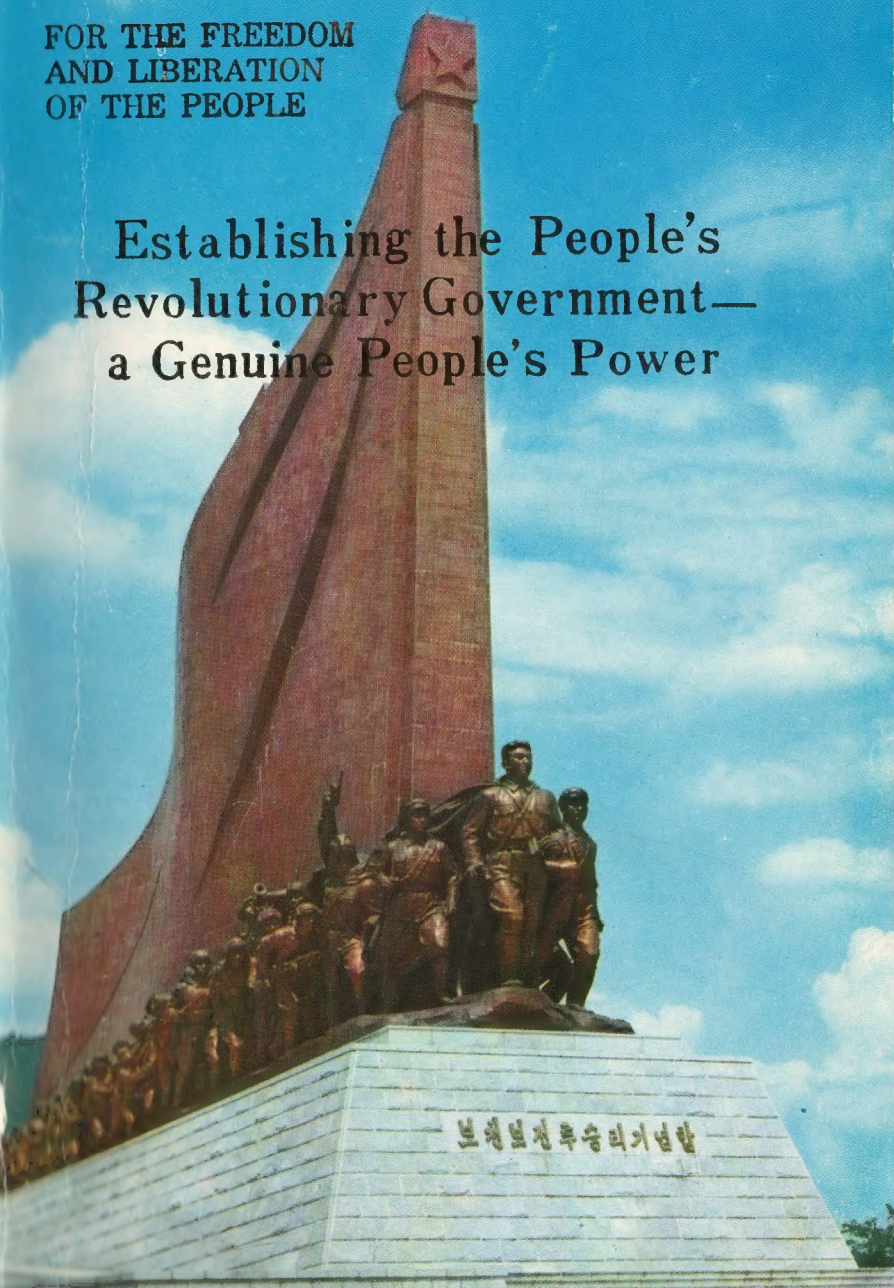


FOR THE FREEDOM
AND LIBERATION
OF THE PEOPLE

Establishing the People's
Revolutionary Government—
a Genuine People's Power



보통민중투쟁의기원탑

**THE PARTY HISTORY INSTITUTE OF THE
C.C. OF THE WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA**

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LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE**

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ESTABLISHING THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT— A GENUINE PEOPLE'S POWER

Chon Chang Chol

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great, respected and beloved leader of the Korean people, said as follows:

“The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea represents a political power which inherited the brilliant revolutionary traditions of the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle waged by the Korean Communists and other patriots; and it is the great revolutionary achievement of our people, won through an arduous struggle against the internal and external enemies under the leadership of our Party.”

Whenever I go over this teaching in the depths of my mind, I recall full of emotion the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle when Comrade Kim Il Sung, looking far into the future of the Korean revolution, personally established the first revolutionary power of our people.

At that time, the establishment of a genuinely revolutionary power of the people in the guerrilla bases or liberated areas was the most urgent task to consolidate the guerrilla bases and further expand

the anti-Japanese armed struggle, or to bring about a greater upsurge in the anti-Japanese national-liberation struggle of the Korean people as a whole.

It was not until Comrade Kim Il Sung came to the Wangching guerrilla base that this problem was correctly settled. There was not yet revolutionary order and mode of life established in the base.

Those were days when the guerrilla bases or liberated areas had just been built along the Tuman-gang River, and the "punitive operations" of the Japanese imperialists against the guerrilla bases and their brutal massacre in east Manchuria assumed more atrocious proportions than ever.

At that time I was in charge of the work of putting out revolutionary publications in the ravine of Lishukou of the Wangching guerrilla base. In Wangching alone, the Japanese imperialists were carrying on mass slaughter every day at Yungchangtung, Paitsaokou, Shihhsien and many other places.

Every day people came to the guerrilla bases. Among them were many who had lost their parents, wives and children at the hands of the vicious Japanese imperialists and had been left shelterless because their houses were burnt down by the Japanese brutes, and those who came all the way from Korea, unable to live any longer owing to the Japanese imperialists, landlords and capitalists, quitting their dear native places and crossing over to northeast China.

This situation called for the establishment of a genuinely revolutionary government for the guerrilla bases at the earliest possible date.

Such a government was indispensable to establish new revolutionary order in the guerrilla bases, stabilize the livelihood of the people who came there, mobilize and organize them to crush the attack and resistance of the enemy, and push ahead vigorously with the revolution.

But, owing to the machinations of the "Left" opportunists who had wormed their way into the revolutionary organizations and mass organizations formed in the guerrilla bases at the time, confusion and disorder prevailed in the bases and a grave situation was created—the revolutionary masses were divorced from those organizations and the revolutionary forces were split. Many people felt to a certain degree that the behaviours of the "Left" opportunists were harmful to the revolution, but did not know how to set the situation right.

These were the conditions when Comrade Kim Il Sung came to Wangching.

We were overjoyed to meet Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Coming to the Wangching guerrilla base, he thoroughly grasped the real state of affairs and made a scientific analysis of the situation created by the manoeuvres of the "Left" opportunists. Then, he went heart and soul into the correct solution of the question of power before anything else.

Comrade Kim Il Sung criticized the errors made by the "Left" opportunists captivated by flunkeyism towards great powers and by dogmatism, with no correct idea of the character and immediate task of the revolution at the time and the ways of its fulfil-

ment. He taught that a genuine people's revolutionary government should be established in the guerrilla bases.

This policy of Comrade Kim Il Sung which most correctly reflected the objective requirements of the revolution and the long-cherished aspiration of the people for power, was a brilliant embodiment of his great idea of Juche.

He made it clear that the Korean revolution was an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal, democratic revolution and that the immediate task of the Korean revolution was to overthrow the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism and realize national liberation. Proceeding from this, he clarified that the government to be established in the future should be a genuinely revolutionary power of the people compatible with these fundamentals, based on the worker-peasant alliance led by the working class and involving all the anti-Japanese forces. And he taught that this government should pursue a democratic policy correctly expressing the interests not only of the workers and peasants but people of all strata with anti-Japanese sentiments.

Thus, Comrade Kim Il Sung not only illumined our path ahead when we were eagerly seeking the way to the solution of the question of power, but also ideologically and theoretically crushed the erroneous arguments of the "Left" opportunists who were manoeuvring everywhere and concentrated his efforts on inculcating the right policy into the minds of the broad masses of the people.

In the spring of 1933 the Wangching Meeting was

called which was of great importance in the establishment of the people's revolutionary government.

Though I did not attend the meeting, I heard later a detailed account of the meeting from my comrades.

At the meeting Comrade Kim Il Sung analysed and criticized the error of the "Left" opportunists who clung to the soviet line, and smashed their manoeuvres.

When the guerrilla bases or liberated areas were set up, the "Left" opportunists, mechanically copying from the experiences of other countries, tried to apply them in practice, although they did not suit the actual conditions of the revolution at the time. Infected with flunkeyism towards great powers and with dogmatism, they set up district governments in the form of "soviet power" everywhere, clamouring for immediate realization of socialism. Insisting on a socialist policy, they unscrupulously perpetrated such an ultra-"Leftist" act as disapproving all private property and confiscating even the lands of the middle peasants without taking into consideration the character of the Korean revolution and its subjective and objective conditions.

Because of this reckless act of the "Left" opportunists, many people who hated Japanese imperialism and came to the guerrilla bases to fight against it, were greatly disappointed, and even it came to pass that a large number of people who could have been won over easily to the side of the revolution through revolutionary influence and consistent education, left the guerrilla bases.

The rashness of the "Left" opportunists did not

end here. They discriminated the residential districts, between "Red districts" and "White districts", defining guerrilla bases as the former and the areas under Japanese imperialist rule as the latter. And they perpetrated the ultra-"Leftist" act of calling the villages in enemy hands "villages of stooges" and indiscriminately repudiated the masses living there. Meanwhile, they thoughtlessly branded the people in the semi-guerrilla bases as double-faced and suspected and estranged them.

In doing so, the "Left" opportunists made those who had either supported the revolution or had sympathy with it turn off or fall away from the road of revolution and, moreover, treated coldly even those who were tagging along voluntarily to make the revolution. They behaved as if they alone had a strong "revolutionary quality".

Comrade Kim Il Sung thoroughly exposed and criticized such scheme of the "Left" opportunists and its harmfulness, and clarified the necessity of setting up the people's revolutionary government, a genuine people's power.

Stressing at the meeting the need of launching an anti-Japanese national united front movement to rally all the anti-Japanese forces, Comrade Kim Il Sung said that in the light of the character of the revolution and its immediate task, the people's revolutionary government should be established on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance led by the working class and with the participation of all classes and strata opposed to Japanese imperialism, and clarified once again that this was the only correct road to de-

velop the revolution along the right track in keeping with the objective demands.

Also, he gave a concrete elucidation of the basic tasks of the people's revolutionary government and ways to carry them out.

Paying deep attention to the correct solution of the land problem, the centuries-old desire of the peasants who made up the overwhelming majority of the population, he said that the land should not be confiscated indiscriminately under the pretext of agrarian reform and put forward the thoroughly revolutionary principle of confiscating the lands of the Japanese imperialists and the Japanese stooges and distributing them to the landless or land-short peasants.

As for capitalist ownership, he also proceeded from a thoroughly revolutionary principle and defined that only the Japanese imperialists and the comprador capitalists should be expropriated.

This was the wisest measure which made it possible to muster the anti-Japanese forces to the maximum and concentrate the strength on destroying Japanese imperialism, the main enemy.

This was also a correct line which he laid down with due regard to the fact that even some of the small and middle landlords and non-comprador capitalists had anti-Japanese sentiments because the Japanese imperialists applied the policy of massacre and plunder to them, and on the basis of a scientific analysis of the peculiarities of the composition of the population in the guerrilla bases.

At the meeting Comrade Kim Il Sung also clearly

indicated the tasks to be fulfilled by the people's revolutionary government.

Comrade Kim Il Sung set forth the tasks of carrying out historic reforms which would signify a radical turn in the history of our people, such as thoroughly doing away with the survivals of Japanese imperialism and feudalism, granting democratic liberties and rights to the people and introducing an eight-hour day, equality of the sexes and democratic and advanced education.

Particularly, he sharply criticized the incorrect behaviours of the "Left" opportunists who belittled the masses under supra-revolutionary slogans and put the accent on their own "revolutionary theories" and "wisdom", and then he stressed that the people's revolutionary government we wanted would not be set up according to the rash assertions or "wisdom" of a few persons but according to the general will of the broad sections of the people, and that the government could be set up and consolidated only with their active support and participation. That was why all the Communists must always remember that they should go deep among the masses, the masters of the power, and strengthen political work among them, he taught.

It was not until then that we came to clearly understand what kind of power should be established in the guerrilla bases and what advantage it would offer to the revolution. Further, we came to the profound realization that we should not lose sight of the interests of the Korean revolution at any time and in any circumstances and that we should adhere

to the stand of Juche in keeping with the concrete situation of the Korean revolution.

In those days Comrade Kim Il Sung was overbusy establishing a genuinely revolutionary government of the people in the guerrilla bases. Nevertheless, he energetically conducted political work while guiding the revolutionary organizations in the bases, to say nothing of the guerrilla units.

To take an example. In the summer of that year, he personally went to the small village of Tafangtzu, where he enlightened the local revolutionaries in the course of directing a party meeting.

The meeting was held under a tree in the heart of the village, attended by some ten party members and by heads of the revolutionary organizations.

At the meeting Comrade Kim Il Sung explained in concrete terms the "Left" error of the soviet line and the need to form a broad anti-Japanese national united front.

He spoke so intelligibly that the chairman and the secretary of the soviet and all other persons present said with one voice that his speech opened their eyes and brought them to keenly realize how harmful it was to the revolution to have set up the "soviet".

Under the outstanding leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung the people's revolutionary government was established in the guerrilla bases or liberated areas in place of the soviet.

In the Wangching guerrilla base, a district committee of the people's revolutionary government was set up at Chiayehho for the first time. The election

to the government was held in the village of Ssushui-ping.

The emotion and joy of the people in the guerrilla base were indescribably great when for the first time in their life they came to have their own power and elected for themselves the functionaries who would work in the government.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, who was present at the meeting, explained in easy words the reason why the soviet should be reorganized into the people's revolutionary government. He said to this effect:

The government we are about to set up is not ruled by a king, nor does it represent the interests of the landlords, capitalists or other individuals. On the contrary, it is the government of our people for winning freedom and independence and ensuring them their rights and happiness. This government gives peasants land and women rights equal to men and enables everyone to receive education and to work and live in happiness....

To win back our fatherland and live in happiness, we must first fight the Japanese scoundrels to the very end. Only by doing this will happiness be permanently ours.... The guerrillas must work for the people, and the people must help the guerrillas. If those who have money give their money and those who have knowledge give their knowledge, and if hundreds of people unite with one mind and will and fight to the end, the revolution will be victorious.

The people's revolutionary government established in the guerrilla bases was a genuine people's power, the first of its kind the Korean people ever

had in their history of thousands of years, and it was a revolutionary government which granted them genuine freedom and happiness.

The people's revolutionary government carried out democratic policies one after another to realize the centuries-old desire of our people.

Men and women citizens above 15 of age were granted the rights to elect and to be elected. And thoroughgoing dictatorship was exercised over the handful of reactionary landlords, comprador capitalists, Japanese stooges and traitors to the nation.

They were deprived of all political liberties and rights, and their economic footholds were also completely torn down. On the other hand, the resistance and sabotaging activities of the counterrevolutionaries and reactionaries who wormed their way into the guerrilla bases were crushed and put down completely.

The people's revolutionary government confiscated the lands owned by the Japanese imperialists and traitorous pro-Japanese landlords, pro-Japanese elements and traitors to the nation and distributed them gratis to the landless or land-short peasants. It introduced an eight-hour day and a minimum wage system, abolished all kinds of exacting taxes and levies and declared the loans given to people by the Japanese imperialists and their stooges null and void. It also introduced the equality of the sexes and free compulsory education, established a public education system which was combined with military and production activities, and took steps for a secured livelihood of the people. Because of all these measures

taken by the people's revolutionary government, the people in the guerrilla bases were able to establish a new order and system under which they could enjoy political liberties and rights and work and study to their hearts' content for the first time in their life.

Thanks to the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung and to the efforts of the government functionaries who were equipped with his great revolutionary ideas and acquired his revolutionary work method and popular style of work, the people's revolutionary government creditably performed its mission and its functions as economic organizer and cultural educator.

Even under the difficult conditions when it had to deal with vicious "punitive operations" of the Japanese imperialists every day, the people's revolutionary government established an all-people defence system by enlisting the people of the guerrilla bases in the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force and other paramilitary organizations, and thus vigorously organized and mobilized them to the struggle for defeating the enemy and defending the revolutionary gains. It also organized farm work to secure provisions for themselves and the distribution and supply of goods, and took measures to make the people's livelihood stable. At the same time, it built armories and clothing factories. All this enabled the guerrillas and people in the bases to fight in a body against the enemy even under difficult conditions, helping and pulling each other along.

And in the guerrilla bases mass cultural work such as the performance of revolutionary plays, songs

and dances brimming full with the conviction of victory and revolutionary optimism, was carried on actively, and many revolutionary publications were put out to serve as a powerful ideological weapon to smash the enemy, as valuable ideological pabulum for revolutionization. Many publications printed in those days were distributed not only in the guerrilla bases but in the areas under enemy rule.

Having established the people's revolutionary government, Comrade Kim Il Sung personally looked after the life of the people in the guerrilla bases, showing warm solicitude for them. He set an example in practice to show how the genuine people's power would have to responsibly organize and guide the people's life and serve the people.

I cannot find enough words to speak or write in full about his great, deep love and solicitude for the people in the guerrilla bases in the arduous days when hard battles were being fought. As is already known through the reminiscences of anti-Japanese guerrillas, when apples were obtained in the course of a hard battle fought far behind enemy lines, he thought of the children in the guerrilla bases who had not yet had a taste of apples of their homeland and sent them to the children; and when people presented him with padded clothes and a pair of shoes they had prepared for him with all their hearts, he gave them to old folks in the guerrilla base, although he himself was in thin clothes in cold winter.

He was worried about the hard life of the people in the bases. He routed the enemy at Sanchakou and captured a large amount of cloth, and sent it to the

people in the bases so that each of them had a new dress. He even sent some of the cloth to the poor people in the area in enemy hands. There are many instances which show his warm fatherly care to stabilize the life of the people in the bases. I would like to tell here only about the case in which he showed deep solicitude for the people of Tuitelatzu.

After he returned from the first expedition to north Manchuria, Comrade Kim Il Sung stayed with an old man, Kim Gwan Se, at Tuitelatzu, where he treated the disease contracted during the expedition.

The old man Kim was a poor peasant from North Hamgyong Province. After he was deprived of his land, he crossed the Tuman-gang River to Manchuria. Before he came to the guerrilla base, he had been earning a bare living by sharecropping or fishing at Saenggyong-ri.

While he was staying with the old man Kim, Comrade Kim Il Sung, though in poor health, had talks often with the old man and his neighbours to acquaint himself well with the living conditions and the needs of the peasants.

The joy of the people there was immeasurable when they were in company with Comrade Kim Il Sung whom they had long been holding in respect.

For ages they had lived under the cruel exploitation and oppression of the Japanese imperialists, landlords and capitalists, subjected to subhuman maltreatment and humiliation. They were now well aware who they owed their free and happy life in the guerrilla bases to. So they expressed their warm

thanks over and over again to General Kim Il Sung for the great favours he granted them in providing them with such a good society and, particularly, for the land he gave them free, which they, the peasants, valued as dearly as their lives and had been longing after so earnestly from the time of their forefathers.

At this, he reminded them of the fact that large numbers of Korean peasants, deprived of lands by the Japanese imperialists, landlords and capitalists, were still suffering from destitution and humiliation. He went on to say something like this:

When I think of them in rags and poverty I can hardly bring myself to sleep. How much blood, sweat and bitter tears our poverty-stricken peasants in Korea shed on account of land! We must meet by all means their long-cherished desire for land. To do so, we must drive Japanese imperialism out of our territory as early as possible and set up a people's state free from exploitation and oppression in the land of Korea. When a people's government is established in our beautiful land of 3,000 ri and all the people embark upon a new life, our government must meet before anything else the cherished desire of the peasants who make up the greater part of the population. That day will surely come.

The old man Kim and other villagers, who heard him say that in the homeland to be liberated some day the peasants would be the masters of land and live in the countryside of new society free from poverty and ignorance from which they had suffered for generations, often said later that they were deeply moved to know how deeply he was concerned about

the aspiration of the people and how far he was looking into the future of the fatherland and the nation.

At the time the Kims were very sorry that they could not afford to buy medicine for Comrade Kim Il Sung. The old man and his family made every sincere effort for the earliest possible recovery of the health of Comrade Kim Il Sung who was the most precious person for the Korean revolution and for all the Koreans. But as they were so poor and lived in the depths of the mountain in the guerrilla base, all they could do for him was to serve him with the boiled stock of stone-leek roots mixed with buckwheat meal.

Yet Comrade Kim Il Sung was more concerned about the living conditions of the old man's family than about his own health.

The hostess had a handicapped body. She had once been attacked by a wounded bear on a mountain path and had her arm broken and her face seriously injured. Comrade Kim Il Sung was very sorry for her who could not afford to take proper medical treatment.

Mother, he said, we are not in a position to give you even a dose of medicine, no matter how much we may wish to. This is entirely because the Japanese imperialist scoundrels had deprived us of our country. Mother, we sincerely wish you live long till we take back our homeland. The day will come when you live in a society free from worry and anxiety about disease.

The old man's family and all the people at Tuitelatzu were suffering from food shortage and were

much worried about the next year's farming for lack of seed grain and draught animals. Learning this, Comrade Kim Il Sung left the house of the old man though his health had not yet completely recovered.

Some time later, the villagers received more than ten draught animals and provisions.

In order to make the life of the Tuitelatzu people stable and help them make adequate preparations for the next year's farming Comrade Kim Il Sung personally led the Fourth and Fifth Companies of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the Young Volunteers' Corps to raid the lumbermill in Talishukou run by Japanese imperialists and captured lots of provisions and draught animals which he sent to the Tuitelatzu people.

And some time later, he even sent them money to be used as funds for the coming year's farming, through the district government of Yaoyingkou.

At that time, on his instructions the comrades who worked as head of the district committee of the Children's Corps and secretary of the Young Communist League branch organization, conveyed the money to the people of Tuitelatzu by breaking through enemy encirclement at the risk of their lives.

Having run out of cereals for a long time, the people of Tuitelatzu were now subsisting on the roots of polygonatum. At times they managed to buy bran at Lotzukou and ate a mixture of boiled bran and roots of polygonatum, which meant an improvement. But they had no money and found it hard even to buy bran. Because of hunger, all, men and women, young and old, were unable to stand on their feet.

At such a time they received enormous funds, food grain, draught animals sent from Comrade Kim Il Sung, and they were so moved that they could not utter a word. They only clasped the hands of the comrades who brought them, warm tears rolling down their cheeks in the fullness of their hearts.

"The General, not forgetting us, sent us money like this.... We don't know what we should do to repay his favours!"

So saying, old men with silvery hair wiped off tears with their fists. Women and young people expressed their firm determination with these words: "Though he is fighting the Japanese imperialists every day, the General is worried about our farming. Let's bear in mind his solicitude for us and let's not leave an inch of land to lie uncultivated even if the enemy's 'punitive operations' compel us to sow ten or a hundred times."

That year the people of Tuitelatzu bought grain with the money sent by the General and thus solved the problem of food and seed grain. Now they ate a mixture of grain and edible grass, and they did not leave an inch of land out of crop. The draught animals sent by him were of great help to their farming that year.

Life at the guerrilla bases was hard, indeed.

The people had to deal with the enemy's "punitive expedition" day and night, and suffered from the outrages of the scoundrels who indulged in slaughter and incendiarism. Not infrequently they ran out of food and had to eat grass roots and tree bark to keep body and soul together. Often their houses were

burnt down in cold winter and they were left shelterless.

The people in the guerrilla bases, however, were not discouraged. If the enemy burnt down their houses, be it 10 times or 20, they rebuilt them over and over again on the very same spots. And when they lost their beloved sons and daughters, parents or wives at the hands of the enemy, they overcame their sorrow with their teeth clenched, and ploughed land and sowed seeds in their place.

No matter how much they were ragged and hunger-stricken and no matter how atrocious the Japanese imperialist aggressors grew, they never thought of quitting the guerrilla bases.

What enabled the people in the guerrilla bases to fight on stoutly without flinching even in such grim and distressful circumstances? What made them so deeply attached to the guerrilla bases that they could not think of living outside them even for a moment?

It was that thanks to the policies of the people's revolutionary government established by Comrade Kim Il Sung they had come to enjoy freedom, happiness and full rights as the masters of power, something that was most precious and could be bartered for nothing, and that under his paternal care they had for the first time in their life experienced a new life free from exploitation and oppression, in which they were assured equal opportunities to work and study.

The people in the guerrilla bases were well aware that they owed such a happy life entirely to the out-

standing leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung. They never forgot this even for a moment.

Indeed, it was entirely thanks to Comrade Kim Il Sung's great idea of Juche and his outstanding leadership that the people's revolutionary government, the prototype of the genuine people's power to be established in a liberated homeland in the future, was set up firmly in the guerrilla bases even under the complex situation in which fierce fighting was carried on against Japanese imperialism and a struggle was waged to smash the manoeuvres of the "Left" opportunists, and that the guerrilla bases were turned into the strategic centre of the revolution to vigorously push forward the anti-Japanese national-liberation struggle of the Korean people.

In the course of all this struggle he further enriched and developed the Marxist-Leninist theory concerning the question of power, the fundamental question of the revolution, and made a great contribution to the international revolutionary movement.

That was why the people in the guerrilla bases, firmly rallied around Comrade Kim Il Sung, the leader of the Korean revolution, strove selflessly to establish a new system and order there and fought at the risk of their lives to defend the people's revolutionary power, the precious gain of the revolution, courageously surmounting all the untold difficulties and trials.

The people in the guerrilla bases who were united as one around Comrade Kim Il Sung waged an unbending struggle in unity with the guerrillas to creditably defend the bases for four to five years

under the trying circumstances in which they had to fight back daily the frantic large-scale siege and attack of the brigandish Japanese imperialists. This was a struggle to defend the people's revolutionary power established by Comrade Kim Il Sung and the freedom and happiness of the people which were dearer than life itself.

The fact that they had defended the guerrilla bases for four to five years in spite of the manifold difficulties in the crucible of the unheard-of arduous anti-Japanese armed struggle demonstrated the great vitality of the revolutionary ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung and the indestructible strength of the people who had taken power into their hands under the guidance of the outstanding leader.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, who had established the people's revolutionary government in the first half of the 1930's, rallied the people of all strata closely under the Red banner of revolution and vigorously pushed ahead with the Korean revolution. Drawing on the precious achievements and experiences gained in this course, he worked out in 1936 the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland which crystallized the great revolutionary lines of the Korean revolution. Its first article stipulated:

"To mobilize the entire Korean nation and realize a broad-based anti-Japanese united front in order to overthrow the piratical Japanese imperialist rule and establish a genuine people's government in Korea."

He energetically organized and mobilized the Korean people to the struggle to realize this great

programme and finally achieved the historic cause of national liberation.

Basing himself on the Marxist-Leninist line of people's power advanced, and on the rich experiences accumulated, during the anti-Japanese armed struggle, Comrade Kim Il Sung established the people's committees of all levels in the complex circumstances right after liberation, and announced the Twenty-Point Platform, a direct continuation and brilliant embodiment of the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland, thus showing all the people which way Korea should follow, and set up the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the genuinely popular power of the Korean people.

Having sprung from the deep roots planted by Comrade Kim Il Sung in the thick of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and been consolidated and developed under his personal leadership, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea—our glorious fatherland—is the banner of freedom and independence for our people and a powerful weapon for building socialism and communism.

Because of this power as a formidable weapon of the Korean revolution led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, our people were able to win a historic victory in defeating US imperialism which had been boasting of being the "strongest" in the world, liquidate in so short a time the ages-old backwardness and poverty, establish the most advanced socialist system, build a powerful independent national economy, set up a mighty all-people defence system, and bring about

an era of great national prosperity when national culture and arts effloresced and lofty morality evolved.

Upholding Comrade Kim Il Sung's great idea of Juche consisting in independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-defence in national defence, our country moves on and on, struggles and goes farther ahead. It is called by the world people the "country of Chollima", "cradleland of Juche" and "model of socialism".

Speaking of the need to further consolidate and develop our people's power, Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"...We have so far established the people's power only in the northern half and have not yet attained the nationwide victory of the revolution. Therefore, we are confronted with the important revolutionary task to achieve the nationwide victory of our revolution. In other words, we are faced with the important task to consolidate our victory, strengthen the Government of the Republic, more firmly guard our socialist gains and, further, reunify the whole of Korea and accomplish the revolution throughout the country under the banner of the Republic.... We still have the important task to support and encourage the revolutionary struggle of the south Korean people, liberate them and reunify our country.

"We, therefore, cannot rest content with the victory we have already won. We should consolidate our power and more closely rally around it the workers, peasants, working intellectuals and people from all other sections to further strengthen the revolution-

ary forces and turn them into a powerful force capable of courageously repulsing the enemy whenever he invades our country, and of supporting the south Korean people."

Upholding the teaching of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, we should further consolidate and develop the people's power and make more thorough political, ideological and material preparations for actively greeting the great revolutionary event. What is most important in this connection is to fully equip ourselves with the great revolutionary ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung and firmly establish the monolithic ideological system of our Party, that is, defend him always and at any place and unconditionally carry out his orders and instructions to the end, even going through fire and water, and revolutionize and working-classize the whole society, thereby rallying all the people more closely around him.

Our people who are fully equipped with the revolutionary ideas, and advancing single-heartedly under the leadership, of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people, who has done everything in his power for over 40 years ever since he set out on the path of revolution for the country and the freedom and happiness of the people and for the victory of the Korean revolution, will certainly achieve the cause of national reunification under the banner of our Republic, and the day will surely come when all our people in north and south Korea enjoy freedom and happiness in the embrace of the leader.

**"ONCE ALL THE PEOPLE ARE ARMED,
THEY CAN DRIVE BACK
ANY ENEMY"**

O Jin U

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved leader of our people, said as follows:

"The arming of the entire people and the fortification of the whole country constitute the most powerful defence system from the military strategic point of view, a system which is capable of thwarting any enemy attack. This is the way to carry out the mass line of our Party and fully effect the principle of self-defence in national defence. By arming the entire people and fortifying the whole land, we can crush the uninterrupted subversive activities of the enemy at every step and shatter all forms of armed attack by our own efforts."

Wholeheartedly upholding Comrade Kim Il Sung's great revolutionary ideas that only when the country possesses its own mighty defence power based on the internal forces of its people, can it carry on the revolutionary cause successfully by its own efforts, and his military line, our People's Army and entire people have converted the whole country into an

impregnable fortress so that they can repulse the invasion of any enemy at one blow.

In the course of making a profound study of Comrade Kim Il Sung's teachings concerning military affairs and striving to carry them out to the letter, we have come to realize ever more clearly the correctness and judiciousness of the policy of arming the entire people, a policy he laid down during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Here I would like to write only a few things about Comrade Kim Il Sung's wise policy of arming the entire people in the guerrilla bases and about his dynamic guidance of the anti-Japanese guerrillas and people in its implementation.

In the early days following the establishment of the guerrilla bases, Comrade Kim Il Sung, though busy directing the Korean revolutionary movement as a whole, personally called on people in the bases and concretely explained to them the correctness of the policy of arming the entire people and the measures for its implementation.

It was one early spring day in 1933. Comrade Kim Il Sung came to Hsiao-peikou in the Wangching base.

Informed of his arrival, we went outside in a hurry.

There were already a large crowd of people.

Comrade Kim Il Sung raised his hand in answer to the cheering crowd and began to speak slowly.

We were able to hear his speech distinctly without missing even a word.

Quoting concrete instances, Comrade Kim Il Sung

talked about the situation in which the brigandish Japanese imperialists were carrying on desperate "punitive operations" against the guerrilla bases with all their armed forces, in an attempt to attain their aggressive design. Then, he went on to speak about how the people in the guerrilla bases should fight against this move of the enemy. He said something like this:

We must defend the guerrilla bases stoutly against the armed attack of the Japanese imperialists. To do so, there must be, first of all, an armed force capable of foiling their attack and dealing a heavy blow to them. Needless to say, from the viewpoint of terrain our guerrilla bases are situated advantageously for defence and adversely for the enemy's attack. But for all this, if there is no armed force strong enough to defend the guerrilla bases, we can neither hold out in the guerrilla bases even for a moment nor can we preserve the revolutionary forces.

In order to make the guerrilla bases or liberated areas impregnable, we must rapidly expand and strengthen the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and arm all the people in the bases. Of course, it is true that we have no arsenal of our own and lack cadres and we face many other obstacles and difficulties. But if the people clearly understand the aim of their struggle—the liberation of the country—and pool all their efforts they can overcome any hardship. If all of us, from the members of the Children's Corps to the old people, are fully armed, we can repulse the "punitive forces" when they attack the guerrilla bases and promptly frustrate their espionage and sabotage

activities. Once all the people are armed, they can drive back any enemy.

Comrade Kim Il Sung's words inspired in us a firm faith in victory and served as the guideline in our struggle to defend the base of the revolution.

We felt everything became bright before our eyes. Until then, we had had no idea of what and how to do to cope with the Japanese imperialists' large-scale "punitive expedition" against the guerrilla bases. Now we once again clearly realized that there could be no insurmountable difficulties if we fought to the last as he had instructed us.

Staying at Hsiaopekou for five days, he directed the work of the revolutionary organizations as well.

Comrade Kim Il Sung clearly explained the mission and role of the paramilitary organizations in the guerrilla bases, such as the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards and Children's Vanguard, and clarified the need to further strengthen political work and military training among the people in the bases.

In order to carry his instructions into practice the revolutionary organizations tirelessly conducted the work of bringing up the people in the bases to be revolutionary combatants who could fearlessly fight back the attack of any enemy.

While performing their combat duties, the guerrillas found time to go among the people and explain to them that it would be fully possible to beat the "punitive forces" if the entire people fought in arms.

In accordance with the policy of arming the entire people set forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung, intense

military training was also given to the members of the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards and Children's Vanguard and other people in the bases.

In military training priority was given particularly to the basic and essential military know-how which could be of use in actual fighting.

In this course everybody in the bases got himself prepared well, mentally and physically, to fight the enemy.

In the early period, however, owing to the incorrect understanding of their characters and duties the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards, Children's Vanguard and other paramilitary organizations would often detach themselves from production activities and thus lay no light burden on the people.

Comrade Kim Il Sung detected such phenomena in good time and led the members of the paramilitary organizations to perform their role properly.

Once he came to Shihliping of Wangching County and dropped in at the barracks of the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force.

Its members were beside themselves with joy at his unexpected visit.

With a genial smile on his face, Comrade Kim Il Sung shook hands with every one of them. They were attracted by his easy and openhearted manner and sat close around him.

After fully acquainting himself with their fulfillment of duties and the details of their life, Comrade Kim Il Sung spoke to the following effect:

It is one of the most important tasks for us to defend rock-firm the guerrilla bases, the bases of the revolution, against the enemy's attack. So, whoever can take up a rifle and fight should turn out in the battle to beat off the enemy.

If all the people in the bases fight in cooperation with the guerrillas, it is fully possible to check any enemy.

The Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force is a people's armed force organized with this aim in view. It has a very important duty.

Its role acquires still greater importance in the defence of the bases particularly because the guerrilla army units do not stay in the bases all the time but must sally out to meet and hit the enemies in wide areas. Of course, it is hard for the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force to fulfil its duties. It is not an easy job standing guard on a hill in the blizzard-ridden winter. But if you think first of the people who are suffering as a stateless people whenever you find things hard like this and difficulty stands in your way, fresh courage will surge up in you. There are 30 million people in our homeland still groaning under the tyranny of Japanese imperialism.

Thus, if we think of our downtrodden, humiliated people, how can we shrink back before this much difficulty? We have only one way ahead, and that way lies in the service to the people....

Particularly, the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force shares work and life with the people. Accordingly, every behaviour of yours should be an example to the people. You must not only defend the people but

also become educators who cultivate them in the revolutionary ideas.

More, the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force is an armed force that fights the enemy while conducting production activities, and so it must not cause trouble, or incur obligations, to the people. Its members ought to do farming at off-duty hours and secure provisions for themselves. Not only that, they must lend a helping hand to the people in their hard toil.

The teaching of Comrade Kim Il Sung served as a guide to action for all the members of the paramilitary organizations and people in the bases, to say nothing of members of the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force in Shihliping.

All the members of the paramilitary organizations in the bases turned out as one to carry through his teaching.

They trained themselves and defended the guerrilla bases strictly in accordance with the teaching of Comrade Kim Il Sung. A good illustration of this was furnished by a number of subsequent battles for the defence of the bases.

I think it was the *Tano* Festival of 1933.

The enemy troops garrisoned at Tatuchuan suddenly descended upon Shihliping.

The guerrillas were away on an expedition to strike at the enemy, and so there were only the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards and Children's Vanguard left in the base.

It was very tough for them to fight back by themselves the enemy force outnumbering them scores of times. But the members of the paramilitary organiza-

tions, who had armed and trained themselves all the time according to the earnest teaching of Comrade Kim Il Sung, turned out to beat off the enemy and defend the base to the last in cooperation with the people.

They were filled with a firm revolutionary determination to safeguard with their very lives the headquarters of the Korean revolution where Comrade Kim Il Sung was and defend the guerrilla base rock-firm. They were convinced that they would surely win if they fought the battle from the vantage grounds, with the initiative firmly in their hands.

They hid themselves in ambush near the cliff on the approaches to the village. The place was advantageous for a small force to intercept the enemy.

When the enemy troops entered the narrow ravine, the members of the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards, Children's Vanguard and people who were lying in ambush opened fire in a volley, hurled hand grenades and sent a hail of stones on them. The bastards fell in heaps.

But the enemy, trusting to his numerical superiority, tried to take an advantageous position from which to launch an attack on us.

Machine-gun bullets sent out by the enemy's "punitive troops" landed like a hail around us.

The enemy's shells burst incessantly. Nevertheless, the local people helped fortify our positions, and rolled up big rocks close to the trenches in preparation for a decisive battle.

They were determined not to stand back even a

step from the guerrilla base even if it might have cost their lives.

That day, the members of the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards, Children's Vanguard and people in Shihliping united as one, repulsed the desperate attack of the enemy, thereby defending the base of the revolution to the end.

It was not only the people in Shihliping who, upholding the great revolutionary ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung and his policy of self-defence, came out as one man in defence of the guerrilla bases.

The entire people in the guerrilla bases who under his guidance had set up the people's revolutionary government, a people's power, had had a taste of the new system and felt it worthwhile to live under this system, rose in the resistance struggle, ready to die, to defend their revolutionary gains.

Particularly, in the winter of 1933 when the enemy launched a "large-scale punitive operation", the people, who rose united as one man around the leader in a heroic struggle to defend the guerrilla bases, carried ammunition under a hail of bullets, killed the enemy men by rolling down stones over them and helped the guerrillas repair damaged trenches and foxholes.

To assure the security of headquarters where Comrade Kim Il Sung was, the women lured away the enemy at the risk of their lives and distracted their attention. Meanwhile, they carried food to the embattled guerrillas.

The Children's Corps members, too, put up a resourceful and valorous fight. They loudly sang rev-

olutionary songs and shouted slogans, thereby heightening the morale of the guerrillas and throwing the enemy into a panic. They guaranteed the combat actions of the guerrillas even by putting up smoke-screens.

The people in the guerrilla bases won the struggle in this way like a phoenix with a firm conviction that they would be able to build a new life and hold it out so long as there was the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Thus, it was possible to successfully defend the guerrilla bases or liberated areas which were the strategic base of the guerrilla army and the base of the Korean revolution, from the massive offensive of the Japanese imperialist aggressors who had a huge military force, hundreds of thousands strong, equipped with modern weapons.

This great victory was attributable to the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung. Basing himself firmly on the conception of Juche and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance that the Korean people should accomplish the Korean revolution on their own responsibility, he built up a strong revolutionary armed force to cope with the counterrevolutionary armed force of Japanese imperialism; set forth the correct Marxist-Leninist lines and strategic and tactical policies for the Korean revolution; armed the entire people and led them energetically to wage the anti-Japanese struggle.

If it had not been for Comrade Kim Il Sung's revolutionary line of self-defence to arm the entire people and fortify the guerrilla bases and for his

superb leadership, we would have failed to keep the guerrilla bases for even a single day against the vicious "punitive operations" of the Japanese imperialists.

When guerrilla bases or liberated areas were set up in many places adjacent to the Tuman-gang River, the enemy made desperate attacks to stamp out the revolutionary bases in the bud.

The bastards rallied all their armed forces and hurled them in "punitive operations" against the guerrilla bases. Not only that, they introduced the "concentration village policy" and the "system of mutual watch" based on the "residential unit of five houses" and the "regulations on punishing ten families jointly for one offender among them" and thus tried to rub out the guerrilla bases, sever the ties between the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the people and economically blockade the guerrilla bases.

Aware that armed suppression alone could by no means wipe out communist ideology which had taken roots in the masses, they launched "anti-communist" propaganda and, at the same time, frenziedly sought to slip their spies and stooges into the bases.

In consequence, the guerrilla bases had to go through hard trials from the first days of their existence.

Whether or not the guerrilla base, the base of the Korean revolution, could hold out against the enemy's attack was one of the key problems on which rested the strengthening and development of the anti-Jap-

anese armed struggle and the fate of the Korean revolution as a whole.

This problem could only be solved by the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the outstanding leader of our people.

Sharply seeing through the frantic machinations of Japanese imperialism from the earlier days when he had been directing the work of establishing the guerrilla bases, he advanced a superb strategic and tactical policy to defend the guerrilla bases against the enemy's invasion.

In implementing this strategic and tactical policy, he clearly saw through the attempts of the Right and "Left" opportunists and the sectarians, and dealt a stunning blow to them.

At the time, the Right and "Left" opportunists and the sectarians, under the pretext that the bases had to be defended to the last, raved that the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army, a standing armed force, should not strike the enemy by means of mobile operations but should always remain in the bases and check the "punitive operations" of the Japanese imperialists.

Comrade Kim Il Sung shattered the counterrevolutionary attempts of the Right and "Left" opportunists and the sectarians, and set up the all-people defence system in the guerrilla bases, thereby making it possible to cope with the attack of any enemy.

And while working to organizationally expand and strengthen the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army in its incipient stage, he energetically directed the activi-

ties of the paramilitary organizations in the guerrilla bases, such as the Anti-Japanese Self-Defence Force, Red Guards and Children's Vanguard, and guided the work of arming all the people there.

Further, in accordance with the policy of fortifying the bases, he took measures to make full preparations against any surprise attack of the enemy. He saw to it that trenches and foxholes were dug by utilizing the favourable terrain and ground covers, various kinds of obstacles put up, and a guard duty system thoroughly established.

The wise policy of Comrade Kim Il Sung on firmly defending the guerrilla base—the base of the Korean revolution and the military strategic base of the anti-Japanese armed struggle—instilled in the anti-Japanese guerrilla fighters and the people in the bases an unshakable faith in victory and an indomitable fighting will.

Under the sagacious leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander and gifted military strategist and in accordance with the revolutionary line of self-defence he laid down, the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the revolutionary people in the guerrilla bases waged a heroic struggle and thereby honourably defended the guerrilla bases as long as four to five years against the enemy's onslaught.

Indeed, the whole course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle was a glorious path of struggle to carry into effect Comrade Kim Il Sung's great Juche idea that the Korean revolution should be carried through to the end by the Korean people themselves, and it

was a proud course of fighting in which the guerrillas and people won victory in the armed struggle against the Japanese imperialist robbers.

Thanks to such brilliant revolutionary traditions established in the course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, we could defeat the armed invaders of 16 countries headed by the US imperialists who had been boasting of their being the "strongest" in the world and honourably defend the freedom and independence of our country in the Fatherland Liberation War and convert the whole country into an impregnable fortress as it is today.

To cope with the present situation when the aggressive moves of the US imperialists have become more undisguised, we must successfully carry out the militant task of further increasing the defence capacities of the country and establishing a firm all-nation, all-people defence setup.

At a Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea, Comrade Kim Il Sung elucidated the revolutionary line of carrying on economic construction simultaneously with defence building and gave instructions to be always on the alert, stand prepared for action, train the People's Army into an army of cadres and modernize it, arm all the people, and turn the whole country into a fortress. He said:

"In factories, the Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and workers should defend their factories, and in the countryside, the Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and peasants should defend their villages; and the entire people, holding a weapon in one hand and a hammer and a sickle in the other, should reliably safeguard

our socialist homeland and continue to build socialism successfully."

To carry his teaching through to the end, we will have to live and fight after the example of the anti-Japanese guerrillas and the people in the guerrilla bases who displayed an unbending revolutionary spirit and gained priceless experiences in the struggle to defend the base of the revolution to the last during the anti-Japanese armed struggle under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

And we should turn out as one man in the struggle to thoroughly implement the revolutionary line of building the economy and the defences simultaneously which was set forth by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, and bring all our wisdom and energy into full play.

Through this grand struggle we must actively meet the great revolutionary event of national reunification.

STRENGTH OF UNITY

Pak Du Gyong

"There has been nothing impossible for us once we choose to do it." Epitomized in this is the confidence with which we are today promoting the building of socialism and making the Chollima advance for communism.

It is with this enthusiasm and sense of honour that we all look up to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, grateful for his wise leadership and deep solicitude and full of sense of honour and pride in the fact that we are his Red fighters ready to go through fire and water along the path indicated by him.

Needless to say, this sense of honour and pride is nothing new to us. The people who have fought under his wise leadership since the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle have had that sense of pride for a long time now.

I was at Hsiaowangching when I met Comrade Kim Il Sung for the first time.

Hsiaowangching, where Comrade Kim Il Sung stayed, became the centre of the Korean revolutionary movement after he had come there following the

organization of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army, the first Marxist-Leninist revolutionary armed force of Korea.

Formerly, Hsiaowangching was one of the Korean settlements subjected to brutal suppression and massacre under the occupation of the enemy. At the time, therefore, it was the most urgent question for us to fight off the enemy's armed suppression. To do so we had also to take up arms in accordance with the line of armed struggle shown by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

But at the time we had no weapon at all. Axes, sickles and clubs were all we had.

With these it was impossible to fight the Japanese imperialist aggressors armed with the latest weapons. Yet, we could not die sitting meekly.

We started collecting weapons from former members of the Independence Army and hunters in the locality. We obtained only three guns including a firelock and a hunting-gun, and one of them was out of order and unfit for use. So some of our comrades said, "We have two guns and a half."

With this as our asset, we organized a secret armed unit named "Special Corps", and launched a struggle to capture weapons from the enemy. Not only the members of the "Special Corps" but also young boys and girls and even old men well beyond 60 took part in this struggle. When we secured seven or eight more rifles of an old type, we were ablaze with a desire to fight the enemy.

It was just at this time that Comrade Kim Il Sung came to us. He took note of how things were faring

with us and gave us detailed guidance. Here is the gist of what he said:

Before, you were barehanded and exposed to the enemy's attack, but now you have weapons, though not many, and are burning with a desire to fight the enemy. This is very gratifying.... There can be nothing impossible for us when we hold the revolution dearer than our own lives and value the freedom and independence of the fatherland and the people's welfare higher than our own youth.

I highly appreciate your great enthusiasm for fighting. But you must bear in mind that enthusiasm alone is not enough to crush the enemy and win victory in the revolution.

Our fight with the enemy is not a sort of wrestling bout held on the *Tano* Festival in which we are pleased when we win but can try once more when beaten, nor is it a skill contest. We are revolutionaries. We must win every battle without fail. This requires correct operation plans and proper arrangements. We must reckon and make calculations as to how many enemies we can dispose of, how to conduct a battle so as to wipe out as many enemies as possible without any loss on our part and thus win decisive victory, what our strong points are and what the weaknesses of the enemy are, whether we have any shortcomings and whether there is any better way of fighting.

Under the personal guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, we began by arming ourselves better and concentrated our efforts on building up our base to firmly safeguard the people from the enemy's at-

tack at any time. In the meantime, we gradually went into action.

We won one victory after another in numerous big and small engagements, including the Chiapikou battle, under his direct command. This inspired the guerrilla fighters and the people of the guerrilla base with confidence in victory.

Our art of fighting was seasoned and improved further.

Along with this, the people's government was set up and democratic reforms were carried out in the base. This not only boosted the revolutionary enthusiasm of the people in the base, but exerted tremendous influence upon the people in the enemy-controlled areas. Every day an increasing number of youths came to us from areas in enemy hands to join the guerrilla army. But our struggle and road to victory was not smooth.

Beginning with the spring of 1933, we had to go through hard trials.

At that time the enemy started large-scale "punitive operations" in an attempt to dampen our revolutionary spirits and deprive us of our revolutionary gains.

Especially, the enemy concentrated all their force in the "punitive operations" against the Hsiaowang-ching guerrilla base, the central base of revolution.

It was April 17, 1933. The enemy surged forward from the bank of the Tatuchuan River up to the foot of Mt. Bbyojok-san in such a frenzy that it appeared as if they would swallow up our base at one gulp. But they could not frighten us. Though we were not

strong enough yet, we had the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung and the solid unity of the revolutionary ranks and the people rallied around him. This thought inspired us with great confidence.

Under the command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, we fought day and night against thousands of enemy troops that came rushing at us. On the third day, we repelled the enemy, who suffered a loss of more than 400 casualties in the battle. But the enemy did not give up their "punitive operation" plans, they tried again to launch a still larger-scale winter "punitive operation", bringing up new reinforcements.

Bragging that they would "wipe out" our base "at a stroke", the enemy mobilized forces from various parts of east Manchuria and even part of the 19th Division stationed in Ranam of Korea. Thus, they hurled at us some 5,000 "crack troops" of infantry, cavalry, artillery and air force.

The enemy closed in upon us from the directions of Chiapikou, Wangching and Mt. Mapanshan. The surrounding areas of the base were turned into seas of fire. Soon the flames and choking smoke enveloped our base and bursts of artillery fire and bullets of the enemy rent the air throughout the valley.

Under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, however, our guerrillas and people, fully prepared for action, fought against the enemy's onslaught.

Part of our fighters checked the enemy's offensive by relying on vantage points at the foot of Mt. Bbyojok-san and Mt. Mapanshan, while a snipers' group

led by crack shots of the Third Company secretly approached the enemy, forcing their way through the deep snow covering the mountain slopes and ravines, in disregard of the thick smoke and raging flames. Having passed through the flames, they showered bullets by surprise from several spots on the flank and rear of the enemy force that kept surging forward. The haughty enemy soldiers were mown down in heaps.

Now, the enemy concentrated in the sector of Mt. Bbyojok-san their main force that had been rushing on Mt. Mapanshan. They made several attempts to attack us. But the wilder they grew, the more deaths they suffered. The enemy was forced to give up hurling any more troops into the Mt. Bbyojok-san sector and withdraw the remaining troops about three kilometres backward, leaving behind heaps of dead bodies.

At the sight of the enemy's retreat, we were overjoyed, and not only we. The members of the Women's Association who were carrying ammunition and preparing meals for us in the base and even members of the Children's Corps who were encouraging us to victory, gathered in front of the command post where Comrade Kim Il Sung was, singing songs in congratulation of the victory.

Comrade Kim Il Sung now instructed that the aged, the weak and the children be evacuated to the ravine at the back of the Chiumatsun village and that the guerrilla unit in the Mt. Bbyojok-san sector move to another peak leaving some watches there.

Though the enemy was hard hit and forced to fall

back, it was certain that they would attempt to launch an attack more stubbornly. For they had long since prepared and mobilized large troops for "mopping up" the Hsiaowangching base, and sustained a severe blow on the day. So, Comrade Kim Il Sung instructed us to get ready to deal a still harder blow at the enemy and thus follow up the victory won in the first round of battle.

Upon his instructions, the aged and the children were evacuated without delay to the ravine behind the village and we prepared ourselves more fully for another battle.

The next day. Just as Comrade Kim Il Sung had clearly foreseen, the enemy came back, hurling a "death-defying storming party" against us to take Mt. Bbyojok-san, counting on their numerical superiority. But in this "new offensive", too, the enemy was fated to meet with defeat. For our unit, under the instructions of Comrade Kim Il Sung, had already moved to a peak next to Mt. Bbyojok-san, and the enemy, as they rushed at Mt. Bbyojok-san concentrating their attack on it, found themselves subjected to a heavy concentration fire from an entirely unexpected direction—from a hilltop at their back.

Though they lost one battle after another on the hilltops in the valley of Hsiaowangching, the enemy would not retreat. In spite of their heavy losses, the enemy kept on throwing reserve troops into the Chiumatsun ravine. It seemed they were determined to go the whole hog with their operation to "wipe out" the Hsiaowangching base at all costs. They showered bullets and shells all over the place

Indiscriminately—hilltops, ravines and tree groves.

Having fought under these circumstances for nearly 20 days, we found it difficult now, in the face of the enemy's continued attack, to protect the guerrilla base any longer by standing on the defensive alone.

In the first place, most of our weapons were old-type rifles, and even they were not enough to go round to all of us. With these weapons, it was impossible to remain on the defensive for a long time against many regiments of enemy forces flinging themselves on us from all directions.

These circumstances could possibly drive us into a passive position in battle and, further, threatened a danger of the guerrilla base being taken by the enemy and many people being exposed to the blood-stained bayonets of the enemy. The worst of it was that the houses had been burnt down in the bombing and fire set by the enemy, and not a grain of rice could be obtained.

Surrounded by the enemy, we could not make a fire freely even when there were patients who needed warmth. Our clothes had been torn and burnt, and so we had to combat frostbite. This combat was no less hard than fighting the enemy.

From the daybreak enemy planes tore about the sky over the hilltops and ravines, searching. So, we had to protect the people from air attacks while fighting the enemy's ground forces. I cannot fully describe our difficult positions at the time. Yet, I cannot forget the old people and women who, in defiance of the danger, brought hot water to the fighters who were cleaning their guns and mending trenches at their

spare moments. The images of those people are still vivid in my memory.

And I seem to see the boys of the Children's Corps hiding between rocks, loading and training their "home-made" pistols (made of tin and waste iron) upon the enemy; ringing in my ears still to this day are the voices of their singing:

Come together, comrades, under the Red banner,
Come with one mind to our platoon,
With bombs and pistols in your hands,
Come together to fight for power!

Particularly, we guerrilla fighters and the local people had a boundless feeling of trust in and respect for Comrade Kim Il Sung who was leading us to victory in the arduous struggle.

This happened when the enemy had managed to steal up to the approaches to the Chiumatsun village.

Some of the women who had been evacuated to Tzuteling Pass, the Taipingtsun district, situated between the Hsiaowangching district and Shihliping, were on their way one evening to Lishukou where headquarters was stationed, carrying with them bottles of hot water for the guerrilla fighters who could not even make a fire freely.

On the way, they perceived some dark figures looming above the precipice which overlooked the Chiumatsun village now subjected to the enemy's attack. Not knowing what to do, the women quickly hid themselves in the snow. But when they looked out again cautiously, they saw nothing at all on the preci-

pice. "Maybe we saw phantoms!" one of the women whispered.

"No, I'm sure I saw several persons standing on the brink of the precipice," another woman insisted.

"What if we give an alarm?" the third one suggested.

"Oh, no. They will send us a burst of bullets which, I am afraid, may fly in the direction of the place where the General and guerrillas are staying...."

One of the women who were whispering, the aunt of the guerrilla Choe Chang Bom, stood up, saying: "You remain hiding here. I'll run over to that side and shout an alarm...." With this, she put down her bottles on the ground and dashed out into the dark woods.

She was anxious to protect headquarters from danger; she did not care about her own life.

Dashing in the direction of the woods opposite to headquarters, she shouted at the top of her voice:

"The enemy's coming, they're creeping up the precipice!" It was that she wanted to draw the attention of the enemy to herself.

This was how the women, even in conditions where they had nothing but boiled water to fill their stomach, fought unyieldingly, protecting headquarters from danger, helping and caring for the guerrilla fighters at the risk of their lives.

Neither hardships nor the desperate attempts of the enemy could break the united might of the people and the guerrillas who, under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, fought through thick and thin, with firm confidence in victory, and protected

headquarters at the hazard of their own lives. We were full of determination to defend the guerrilla base to the last. Comrade Kim Il Sung studied the movements of the enemy and gave us new combat orders. He said something like this:

In view of the imbalance of strength between the guerrillas and the enemy's picked forces which outnumber us scores of times and from the viewpoint of guerrilla tactics, a head-on collision with the enemy is an adventurous act bound to meet with failure.

On the other hand, if we only remain on the defensive in this narrow area against the enemy troops who come in a long-drawn-out attack, it would mean playing into the hands of the enemy; it would be advantageous to the enemy and very unfavourable to us. In order to save the situation, we must split up our force into two groups and go into action.

One group must stay and operate here while the other goes into the area under enemy rule. In an attempt to launch a large-scale attack on the guerrilla bases in many counties of east Manchuria simultaneously, the enemy has even mobilized most of the police and the self-defence corps in the "punitive operations". Therefore, the rear of the enemy is practically empty now. Moreover, the enemy will hardly imagine that under the present conditions the guerrillas should leave the base and enter the area behind his lines.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, we must strike a sudden blow at the enemy, boldly and swiftly attacking their barracks, self-defence corps and police stations in their rear, and cut off the enemy's supply

of food and clothing by raiding their munitions depots and supply agencies or ambushing their military goods trains and trucks. Thus, we will replenish our military supplies and make the enemy tremble with fear and anxiety everywhere.

In the meantime, our propaganda leaflets should be distributed extensively among the soldiers of the puppet Manchukuo and Japanese armies to cause agitation among them, while we harass the enemy incessantly from behind so that they are forced to withdraw their troops mobilized to attack the guerrilla bases. The group remaining at the base should avoid head-on collisions with the onrushing large enemy troops, but should split up into several details and, in the daytime, should protect the people at the base by dispersing and hiding them in different places. At night these details should incessantly surprise the bivouacs of the enemy and wipe them out.

With these long-drawn, flexible tactics and positive, energetic movements we should continue to inflict defeat and death upon the enemy and firmly safeguard the main force of our army and the people at the base.

If Comrade Kim Il Sung had not worked out such sagacious guerrilla tactics and if he had not given such a superb leadership at that time, the base of Hsiaowangching would have fallen into the hands of the enemy, the people there would have suffered immeasurably and been slaughtered, and our ranks would have gone to pieces.

It was because of the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung that the people in the guerrilla base

could be evacuated to Shihliping and the guerrillas could build their positions on the hills while protecting the people. Fierce battles were fought. In the daytime, as the enemy soldiers came crawling up, the guerrillas mowed them down in fierce counterattacks by availing themselves of the vantage grounds on every height and in every ravine, and at night, they organized many nocturnal storming parties which took turns in launching surprise attacks on the enemy's bivouacs or raiding their supply routes.

When, after several days of such battles, the enemy had been thrown into confusion and the situation turned in favour of the guerrilla unit, Comrade Kim Il Sung led a detachment of the guerrilla army into the area in enemy hands.

The guerrillas who made a sally into the enemy-controlled area under the direct command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, raided and wiped out enemy barracks, police stations and buildings of the self-defence corps one after another in Liangshuichuantzu (a spot on the opposite bank of the Tuman-gang River), Peifung-wutung (about 40 kilometres north of Tumen), and in other places, and then assaulted the enemy's lumber station at Donggol of Ssutung.

After each victorious campaign in which enemy troops were crushed, Comrade Kim Il Sung would always call together the inhabitants of the locality and inspire them with confidence in victory, thus rousing them to the struggle.

Greatly moved at this, workers of the lumber station in Ssutung asked for admission to the guerrilla army, offered to the guerrillas the new shoes and

fatigue dresses they had been keeping for themselves, collected and gave them flour, salt, etc., and many followed the guerrilla unit carrying those goods.

Excitement and delight of the people were beyond description when they personally met Comrade Kim Il Sung and heard his speech elucidating the prospects of victory in the revolution, for they had witnessed or heard with dreadful anxiety that thousands of enemy troops were closing in upon the Hsiaowangching guerrilla base from all sides.

Returning from Liangshuichuantzu, Comrade Kim Il Sung planned to go over to a decisive counter-offensive and raid the town of Wangching, the centre of the enemy's rear, by taking advantage of the enemy's vacillation.

It was around one o'clock on the night of the next day. Personally led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, a guerrilla detachment stormed into the town of Wangching breaking through the manifold guard lines, and swooped down on two or three enemy organizations and set their buildings on fire.

After some time, the guerrillas left the town and came up the mountain path leading to Yaoyingkou. From there they could see the buildings of enemy organizations were in flames here and there in the central part of the city and above the raging flames could be seen the watchtower of the fire station. But, in spite of the fire, there was not a man who sounded the alarm.

Our raid on the town of Wangching proved a severe blow at the enemy; for him it was a bolt from the blue. That our small guerrilla detachment com-

posed of only 50 or so, while successfully defending the Hsiaowangching base and its people, should have taken the initiative in the hard struggle waged for over 40 days against more than 5,000 enemy troops and, moreover, stormed the town of Wangching, the assembly ground of the enemy forces, was something enough to baffle their imagination.

That was why we often heard at the time that not only the local people but also the enemies themselves talked about the superb guerrilla tactics of Comrade Kim Il Sung, describing them with the words "preternatural swiftness."

Having suffered an irretrievable defeat by our assault on the town of Wangching made under the excellent leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the enemy could not but withdraw, though they had bragged that they would "wipe out the guerrilla base at a stroke".

When the enemy had retreated, we guerrillas and the people of the base came back to Hsiaowangching, and strengthened the defences of the base, and started farming in time in the spring of 1934. We were all fully resolved to defeat the Japanese imperialists and win freedom and independence of the fatherland.

In the subsequent five years until we disorganized the guerrilla bases and went out to operate in wider areas, the enemy persistently attacked us, but not even once did we allow them to go back unscathed. Each time we guerrillas and the people of the bases, under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, fought unyieldingly and dealt wholesale death to the enemy.

By overcoming such hardships and winning battles, we have come to enjoy the freedom and happiness of today; and we are now struggling for a still brighter future of socialism and communism, making uninterrupted and continuous advance.

I say to myself: Comrade Kim Il Sung, ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander, led us to victory in the past; today he is also leading our people to victory in the Korean revolution.

How happy we are!

There is nothing impossible for us who are marching forward upholding the teachings of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Looking back on the past and thinking of today, I renew my conviction that when we Party members and all the working people, rallied rock-firm around Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved leader of the Korean people, fight under his wise leadership, we will surmount any difficulties and hardships and emerge victorious without fail in every battle.

It is in the fighting spirit full of such conviction that we are making the Chollima advance looking forward to a more bright and glorious future of the fatherland.

HIS WARM SOLICITUDE FOR THE PEASANTS IN THE GUERRILLA BASES

Choe Bong Song

Today our countryside is vigorously forging ahead along the road brightly lit up by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people, accelerating the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions and receiving powerful assistance from the state.

In the era of our Workers' Party led by Comrade Kim Il Sung the peasants who were exploited and oppressed over thousands of years have been freed from all kinds of exploitation and oppression once for good. Not only that, they have become the dignified masters of the developed socialist countryside, enjoy farm work done with machines, chemical fertilizers and agricultural chemicals without any worry about irrigation water, lead a happy life in the attractive modern houses built by the government, without paying even a penny of tax, and, moreover, they are given paid vacation, accommodation at holiday homes at state expense, and free medical care, and can educate their children free of charge.

To provide this happiness to the peasants of our country, Comrade Kim Il Sung personally visited

countless farm villages where he directly talked with peasants and solved knotty problems for them.

Right after liberation he carried out the historic agrarian reform and met the centuries-old desire of the peasants for land. When the war ended, he immediately guided our agriculture, which was based on small individual farming, along the road of socialist cooperativization. Then he made public the *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country* which illumined the path to the final solution of the rural question.

He sent large numbers of tractors, trucks and various modern farm machines to the countryside in order to alleviate the heavy work of the peasants. Moreover, he built hundreds of thousands of modern houses, in addition to cultural, public health and utility establishments.

Indeed, his fatherly affection is felt in every farm village and mountain hamlet of our country.

Whenever I think of Comrade Kim Il Sung's warm care for the peasants, I am reminded of his warm love and far-reaching plan to turn our countryside into a rich and prosperous one. In order to carry into effect this plan, he personally blazed the trail and looked after the life of the peasants with utmost care.

In the early period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle he said some such words as these:

How much blood, sweat and bitter tears our poverty-stricken peasants in Korea shed on account of land! We must meet by all means their long-cherished desire for land. To do so, we must drive Japanese im-

perialism out of our territory as early as possible and set up a people's state free from exploitation and oppression in the land of Korea. When a people's government is established in our beautiful land of 3,000 *ri* and all the people embark upon a new life, our government must meet before anything else the cherished desire of the peasants who make up the greater part of the population. That day will surely come.

He had elaborated this far-reaching plan during the arduous and protracted anti-Japanese armed struggle that lasted 15 long years and carried it into practice in the guerrilla bases set up in the areas bordering on the Tuman-gang River. The deep historical roots were thus laid for the solution of the rural question in our country in the future.

In the guerrilla bases Comrade Kim Il Sung thoroughly carried out the agrarian reform, confiscating the land of the Japanese imperialists and pro-Japanese landlords and distributing it among the peasants without compensation. In spite of such difficult circumstances, he showed every concern to provide the peasants with necessary conditions for the farming.

Here I should like to write about a few events I witnessed in the Wangching guerrilla base, which will show the warm love and utmost care of Comrade Kim Il Sung who not only laid the firm foundation for the solution of the rural question, planning a bright future for our countryside, but also always had knee-to-knee discussions with the peasants and showed them the way to proceed, personally solving hard problems for them.

It happened in Shihliping, Wangching County, in the early spring of 1934.

At that time the "punitive campaigns" of the Japanese imperialist aggressors against the guerrilla bases, the strategic and tactical bases of the Korean revolution, became more ferocious.

So, the fighters of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the people of the guerrilla bases had to wage hard-fought battles against the "punitive force" of Japanese imperialism who fell on them almost every day.

It was also under such circumstances that the battle to defend the Hsiaowangching guerrilla base went on from late 1933 to early 1934.

In the battle the members of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the people under the wise leadership of General Kim Il Sung fought back the enemy many times superior in number, and won a brilliant victory.

However, the grim battle reduced all the dwellings in the guerrilla base to ashes, and what meagre household articles were all destroyed.

Even in this situation the people of the guerrilla base never lost heart and rose as one in the struggle to build a new life.

Like the people of other villages in the guerrilla base, the people of Shihliping rebuilt their houses over and over again setting up pillars on the smoke-stained cornerstones of the burned-down houses, and rearranged their wrecked household utensils.

In addition to such work, the most vital question

raised before the people at the time was to till and sow the fields with the coming of the farming season.

Grain production was one of the important revolutionary tasks for the people of the guerrilla bases.

However, it was a problem to obtain seeds.

The people here had had no land of their own and so had a hell of life before, but now for the first time they came to work their own land which had been given them by the General. To leave the land out of crop would mean committing a serious crime before the revolution, they thought. Thus, they got everything ready to be able to sow as soon as they obtained seeds.

Though they had eaten nothing for some days, they went out to the fields, tightening their belts.

The men dragged the plough by main force and the women and children followed, levelling the ground.

One such day the General whom they never forgot awake or asleep, visited the village of Shihliping with some 50 guerrillas.

The joy of the villagers who met General Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean revolution, was beyond description.

Particularly, what made them happiest was the fact that the General who had personally commanded so many hard battles, bearing the destiny of the Korean revolution on his shoulders, was in good health.

Coming to the fields, the General asked, "It has been difficult to get seeds, I suppose. What are you going to plant here?"

There was no one who gave a ready answer to the question of the General.

The people of Shihliping, determined to secure the seeds for themselves at any cost so as not to make the General worry himself, had tried hard to get seeds in the enemy-controlled area. But things had not gone off as they had wished.

All remained silent, unable to answer. At that moment, an old man took a step forward and said to the General:

"Dear General, we decided to secure seeds by ourselves. We are now making furrows to plant the seeds as soon as we get them. Don't worry too much. We won such a hard battle as that of Hsiaowangching, and what is there which we can't cope with?"

After hearing him out the General said to the people present in the following vein:

The old man is right. In the recent battle of Hsiaowangching the Japanese imperialists had bluffed that they would easily destroy the guerrilla base by attacking it with a large force, several thousands strong. But what came of it? Contrary to their expectation victory was ours. The people who are firmly determined to devote even their lives without hesitation for the liberation of their country have an inexhaustible strength and no force on earth can subdue it. Although great difficulties lie ahead of us, if all of us tackle them with a sturdy will, we can fully pull through them. The question lies not in what difficulty has cropped up, but in how strong the revolutionary will of the people who grapple with it is. Today I have derived boundless strength and courage from

the strong features of the people of Shihliping village.

After inspiring and encouraging the people the General headed for the village.

Sitting in company with villagers, the General had a long discussion with them about how to surmount the difficulties ahead.

Meanwhile, women tried hard to prepare the supper for him, but could not obtain food grain for it.

Reading the minds of the women, the General instructed the guerrillas to collect all the rice in their knapsacks. Rummaging about in many knapsacks, they gathered only a few bowlfuls of rice.

Handing over the rice to the women, the General said:

"Don't worry yourselves too much on account of us. There is a good way. After filling up the big pot with water, boil it and then put this rice in it. Truth to speak, women's cooking skill should be exhibited in making good dishes for many people with a small amount of stuff. In addition to the rice, put in much wild vegetables. Then there will be a good delicious fare because wild vegetables will be flavoured with the rice."

The women poured water into the pot to the brim and cooked vegetable gruel as told by the General.

They ladled out a bowl of gruel from the pot and offered it to the General first.

The General, offering the gruel which he received from the women to the oldest man present, said:

"Let's give the gruel to the children and old folks first. How hard it will be for the old people to work

without eating even a grain of rice in the busy farming season! We are now even unable to have enough of thin gruel, but when our country is liberated, we will cultivate our own land in our own country and have rice and varied side dishes for our meals. In order to move up that day we should stoutly overcome all the difficulties."

The words of the General gave boundless encouragement to the villagers of Shihliping.

Dusk fell before we knew.

Though they failed to serve the General with a good supper, the villagers prepared his lodging so that he might have a good night rest. The guerrillas, too, thought they would pass the night in Shihliping.

However, the General ordered the guerrillas to get ready for departure.

The guerrillas simply considered that the General had decided to leave so as not to cause inconvenience to the people.

Leaving the village, the General, raising his hand, encouraged the people who felt regret at parting with us. He repeatedly said that they should stabilize their life as early as possible and do farming well.

On the evening of the day after the General's departure, fully-laden carts entered the valley of Shihliping, followed by a long line of cattle.

To all appearances, they were carrying booties captured in a battle.

Looking at the procession, the people of Shihliping thought enviously that if they had only one such ox they would be able to plough up all their fields at a stretch.

The carts already reached the edge of the village.

The people were standing in rows on both sides of the road as if they had come out to welcome them. They greeted the carters.

To their surprise, however, the carts which they had thought would pass through the village drew up halfway down the village street.

One of the men driving the carts stepped out and addressed the villagers with:

“Be glad, brothers! We have brought here the seeds and provisions sent by the General. Worried that you are having a hard time for lack of food and seed grain and farm implements in this farming season, he sent them to you.”

The villagers stood motionless as if riveted down to the ground, overwhelmed with emotion and joy.

Only after hearing all the circumstances in detail from the carter, they began to unload the carts.

Among the presents from the General were two cartfuls of flour and a large quantity of various seeds.

In addition, there were many oxen which the villagers had eyed so enviously, wishing they could have had only one at least.

Only now the people came to understand why the General had changed his plan to stay overnight at the village and left in a hurry.

The General, upon arrival at the village of Shihliping, had learned about the living conditions of its people and their preparations for farming. Then, he had immediately mapped out an operational plan for a raid on the enemy rear.

Moved by the General's warm love and utmost

care, the village folks shed tears of gratitude stroking the fat cattle or hugging the seed bags.

All the villagers, men and women, young and old, turned out to the fields at the grey dawn.

They tilled the earth and sowed seeds, devoting all their energies to the farm work.

As a result, a bumper harvest was reaped over the vast stretch of the Shihliping plains that year.

The grain produced by the people of Shihliping proved a great help to the defence of the guerrilla base.

The General's warm love and profound solicitude was not confined to the Shihliping village. The sunshine shed by the General was enjoyed by all the people of the guerrilla base, who forged ahead through the fierce flames of the revolution.

Towards the end of 1934, after the General had started on the first expedition to north Manchuria, the life of the people in the base became harder day by day.

The provisions which had been secured for them by the General ran out long ago, and thus they were having a hard time of it.

Nevertheless, at that time, the great-power chauvinists, narrow-minded national exclusionists and counterrevolutionary sectarians paid no attention to the people dying of hunger, far from making preparations for the new year's farming, and carried on the anti-Minsaengdan struggle in an ultra-“Leftist” manner and indulged in the evil acts of persecuting innocent people at random.

In addition to the enemy's “punitive campaigns”

which went on every day, the counterrevolutionary manoeuvres of those fellows caused great sufferings to the people.

It was just at that time in the spring of 1935 that the General, without caring about his health broken down by an illness in the course of the expedition to north Manchuria, visited Tuitelatzu, worried about the people's living conditions.

While staying with the old man Kim Gwan Se in Tuitelatzu, the General often met the people and told them about the bright prospects of the farm villages of our country to be liberated in the future and about the tasks confronting the people of the guerrilla bases. The gist of his words is as follows:

When Korea is liberated all the land will belong to the peasants who till it, and they will enjoy a happy life as the masters of land, as the masters of the country.

Now the people of the guerrilla bases must show through their actual life to the poor peasants of Korea suffering from the oppression and exploitation of the Japanese imperialists, landlords and capitalists that such a society will certainly come.

Therefore, the inhabitants of the guerrilla bases are people who are entrusted with the glorious mission of laying the foundations for the prosperous countryside which will be realized in Korea in the future. In the guerrilla bases land has already become the property of the peasants, and the chains of the landlords and capitalists are no more. That is why the guerrilla bases serve as the beacon of hope for the entire nation.

The most important task of the people in the guerrilla bases who have become the masters of land is to cultivate the land well to provide ample supplies of provisions to the guerrilla army which is the people's army and to the entire inhabitants of the bases. Precisely this will make it possible to defend the revolutionary gains and the popular system established in the guerrilla bases which has given them land and a worthwhile life and, at the same time, will instil the conviction of victory and hope in the hearts of the people of the homeland who are suffering the sorrow of a stateless nation.

The faces of the people who were drinking in every word of the General were brimming over with feelings of boundless respect and reverence for the leader who valued and loved them and with a firm determination to repay his great favours without fail.

While he was staying there among the people the General found that they were all starving, far from making preparations for the year's farming. Pained deeply by their hard conditions, he immediately took measures to ease their hardships.

The General, personally leading the Fourth and Fifth Companies of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army and the Young Volunteers' Corps which had been stationed nearby, made an assault on a lumber station belonging to the Japanese imperialists.

Thus, the General provided the people with large quantities of food, draught animals and even funds for farming.

The people were moved to tears by his warm care. It was quite understandable that they shed tears

of joy when General Kim Il Sung, the great leader of revolution, distributed to them a large amount of provisions, farming funds and draught animals; they had lost everything in the large-scale "punitive campaigns" of the Japanese imperialists and had not had even a grain of seed to sow.

Under his warmest care the people turned out to carry out their revolutionary assignments by all means.

Indeed, inspired by the invincible revolutionary ideas infused in them by General Kim Il Sung, they did farm work unyieldingly even in the circumstances of grim, hard-fought battles and famine.

Countless stories could be told of the unbounded love and utmost care shown by Comrade Kim Il Sung for the bright future of our countryside and for the happy life of the peasants.

Today our peasants are living a happy life in the warm embrace of Comrade Kim Il Sung who has devoted his all for the happy life of our people ever since the day when he set out on the road of revolution in his early years.

The happier we are, the more deeply we feel the pride in marching ahead along the road of victory under the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the more warmly our hearts beat with a single determination to be boundlessly loyal to him.

Today a huge and difficult task is confronting our agriculture.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people, taught us as follows:

"Simultaneously with the struggle for increased production of grain in the countryside, and, with an eye towards preparations for possible war, we should make proper arrangements to take good care of farm machines and other facilities, and economize in provisions and materials while laying away reserves.... By all this, we should thoroughly implement the decision of the Party Conference on the parallel building of the economy and defences to strengthen the country's economic base and improve the people's living standard, while making all possible preparations to cope with war."

By thoroughly implementing the important tasks confronting agriculture in accordance with the teaching of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, we should move up the day when the entire people of the southern half including the farming population will live happily together with us in his warm bosom.

HIS VALUABLE INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE WORK OF THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Choe Song Suk

Referring at the Fourth Congress of our Party to the important tasks confronting the Women's Union organizations and us women, Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great, respected and beloved leader of the Korean people, said as follows:

"The Democratic Women's Union organizations should intensify communist education among women, raise political consciousness and cultural standards, and encourage working women to take a more active role in socialist construction.

"In view of the fact that women have entered the life of our society in full force and their numbers have increased considerably in all fields of economic and cultural construction, the branches of the Democratic Women's Union should strengthen their organization in factories, enterprises and rural districts, bring their activities closer to production centres, and actively educate and remould people, uniting front-rank women firmly."

Today the women of our country live in the hap-

piest and most fruitful era, such as never known before, in the country's 5,000-year long history. Never before did their status and role rise so high as today; never before did they enjoy so free and happy a life as today giving full play to their talents and energies.

This historic change in our women's life is a splendid fruit of the great outstanding plan for the emancipation of women which was conceived by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who, ever since he embarked on the road of revolution, has struggled to bring about the genuine freedom and rights of us women suffering from poverty, deprived of rights, and subjected to oppression and humiliation. It marks a milestone in the women's movement of our country.

Right after liberation he personally founded the Democratic Women's Union of Korea, a political organization of our women, and, moreover, proclaimed the Law on the Equality of the Sexes, thus freeing us from double and treble enslavement and exploitation. Especially, he provided all necessary conditions for us women to be able to come out in socio-political activities and, in each stage of the development of the revolution, expounded even the methods of work one by one, not to mention the tasks incumbent upon us women and the orientations of work.

He personally visits the women's work places and homes, creches and kindergartens, and looks after us with parental care, lest there should be the slightest inconvenience in the work and life of the women.

Every time I see him show warm care for the solution of the women's problem, I recall the days

when I was attending to the work of the Women's Association under his personal guidance in the Wangching guerrilla base.

Early in 1933 I moved to Wangching from the Ningan area of north Manchuria where I had been active.

From then on I carried on the Women's Association work under the personal care of Comrade Kim Il Sung whom I had been longing to see awake or asleep.

I cannot write down everything here that took place in those glorious and significant days when I worked directly under him. I am going to tell only about the memorable meeting which we Women's Association members held in his presence in the spring of 1933.

Shortly after my coming there the Wangching Meeting was convened. At this meeting which proceeded under the personal guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, a report was made on the work of the revolutionary organizations such as party and Young Communist League organizations, Anti-Japanese Association and Women's Association over the past one year or so following the establishment of the guerrilla base, and discussions were held on the report. The meeting continued for several days, and Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean revolution, criticized and disclosed the "Left" adventurist manoeuvres of the "Left" opportunists and sectarians, and clarified once more the only correct line of people's revolutionary government and the policy of the anti-Japanese national united front.

After this meeting, in accordance with the revolutionary line and policy advanced by him, a struggle was unfolded in the base to set up a people's revolutionary government instead of the "soviet" and expand the anti-Japanese national united front movement for the purpose of rallying the broad masses to the side of the revolution.

Under such keyed-up circumstances, a meeting of activists of the Women's Association organization in District No. 2 of Wangching was to be called.

Comrade Choe Gum Sun, member of the county Women's Association committee and head of the Women's Association organization in District No. 2, worked day and night to prepare for the meeting. She walked scores of *ri* to and from the branch organizations, looking up Women's Association activists to inform them of the agenda and the orientation of discussion and prepare them for it. She also actively helped the heads of the branch organizations to well prepare their reports to be delivered at the meeting.

Whenever Comrade Gum Sun met Women's Association members belonging to the branch organizations, she told them again and again that the aim of the forthcoming meeting was to assure the implementation of the line and policy put forward by Comrade Kim Il Sung, and explained to them in plain terms the correctness of the line and policy.

Thanks to her efforts, preparations were made so that the meeting could be held in a politically high-toned atmosphere.

As I worked in the Tawangching branch, I also participated in the meeting.

The meeting was opened at Matsun in Hsiaowangching where Comrade Kim Il Sung's quarters were located.

Scores of Women's Association activists from many branches in Hsiaowangching, Tawangching, Shihliping and other places came to Matsun. Also present at the meeting were women cadres of the Young Communist League.

Just before the meeting was opened, Comrade Choe Gum Sun announced that the meeting would be attended and guided personally by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Instantly, the meeting place became a scene of overflowing joy.

Indeed, our joy was boundless, as the meeting was going to be held in the presence of General Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean revolution.

In fact, he bore the destiny of the Korean revolution on his shoulders and was so busy every day expanding and strengthening the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army, setting up the people's revolutionary government after overcoming the temporary confusion caused by the adventurist acts of the "Left" opportunists, and attending to the work of the united front to knit the broad anti-Japanese forces together. So, no one had expected that he would personally attend a meeting of us Women's Association members.

Thus, the meeting opened in an atmosphere in which the revolutionary enthusiasm of the attendants was running high. Comrade Choe Gum Sun took the chair.

To begin with, reports were made to review the work of the branch organizations over the past year.

With a genial smile he carefully listened to the reports. The reporters were so encouraged by his free attitude that they unhesitatingly spoke all about the defects revealed in their work, however trifling.

Each time defects were mentioned, he did not reproach them for the mistakes but encouraged them by saying that it was a good thing to boldly admit the faults in their work and bring them to light honestly. He said:

You should not keep your mistakes secret but acknowledge them boldly and honestly make a clean breast of them before the masses. The reason is that only by so doing can you correct them more quickly and more thoroughly.

Listening to the reports of the heads of the branch organizations, he put in words and guided them in such a way that they could speak unhesitatingly and truthfully of the mistakes they had committed during that period.

Following the reports of the heads of the branch organizations, he gave important teachings as to how the Women's Association should conduct its work in the future. He said:

The Women's Association has done really a great deal of work in the past year. In this period you have demonstrated in practice how great the strength of the women is who have gained their social and political emancipation. In the guerrilla base, as you all know, the youth and middle-aged people took up arms and

went to join the guerrilla army or were engaged in difficult and complex revolutionary activities. Therefore, the tasks arising in the rear had to be tackled mainly by women and old folks. But even under the hard circumstances of incessant fighting with the enemy, you organized and mobilized the broad masses of women without the slightest vacillation and satisfactorily carried out such a big amount of work as to aid the guerrilla army, do farm work and manage the economic life. In this course the members of the Women's Association and all other women in the base have been tempered still more and have grown up to be fighters.

He praised us more than we deserved for the results of our work for one year, and added that the Women's Association would be confronted with more arduous and difficult tasks in the future. He spoke to the following effect:

All the Women's Association members in the base, to say nothing of the Women's Association activists present at this meeting, are honourable vanguards of the women's movement in our country and are women revolutionaries. And in the course of your practical life in the base you have keenly realized what the emancipation of women means.

As your personal experience tells you, all the women in the guerrilla base are guaranteed the equal socio-political rights and liberties with men. Thus, the centuries-old desire of our women who were oppressed and trampled underfoot by the force of money and authority for thousands of years has been brilliantly realized for the first time.

This really is a precious revolutionary gain. We must firmly guard this valuable gain and develop it splendidly.

In our homeland at present, the Korean women accounting for a half of the population are languishing under the double and treble oppression and exploitation by Japanese imperialism and feudalism. You are the very workers entrusted with the glorious mission to bring them genuine freedom and right to live like human beings.

The genuine emancipation of women is feasible only when the lost country is restored and a society is built where the masses of the people are masters of the country. In other words, in order to bring about genuine socio-political freedom for the women, it is imperative to drive the Japanese imperialist aggressors out of our fatherland and win the freedom and independence of the country.

It is precisely for this sacred purpose that we are now fighting, rifle in hand, shedding blood. The most important task confronting us, therefore, is to prepare and gather strength by further expanding and strengthening the ranks of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army, our revolutionary armed force, so as to be able to drive out the Japanese imperialists. This is also the way to expedite the emancipation of women.

Therefore, all the Women's Association members should keenly realize that it is their first and foremost task to aid the guerrilla army. If you think that only by holding arms in your hands can you fight the

enemy, you are grossly mistaken. For our guerrillas to fight more effectively against the Japanese imperialist aggressors, they must have clothes to change according to the season and a required amount of provisions. If you dye the stuff and make uniforms in season for them and do farming well and send provisions to them in good time, this is, after all, tantamount to fighting hand to hand against the enemy. Our guerrilla army now wins every battle it fights, and this is precisely because it receives such a warm support and encouragement from the people. Our guerrillas display such a great strength because you give them a good backing and help.

In wholeheartedly looking after the bereaved families of those comrades who have fallen in battle against the enemy and taking care of their children as their own, the members of the Women's Association are helping us guerrillas after all. Because, as you have correctly pointed out, it enables the guerrillas to fight courageously against the enemy with a serene mind free from worries about their parents, wives and children. Therefore, the Women's Association must regard the work of aiding the guerrilla army as the most important task and lead all its members to become models in this work.

Another important job for the Women's Association is to rear children into a reliable reserve force for the revolution. Japanese imperialism against which we are fighting is a very strong enemy. Therefore, our revolutionary cause will not be accomplished in a day or two and its path will be very thorny. This very fact demands that we bring up our successors to

be Red communist fighters. This is all the more so because we have to carry forward our revolutionary cause from generation to generation. You must realize this and bring up your sons and daughters in the spirit of hating imperialism from childhood. Only then will they join the guerrilla army when they are grown up and fight bravely against the enemy. Originally, it is mother's duty to bring up her children well. A story told by mother in one's childhood remains long in one's memory. So, the Women's Association should educate all mothers and women to pay deep attention to bringing up all the children in the base to be a trustworthy reserve force of the revolution.

Yet another important task confronting the Women's Association is to manage the economic life well in the base.

You must not forget that you are responsible for the economic life in the guerrilla base. We are now living and fighting in the enemy encirclement. If we relax our vigilance even for a moment and lead a life of idleness, it will bring a big loss to our revolution. Therefore, you should be fully prepared to fight with rifles in your hands, side by side with the guerrillas, just as you have done so far, when the enemy rushes at the guerrilla base. You should be ready to fight at any moment, and manage your life correspondingly in a militant manner. You should always economize in food and thus lead a life of provision against an emergency to be able to hold out even when you have to remain on the mountains for a long time. This is one of the important tasks incumbent on the Women's Association. It is desirable that

District No. 2 in charge of Comrade Gum Sun take the initiative in starting an extensive struggle for the economization of food grain. The Women's Association members should always lead the van of the masses in organizing a militant life.

He also referred to other important tasks facing the Women's Association and pointed out that in order to fulfil these tasks satisfactorily, it was necessary above all to reinforce the Women's Association organizations and rally the broad masses of the women around them. He spoke to the following effect:

Whether or not the Women's Association fulfils these bulky and difficult tasks without a hitch depends entirely on the consolidation of its ranks. The Women's Association should become a mass organization of the women uniting in its ranks all the masses of women who can fight against Japanese imperialism. There have appeared quite a few "Left" deviations in this respect in the past. Even those women who are fighting well against Japanese imperialism have been either left out in the cold or not been enlisted in its organization, on the ground that they are daughters of those who have some land. In the final analysis, this is as good as weakening our forces and helping the enemy. Our immediate task is to strongly muster to the side of the revolution all the forces that can fight against Japanese imperialism.

So, persevering education should be given even to those who, lacking in class consciousness, were once used, and are now being used, as tools of the enemy under his pressure, so that they are not only wrested away from under the influence of the enemy but are

led to fight against Japanese imperialism. In this way the enemy should be isolated to the maximum and his forces sapped.

As the old saying goes, "Even a sheet of paper is lighter when it is lifted by two," whatever difficult task comes easy when it is done by collective effort. Although the Japanese imperialists appear strong now, we are fully capable of beating them if we unite all the forces opposed to them into one.

But comrades, this is not so easy a task as said in words. The efforts of one or two persons or the power of a few cadres of the Women's Association is simply inadequate to cope with it. For the Women's Association to carry out this arduous task successfully, it is necessary first of all to build up its organizations well and spur them into action. Unless the organizations are active no task can be fulfilled properly. In the first place, the Women's Association should be turned into a living organization, into a militant organization where its entire membership make energetic efforts to carry out the revolutionary tasks assigned to them.

The county organization should help the district organizations, and the district organization, the branches, so that every unit is active. The cadres of the Women's Association should rouse all its members to action, and the members be made to help the masses of women forward.

To do so, you should go deep among the women masses and constantly enlighten them while living with them. Especially, the work with women should

be conducted through teaching and enlightening them in all matters.

No one will follow you, as it was honestly pointed out in the report of the Tawangching branch on its work, if you work in such a way as to criticize the old folks publicly at mass rallies on the ground that they are not willing to allow their daughters or daughters-in-law to go out to do revolutionary work. The reason why they are not willing is that as they have not yet got rid of feudal thinking, they are unable to understand what sex equality is, nor do they realize that the women constitute an important force of the revolution. They act like that because they are still ideologically backward and out of touch with the realities. What will come if you bring them, the old folks with grey hair, to face criticism before the masses? You must enlighten those who are ignorant. Supposing there are old folks who think only in the old fashion and do not allow their daughters and daughters-in-law to go to night school, you call on them and inculcate on them until they get the reason why they have to let them go to night school. If their daughters and daughters-in-law are too much encumbered with household chores to attend the night classes, you lend them a hand and help them forward. Then, they are sure to come out in the revolutionary work in real earnest.

Listening to Comrade Kim Il Sung, we could hardly raise our heads, seized with remorse for our past fault in the work of the Women's Association. Once, our Women's Association branch in Tawangching, following the directions of some "Left" elements, had

criticized at a mass meeting those old folks who did not want to allow their daughters and daughters-in-law to engage in revolutionary activities.

After this, the old folks became ever more perverse and put us out.

Analysing the reason why we Women's Association members had failed to do our work well, he spoke about our tasks to remedy the shortcomings. He said something like this:

How is it that the cadres of the Women's Association have done their work in such a way as to thoughtlessly bring a number of women before the masses for scolding and criticizing? It is that you are not well aware of your mission. You are not privileged people allowed to scold the masses at random and dictate this and that to them. On the contrary, you are true servants of the masses of the women, your mission being to serve them. Because you are not clear about this, you have mishandled your work in that manner.

According to your reports, there seems to be a tendency among some comrades now engaged in revolutionary activities to think as if it were an expression of backwardness to manage one's households and be well-mannered towards the aged. This is a serious mistake.

If there are comrades who think that way, they must correct their view. Because you have such a wrong view and attitude, old folks do not want to let their daughters-in-law or daughters do revolutionary work. It will not do to conduct your work this way. The women engaged in revolutionary activities must keep their houses better still, bring up their children

in a more exemplary way and attend to their old parents-in-law with greater devotion. By so doing, they must earn praise for the women revolutionaries from the old people. Only then will the old folks follow you. Needless to say, it is hard to do so. That is why those who are engaged in revolutionary activities are called revolutionaries, aren't they?

Therefore, in order to acquit themselves well of the important tasks facing the Women's Association by rallying the broad masses of the women its cadres must become genuine revolutionaries through constant self-discipline and tempering.

The revolutionization of the Women's Association cadres themselves is essential to revolutionize all its members. Only when all the members of the Women's Association as well as its cadres are revolutionized, can they become faithful servants working in the interests of the people, in the interests of all the masses of the women, and dynamically lead them towards victory in the revolution.

Comrades, our road ahead is very rough. Originally, there can be no royal road to revolution. In order to go the rugged road we have to tirelessly revolutionize ourselves. Only by pushing our way through hardships can we emerge victorious. But if we neglect the work of revolutionizing ourselves even for a moment, we shall waver or fall back in the face of the difficulties.

In the struggle for revolutionizing oneself, you, the nuclei of the Women's Association, should lead its members and set an example for them. As the folk saying in our country has it, "Purity upstream makes

water clean down the river," only when you make true revolutionaries of yourselves first, who serve the country and the people, can you revolutionize all the women masses in the base, not to mention the members of the Women's Association down below.

Revolutionizing the members of the Women's Association and other women is of great importance also in leading the family members remaining at home along the road of revolution. Women functionaries are the managers of their families in charge of the ideological education of the children and the aged and responsible for their food, clothing and housing problems. Accordingly, women exert great influence on their family members.

As you see, the question of revolutionizing the Women's Association members and other women is very important.

An important task arising in their revolutionization is to educate them in the hatred of Japanese imperialism. By giving them to clearly know the aggressive nature of the Japanese imperialists and their beastly atrocities, they should be fully acquainted with the fact that Japanese imperialism is the first target of our struggle. At the same time, they should be so educated as to hate the landlords and capitalists who are the agents of the Japanese imperialists.

Further, study should be strengthened among the women, so that they realize that we are sure to come off victors in the struggle against Japanese imperialism, thus inducing them to force their way bravely through any hardships and difficulties without the slightest vacillation.

Then, it must be seen to that the women lead their organizational life scrupulously and love the organization and the collective.

Thus, all women should be made to turn out in the revolutionary struggle and fight staunchly in defence of the revolutionary gains won at the cost of blood.

While revolutionizing themselves, the members of the Women's Association and the women should take the place of their husbands who are away on the revolutionary work, and lead the children and the aged at home along the road of revolution. When the Women's Association members and all the other women, and then even the children and the aged, are revolutionized, our guerrilla bases will become invincible revolutionary fortresses in the true sense of the word.

As you see, the duties of the Women's Association members are very important.

We do not have many qualified women cadres at present. All that you experienced were sufferings from oppression, exploitation, poverty and humiliation, and so you have not been able to learn how to write properly. This is why you must exert yourselves more than the men folks, learn quickly how to read and write, and study hard, so as to acquire a scientific understanding of the social development.

The thing is how you exert yourselves. So you must study strenuously, improving every second.

I am firmly convinced that you will revolutionize yourselves and become genuine Communists, fine women fighters, who will vigorously lead the broad

segments of women masses to struggle for the accomplishment of the sacred cause of national liberation and the emancipation of women.

Indeed, his words produced much impression and excitement among those present at the meeting.

We were all glad now in the consciousness that there would be nothing beyond us, whatever task we might be assigned to.

The important teachings given by Comrade Kim Il Sung served us as the only guide in the subsequent activities of the Women's Association.

Thus, he not only clearly showed the road ahead of us at the meeting of Women's Association members, but paid meticulous care even to problems arising in the work and life of Women's Association members and other women by visiting their work places and homes.

When he came to Tokgol village, he personally met women members of the Self-Defence Force and convinced them in concrete terms that their role in defending the base with arms and their revolutionary influence on the masses were great. When he called on the cooks of the guerrilla army unit there who were busy with work, he saw to it that adequate conditions were provided for their study. In this way, he carefully looked after the work and life of us women.

Indeed, it was under this warm care of the great fatherly leader that we members of the Women's Association grew up to be reliable revolutionaries, and it was under his outstanding leadership that the Women's Association grew in scope and strength as

a mass-based, militant revolutionary organization leading the broad women masses.

In this way in the flames of the arduous armed struggle to defeat Japanese imperialism and liberate the fatherland, Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean revolution, built up the brilliant traditions of the women's movement in our country.

Because of such glorious roots of the women's movement which he had planted before liberation it has been possible for the women's movement of our country to make as great progress as today.

At the Third Congress of the Democratic Women's Union of Korea he said as follows:

"The Women's Union members and women should widely launch forth in public life and actively participate in the worthwhile labour of socialist construction, thereby adding honour to the women in the Chollima age."

All of us women should be single-heartedly loyal to Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people, who always leads our people along the road of victory and glory, and measure up to his warm care and justify his deep trust through our struggle to emancipate the south Korean women and hasten the complete victory of socialism in our country.

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