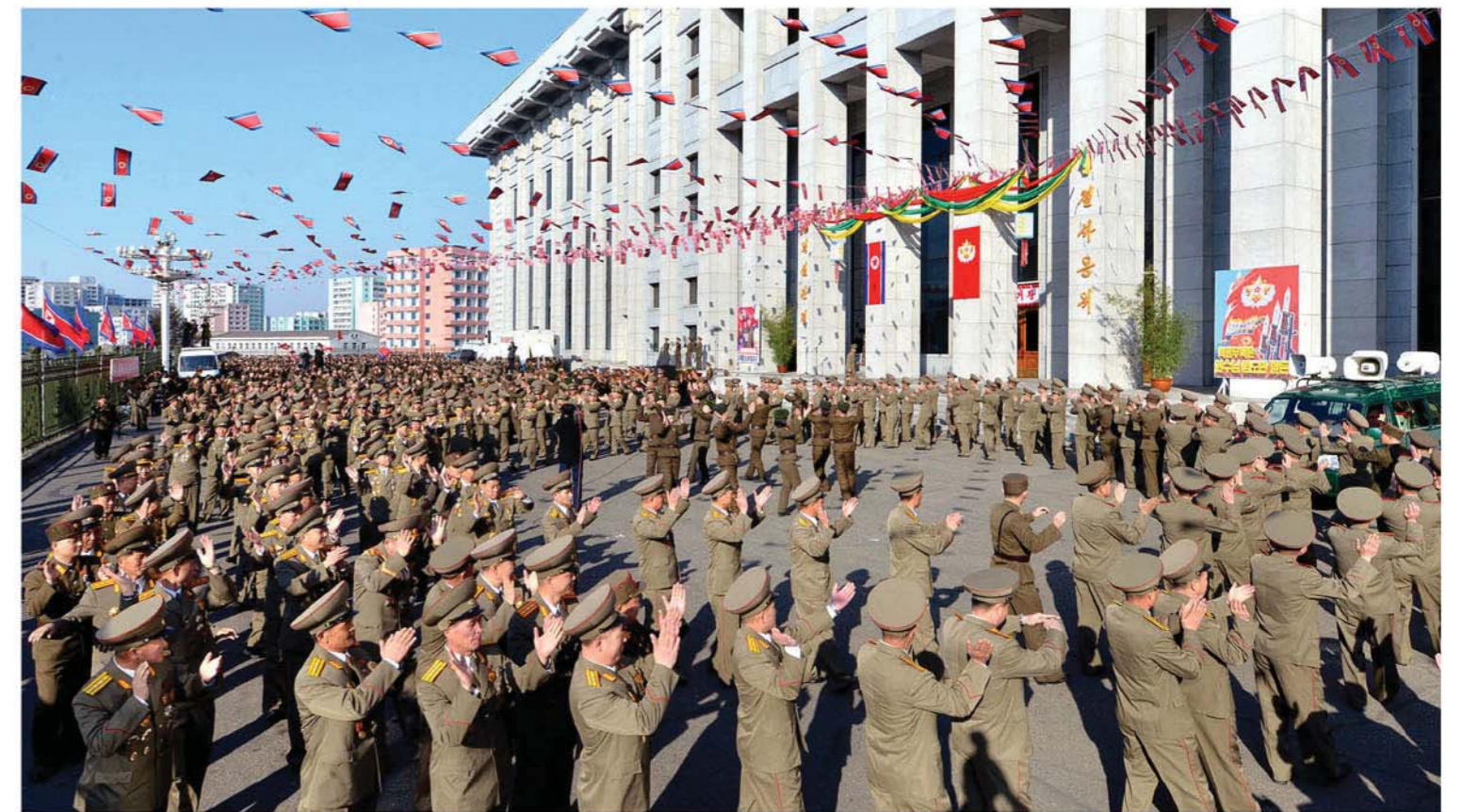
Those who have gone abroad and been at sea were absent from the elections.

The successful elections of Deputies to the 13th Supreme People's Assembly were the expression of the entire voters' absolute support to and trust in the DPRK government, a genuine people's power which serves the people and relies on them, and the manifestation of the firm faith and will of all the service personnel and people of the country to cement the people's power rock-solid and accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche, closely rallied behind Kim Jong Un.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA,

Ri Myong Guk, An Chol Ryong



Voters at Paektusan Constituency No. 111 are full of happiness and pride of having elected Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un a Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK



In front of the board of voters' list



After casting ballot with a mind to consolidate their people's power rock-solid



Overseas Koreans cast ballot



Foreigners visit a polling station



Monument to Victory in the Battle of Musan Area

Battle Fought 75 Years Ago

Seventy-five years have passed since the battle in the Musan area was fought, which was a distinguished event in the Korean people's history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

In the latter half of the 1930s the Japanese imperialists were trying to build up their home front so as to wind up the dragged-out Sino-Japanese War quickly and advance towards the south. To this end, they intensified their fascist repression and economic plunder of Korea that was under their military occupation. They stepped up their punitive offensive against the Korean People's Revolutionary Army while arresting, imprisoning and murdering a lot of revolutionaries and patriotic people and launching a crackdown on the revolutionary organizations. At the same time, they tried to spread the false propaganda that the KPRA was "completely wiped out," thereby thwarting the expectation and hope of the Korean people for the country's liberation.

With a keen insight into the prevailing situation and requirements of the developing revolution, Kim Il Sung convened a meeting of cadres of the KPRA at Beidadingzi, Changbai County, China, in April Juche 28 (1939). He summed up the victorious Arduous March and instructed that the KPRA should switch over to an active counterattack to deal continuous counterblows to the Japanese imperialists and advance to the homeland.

The main-force unit of the KPRA launched an effective spring offensive against the enemy strongholds in the border areas along the Amnok River and made full preparations for the advance to the homeland.

Kim Il Sung went to a secret camp in the Mt. Paektu area to finalize the time and route for the advance into the homeland. On May 18, Juche 28 (1939) he led the main-force unit of the KPRA to cross the Amnok and advance into

the homeland.

Shocked by the KPRA's advance into the homeland, the enemy dispatched punitive troops to the southeastern area of Mt. Paektu, made up of the garrison and police troops in North and South Hamgyong provinces.

Kim Il Sung threw the enemy to the defensive by conducting adroit military and political activities, and ordered the KPRA unit to advance swiftly to the Musan area east of Mt. Paektu, via Chongbong, Konchang and Pegae Hill. The thrust of the KPRA to the Musan area was another miracle Kim Il Sung worked out with his far-sighted wisdom and unexcelled art of command.

When the enemy found out that the KPRA unit had marched in the daytime along their Kapsan-Musan guard road, which they had built to move their "punitive forces" and were waiting for inspection, they groaned in despair, calling the KPRA's bold move an "unprecedented oddity."

After he led the KPRA unit to march the guard road at a go and arrive at Mupho on the Tuman River, Kim Il Sung convened a meeting of the officers and instructed that the whole unit should push into the Taehongdan area. He personally led the Guard Company and the 8th Regiment to Sinsadong and delivered a speech titled, **Let Us Rise up Vigorously in the Anti-Japanese Struggle to Hasten the Liberation of the Homeland.**

He then organized a battle on May 23 on the Taehongdan tableland, in which the KPRA members demonstrated the love for the homeland and hatred for the enemy.

He foresaw that the Japanese imperialists, frightened by the intensive military and political activities of the KPRA, would make desperate attempts, so he worked out a plan to inflict a crushing defeat on the enemy that was chasing the 7th Regiment returning from its successful mission at Singaechok

by employing lure-and-ambush tactics, and then the enemy reinforcements. He took up his command post at a place commanding a complete view of the battle site, made correct judgment of the changing situation and the enemy's attempt at encirclement and ordered his men to deal annihilating blows at the enemy both from the front and rear. The Japanese troops were totally destroyed in this battle. The battle was the successful conclusion of the KPRA's operations for the advance into the Musan area.

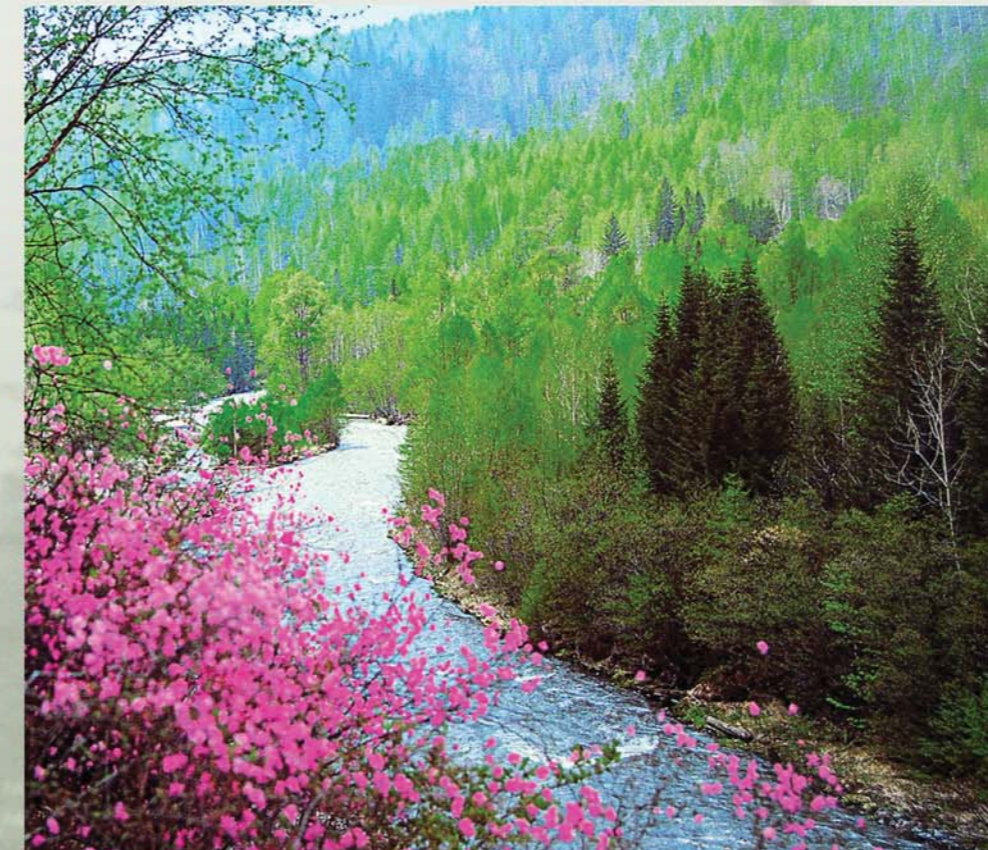
The advance of the KPRA into the Musan area showed that the KPRA was not only still alive but also had grown stronger and was dealing a crushing blow to the Japanese imperialists.

The gunshots that reverberated through the Musan area 75 years ago, signalling a great upswing in the Korean revolution, are of historic significance in the history of Songun-based revolution. And they are encouraging the Korean service personnel and people in their endeavours for the building of a thriving nation.

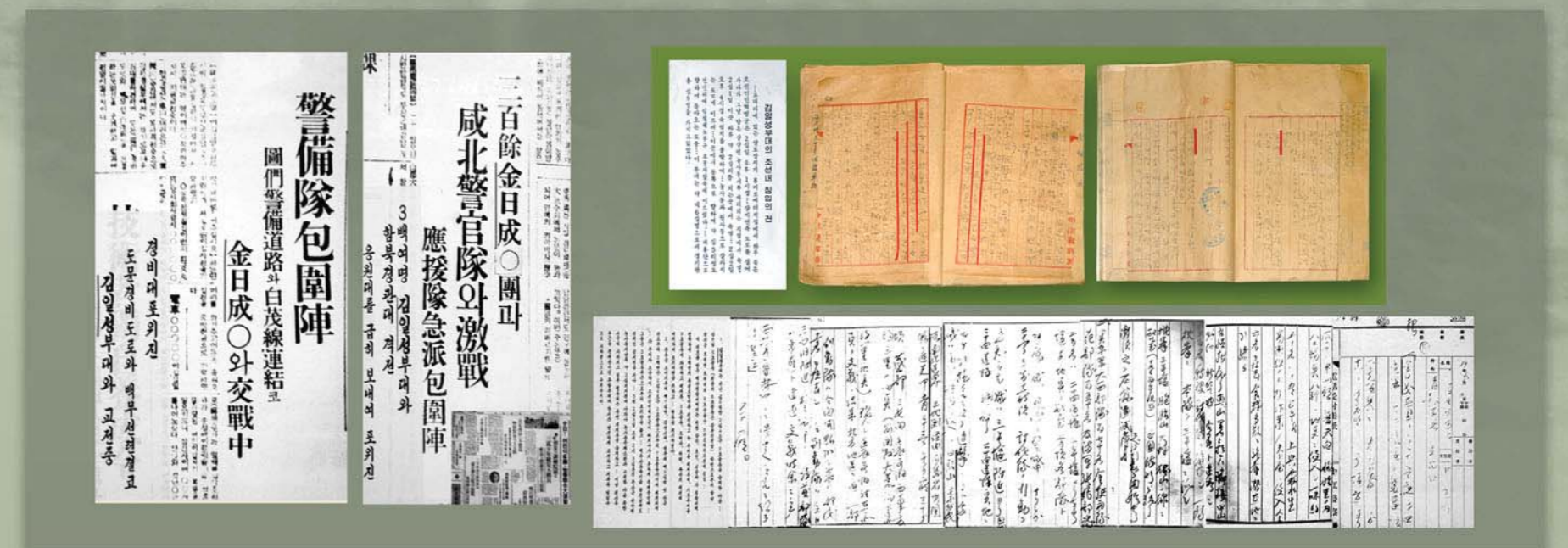
Article & photo: Choe Kwang Ho



Site of the Headquarters at the Mupho bivouac where Kim Il Sung stayed during the KPRA's advance to the Musan area



Barrage No. 5 (left) on the Amnok River used by the main-force unit of the KPRA in its advance to the Musan area and the Kapsan-Musan guard road (right) along which it marched in broad daylight



Part of the materials on the KPRA's advance into the homeland and the battle in the Musan area

Scientists in the Vanguard of Breaking through Cutting Edge



Scientists of the control machine institute develop CNC devices

Scientists of the State Academy of Sciences are making great achievements in the scientific research for developing the country's economy and improving the people's standard of living.

In recent years alone, they have solved several scientific and technological problems arising in establishing the Juche-based production systems of iron, fertilizer, fibre and magnesia clinker and setting up integrated automation systems in major factories and enterprises, thus making a tangible contribution to putting the national economy on a Juche-oriented, modern and scientific footing.

And they have greatly contributed to betterment of the people's living standards by achieving successes of great value in the scientific research into developing new strains of seeds and advanced method for cultivating them, producing various kinds of organic complex fertilizers and biochemicals and upgrading the quality of consumer goods.

Rapid progress has also been made in developing cutting-edge technologies, including software technology, ME technology, manufacturing technology of physiological active materials, nano technology and space technology.

Upholding the tasks supreme leader Kim Jong Un put forward in the New Year Address for this year and during his on-site guidance at the academy in January, they have achieved many successes in the scientific researches for building an economic giant and improving the people's standard of living since the beginning of the year.

The geoenvironment information institute and the information science and technology institute

have strived to solve the problems of acute shortage of electric power and energy by relying on the natural resources and technology available in the country. As a result, they contributed to raising the generating capacity of the hydroelectric and thermal power plants to the maximum and utilizing natural energy more effectively.

The control machine institute that has developed CNC control devices and AC synchronous servo driving gear that are of great significance in developing the machine-building industry is making efforts to introduce the CNC technology into several ordinary machine tools in the Taean Heavy Machine Complex and other units.

Recently the geological institute has developed sophisticated equipment which is of great value for pit prospecting, thus making it possible to increase coal production. The heat engineering and automation institutes are concentrating their efforts on solving scientific and technological problems arising in reality.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of the researchers at the academy, many units have been renovated and are gaining innovative achievements in the campaign to go beyond the cutting edge.

Article: Kim Son Gyeong
Photo: Ri Myong Guk



The geoenvironment information institute puts efforts into research into ecological changes by using the satellite data



Scientists of the turf branch strive to breed new species of turf



In Hearty Response to New Year Address

With Scientific Management Strategy and Business Strategy

Since it commenced operation in October Juche 94 (2005) the Taean Friendship Glass Factory has achieved great successes in production like the factories with long history.

Over the past years it has produced large quantities of glass needed in different fields of the national economy.

The factory strictly observes the requirements of the standard regulations of operation in all production lines to turn out quality glass products

Its officials and other employees are out in the struggle to send more glass products to the sites of economic construction and for improving the people's standard of living.

When the factory was commissioned, it produced ordinary glass products. It has now turned into a comprehensive base for producing various goods needed in different sectors including medical, foodstuff, chemical as well as construction sectors. Accordingly officials have worked out scientific management strategy, business strategy, and are inspiring the workers to fresh innovations.

They endeavour to enhance the role of technicians so as to make the modern production lines give full play to their capacities and improve the quality of products.

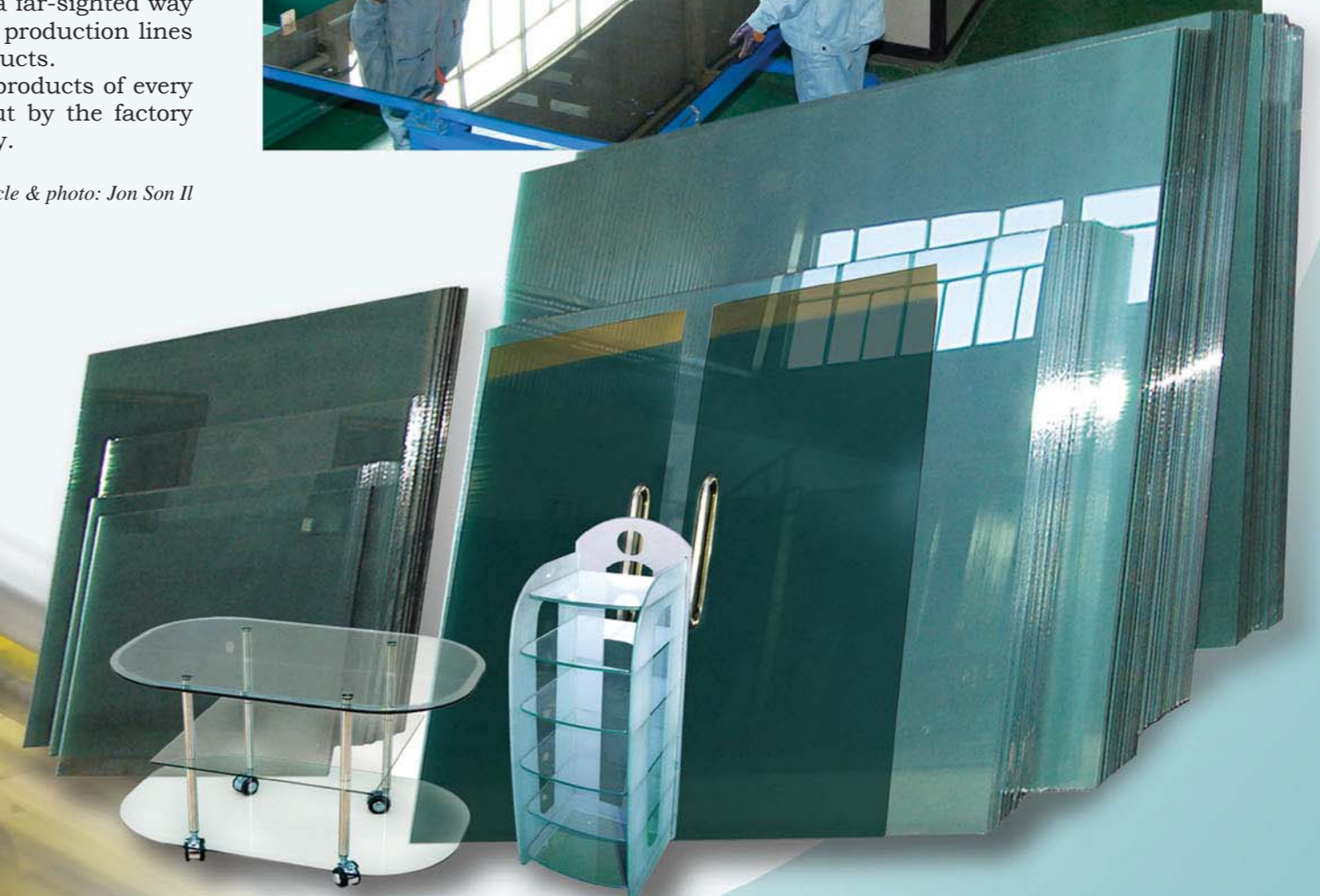
Besides, they push ahead with the work of improving the workers' technical skills so as to enable them all to operate their machines skillfully and take part in equipment management and technical innovation with a high sense of responsibility.

The factory organizes competitions among all units—not only the major units of production but also the units in charge of raw materials supply—in order to ensure that all the workers willingly strive to bring about collective innovations.

It also accelerates in a far-sighted way the work of updating its production lines and developing new products.

Demands for quality products of every sort and kind turned out by the factory are increasing day by day.

Article & photo: Jon Son Il





In Hearty Response to New Year Address

Various Plastic Pipes Are Turned Out



The factory raises the standard of technical skills of workers to increase the variety of products and improve their quality

The Nampho Haeryong Plastic Pipe Factory is a famous producer of a variety of plastic pipes. Though it is a few years after its inauguration, its products have contributed greatly to the building of numerous structures including the Rungna People's Recreation Ground, Unha Scientists Street and Munsu Water Park in the capital city of Pyongyang and the ski resort on Masik Pass. This is attributable to the high sense of patriotism of the officials, workers and technicians of the factory to produce in large numbers building materials of high quality for the construction projects aimed at building a civilized socialist nation.

They have brought about many achievements in a short span of time by directing their efforts into accelerating the modernization of the production processes, while improving the quality and increasing the variety of products.

All production lines from feeding raw materials to finishing are controlled by PLC system. Flow lines for producing pipes of various sizes have been established so as to diversify the

variety and increase the production. The factory turns out every year over millions of metres of plastic pipes and hundreds of thousands of junctions, totalling tens in variety. Demand for the products of the factory is increasing more and more as the country strives to usher in a great heyday of construction.

Article & Photo: Kim Kum Jin





In Hearty Response to New Year Address

Production of Functional Three-ply Plastic Sheets for Greenhouse

– At the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex –

Many greenhouses for vegetable farming as well as mushroom farms have been built or are under construction in cities, rural areas, factories and farms across the DPRK which puts forward it as its important policy to steadily improve the people's standard of living.

The plastic sheets for those greenhouses are functional three-ply plastic sheets produced at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, a manufacturer of various chemical products.

Last year the complex newly established the line of producing three-ply

plastic sheets with an annual capacity of tens of millions of square metres, fully equipped with processes of mixing materials, injecting inner, middle and outer layers, primary and second-stage elongating, and winding.

The functional three-ply plastic sheets have outstanding resistance to ultraviolet radiation, dew and dimness and are also effective in ensuring light stability and heat insulation.

The complex makes sure that the workers strictly observe standard procedures in operating all the machines and equipment to meet the technical

specifications of the sheets, while launching a vigorous mass technical innovation drive for making economical use of raw materials and increasing production.

The plastic sheets are very popular in greenhouse construction, and demands for them are increasing day by day.

Article & photo: Jin Yong Ho





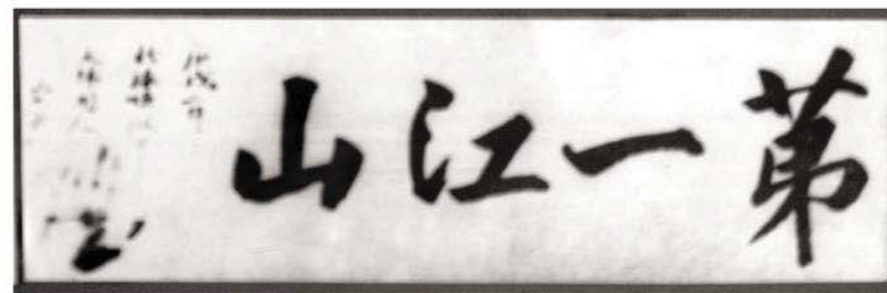
An Jung Gun

Patriotic Martyr An Jung Gun

An Jung Gun is a patriotic martyr renowned in Korea. Born in Haeju of the then Hwanghae Province in 1879, he had a strong sense of justice and was upright in character from his early days. He participated in the movements, including Righteous Volunteers' struggle, against the pernicious aggressive manoeuvres of Japanese imperialism. In the course of his struggle, he decided to dispose of high-ranking reactionary statesmen of Japan who were in the van of aggression upon Korea and designated Ito Hirobumi as his first target.

Ito Hirobumi was the first Premier of the Cabinet after the Meiji Restoration in Japan; while working at important posts successively later, he stood in the van of Japan's attempt to occupy Korea.

He was the chieftain of Japan's occupation of Korea and a sworn enemy of the Korean people: he had the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty," a false



The Most Beautiful Rivers and Mountains by An Jung Gun before execution



An Jung Gun leaves his last wish to his younger brothers in Lushun prison (March 1910)



The martyr's descendants follow the road of patriotism

document, unlawful and invalid, railroaded through by means of military threat and blackmail in 1905, thus plundering the Korean feudal government of its sovereignty and had the "Residency-General" set up in Korea; as the first Resident-General, he imposed all sorts of miseries and misfortunes upon the Korean people.

An Jung Gun demonstrated an indomitable spirit of the Korean nation who were fighting against Japan's aggression by shooting to death Ito Hirobumi at the platform of the Harbin Railway Station in China on October 26, 1909.

He struggled resolutely against Japanese imperialism without abandoning his national principles until he was executed by the Japanese hangmen at the Lushun prison in China on March 26, 1910.

However, his intention to save the country by killing a chieftain of Japanese aggressors could by no means be realized.

It was not until the anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by Kim Il Sung won victory that his desire was accomplished and his patriotic deed could be exalted.

In high appreciation of his righteous deed, President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il put him forward as an anti-Japanese patriotic martyr and saw to it that his name was handed down generation after generation by having a monument set up in Nampho, where he had conducted patriotic activities, and a movie which portrayed him produced.

His relatives lived a worthwhile life in the bosom of their motherland.

Typical of them is An U Saeng (eldest son of An Kong Gun, martyr's youngest brother), who was a secretary to Kim Ku, a prominent politician in south Korea after the country's liberation, and who followed the road of patriotism.

The state protected and looked after his family even in the arduous days of the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953) and took measures so that his four children graduated from universities including Kim Il Sung University and served in state organs in Pyongyang.

Meanwhile, An Kong Gun was awarded the title of patriotic martyr, and An U Saeng and An Ji Saeng, martyr's nephews, became National Reunification Prize winners.

An Ki Chol who lives in Chilgol-dong No. 3, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, on an old age pension, is the eldest son of An U Saeng.

His own children and nephews have graduated from and are attending universities; the university graduates are working in different sectors of society, for example, as a university lecturer or as a researcher.

The descendants of An's family are travelling the road of patriotism generation after generation as their forefathers did.

Article: Choe Kwang Ho
Photo: Jin Yong Ho

Working People Celebrate May Day

The working people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who are accelerating the building of a thriving country full of confidence in victory and enthusiasm, greet the 124th anniversary of May Day, international holiday of the working people over the world.

As they are leading worthwhile life as the masters of the state and society, firmly rallied around the Workers' Party of Korea, they make May Day an important occasion for demonstrating

their pride and dignity to the whole world and consolidating solidarity with other working people of the world.

On May Day they visit the statues and portraits of beaming images of the peerlessly great men of Mt. Paektu to pay homage to them.

Senior officials of the Party and the state and those in the local Party and government organs visit establishments, enterprises, factories and farms to congratulate workers, peasants and

intellectuals on the anniversary day.

Various sports and amusement games and artistic performances are held across the country and parks and recreation grounds are full of working people enjoying their holiday.

Other colourful events also take place to strengthen the international solidarity with working peoples over the world.

Article & photo: An Chol Won





Meari Shooting Gallery



The Meari Shooting Gallery in Chongchun Street, Pyongyang, was opened to public in March.

It has been so renovated that its characteristics as a service base are in good harmony with the modern aesthetics. It has several shooting ranges and archery grounds, video game facilities,

outdoor playground, restaurant and other sports and service facilities.

The indoor shooting gallery has a 50-m range for rifle shooting and 25-m range for pistol shooting with 8 platforms respectively.

Each platform has a scoreboard, and there is a general scoreboard installed

near the seats so that visitors can see others shooting and their results.

The outdoor shooting range has 12 platforms, five for 25-m pistol shooting and another five for 50-m rifle shooting and the other two for shooting pheasants and chickens in the distance of 50 metres.

Visitors can learn shooting in advance



Indoor shooting range



Outdoor shooting range

at the education room. There they can profoundly acquire all technical requisites like shooting position, holding weapons, breathing and percussion.

The indoor 30-m archery ground on the second floor resembles a forest in natural beauty.

Modernly furnished ray-gun and electron-gun ranges are popular among the children and young people as they suit the juvenile mind.

Dozens of amusement facilities are installed in the electronic recreation hall.

Every place in the gallery, including the restaurant, shop and resting places, is designed to provide visitors with maximum convenience and modern aesthetic sense, so that they enjoy themselves to their heart's content.

The shooting gallery is getting more crowded with the working people and schoolchildren.

Article & photo: An Chol Ryong



Ray-gun range



Indoor archery ground



Service facilities including restaurant and outdoor playground



Kim Kwon Ryong

With the Hope of Becoming a Programmer

age are full of fun and mischief, but this boy surprised the people by developing a video game program two years ago.

He took interest in computer since he was only five years old. He was so mischievous that his mother was very worried about him. But he was a different boy when he sat before computer. His father, a researcher, frequently worked with computer at home. Whenever he did, his little son insistently asked him to try it, so he taught the boy how to use computer. Since then, Kwon Ryong became deeply attached to the computer and was deft with it in his primary school days. He gradually fostered a dream of developing a computer program.

One day he saw the children playing a shooting game. This fanned his fanciful idea of making a video game program, which received hearty welcome from his parents and teachers. Kwon Ryong buckled down to his project, and everybody around him helped him in his efforts to materialize his dream, once merely a good conception.

His program won the first place at the 13th national program exhibition for the educational sector held in October Juche 101 (2012), greatly impressing the jury and visitors.

He is a good programmer, and excels at sports and in the good conduct campaign as well. Accordingly, he attended the celebrations of the 66th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union in June Juche 101 (2012).

He is now nurturing his ambition to become an ace programmer, further developing his talent thanks to the universal 12-year compulsory education.

Kim Kwon Ryong, 13, is a student at Ponghwa Junior Middle School in Pothonggang District. Children of that



With his father



After taking the first place at the 13th national program exhibition for the educational sector



Laugh Heartily

- Pyongyang Orphanage -

Children's laughter is one of the greatest beauties in the world. Pyongyang Orphanage is always full of merry laughter of cute children, though they are bereaved of their parents by incurable diseases or accidents.

The children at the orphanage are five or six years old, still young enough to be in the bosom of parents. But they are growing up brightly and cheerfully under the care of the state, which looks after them in a responsible manner like their parents.

They are provided with foodstuffs on a regular basis and new clothes in all seasons.

They amuse themselves in the playroom and also cultivate their talents according to their likings and aptitudes while playing various musical instruments.

Last February the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un visited the orphanage.

He showed deep love and meticulous care for the orphans, saying that the children are bright future of the country and heirs to the revolution.

Embracing the children, who came running to him, in his arms, he asked about their ages and health conditions. Looking round the orphanage to acquaint himself with conditions for raising and educating the children and the living environment, he said that the bereaved children would long for affection more than any others, and that we should bring them up, in place of their parents, to be cheerful and honest so that they would become always happy, free from sorrow of parentless children.

Children sang songs of their happiness of being under the care of the respected Marshal warmer than that of their own flesh and blood, and teachers were choked with emotion.

Choe Song Ran, head of the orphanage, said whenever she looked at the naïve and bright children singing happily, she always recollected the day and continued: "True to the lofty will of the Marshal who loves the rising generation and bestows his all to the children as their father, we will bring up the children at the orphanage into fine pillars of the country."

The officials and teachers of the orphanage are devoting themselves to take



a loving care for the children.

They are paying foremost attention to making children healthy, and supplying them with nutritious and palatable foods. Along with this, they are applying new teaching methods suited to the children's psychological features in order to develop their intellectual power and their talents.

The children at Pyongyang Orphanage are now growing up cheerfully, romping about in the playroom and singing songs happily without any worries.

Article: Kang Su Jong
Photo: Kim Kum Jin



The children grow up happily under the care of the state

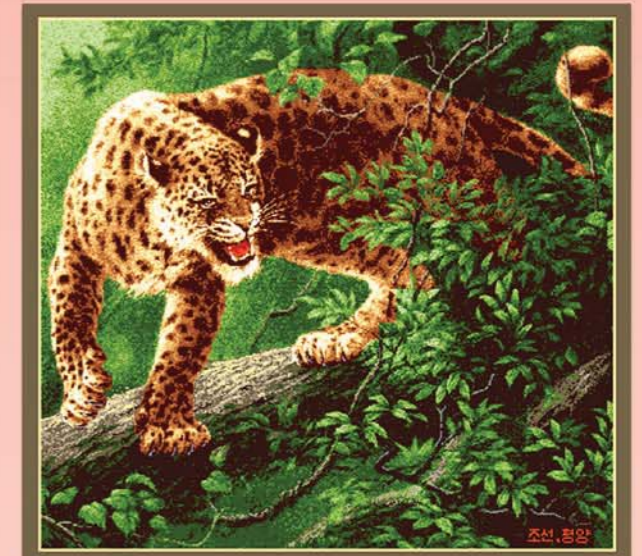
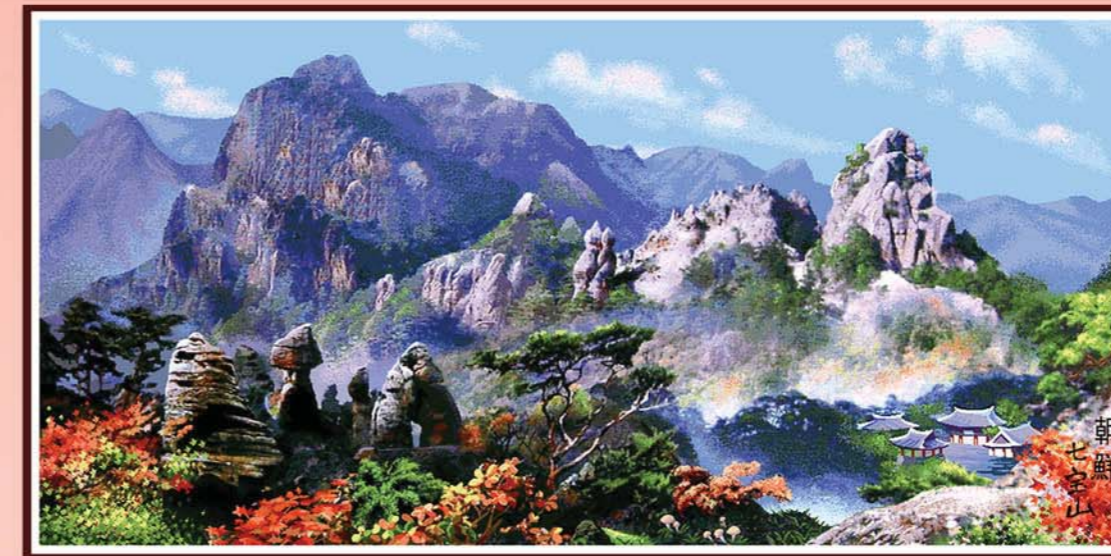




Production of a Variety of Carpets



To create new carpet designs



Carpets manufactured by the corporation

The Korea Carpet Corporation located on the bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang is channelling its efforts into producing various carpets.

The corporation has recently put spinning, dyeing, weaving and finishing lines on a modern footing so as to increase carpet production and make their variety richer according to the management strategy it has worked out as required by the developing reality.

It is giving precedence to creating new

designs suited to the tastes of customers and introducing them into production.

It is staffed with a large number of competent designers and technicians who graduated from Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and Pyongyang University of Fine Arts as well as skilled workers.

Its principal products include 4m-wide machine-made carpet, hand-made

carpet, tapestry and ornamental carpets decorated with landscapes, figures and Persian patterns, all of which are woven by silk threads famous in Korea and woolen threads.

These products are enjoying popularity among customers for their gentle colours, unique yet gorgeous patterns and fine quality.

Article & photo: Ri Kwang Song

Doctor Couple



Kim Il Chol, researcher at the Faculty of Chemistry of Kim Il Sung University and his wife, Sin Pun Jin, also researcher at the Law College of the same university, are held in respect among the people as doctor couple.

Kim Il Chol is a son of an ordinary office worker. He studied at Kim Il Sung University thanks to the benefits of the state and became a researcher to render scientific and technical contribution to the prosperity of the country. To this end, he devoted his creative talents and zeal to solving the scientific and technical problems arising in the actual situation.

In those days Kim made researches into a surface active agent much needed in the several sectors of the national economy including textile and daily necessities manufacturing industries and into composition of catalysers for polymerizing propylene, and achieved other scientific successes conducive to the development of the national economy and improvement of the people's standard of living. So he is called an ardent thinker and a tireless researcher.

Sin Pun Jin is an educationalist and a researcher who has devoted her whole to the education of the rising generation and scientific research.

Under the benevolent care of the socialist system she studied at Kim Il Sung University with nothing to envy in the world and began her career as a lecturer at her alma mater to bring up the able workers of the country.

She lavished inexhaustible efforts on the educational work in her girlhood and even after her marriage to Kim and then becoming a mother with two children. Many books, textbooks and reference books including *Social Administration and Law* and *Reference for the Law on Environmental Protection* are good examples illustrating her devotion to the education. She has worked as a researcher for two years.

Though they major in different subjects, Kim's couple has always been together along the road to repay the benefits of the country which brought them up.

They were awarded doctorate and associate professorship for their tangible contribution to the education of the rising generation and scientific development.

Last year they moved into a new house in the twin high-rises built in the Ryonghung Crossroads in Pyongyang for the educationalists at Kim Il Sung University.

Now they are old with a grandson; however, they are continuing their scientific research for the prosperity of the country.

Article: Kim Son Gyong
Photo: Choe Won Chol



Kim Il Chol, husband (second from the left)



Sin Pun Jin, wife



Taking a rest in the aquarium at the Central Zoo



Pupils accumulate many-sided knowledge

Pyongyang Primary School No. 4

Pyongyang Primary School No. 4 takes high place in several academic contests, Our Classroom Literary Prize national schoolchildren's art and literary works contest, Jongilbong Prize national schoolchildren's games and national art festival of schoolchildren, all of which are held every year.

The school has introduced a new teaching method and latest educational means so as to improve the academic performance of its pupils.

Teaching by means of multimedia presentations, solving math problems by playing various quizzes, teaching foreign languages through conversation drills and experiencing nature for cementing the knowledge learned in class are good methods.

Beside arranging extracurricular group activities, it frequently organizes its own academic contests, drawing and handicraft shows, sports games and



Activities of extracurricular groups



artistic performances to pick talented pupils.

Pupils are zealous, too.

Though they are young, they strive with a high ambition to prepare themselves to become pillars of their country in the future.

Four pupils were honoured with prize at the 27th Our Classroom Literary Prize contest, the swimming group took the first place at the 39th Jongilbong Prize national schoolchildren's games held last year, and the dance piece staged by the dancing group was nominated as the best one at the 50th national art festival of schoolchildren.

Under the benefit of the universal 12-year compulsory education, the pupils learn to their heart's content and give full play to their talents at the school, doing laudable deeds day after day.

Article & photo: An Chol Won



In January Juche 103 (2014) the DPRK players were honoured with 2013 Star Awards newly instituted by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) and conferred to the most excellent players of the year.

These award-winning players are Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong who claimed the championship in the mixed doubles event of individuals at the 52nd ITTF World Championships held in France in May 2013.

After seeing their playing the ITTF chief sincerely congratulated them on their success in the match and said that their victory marked a capital event in the world history of table tennis. An ITTF member unsparingly praised that the DPRK players made deep impressions on not only experts but enthusiasts the world over.

Many newspapers, radio and TV broadcastings reported for several days about the DPRK players' success in the championships.

Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong, the first ITTF Star Awards winners and gold medalists, are the pride of the country.

Article: Kim Thae Hyon
Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



First Winners of Prize



Yun Won Chol

In January the International Amateur Wrestling Federation reviewed its activities in Juche 102 (2013) and made public the world ranking of wrestlers for the year.

Yun Won Chol of the DPRK stood first for men's 55 kg Greco-Roman title.

He won the 55 kg Greco-Roman title at both the 2013 World Wrestling Championships held in Hungary in September and the 28th World Military Men's Wrestling

Greco-Roman Wrestling Champion

Championships held in Teheran in October last year.

Born into an ordinary peasant family, Yun began to learn wrestling at the Unjon County Schoolchildren's Sports School at the age of 12.

The motor-minded boy won the national schoolchildren's championships on several occasions, attracting the attention of professionals.

He was enlisted in the April 25 Sports Team when he was 15. He conducted intensive training with a firm resolution to clinch gold medals at any cost at international matches.

His tireless training bore fruits at international matches, and he was recommended for the excellent player of 2013 for men's 55 kg Greco-Roman title.

According to the technical analyses of the Greco-Roman wrestling games at the 2013 championships, Yun Won Chol was one of the wrestlers who played the games most efficiently among the medalists at the Greco-Roman events.

At the championships his average point per match was 6.

By employing various skills such as backward hold, arm and body throw and throwing down with one arm, he won the first match with a Croatian rival by 8:0, the second, third and fourth matches with German, Hungarian and Russian rivals by 7:0 respectively and defeated a south Korean wrestler in the final by 4:3, thus seizing the championship.

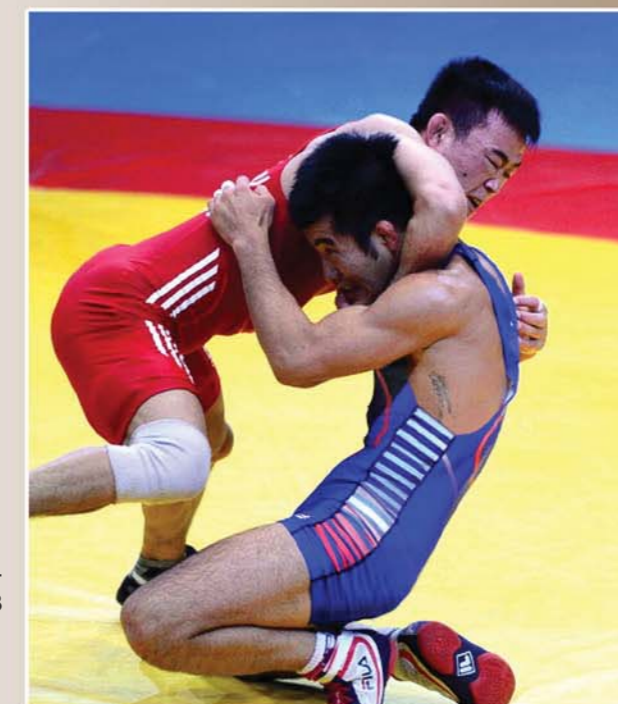
In the five matches he obtained 33 points and lost only 3 points.

Professionals appraised him as a wrestler who plays games most efficiently, a wrestler with various offensive skills and stubborn defensive power, and an errorless player.

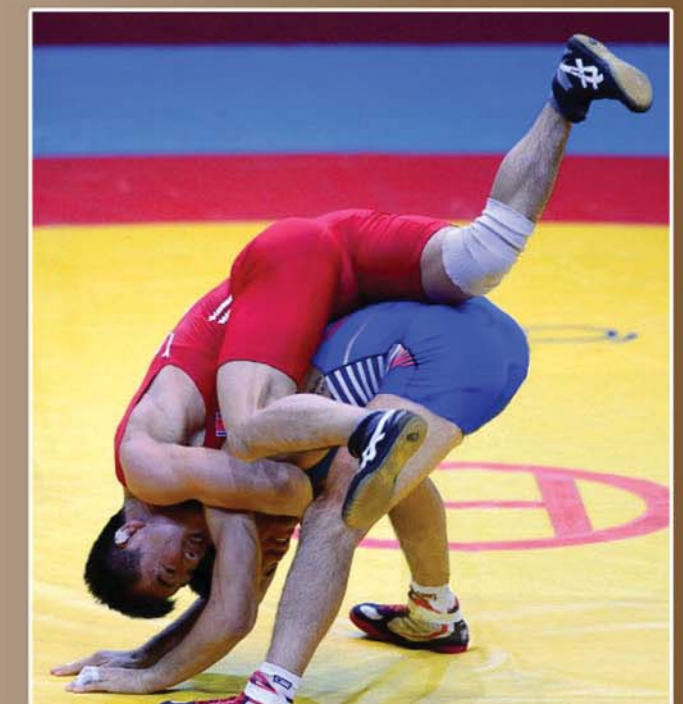
The state conferred the title of People's Athlete on Yun, who has added glory to his motherland with many gold medals, and provided him with a flat in the athletes' apartment building standing on the bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang.

Yun continues to train hard for better results.

Article & photo: Choe Won Chol



Scene of men's 55 kg Greco-Roman wrestling game of 2013 World Wrestling Championships





Separated families and their relatives from the north and south of Korea meet in the Mt. Kumgang resort



Jo Mae Suk

Affection of Kinship Cannot Be Severed

Last February separated families and relatives from the north and south of Korea met in the Mt. Kumgang resort, and I met my younger brothers after 63 years.

I was born in south Korea and was separated with my mother and brothers in 1951 owing to the Korean war unleashed by the US imperialists. At that time my brothers were six and four years old, respectively.

“Ton U! Ton Bang!”

“Sister!”

Even after a long lapse of time we could recognize each other.

The affection of kinship becomes warmer and remains unchanged though many years passed and mountains and streams underwent a change.

Listening to my story about the worthwhile life in the DPRK where the people are masters of the country and the whole society forms a big harmonious family, my brothers were deeply impressed. Then they told me that my mother had passed away with strong yearning for me, her dear daughter.

I thought of mother even in my dream. She had a hard time, bringing up her children after father died during the Japanese military occupation of Korea. I felt sorry not to be dutiful to her. Prior to the sense of guilt, I ground my teeth with deep indignation against the US imperialists who separated our family and brought about the tragic national division.

Not only I and my brothers but also all other separated families and relatives, condemning the US imperialists, pledged to strive to put an end to the national division by foreign forces and reunify the country.

The affection of kinship cannot be cut and the bloodline of the nation cannot be also severed.

The US must not pursue the division of Korea any longer.

The Korean people, cherishing an ardent desire to live in a reunified country as one nation, will reunify the country without fail in the spirit of By Our Nation Itself, upholding the banner of the historic June 15 North-South Joint Declaration.

Jo Mae Suk from Chongnyu-dong No. 3, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang

Photo: Pak Chang Bok



In commemoration of meeting relatives from south Korea

Historical Relics in Mt. Myohyang

Mt. Myohyang is famous for not only its scenic beauty but many relics showing the time-honoured history and culture of the Korean people.

Many historical remains and relics showing the creative talents and artistic skills of the wise and industrious Korean people are preserved in the mountain. Among them are buildings, sculptures, pagodas, stone monuments, paintings, craftworks, printed materials and the like.

Typical of them are temples built from around the 7th century in the north of Piro Peak and deep valleys in inner Hyangsan. According to the old records on stone monuments, there were over 360 temples including Ansim and Pohyon temples, over 150 of which are recorded in history. It was also said that the temples kept many relics such as Buddhist images and paintings, wood blocks of the Buddhist scriptures and utensils used for Buddhist rituals and life during the periods of Koryo (918-1392) and the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910).

Many of the cultural relics, however, were washed away by the flood in 1915 or destroyed by the Japanese policy of the destruction of Korean culture pursued during their military occupation of

Korea.

Worse still, more than 20 buildings and thousands of items of relics found in Mt. Myohyang were burnt or destroyed by barbarous bombings of the US imperialists during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950 – July 1953).

However, thanks to the policies of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the state on preserving cultural relics, the old buildings including the main building of Pohyon Temple have been restored to the original state and many artefacts are in good preservation.

At present there are many wooden buildings, including shrines, halls, hermitages and others in the Pohyon Temple district in Mt. Myohyang.

Pohyon Temple, which was built in 1042, is typical of the Korean architecture in the early 11th century and of great artistic value.

It was the largest temple in North and South Phyongan provinces, and played a central role in Buddhism in the areas north of the Chongchon River.

There are historical materials and relics, including Dharani pagoda from Puljong Temple in Songdong-ri, Phihyon County, North Phyongan Province, and a bell from Yujom Temple in Mt.



Bell from Yujom Temple



Square 9-storeyed pagoda



Exterior and interior of Ryongsan Hall



Kumgang.

The architectural group of buildings in the temple has become a tourist destination.

Pagodas and stone monuments can also be found in the mountain.

Most of the stone monuments are inscribed with the history of the temples and monks. Typical of them is that in the Pohyon Temple.

The octagonal 13-storeyed and square 9-storeyed pagodas are famous ones: they show

the developed Korea's stone architecture in the Middle Ages. The former built with delicately dressed granite slabs has windbells at the ends of angle rafters of each roof: the 104 bells ring even in a light wind, evoking a peculiar emotion and giving a glimpse into the high architectural skills.

The latter gives a solemn feeling.

Mt. Myohyang preserves remains showing the development of printing in Korea. Typical of them

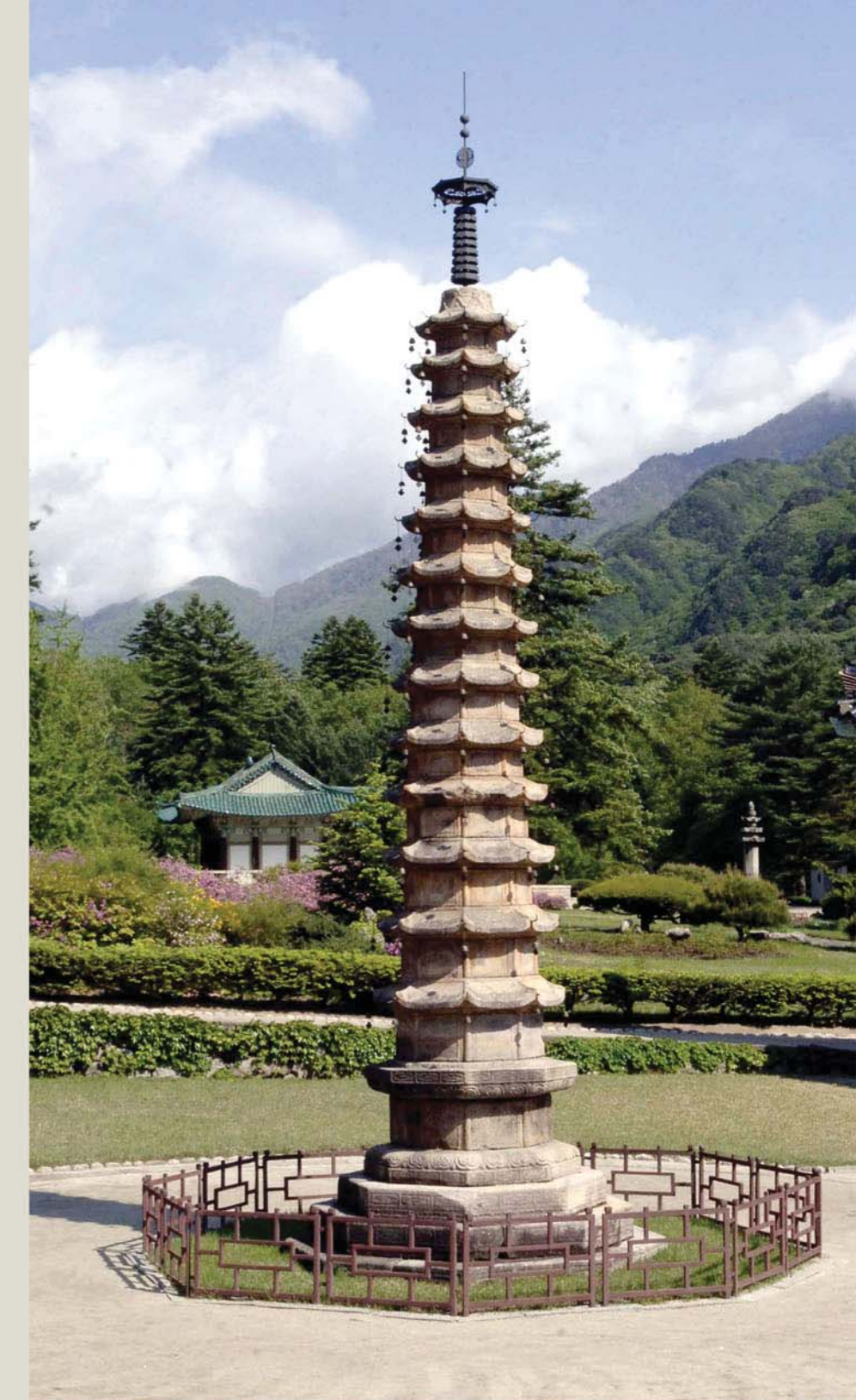
are the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures and wood blocks of Buddhist scriptures in the days of Koryo and feudal Joseon dynasty.

The historical relics in Mt. Myohyang add much to the landscape of the celebrated mountain, and are protected as precious cultural heritage showing the time-honoured history of the Korean nation.

Article & photo: Kim Kyong Hui



Dharani pagoda



Octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda



Kumgang Hermitage



Stupas



Volunteers of the RC are engaged in the efforts to remove flood damage



To prevent water-borne diseases and environmental pollution



Humanitarian Activities

- Red Cross Society of the DPRK -

The Red Cross Society of the DPRK conducts various humanitarian activities including protecting people's lives, promoting their health and giving relief to victims stricken with disasters. It also contributes to strengthening cooperation with the RC societies in other countries and ensuring global peace and security.

It is paying attention to its organizational development and capacity building so as to cope with all kinds of disasters and crises.

Its legal basis was laid out by the DPRK Cabinet Decision No. 101 adopted in December Juche 37 (1948); it was further consolidated and developed by

the announcement of the Law on the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in January Juche 96 (2007). It ensures all people have a good understanding of this law and observe it exactly while increasing the ranks of its permanent staff, members and volunteers (activists), the basic component elements of its human resources, and enhancing their role.

It tries to improve services to the elderly, people with disability and orphans, traditional beneficiaries of the RC activities. On the other hand, it encourages promotion, communication service and various workshops so that volunteers can learn how to give first-aid treatment and acquire the knowledge and techniques of disaster management; it raises the quality of their activities by organizing simulation exercises according to their psychology and aptitude by age and experience-swapping meetings.

Along with this, the Society is encouraging young RC volunteers' activities at schools of all levels by attaching great importance to their development.

Having set it as its most important assignment to reduce the damage and negative impacts from disasters, it performs its responsibility and duty to prevent human and material losses in times of disaster management in line with the measures taken by the state.

When flood and other natural calamities hit the country last year, it enlisted

4 500 volunteers in the effort to reduce damage and supplied emergency relief goods and drinking water to 4 800 afflicted households.

The brisk activities for reducing the risks of damage in residential quarters and by climate change give people knowledge and better understanding of reducing the risks of damage.

Volunteers created biological protective belts in the wide areas of mountains by introducing agroforestry, thus contributing to preventing disasters like flood and landslide.

In cooperation with state public health institutions, the Society provides public health services among people for the protection and promotion of their health.

It is engaged in alleviating the sufferings of the separated families and their relatives caused by national division and providing humanitarian assistance to overseas compatriots.

In accordance with its mission and duty, it is developing exchanges and collaboration with RC societies in various countries and international organizations so as to promote friendship, solidarity and cooperation and contribute to global peace.

Article & photo: Kim Kum Jin



Members of the RC Society discuss measures for overcoming natural disasters



Young RC volunteers' activities are brisk



More Undisguised Manoeuvres for Militarism by Japan

The international community is watching Japan with a growing sense of apprehension, because its political climate is becoming more tinged with nostalgia for militarism and its society is filled with ultra-rightist trend unprecedented in its history.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe sang *Kimigayo* and declared that it was the first step to win back Japan at the beginning of the last year. He visited the Yasukuni Shrine at the end of the year, and at the outset of this year he made such absurd remarks that the struggle to bring back a strong Japan was yet to be fought.

The minister of general affairs visited the shrine at the beginning of this year, followed by the collective visits of the shrine by ministers and Diet members.

Following the attitude of the government toward the shrine symbolic of Japan's history of aggression, the whole society is engulfed by the fanatic enthusiasm over the pilgrimage to the shrine, and all sorts of right-wing organizations are raising the wind of militarism, marching the streets in uniforms of the past aggressor army. History textbooks, which distort and embellish the past history of aggression of Japan, have been published with the backing and connivance of the government, thereby infusing the rising generations with a wrong outlook on history and militaristic thoughts.

This being the attitude of the government, not only the conservative politicians but also several other sections of the Japanese community are bluntly negating the crimes against humanity Japan had committed in Korea, China and other countries of Asia in the past and beautifying the war criminals, calling them "heroes."

At the same time Japan is stepping up its moves toward militarization, which has reached a critical phase.

It has revealed its sinister intention of legalizing the overseas aggression of the Self-Defence Forces through constitutional revision, while adopting new defence programme guidelines and mid-term defence programme, together with the first national security strategy.

The law on the protection of specific secrets was enacted and the national security council organized with an aim of establishing a militarist and fascist system.

Further spurs are given to the SDF buildup.

Last February the Japanese ruler reasserted the "necessities" of the establishment of the missile defence system and the exercise of the collective self-defence right. It laid bare once again the ulterior purpose of Japan to neutralize military forces of the neighbouring countries and expand the attack capabilities and stage of the SDF.

Japan is also planning to finalize its preparations for establishing its control over Korea and other Asian nations.

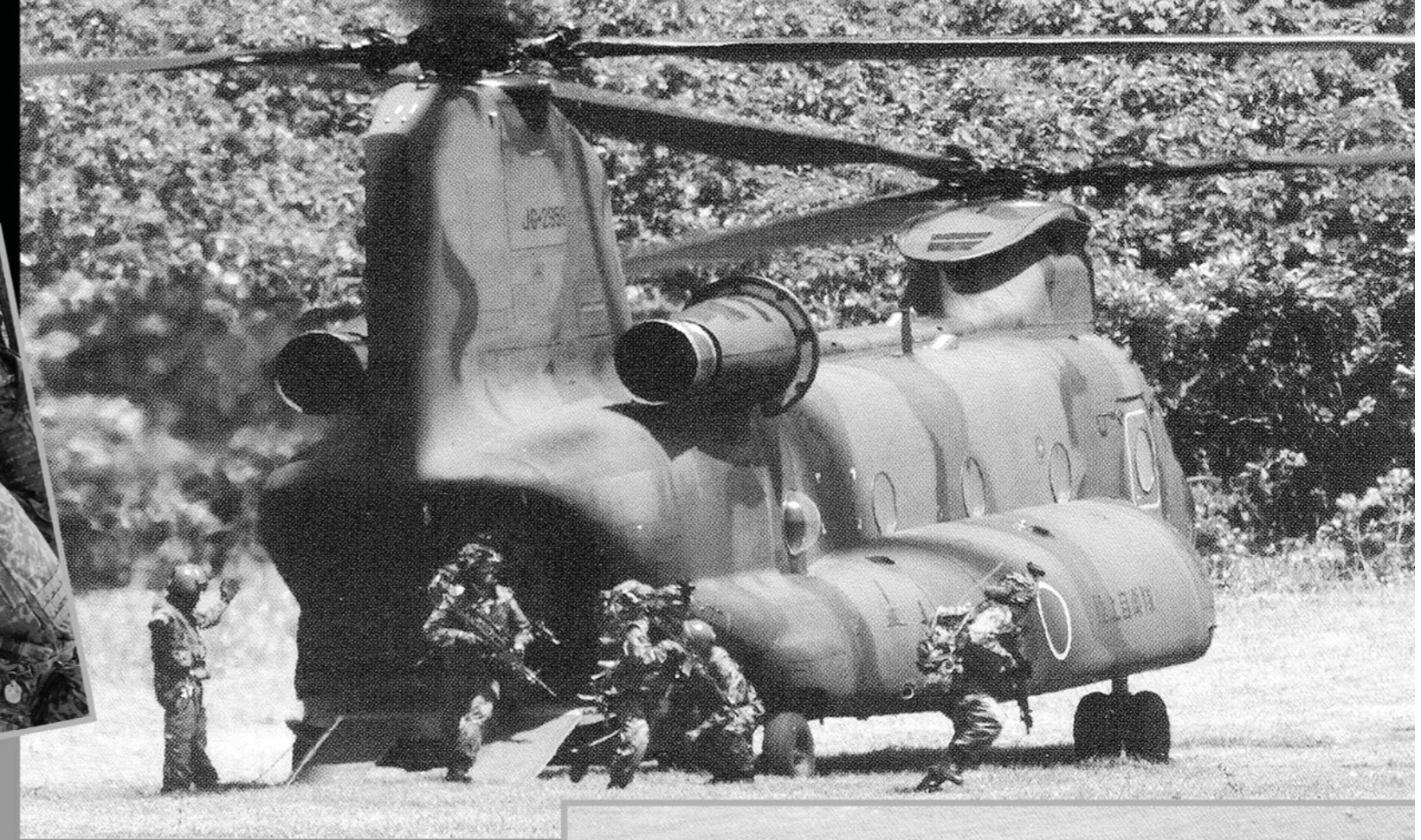
Japan's reckless attempts of militarization demand sharp vigilance of peace-loving countries in Northeast Asia and other parts of the world; otherwise, peace and security in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world, and the progress of human civilization will be exposed to a grave threat, and, worse still, doomed to catastrophe.

Aggressors have no mercy.

This is the fact the countries in Asia, which had suffered by Japan in the first half of the last century, perceived for themselves through their bitter experiences.

Article: Choe Il Ho

Photo: By courtesy of the KCNA



Self-Defence Forces of Japan under military exercises



