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FRONT COVER: Hwasong Street representative of socialist civilization in the era of the Workers’ Party
PHOTO: By courtesy of KCNA

BACK COVER: Picturesque scenery of Sea Chilbo
PHOTO: Kim Hyok Chol

Editors: Kim Jong Chol, Kim Kyu Song, Jo Chol Ju, Sung Ryong, Pyon Il Jin
Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, guided the work of the non-permanent satellite-launching preparatory committee on the spot on May 16.

He was greeted by leading officials of the Department of Munitions Industry and the Department of Science and Education of the Party Central Committee, members of the Aerospace Development Administration and the non-permanent satellite-launching preparatory committee.

After acquainting himself in detail with the work of the committee, he inspected military reconnaissance satellite No. 1 which is ready for loading after undergoing the final general assembly check and space environment test.

He highly appreciated that the preparatory committee has fulfilled its duty and role in a responsible manner in the course of carrying out the important work for dramatically developing the military technology of the country.

Repeatedly stressing the strategic nature of possessing military reconnaissance satellites, he said that the more desperately the US imperialists and south Korean puppet villains escalate their confrontational moves against the DPRK, the more squarely and offensively the DPRK will exercise its sovereignty and right of legitimate self-defence to deter them and defend the country.

He approved the future action plan of the preparatory committee.
Saying that to successfully launch the military reconnaissance satellite is an urgent requirement of the prevailing security environment of the country, a process of correctly implementing the Party's and government's policy of bolstering up the defence capabilities on a top priority basis, and at the same time a clear stride forward in the space military and scientific and technological development of the country, he specified the strategic goals to be attained continuously in the field of space research.
Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, visited the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri on May 19 to mark the first anniversary of the demise of Hyon Chol Hae.

He was accompanied by Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un laid a flower at the grave of Hyon Chol Hae, recollecting the sincere and resolute appearance and praiseworthy life of the revolutionary soldier who remained boundlessly loyal to the cause of the Party with his genuinely revolutionary traits and noble humanity and devoted himself to the country, revolution and people without any slight affectation and selfishness.

He paid a silent tribute to the memory of Hyon, a son of the great DPRK and distinguished elder loyalist produced by the Juche revolution.

He said that the feats of the veteran revolutionary who devoted his whole life to the revolutionary cause of Juche would be immortal along with the history of the WPK and the country and that Hyon Chol Hae would always be in the hearts of the Korean people including the service personnel of the Korean People’s Army.

In front of the memorial monument of the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery, he paid high tribute to the martyrs, praying that their valuable life recorded in the history of the country would be everlasting on the eminence of respect and honour generation after generation.
A memorial service was held solemnly at the April 25 House of Culture on May 19 to commemorate the first anniversary of the demise of Hyon Chol Hae who was a prominent political and military activist of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the state and a veteran of the armed forces organ of the DPRK.

Present there were senior Party, government and military officials, teaching staff and students of military schools at all levels and revolutionary schools and the bereaved family members.

The participants paid a silent tribute to the memory of Hyon who dedicated his all to the victorious advance of the Juche cause shining with the lineage of Paektu with the single-minded loyalty to the Party and the leaders and the spirit of devoted service to the country and people throughout his life.

Ri Il Hwan, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, delivered a memorial address.

He referred to the brilliant life of the martyr and stressed that his noble life and distinguished feats would be immortal as they are filled with legendary stories about love, trust, loyalty and repayment between the leader and soldiers.

Our cause following a victorious course under the leadership of the great Party requires younger generations to inherit the soul and spirit of the loyalists of preceding generations and all the people and service personnel should leave the trace of worthwhile life in the struggle for accomplishing the revolutionary cause of Juche as Hyon Chol Hae did, he said.

He paid high tribute to the noble life of Hyon, calling for waging a dynamic struggle for the accomplishment of the cause of building a powerful socialist country of a Korean style led by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and for the rosy future of the powerful country by carrying forward the batons of ideology, faith, loyalty and patriotism of the revolutionary martyrs.
Another Cradle of People Created in Golden Age of Pyongyang of New Era

Inaugural Ceremony of Dwelling Houses in Taephyong Area Held
The inauguration ceremony of modern apartment block built in the Taephyong area in the capital city of Pyongyang took place on May 21.

It was attended by Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, senior officials of the Party Central Committee and Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, officials concerned, working people who would live in new flats, and builders.

Kim Tok Hun delivered an inaugural address.

Noting that the housing construction in the Taephyong area which had been promoted under the special concern of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was brought to completion and the people would move into new houses, he warmly congratulated them on behalf of the WPK Central Committee and the government of the DPRK.

He said that in order to relieve the evacuees of their discomfort in life as soon as possible Kim Jong Un emphasized at major Party meetings to fulfill the promise made with the people, ensured that forces already involved in other major projects were mobilized for the project and the construction was continued even in the period of the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign, and took meticulous care to provide people with comfortable living conditions.

Expressing his expectation that the owners of new houses would cherish their joy of today deep in mind and do their jobs better for prosperity of the country and wishing all families harmony and happiness, he declared the inauguration of dwelling houses in the Taephyong area.

After the ceremony, the participants went round the houses, schools, kindergartens and public service facilities.

Photo: By courtesy of KCNA
Text: Ri Jin Bom
The Spring Women’s Clothes Show-2023 was held in Pyongyang from April 24 to May 4. Dresses in bright colours and various types that conform to the development trend of the women’s clothes and modern aesthetic sense and also go well with natural scenery peculiar to the blossoming season were very favoured. Visitors showed great interest in seasonal clothes, as they blended properly the quality of materials, forms, colours, patterns and decoration effects while having been designed to suit tastes of women according to age, profession and figure. During the exhibition, there were technical exchanges among garment producers, expert and public evaluations of products, an experience-sharing meeting related to the creation of designs and processing, a short course on the situation and development prospects of global garment industry, and order service and sale. Spring and summer clothes of new styles presented by the Unha Trading Bureau, Pyongyang Municipal Garment Industry Management Bureau and Kyonghung Trading Bureau were highly appreciated, as they were designed and processed to add more beauty and offer convenience in activity as well as meet the tastes, likings and figures of the Korean women. Diplomas were awarded to the excellent units and participants in the show.

Photo: Pang Un Sim, Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong
On the occasion of May Day, the international holiday of working people all across the world, a sports competition of workers in the metallurgical industry sector-2023 was held.

The competition that began on April 23 was conducted on a knockout basis, divided into groups from eastern and western regions of the country.

There were the final matches of the competition at Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang on May Day. They were seen by Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, and other senior Party, government and military officials, labour innovators in the metallurgical industry sector and other working people in Pyongyang.
There was a football final between the teams from the Chollima Steel Complex and the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex. The stadium was heated with the wonderful match showing the unyielding spirit of the players and enthusiastic cheering of spectators. In the football match the Chollima Steel Complex team defeated its opponent 2-0. And the tug-of-war match between the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex team and the Songjin Steel Complex team ended in the former’s victory by 2-0. A prize-giving ceremony was held.

Photo: By courtesy of KCNA
Text: Choe Kwang Ho
Farm Fields Seething with Rice Transplanting

Photo: By courtesy of KCNA
World Table Tennis Day 2023 Commemorated

World Athletics Kids' Athletics Day Observed
Another ideal street for the people has sprung up in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, demonstrating the remarkable development level of Juche Korea to the world.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un put forward a brilliant plan for constructing another modern street in the Hwasong area based on the success achieved in the first year of the building of 50,000 flats in Pyongyang. He attended the groundbreaking ceremony of the construction of 10,000 flats in the Hwasong area in February last year and clarified the orientation and ways for vigorously pushing forward the project.

In hearty response to the call of the great Party Central Committee, all the soldier-builders and civilians turned out as the one
They successfully carried out huge projects of constructing dwelling houses, entresols, roads and infrastructural networks, cleaning up the surrounding areas and embanking the Hapjang River, in the course of which new construction speeds were continuously created. Over 220,000 plants of 80-odd species were transplanted and lawns covered an area of 550,000 square metres, thereby turning the Hwasong area into a city in a park.

A miraculous transformation of the area in such a short period of only one year eloquently proved how the promise the Workers’ Party of Korea made with its people was fulfilled and what a significant change was brought about by the heroic mettle and irresistible might of the Korean people single-mindedly united around the Party Central Committee.

The inaugural ceremony of the first-stage 10,000 flats in the Hwasong area took place on April 16 this year in the presence of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

That day he expressed his firm belief that the WPK’s construction policy would be perfectly and thoroughly carried out thanks to the powerful army of construction which unconditionally and successfully carries out anything if it is desired by the people and determined by the Party, and sincerely hoped that the citizens who would greet the auspicious event of moving into new houses amid the blessings by the people across the country would enjoy a happy, harmonious and worthwhile life generation after generation.

New dwellers who moved into their houses on Hwasong Street until early May voiced their great delight at the modern flats given to them free of charge.
“Whenever I saw the daily-changing Hwasong area through newspapers, radio and TV, I wondered who would become masters of those wonderful houses. Never once did I think I could become one of them.”

Han Jong Min, 35, resident of Flat No. 1 on the 8th Floor, Entrance No. 3, Block No. 1 of Building No. 1, Chonghwa-dong No. 1

“Though I am an old pensioner, I have received a new, palatial flat. I am so thankful that I earnestly say to my offspring to prove ourselves worthy of the benevolent affection of the state.”

Pak Jong Im, 64, resident of Flat No. 1 on the 10th Floor, Entrance No. 2, Block No. 1 of Building No. 1, Chonghwa-dong No. 1

“When a certificate for new flat was given to us in high appreciation of our labour feats, we wept all night.”

“On the day when we moved into the new house, we could not readily walk past the open door, wishing it was not all a dream.”

Kim Chung Hyok, 37, and Ri Kyong Hui, 34, residents of Flat No. 4 on the 8th Floor, Block No. 4 of Building No. 1, Chonghwa-dong No. 1

“It is very neat and convenient in every nook and cranny of our flat, including living rooms, kitchen and even bathroom. We thank builders for their services rendered to provide utmost convenience to the dwellers and meticulous care of the state.”

Kung Hyon Chol, 33, and Jo Un Chong, 28, resident of Flat No. 2 on the 7th Floor, Entrance No. 4, Block No. 10 of Building No. 6, Hwasong-dong No. 1
“I have a large family, but lived in a small house. The state has given me this modern flat free of charge.”

Kim Song Gyu, 39, resident of Flat No. 1 on the 5th Floor, Block No. 16 of Building No. 1, Hwasong-dong No. 2
Hwasong Street at Night
The Pyongyang Metro is a monumental structure erected in the era of the Workers’ Party according to the far-reaching plan and wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Every station of the Pyongyang Metro has won the affection of Pyongyang citizens for their convenience in the traffic and also flawless formative and artistic features.

Thanks to the great golden age of construction unfolded in socialist Korea in the new century of the Juche era, the
Pyongyang Metro has been undergoing tremendous changes. The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un gave detailed guidance on reconstruction project of its stations, seeing himself every one of many formation plans. The reconstruction project began since 2017 when Ryomyong Street was under construction, and many stations, including Kaejong, Thongil and Sungni stations, have been facelifted both above and under ground. The refashioned stations are decorated with modern and elegant architectural styles and illuminations, looking more splendid in terms of formative and artistic aspects. Photographs of various themes adorn the walls of underground halls and corridors and the sections of escalators, and new facilities are added for the passengers’ convenience. The Pyongyang Metro brings great pleasure to the people, who are excited to see its wonderful changes and say they feel keenly even under ground the vibrant spirit of the country advancing toward its brighter and more beautiful future.

*Photo: Ri Chol Jin, Ri Jin Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong*
The Taesongsan Pleasure Ground is a grand cultural resort occupying a total area of over 2,000 hectares in Taesong District near the central part of the capital city of Pyongyang. The location of the resort boasts a superb scenery and is also associated with time-honoured history of the Korean nation.

It was built as a comprehensive base for leisure activities of the people thanks to the meticulous care of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. Since it was excellently renovated, along with other pleasure grounds in the capital city, under the energetic leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un in the past decade, the pleasure ground has won an increasing popularity with the people.
Everybody who visits it is naturally at a loss where to go first, because it is not enough to go round in one day the pleasure ground that includes the Central Zoo, Central Botanical Garden and Taesongsan Amusement Park.

The Central Zoo is attracting many people with spectacular stunts performed by animals and seals, and sightseeing tour of the zoo on flower-decked horse-drawn carriages and battery cars while taking photos is another pleasure unique to it.

Young people and schoolchildren form the majority of the visitors to the Natural History Museum presenting distinctive architectural and modern beauty.

The museum exhibits a large collection of stuffed and modelled specimens of animals and plants and arranges various means for dissemination and education, through which the visitors acquire an encyclopaedic knowledge of the history of the universe and the earth and the biological evolution.

People are delighted to look round the Central Botanical Garden containing several thousand plant species growing in various parts of the world and marvel at the fantastic botanical world.

The Taesongsan Amusement Park is the most attractive destination among the recreational facilities in the pleasure ground.
It is always crowded and boisterous with those enjoying a variety of amusement facilities and spending leisure time at the resting places laid out by the lakeside and at restaurants and soft drink stalls.

Such historical remains in the area of Mt Taesong as Nam Gate of Taesongsan Fort and Kwangbop Temple in excellent state of preservation are another impressive destinations in the pleasure ground.

The Taesongsan Pleasure Ground has become a magnetic recreational attraction of the people.

Photo: Ri Myong Guk, U Jong Guk
Text: Kim Son Gyong
Located on Cholsan Peak in Musan County of North Hamgyong Province, Musan Mining Complex is a leading iron ore producer of the DPRK in terms of the production scale, output volume and prospects of development.

Workers of the complex, with a high degree of awareness of defending the lifeline of the metallurgical industry, are waging energetic technical innovation drive and socialist emulation campaign.

This year the open-air branch mine has carried out the blasting operations on more than ten occasions including the 60,000-cubic metre-blast, thus providing a firm guarantee for increasing iron ore production.

The complex has ensured the primary concentration of heavy-duty excavators and rotary drills on the mining fields of substantial ore reserves as well as their operation at full capacity, and stepped up the effort to increase the working capacities of crushers and conveyor belts, thereby promptly stripping overburden and increasing per-hour and per-shift iron ore production.

Ore-dressing Workshop No.2 ensures regular repair of machinery and equipment and steady improvement of technical conditions for overall processes to raise actual concentration rates.

The complex pushes ahead with the work to accelerate production by identifying and tapping reserves and potential and expand production capacities as required by the units.

It is also making dynamic efforts to put the management activities on a modern footing and further activate production by optimizing the mining process and making the investment cost-effective.

Iron ore production in the complex with large deposits of billions of tons is based on open-pit mining.

Photo: Jon Son Il
Text: Ri Jin Bom
Samcholli Lighting Appliances Factory is widely known across the country for its production of LED lamps in diversified styles and shapes and for various purposes. Though it is now playing an important role in the country’s lighting industry with its remarkable successes in LED illuminations design and new products development, it had experienced considerable difficulties from lack of technical personnel in the past.

The factory officials regarded the instructions of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to build up technical forces on their own and in a far-sighted and systematic way as the guiding principle and boldly buckled down to the training of able personnel.

They set up a lighting research institute and encouraged not only technicians and skilled workers but also other employees to take an active part in developing new products. All the employees are diligently learning modern science and technology and actively applying them to production. As a result, the rate of dependence on imports in the production was drastically lowered, and the products got diversified in type and colour to meet the growing demand of the people for cultural attainment.

Not resting on its laurels, the factory has set a higher goal of developing world-class lighting appliances by intensifying the research into artificial intelligence and other cutting-edge technology and is making strenuous efforts for its implementation.

Photo: Choe Won Chol, Jon Sun Il
Text: Kim Jong Chol
Samcholli-brand lighting appliances in various types and colours are enjoying growing demand.
It has been a year since modern local industry factories had been built in the town area of Kimhwa County, Kangwon Province.

The county, long known as a barren mountainous area in the province, had poor economic foundations and suffered from damage caused by calamitous torrential rain in 2020.

In October that year the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the county town far from the capital city to give on-spot guidance to the rehabilitation work and learned in detail about the actual conditions of the county’s local industry. At the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea held in February the following year he put forward a plan to turn all the areas of the country into developed ones preserving their unique characteristics by improving the local economy and led Kimhwa County to set the standards for that.

He gave instructions that the modernization project of local industry factories in the county should be accelerated and, based on its experience, technical reconstruction of similar factories in cities and counties all across the country be accomplished as soon as possible to turn out various consumer goods of high quality. And he kept up-to-date with the project and took necessary measures on a preferential basis.

So, in such a short period of only ten months since the groundbreaking, several local industry factories for producing foodstuffs, garments, daily necessities, paper and so on were set up along the Kumsong River flowing through the county town, and that as the standards of local industry, model factories.

Those factories are equipped with production lines to make the maximum and effective use of agricultural produce and forest resources available in the mountains that occupy 80% of the county. At the time of their inauguration the factories turned out several hundred goods in over 40 kinds, which have increased in number at present.

They are seething with fervent enthusiasm of officials and workers to produce famous goods by stepping up the effort to diversify the goods and steadily improve the quality and thus make a contribution to the improvement of the people’s living standards.

Amid a vigorous drive to raise the level of technical knowledge and skills many workers are involved in the distance education system to prepare themselves scientifically and technically. Though the county had few special products in the past, goods of the brand bearing the name of the county are being mass-produced at the local industry factories and gaining popularity among not only the people in the county and the province but even those in the capital city of Pyongyang.

Visitors to the county marvel at the modern local industry factories demonstrating the validity and vitality of the WPK’s idea of attaching importance to cities and counties and its line of strengthening them, and are also delighted to see happy county people.
Foodstuffs produced at Kimhwa County Foodstuff Factory
Kimhwa County Garment Factory

Kimhwa County Daily Necessities Factory

Kimhwa County Paper Mill
Recent educational activities of the school are drawing special attention of many educationalists, students and their parents across the country.

The school is provided with an excellent environment befitting an institution for primary education, as its every space and element are laid out to be conducive to the education and edification of pupils.

The credit goes to its teachers who make devoted efforts, keeping in mind the noble intention of the Workers’ Party of Korea to ensure that education can be fully entrusted with the future of the country.

Classrooms and other study rooms in the school buildings that were extended in recent years are furnished to meet the pedagogical requirements of the developing times.

Strenuous efforts are also being made to continuously improve the contents and methods of teaching.

By giving top priority to raising the qualifications of teachers, the school organizes on a regular basis lesson reviews, inspections of class at work, discussions and other educational activities.

Located in the Puksae area of Pyongyang boasting picturesque scenery of Moran Hill and the Pothong River is Sohung Primary School in Moranbong District affiliated to Pyongyang Teachers Training College with a history of more than 50 years.
Meetings.

Teachers are competitive with one another in producing a variety of multimedia and visual aids for the classes in natural science, foreign language and other subjects in their effort to boost effectiveness of education.

The school has so far produced a lot of talented pupils, and the number of its graduates who enter the schools of higher education in the city increases every year.

Thanks to the efforts of the teachers with high abilities and their fresh educational methods, the schoolchildren are growing up brightly and stoutly as pillars for the future.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin
Text: Pak Ui Chol

Its pupils are involved in over 30 after-school groups, according to their hobbies and aptitudes. They develop their talents under the instruction of the teachers in charge.
Traditional Musical Instrument Making Technology Is Carried On

-Instrument Making Faculty of Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music and Dance-
Some ten years ago the instrument making faculty was established at Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music and Dance, a pedigree farm for training talents in musical art in the DPRK.

The faculty, with a mission to train qualified experts in musical instrument making, has seven departments and a research institute.

Every year among the graduates of the instrumental music course at art education institutions of secondary education those with aptitudes for musical art, such as sound detection, sight reading and instrument playing, and also for fine art are selected and enrolled in the university.

The students, after one-year course in rudiments of instrument making, are given lectures on their major subjects.

The faculty directs great efforts to steadily develop teaching programs centring on the education in basic knowledge and specialized subjects, so that students improve their cognitive and application abilities.

Lecturers steadily improve their teaching methods to train skilful instrument makers.
It also strives to develop new courses and subjects based on advanced scientific and technological achievements while upgrading contents and methods of teaching on the principle of attaching importance to the natural aptitudes of students.

It is important for the students of the faculty to possess sufficient practical ability, because their real abilities will be evaluated only when they play musical instruments they have made by themselves at the graduation performance.

At the faculty’s practice ground amply provided with necessary tools students polish their techniques and skills.

Many of the faculty’s graduates are now playing important roles in the musical instrument research institutes and relevant factories at home.

Several traditional musical instruments made by collective wisdom and efforts of teachers and students of the faculty won high praises at the national and international musical instrument shows.

Demonstrations of performance skills and national and international musical instrument shows provide good opportunities for lecturers and students of the faculty to intensify their research to preserve excellence of the national instruments and their inherent tones.
Indoor Greening Encouraged
A mid the growing public interest in green architecture, many units across the country are spending considerable efforts in the greening of buildings.

The Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople in Pyongyang has laid out green areas on the roofs of and inside the buildings, thus effectively utilizing the limited space for environmental protection.

For instance, they have placed ornamental plants inside, laid out lawns and flowerbeds on the rooftops and formed small, elaborate mountains, pools and waterfalls, for the purpose of bettering the environment for the working and living of employees.

Officials of the factory say that the greening of buildings ensures favourable conditions for the good health of the employees and their successful work and is also effective in indoor temperature control, thus being energy-saving and cost-effective.
A weightlifter’s rival is none other than himself," says world record-holder and Olympic gold medalist.

Om Yun Chol is among the sportspersons well known at home and abroad as a weightlifter who won 24 gold, two silver and one bronze medals in international tournaments and beat five world records and one Olympic record.

He began weightlifting at the age of ten at the Sunam District Juvenile Sports School in Chongjin of North Hamgyong Province.

Om Yun Chol won three consecutive victories in the world weightlifting championships since 2013 and successively won the 2018 and 2019 championships, thus becoming a five-time world champion.
When he was to be promoted to the Amnokgang Sports Club, some people at the club shook their heads dubiously. Though Om achieved considerable successes in national games, they wondered, it was hard to expect whether he, regarding his small build, would distinguish himself in international competitions.

But Ro Hyon Chol, the coach who chose Om, was unwavering in his determination, because he was attracted to the latter’s exceptional passion in training.

Om was a man of great ambition who detested being a loser. He was assiduous in training under the strict coaching of Ro and continuously updated his training records.

Thanks to his persevering efforts, Om won the gold medal in the 2011 world youth weightlifting championships, his first international competition, much to the surprise of experts.

He set a new Olympic record and placed first in the men’s 56kg weight division in the 30th Olympic Games the following year.

In the 2013 Asian Cup & Inter-club Weightlifting Championships held in the DPRK he jerked 169kg in the men’s 56kg weight division, thus breaking the world record that had remained for over a decade.

The same year he was crowned champion in the world weightlifting championships by becoming first in the clean and jerk and for the total weight lifted in the men’s 56kg weight division.

In 2014 he renewed the world record again in the 17th Asian Games and defended his title in the world weightlifting championships.

He set new world record in the world weightlifting championships the following year. Whenever Om of smaller build than other weightlifters lifted the barbell three times as heavy as his body weight, spectators cheered him with deafening roars.

Afterwards, he beat world records in the IWF world weightlifting championships in 2018 and 2019 consecutively.

He was awarded the titles of Labour Hero and People’s Athlete of the DPRK.

Five-time world record-holder Om Yun Chol said, “To me, every lifting of the barbell seemed an opportunity to prove my ability and, at the same time, the one to make the world clearly aware of my motherland. This urged me to apply for heavier weights, and I lifted them all.”

Recollecting the days when he stood on the winner’s podium and looked at the blue and red flag of the DPRK flying high in the international tournaments, he is full of burning enthusiasm to live a worthwhile life.
June 25 1950
US Imperialists Started Korean War
Seventy-three years have elapsed since the outbreak of war on the Korean peninsula, but all the Korean people are still burning their hearts with intense hatred and indignation against the war provokers.

The thick clouds of war began to gather over the Korean peninsula at the time when the US imperialists landed their troops on the southern part of Korea in the guise of the “liberators” after the Second World War.

They enforced barbarous military administration in south Korea, mustered the reactionary forces and concocted the Syngman Rhee-led pro-US puppet “regime,” thus frantically stepping up the preparations for the war to invade the north.

The true nature of US imperialism as the major culprit of the provocation of the Korean war was fully exposed by the fact that they organized the south Korean puppet army as a shock troop for war and equipped it with arms at full speed.

The US, blaring forth that it was necessary to foster the well-armed 100,000-strong troop at an early date in order to occupy north Korea, sped up the organization of the puppet army.

Under the instigation of the US masters, the Syngman Rhee puppet clique rigged up the “ROK army” and made it 100,000 strong in a short period while scheming to make full preparations for an all-out north-targeted war by securing a 200,000-strong reserve force at the same time.

The US held supreme command over the ROK army through the American Military Advisory Group (AMAG) and posted military advisors to each regiment and battalion of the puppet army, not to speak of divisions, to direct their military operations. And it equipped the puppet army with American weapons, including small arms, guns, vessels and airplanes.

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The expenses the US spent on the ROK army between 1948 and 1950 ran as high as over 2.6 billion US dollars.

The Syngman Rhee puppet clique lavished nearly half of the total budget of the government as the military expenditure.
economic cooperation agency, said openly before the US Congress that 100 000 men and officers of the ROK army armed with US weapons and trained by Americans had wound up preparations for entering a war at any moment. And Syngman Rhee also bragged that it would be possible to take Pyongyang in three days.

The US invested a colossal sum of money in turning Japan into a supply base for the Korean war and deployed a large number of troops there.

Along with it, it drove the south Korean puppet army to further escalate its armed assaults along the 38th parallel from 1947. It is, therefore, not fortuitous that some Western publications commented each armed clash on the 38th parallel had been a small war and the Korean war started already in 1947, instead of on June 25 1950 unexpectedly.

Roberts, head of the AMAG, bragged at a meeting of the ROK army division commanders that many of the armed intrusions into the area north of the 38th parallel were made on his personal orders and that the advance of the ROK army should be executed only on the order of the AMAG. It revealed that the US was the direct organizer and commander of the Korean war.

American war maniacs produced “ABC”, a plan for the invasion of Korea, Manchuria of China and Siberia of Russia, and the military action plan for the “northward expedition” was thus mapped out in relation with the Plan A.

According to Operational Plan A, ten divisions of the US army and the south Korean puppet army should be concentrated along the 38th parallel, with the operational sections divided in two, the east and the west. The western front troops would advance to Pyongyang and the eastern front troops to Yangdok and Wonsan. Meanwhile, landing operations would be conducted in the areas north of Pyongyang and Wonsan respectively to occupy the whole area of Korea.

The plan was unanimously approved in January 1950 by the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, perfected as the Korean war provocation plan “AL-3” by supplementing such contents as immediate commitment of the US troops after the outbreak of war and finally ratified at the US National Security Council meeting the following April.

Now that the war preparations were concluded, the US imperialists called Syngman Rhee to the headquarters of the US Armed Forces in the Far East in Tokyo, Japan, in February 1950 and gave the “eleven-point war instruction” for the invasion of the northern half of Korea.

On June 17 1950 Presidential envoy Dulles flew into south Korea and went to the 38th parallel with the AMAG members and brass hats of the south Korean army to inspect war preparations. Then he gave a secret directive concerning the war finally confirmed by US President Truman.

The south Korean puppet army launched an armed aggression against the DPRK at four o’clock am on June 25. Thus, the Korean war started.

The US armed invasion of the DPRK was a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and international law and also acts of aggression against sovereignty of a dignified, independent state.

The US imperialists resorted to the most brutal and villainous methods to attain their aggressive purpose in the war.
During the three-year war the US imperialists dropped nearly 600,000 tons of bombs.

Under the pretext of striking military establishments and personnel they perpetrated full-scale air and naval bombardments indiscriminately against towns, rural and fishing villages, peaceful industrial establishments, schools, hospitals and other cultural facilities in a defenceless state as well as innocent civilians.

Prattling that they would wipe off from the map all the cities in the northern half of Korea, they made 800,000 sorties of the US Air Force and 250,000 sorties of the air forces of the Marine Corps and the Navy during the whole period of the war for barbarous bombing. They dropped over 428,000 bombs on 1,400-odd occasions on the city of Pyongyang alone.

A lot of unexploded shells from their indiscriminate bombing are still being unearthed in Pyongyang and other parts of the DPRK. A foreign correspondent visited the suburb of Hamhung City in the DPRK in 2017 and wrote an article entitled “Korea continues explosive disposal even after the war ended 64 years ago,” which read: “In October last year 370 dud bombs were unearthed in the vicinity of a primary school. It is said that the city’s explosive disposal squad removed 2,900 bombs last year and about 1,200 this year.”

During the Korean War the US dropped on Korea 635,000 tons of bombs, including 32,500 tons of napalm bombs, the majority of which on its northern part. The Korean War was one of the most atrocious wars in history.

The US imperialists massacred innocent inhabitants in the areas under their temporary occupation.

During their temporary occupation of Sinchon County the US aggressors killed innocent people savagely. The number of people murdered reached over 35,500 or a quarter of the total population of the county. Among them more than 16,200 were children, old people and women.

The Investigation Commission of the International Democratic Women’s Federation said in its report that the mass slaughters and tortures committed by the US troops in the areas under their temporary occupation surpassed the crimes committed by Hitler Nazis in temporarily occupied Europe.

The US, in flagrant violation of international law and elementary morals of mankind, used such inhumane weapons as germ and chemical weapons. Between November and December in 1950 alone they showered germ bombs containing biological carriers infected with vicious epidemic bacilli such as cholera, pest, anthrax, paratyphoid and dysentery, contaminated foodstuffs and daily necessities all across the country, including Pyongyang, Yangdok County of
South Phyongan Province, Kowon and Jangjin counties of South Hamgyong Province.

According to the testimony of Colonel Frank H. Schewable of the US Marine Corps, who participated in the barbarous germ warfare, the general plan for the bacteriological warfare was directed by the US Joint Chiefs of Staff and further extended under the directive of the US Fifth Air Force in May 1952.

Scores of kinds of bacteria were spread in 169 of over 200 cities and counties in the northern half of Korea by the US germ warfare.

Abovementioned facts irrefutably prove that the US imperialists started the Korean war and committed heinous inhumane crimes.

Despite them, the US and south Korean puppet clique have been making desperate attempts to falsify the truth of the Korean war. Their brazen-faced moves to distort history are intolerable derision of and challenge against justice and human conscience.

Text: Pak Pyong Hun