

**FOR THE PEACEFUL  
UNIFICATION  
OF  
KOREA**

**1957**



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## FOREWORD

More than ten years have elapsed since Korea was liberated from the yoke of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule. But the country still remains divided into two parts, and the nation split. The division of the country and the split of the nation have brought untold sufferings and misfortunes upon the Korean people. This is why the Korean people are doing everything in their power for the great cause of the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The peaceful settlement of the Korean question and the founding of a unified, independent state — this is the unanimous aspiration and urgent demand of the Korean people, who enjoy the support and encouragement of the conscientious people the world over.

Representing the unanimous aspiration of the entire Korean people, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. have consistently struggled for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Particularly, in the period following the Armistice, the Korean people's struggle for peaceful unification has been further enhanced.

Measures for attaining the peaceful unification of the fatherland submitted by the Korean delegation at the Geneva Conference in June 1954, the proposals for holding the North and South joint conference adopted at the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K., the statements and resolutions of all the political parties and social organizations affiliated with the United Democratic Fatherland Front, the historic Declaration adopted at the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in April 1956, and so on, — all these clearly manifest the unanimous national aspiration of the Korean people and indicate the fundamental principles and the measures in connection with the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

In this book are compiled the documents on the peaceful unification of the country issued by the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the D.P.R.K., and political parties and social organizations in the period following the Armistice.

The Editorial Board

## FOR THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY

### Declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea

Fellow countrymen, brothers and sisters all over the country!

All workers, peasants and working intellectuals of the country!

Youth and students of the country!

Scientists and cultural workers of the country!

Industrialists and tradesmen of the country!

Members of all political parties and social organizations of the country!

Government officials of all levels of North and South Korea, officers, non-commissioned officers and men!

Korean nationals living abroad!

Today, at this grave juncture when the territory of the fatherland is divided into two parts, the Workers' Party of Korea declares to you.

We are a single nation, and our country has traversed the course of a long history as a unified nation.

The history of our people has a splendid tradition of glorious, patriotic struggles of our ancestors who repulsed the aggressions of alien foes; our fertile and beautiful soil abounds in inexhaustible natural resources enabling us Korean people to create a happy life.

Even the bayonets and jails under the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists for half a century failed to bring the Koreans to their knees, to break the lofty national spirit of the Korean people aspiring after freedom and independence.

Even now ten years after the August 15 Liberation, we have not yet achieved the complete unification and independence of our country.

Half of our sacred land still remains under the occupation of the U.S. aggressors, and our territory is divided into two parts by the barrier of the military demarcation line, which is not a frontier.

The division of the territory and disunity of the nation are an immeasurable hindrance to the political, economic and cultural development of our country in general, and cause national humiliation and tremendous misfortune to the public and private life of the entire Korean people.

Because of the split, we are unable to utilize, on a nation-wide scale, the rich resources and all the potentialities of production in North and South Korea, unable to avail ourselves reasonably of the mineral resources and manpower in production and national construction.

Because of the split, we are unable to display, on a nation-wide scale, all the wisdom and ability possessed by the Korean people for the promotion of our national culture and the development of modern sciences.

Because of the split, we are even unable to exchange letters with our dear family members and friends, despite the short distance, to say nothing of seeing each other.

This is how matters stand with our country at present. Should, then, such an unnatural state of affairs continue to prevail between our compatriots, which could hardly occur even in relations between countries separated far from each other by oceans and continents?

Today, when nations, large and small, in the East and the West take pride in their own land, holding aloft the banner of sovereignty and independence, why should we remain divided incapable of establishing a unified, sovereign and independent state?

Even different nations of the world are not desirous of dispute and antagonism among themselves, and are seeking for a peaceful way of mutual understanding and friendly cooperation. Then, should there be any reason for us Koreans to scowl at each other, and to be unable to sit together at one place?

Who are to answer for the division of our nation which is of the same blood? And who have brought us such a national misfortune and calamity?

They are none other than the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique. Since the U.S. imperialists came to Korea without shedding even a single drop of their blood for her liberation, they have suppressed with arms all the patriotic movements of the Korean people striving for the freedom and unification of the fatherland, and converted South Korea into their war base, and are trying to turn it entirely into their colony; they have continuously fostered the artificial split of our country, trying to perpetuate it.

Having come over to our land tens of thousands of miles away from their country, under the showy cloak of "freedom and aid," they swagger around on our streets and in our villages, plunder us of our property and treasures, and disdain and despise our people.

The American imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique provoked the criminal, aggressive war against the Korean people asking for the peaceful unification of the country, and killed our kinsmen and women, and reduced our towns and villages to rubble.

Even today, they continue to obstruct in every possible way the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, and are trying to instigate another war in Korea and obtain a source of money-making at the expense of immeasurable sacrifices and sufferings of our people.

In South Korea the Syngman Rhee clique, loyal servants of the American imperialists, demand the prolonged stationing of the U.S. imperialist aggressors, do not hesitate to sell national honour and property, and are resorting to every possible means of rabid terror and persecution against their fellow countrymen, just for the sake of maintaining their regime.

The people of South Korea, though liberated on the same day and at the same hour as the people of North Korea, are helplessly groaning under oppression and in the mire of poverty, while those in North Korea, as masters of the state, are fully enjoying all the fruits of their own labour.

In South Korea the national economy is on the decline, the entire economic life relies on foreign commodities, the tradition of national culture is trodden underfoot, the

decadent American way of life prevails, and the youth and students are being forcibly pressganged into military service for a fratricidal conflict, while in the northern half the national industry and rural economy are briskly growing, tremendous post-war rehabilitation and construction are in progress, genuine national culture is flourishing and developing and the youth and students are enjoying their study and peaceful labour.

We can no longer tolerate such a state of affairs. The Korean people should resolutely struggle for the realization of unification and independence, holding their destiny firmly in their own hands.

However frenziedly the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique may try to renew the fratricidal conflict, the Korean people will never tolerate such an action. The unification of the divided country can be materialized by peaceful means.

The might of the Korean people, united in a common aspiration for peaceful unification, is much stronger than that of those who want the continuation of the country's division and attempt to resume a fratricidal war, and the forces of the peace-loving peoples of the world who desire a peaceful settlement of the Korean question are incomparably stronger than those of aggression and war.

Today, we live in an era when the peoples of the whole world are vigorously marching along the road of peace and friendship.

The Workers' Party of Korea, with a view to realizing as early as possible the aspiration of the entire people for the peaceful unification and independence of the country, appeals to all the Korean people as follows:

1. The Korean question must be finally settled on the basis of a democratic expression of the will of the Korean people themselves, and a united government of Korea must be established through general elections by the entire Korean people.

No intervention in elections from without should be permitted, and there should be no apprehension, restraint or intimidation.

Representatives of the broad popular masses of workers, peasants and others must participate in the coalition

government to be formed as a result of all-Korea free elections, based upon democratic principles, a genuinely democratic administration should be enforced, and the rights and interests of the people of all walks of life should be guaranteed.

2. The Armistice attained in Korea should be converted into lasting peace so as to bring about the peaceful unification of the country.

Both sides must, therefore, strive for a strict observance of the Armistice Agreement, and an end must be put to the introduction of combat materiel, large-scale armament expansion and provocative acts in violation of the Armistice Agreement along the military demarcation line by the U.S. authorities and the South Korean government.

Government authorities of both North and South Korea must declare before the Korean people and the peoples of the whole world that they will not resort to arms on any account against each other and will assume the duty to solve by peaceful means alone all the questions concerning Korea's unification, and must reduce the armed forces of North and South Korea to the minimum with a view to lessening the burden of military expenses and allotting the sum thus released to peaceful construction.

For the peaceful unification of Korea, the intervention by the U.S.A. and her colonial rule over South Korea, which has brought about the artificial division of Korea, must be done away with. All foreign armed forces, including the U.S. forces and the Chinese People's Volunteers, must be withdrawn from Korea, and no foreign interference whatever in the internal affairs of Korea should be tolerated.

Neither part of our country should be inveigled into any military alliance with foreign countries or thrown into a state of enslavement by any foreign power.

The "U.S.-ROK Mutual Defence Pact" and other disgraceful, unequal treaties concluded between the governments of South Korea and the United States, which are in the way of the peaceful unification of the country and have opened the road to war and national enthrallment, must be declared null and void.

3. In order to enable the broad popular masses to take part in the struggle for the peaceful unification of the country and fully display their patriotic enthusiasm and positiveness, democratic principles must be materialized in all spheres of social and political life in South Korea, and the livelihood of the popular masses must be stabilized and improved.

Freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and religious belief must be ensured; freedom of political activities of political parties and social organizations and of individual persons of all walks of life guaranteed; and all the patriotic, political prisoners released.

Above all, conditions must be guaranteed for the broad working masses to take an active part in public and political life.

The present "National Assembly" in South Korea consisting exclusively of the small privileged circles with no participation of workers and peasants cannot represent the interests of the entire South Korean people.

Representatives of workers and peasants who constitute the absolute majority of the population should have seats in the South Korean National Assembly, which should represent the interests of the people of all walks of life and be operated in conformity with the will of the people.

At the same time, actual conditions must be created, so that struggles can be waged for ameliorating the corrupt administration in South Korea and for realizing the peaceful unification of the country, against U.S. imperialism and Syngman Rhee dictatorship.

Workers, office employees, peasants, handicraftsmen and national capitalists in South Korea must resolutely oppose the investment of the American monopoly capital and the importation of unnecessary American surplus commodities into South Korea, and struggle for the rehabilitation and development of the national economy and for an independent development of the national industry.

Unemployment must be done away with, the unemployed secured of jobs, and the present unstable conditions for employment of the working people eliminated. The

livelihood of the working people must be stabilized by curbing inflation and reducing prices on a large scale.

Minimum wages which can guarantee the normal livelihood of the workers and office employees must be ensured and an eight-hour working day and a system of strict social insurance by the government enforced.

The exploitation of peasant masses by means of the expropriation of land and grain, murderous usury, and exacting taxes must be prohibited; the peasants personally engaged in farming given land; and the innumerable foodless peasants and those leaving their land, who are increasing year after year, must be relieved from their miserable situation.

The youth and students should not be pressed into the army; conditions must be created for them, in which they can study and find positions; democratization of national education should be realized and freedom of scientific researches and all other activities guaranteed for scientists and cultural workers.

Women must be guaranteed equal rights with men, and state and social protective measures taken for mothers and children.

Middle and petty tradesmen and industrialists must be protected from the oppression of the American monopolies and compradors, and possibilities for obtaining necessary funds and procuring raw materials and selling manufactured goods secured for them.

The entire people in South Korea must oppose the armaments expansion for another war and demand that various government measures be taken for rehabilitation and construction of the devastated peace industry and destroyed towns and villages in South Korea and must also firmly demand that priority be given to the construction of educational and cultural institutions as well as of dwelling houses so as to provide conveniences of life to the popular masses.

4. For the acceleration of the peaceful unification of the country, artificial barriers existing between North and South Korea must be removed and mutual contacts and negotiations between the people of both parts realized.

We should sit together to give a rebuff to the obstructive manoeuvres of the American imperialists and their lackeys, who oppose the unification of the country, and to settle the fate of the country and the people.

We eagerly wish to strengthen the ties between North and South Korea and create favorable circumstances and an atmosphere for promoting a mutual understanding by such means as mutual visits and exchange of letters between the people, and by organizing economic, cultural, scientific, art and sports exchange.

We hope that the abundant electric power, coal, timber and other fruits of labour of the North Korean people will also be shared by our fellow countrymen in South Korea, and we maintain that a situation be created, in which scientists, cultural workers and artists of North and South Korea can exchange their achievements and experiences, and combine their wisdom and talent to carry forward our brilliant national culture.

For their visits and mutual contacts in various fields, North Korea will always keep the door open and welcome public figures and people of all strata of South Korea who desire the unification of the country, and will fully guarantee the personal safety and freedom of activity to those who travel to and from North Korea.

We propose that a permanent committee, composed of representatives of the parliaments and governments, or of political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea, be set up to discuss in detail the question of the unification of Korea, based upon the interests of the entire Korean people who desire mutual rapprochement and negotiations between North and South Korea.

5. For the acceleration of the great cause of unification and independence of the country, the unity and solidarity of the whole nation opposing American imperialism must be strengthened and patriotic forces of North and South Korea united to intensify the common struggle against the enemy of peaceful unification.

The American imperialists and their lackeys are afraid lest the Korean people should meet each other, and they are trying to destroy the unity of the Korean peo-

ple and prevent the patriotic persons from joining forces with a view to perpetuating the division of the country.

We will answer the enemy's ruse for the split of the Korean nation with the unity and solidarity of our strength. It is unity and solidarity alone which promise us victory.

We will welcome, and negotiate with, anyone who is against U.S. imperialism and sincerely desires national solidarity and unification of the country, irrespective of his or her political views, religious belief or property status.

Today, the patriotic persons who, like Messrs. Kim Koo and Kim Kyoo Shik who took part in the North-South Joint Conference in 1948, oppose the national oppression of the American imperialists, resist the fratricidal plot and the fascist dictatorship of the Syngman Rhee clique; and support and approve the peaceful unification, are increasing in number in the southern half. We welcome such actions and consider that negotiations with these persons are possible.

Should anyone who committed no small wrongs against the country and the people in the past repent them and sincerely wish to contribute to the attainment of the peaceful unification of the country and of the unity of the people, we will warmly welcome such an action, negotiate with him and guarantee his social status according to his merits and talent.

In order to rally all the patriotic, democratic forces and achieve the unification of the country by peaceful means, we hold that all political parties in North and South Korea should have unity in their action, and all social organizations should unite themselves.

We eagerly desire, in the first place, that various organizations of workers, peasants, youth and women as well as scientific and cultural associations in North and South Korea, which include the widest sections of the Korean people, should unite together and march ahead in concert as a united force.

We firmly believe that, in spite of the differences in political views, all the political parties and social organizations in North and South Korea will be able to find

sufficient means of cooperating with and conceding to each other and thus forming a united front to decide the country's destiny and the people's future.

6. An international agreement should be reached for the preservation of peace in Korea and for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

We hope that for the maintenance of peace in Korea and for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question, governments concerned with the Korean issue will call an international conference, in which Asian countries, including the government representatives of North and South Korea, will widely take part, and ask that those governments assume obligations to ensure that there will be in Korea no provocation of war nor occurrence of action which would menace peace.

Dear compatriots all over the country!

This is no time for us only to grieve over the division of the country and the nation.

The unification of the country depends solely upon our own effort and struggle.

Rise up, entire Korean people of North and South Korea, in response to this call of the Workers' Party of Korea for the peaceful unification of the country!

Discuss and support our appeal for the peaceful unification of the country in your homes, your workshops, your schools and your organizations!

Join in the resolute fight so as to make the true voice of the people heard by the enemy who are preventing the unification of the country!

Then a joint conference of the North and South will be convened for the peaceful unification of the country, normal intercourse in the spheres of economy and culture will be established between the North and South, and further a united government will be formed through nationwide free elections.

By means of national unity and solidarity alone can we achieve the unification and independence of the country, and with the completion of the unification and independ-

ence we will mark a new and still brighter epoch in the history of our country.

The destiny of our fatherland is in our own hands. Those who are dead set against the peaceful unification of the country will never be able to clear themselves of their crime and the stigma as the people's sworn enemy.

If you do really treasure the destiny of the country, all of you join the ranks of the fighters for the peaceful unification of the country!

Rise up in defence of the freedom and honour of the country!

Fight for the honour and happiness of our posterity through all ages!

Long live the national unification and independence of the Korean people!

*April 28, 1956*

## APPEAL OF THE SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Entire people of South Korea!

Workers, peasants and intellectuals of South Korea!

Youth and students of South Korea!

Enterprisers, merchants and religionists of South Korea!

Members of the National Assembly and government officials of South Korea!

Officers and soldiers of the National Defence Army of South Korea!

Members of the political parties and social organizations of South Korea!

More than nine years have passed since our country was liberated from the rule of Japanese imperialism.

But our country still remains divided into two parts — North and South Korea.

This division of our country has caused untold misfortunes to the Korean people. But every conscientious Korean has striven to achieve the unification of the country. Representing the wishes of the entire Korean people, the United Democratic Fatherland Front and the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have more than once appealed to political parties, social organizations, the people and the government authorities of South Korea for the peaceful unification of our country.

At the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, however, the government authorities of the southern half have each time prevented these proposals and appeals from being carried out or ignored them. Especially, egged on by the U.S. imperialists, Syngman Rhee replied to the last proposals of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Demo-

cratic People's Republic of Korea for a peaceful unification of the country with the fratricidal armed invasion upon North Korea.

The bloody war in Korea which was waged for over three years brought to the Korean people unprecedented losses of men and material and untold misfortunes and sufferings. In spite of all this, even before the blood of the wounds inflicted by the war has dried up, Syngman Rhee is again bent on expanding armaments and is openly pronouncing the so-called "march northward to unify the country," under the protection of the U.S. imperialists who are trying to convert Korea into their permanent colony. How can one possibly consider this to be an action corresponding to the wishes of the Korean people?

The Korean people want no war at any time, still less a fratricidal war. They want to live as one people, harmonious and united, in a unified and independent state.

Representing this desire of the Korean people who love peace, our side compelled at the Korean Armistice negotiations the U.S. side, which had been employing dilatory tactics to continue the war, to sign the Korean Armistice Agreement.

In spite of the sincere efforts of our side, the discussions between the two sides on the convocation of the political conference concerning the Korean question provided for in the Armistice Agreement were wrecked on account of the unreasonable insistence and rude, unilateral actions of the U.S. side.

Also at the Geneva Conference of Foreign Ministers on the settlement of the Korean question, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, faithful to its policy of peace representing the will of the entire people of Korea, did everything in its power for the peaceful unification of Korea. Owing to the obstructive policies and unreasonable positions of the U.S. delegate and the delegates of Syngman Rhee and certain other nations who were subservient to him, the Geneva Conference was concluded without solving the Korean question.

Yet the Korean question has not been eliminated from the agenda, nor can it be eliminated either. We emphasize the necessity of convening, in the nearest future, a confer-

ence on the Korean question with a broad participation of the countries concerned.

Achievement of the armistice in Korea and the restoration of peace in Indo-China have shown that there is no issue which cannot be settled by means of conference and negotiation.

The Korean question can and must be settled peacefully. We are, therefore, striving to settle the Korean question by peaceful means.

The just solution of the Korean question has become a vital demand not only of the Korean people but also of the peoples of the whole world who are concerned with the maintenance of peace.

Today, the Korean people are grieved more than ever over the division of their country and are impatiently longing for the earliest possible unification of the country. How can we tolerate further a situation in which the people of North and South Korea live in a state of division? The Korean people who enjoy a long history and a brilliant culture must and will live harmoniously on one territory as a single nation.

The division of our country causes tremendous losses not only to the development of politics, economy and culture; it brings great misfortunes also to the private home life of a great number of the Koreans. How can we tolerate the fact that dear families and relatives are living separated from each other in the North and South Korea, and short as the distance is, they are unable to correspond with each other to say nothing of meeting together?

Whereas North Korea has enough to spare all resources necessary for the life of all the Korean people such as electric power, coal, fertilizer, iron, timber, etc., the people in South Korea cannot avail themselves of them, but have to take the trouble to import them from across the Pacific and the Korean Straits. What a deplorable fact this is!

While shortage of labour power is felt in the northern half of our Republic where magnificent rehabilitation and construction are under way since the war, in the southern half 1,300,000 unemployed are thrown into the streets.

Is not this a contradictory phenomenon?

All these facts explain the necessity to establish and develop in various fields friendly relations between the people of North and South Korea, to strengthen economic exchange and to speedily work out and implement any measure for promoting the peaceful unification of the country.

We maintain that if we reject every obstructive machination of the U.S. imperialists and reach agreement among ourselves, the Korean question can and will be settled by the Koreans themselves.

It is only too evident that it is not the entire South Korean people, including conscientious members of the South Korean National Assembly, but the U.S. imperialists, Syngman Rhee and a few of his colleagues alone who do not want the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

We emphasize from this point of view that we must, above all other things, create conditions for the economic and cultural rapprochement between North and South Korea and friendly associations between the people of the two parts of Korea which will constitute a first practical step towards the peaceful unification of the country.

We welcome any form of negotiation for discussing questions on the rapprochement of the people of North and South Korea and the peaceful unification of the homeland. We are in full agreement to the sitting around one table of representatives of various political parties and social organizations, and of representatives of both governments or both assemblies of North and South Korea.

Representing the wishes of the entire Korean people who desire a speedy and peaceful unification of the fatherland, the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposes and appeals as follows:

1. With a view to discussing the peaceful unification of the fatherland, to convene, within 1955, in Pyongyang or Seoul, a joint conference of the representatives of various political parties and social organizations, and personages of all walks of life in North and South Korea, or a joint session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the National Assembly of South Korea.

2. To call a meeting of the representatives of North and South Korea in February 1955 at Panmunjom or Kaesong, in order to discuss the question of convening the above-mentioned conference and questions of starting the economic and cultural rapprochement, trade, traffic and correspondence between North and South Korea.

3. With a view to working out measures for the peaceful unification of the country, various political parties and social organizations, and patriotic people from all walks of life in North and South Korea should establish liaison with each other, visit each other and come into contact with each other, and the government authorities of North and South Korea should guarantee freedom of their activities throughout the entire territory of Korea.

We are convinced that all the Korean people will support and welcome this appeal, and will be all out to carry this appeal into effect by overcoming every action hindering the realization of our desire for settling the Korean question by peaceful means among us Koreans.

*October 30, 1954, Pyongyang*

## DECLARATION OF THE SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA ADOPTED AT ITS NINTH SESSION

The Supreme People's Assembly, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, warmly supports and welcomes the declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. dated February 9, 1955, addressed to the peoples and parliaments of all countries.

The Supreme People's Assembly, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, deems it possible to eliminate successfully the danger menacing peace and security among the peoples at present, if in their foreign policies all countries observe the international principles pronounced in the declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

These principles are the only principles that can promote peaceful coexistence of all countries and friendly co-operation between the peoples under the condition of a peaceful life irrespective of their social systems.

The Korean people, together with the peoples of all countries who aspire to peace, are watching with keen vigilance the resurgence of German militarism in Europe and Japanese militarism in Asia, the formation of aggressive military alliances in all parts of the world and the encroachment upon national independence and sovereignty of the peoples.

It is an abnormal and intolerable state of affairs that the People's Republic of China hitherto has been deprived of her legitimate right to the United Nations as a Big Power member and that the U.S. armed forces continue to occupy Taiwan, the inalienable territory of China.

The American aggressive army is still occupying the southern half of Korea, the South Korean puppet army radically expanded, the Armistice Agreement is flagrantly being violated by the American side, and the war pre-

paration in South Korea is being openly carried out. All this can never be tolerated.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea resolutely denounces the various military treaties concluded between the United States and South Korea and firmly demands, first of all, that all foreign troops be withdrawn from the Korean territory and the number of troops of North and South Korea be reduced to one hundred thousand respectively within a short space of time, with a view to eliminating the foreign interference in Korea's internal affairs and ensuring peaceful conditions in Korea.

The sacred duty of the peoples and parliaments of all countries is to struggle for preventing the revival of militarism, frustrating the formation of aggressive military alliances, eliminating the interference in the domestic affairs of other nations, banning the atomic and hydrogen weapons and reducing armaments in general.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea positively supports the proposals of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. for direct contact between parliaments of various countries, exchange of parliamentary delegations and addresses delivered in parliaments by delegations from the parliaments of other countries and expresses its resolution to undertake practical measures for strengthening relations with the parliaments of other countries.

Despite the consistent effort of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the realization of the proposals in the appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 30, 1954, which voiced the desire of the entire Korean people who aspire after the peaceful unification of Korea, has been delayed to this date due to the obstructive manoeuvre on the part of the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea hopes that an international conference for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question will be immediately convened with the wide participation

of the countries concerned; warmly welcomes the mutual dispatch of, and the delivery of addresses by, delegations of parliaments of North and South Korea for the discussion and negotiation of problems concerning the peaceful unification of Korea, and contacts between North and South Korea as well as other measures for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question; and will continue to make efforts for their realization.

*March 11, 1955, Pyongyang*

## STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES OF THE D.P.R.K.

In the three years since the signing of the Armistice Agreement in Korea, international tension has been considerably relaxed.

Today the international as well as internal situation demands that tension in Korea be reduced to the greatest extent.

Continued expansion of armaments by aggressive states constitutes a major obstacle to the further lessening of international strain. Especially, armaments expansion in South Korea cannot but be a big impediment to the easing of tension in Korea and adversely affects the peaceful development of economy and the improvement of people's living in South Korea.

Now, when international situation has substantially improved and the entire Korean people are aspiring after the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, South Korean authorities, with help of the ruling circles of the U.S.A., continue to expand armaments in South Korea and openly call for the "march north war."

South Korean authorities, in an attempt to deceive the people of South Korea and world public opinion, try to justify their aggressive acts on the ground of the non-existent threat of "aggression" from the North and of imaginary expansion of the strength of the Korean People's Army.

As is confirmed by past experiences, armaments expansion ultimately leads to war. Particularly, armaments expansion in South Korea resulted in the outbreak of the Korean war, which took a heavy toll of millions of lives and brought untold misfortune and sufferings upon the Korean

people. The Korean people, therefore, do not want war, but want to see the Korean question settled peacefully.

The Government of the D.P.R.K., in conformity with the desire of the Korean people, has consistently maintained that the Korean question be settled through negotiations, and proposed time and again to South Korean authorities that both sides should declare themselves against resorting to arms and for reducing to the minimum the strength of their armed forces in order to dispel distrust between North and South and lessen tension in Korea. But South Korean authorities turned down the proposal.

To make new contributions to the maintenance of peace in Korea and to create conditions more favourable for the peaceful unification of Korea, the Government of the D.P.R.K. makes the following statement:

1. The Government of the D.P.R.K. solemnly declares that it will, as heretofore, not resort to arms first against the other side, as long as the South Korean authorities do not provoke war against the northern half of the Republic;

2. To reduce the armed forces of the D.P.R.K. by 80,000 men by the end of August 1956;

3. To reduce correspondingly military equipment and war materials and to appropriate the funds thus released for peace construction and improvement of people's living;

4. To render state assistance to the demobilized men of the Korean People's Army and ensure them peace jobs in accordance with their wish and ability.

In issuing the present statement, the Government of the D.P.R.K. has taken into consideration the fact that the people in both parts of Korea eagerly desire to see the peaceful unification of the country facilitated by improving the relations between the North and South and by promoting contacts between the North and South.

If South Korean authorities sincerely respect the wishes of the Korean people, they would have no alternative but to take practical measures in consonance with the popular will.

The Government of the D.P.R.K. will take above-mentioned measures, confident that the Korean People's Army

will reliably guard the democratic base in the northern half and that the people in both parts of Korea will expose and smash in good time any adventurous plots of bellicose elements who oppose the peaceful unification of the country and who are out to provoke a fratricidal conflict in Korea.

*May 31, 1956*

**MESSAGE OF THE SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY  
OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KO-  
REA ADDRESSED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
TIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE EN-  
TIRE SOUTH KOREAN PEOPLE**

**Adopted at the 12th Session of the Supreme  
People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K.**

Members of the House of Representatives of the Re-  
public of Korea!

Entire government employees in South Korea and men  
and officers of the ROK army !

Entire South Korean youth!

Conscientious public figures in South Korea!

Entire South Korean people, brothers and sisters!

At this time when the clamour of certain circles in  
South Korea for "march north war" is again disturbing  
your peace of mind, the 12th Session of the Supreme Peo-  
ple's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. has made sincere discussions  
on the necessity to oppose war and atomic weapons as well  
as to decisively reduce armaments.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K., which  
is greatly concerned about removing the misfortune of the  
national division and about ensuring a happy future for  
our posterity, again sends this message to you to convey  
our sincere aspirations.

Although we have had the misfortune to live for a long  
time separated from each other due to the artificial demar-  
cation line, there can be no demarcation line in the minds  
of the people who have lived in one family for several  
thousand years.

Aren't we Koreans the descendants of the same fore-  
fathers, no matter where we live, and do we not use the  
intimate term "we Koreans" when speaking each other?

Dare anyone break the community of the Korean nation which has been maintained uninterruptedly throughout our long history?

Although we are of different convictions and live under different systems, we still have a common national pride, common language and common view, do we not?

As long as we are not stocks and stones, for what and for whom have we, the descendants of the same forefathers, to reconcile ourselves to such misfortune as being unable to exchange, despite the short distance, even a word of regards with dear parents, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters who are separated from each other?

The fratricidal "march north" will not settle the present Korean question. Only such elements as the Syngman Rhee clique harbour the wild dream of continuing such national misfortune.

The horrible tragedy, such as the Korean people had never before experienced in their history, should not be restaged; the Koreans in the North and South must work hand in hand to realize the peaceful unification of their beloved country.

Peaceful unification of Korea — this is the vital aspiration of the Koreans at present, and at the same time, the strong demand of the hundreds of millions of peace-lovers throughout the world. The supreme national task for the present generation, no matter from what walk of life one may come, is the peaceful unification of the country.

Every Korean, every party and every class is now required to make contribution to the accomplishment of this sacred national task.

Peaceful unification of Korea! Can there be any weightier or more urgent task than this?

Thanks to the unswerving struggle in defence of peace waged by the honest-minded people all over the world, international tension has been considerably reduced since the signing of the Armistice Agreement in Korea, and the people have entered the highway of peaceful coexistence looking forward to a bright future.

But reality has proved that this path is by no means a smooth one.

The imperialists, whose savage greed can be satisfied only through war and aggression, have again provoked openly an aggressive war in the Near East.

The Anglo-French imperialists kindled the flares of aggressive war in an attempt to take from the Egyptian people by force the Suez Canal, which is the Egyptians' legal property and traditional possession, built by the sweat of their brow.

Anglo-French imperialists instigated the bellicose elements in Israel, their henchmen, to invade the territory of Egypt, and following this, they started direct armed invasion against the Egyptian people.

But the Egyptian people who cherish peace and their national independence are not alone. No sooner had the boom of guns of aggression sounded in the Suez Canal zone than the indignant voices opposing and denouncing the aggressors rang throughout the world and demonstrators in support of the Egyptian people flowed into the streets.

Ultimate victory will surely be on the side of the Egyptian people who have risen up in defence of their freedom and independence.

The schemes of the aggressive imperialists to seize the Suez Canal zone are sure to end in failure, just as they met ignominious defeat a few years ago in Korea before the heroic resistance of the Korean people.

In total disregard of the experiences of history, Syngman Rhee is again urging the adventurous "march north war" following the "example" of the bellicose elements in Israel, the cat's paws of the imperialists. Syngman Rhee has stirred up certain elements in South Korea to clamour for the "march north," opposing the peaceful unification of the country, while running amuck to convert South Korea into a permanent colony of the U.S. imperialists and oppress and plunder still more ruthlessly the South Koreans opposing his rule.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, since the first day of its existence, has consistently adhered to the line of peaceful unification and has waged an unswerving struggle for its realization.

In the period following the signing of the Armistice Agreement, the Government of the Republic proposed time and again to hold nation-wide general elections on the basis of democratic principles without interference from outside, in order to realize as early as possible the peaceful unification of the country, and to conduct negotiations for economic and cultural intercourse between North and South Korea.

But Syngman Rhee has unconditionally turned down all the proposals of our Government for peaceful unification and shamelessly rejected even our well-meant proposals for the resumption of exchange of mail and communication between the North and South as well as for the supply of electric power for the every-day use of the South Korean population.

In flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement, Syngman Rhee has expanded armaments on a large scale in South Korea, while, in conspiracy with the bellicose elements of the U.S.A., he makes no scruples of openly introducing atomic weapons into South Korea.

Whom is he going to kill with atomic weapons? Such manoeuvres of Syngman Rhee, a man without a particle of conscience, only evoke irrepressible indignation among the people.

Such war policy of Syngman Rhee brings upon the South Korean people only huge losses and tragedies.

Tens of thousands of helpless war orphans and disabled soldiers as well as numbers of bereft family members of the war dead are roaming homeless about the streets in Seoul and other places in South Korea. The collapse of national industry in South Korea, especially the general decline and bankruptcy of medium and small enterprises, have resulted in the rapid increase of an army of unemployed amounting to several millions.

Subjected to the violence of police and deprived of their shacks just as the severe cold is approaching, several millions of South Korean war refugees are utterly destitute.

In disregard of such a miserable situation, Syngman Rhee attempts to make up his stupendous military budget by enforcing a large scale hike in various taxes and govern-

ment fees. Thus urban working folks and peasants are mercilessly exploited by various excessive impositions.

Those who are clamouring for another fratricidal conflict, when the grim traces of war still remain in our land and the wounds of our brothers and sisters have not yet healed, should be the object of hate and condemnation of the people; Syngman Rhee's clamour for "march north" must be stopped by the powerful movement for peaceful unification.

It is not atomic weapons but peaceful jobs, food and dwelling houses that the South Korean people now demand. The entire Korean people want to live in peace in one family, instead of engaging in a fratricidal war.

Picturesque mountains and rivers, rich resources and the talents, diligence and sagacity of the Korean people — these are the potentials for building our country into a happy and prosperous land. The mighty industry being rebuilt in the northern half since the Armistice will be able to satisfy the requirements of the South Korean population.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K., the highest organ of power, assumes great national responsibility in the cause of peaceful unification of the country. It has done all in its power to accomplish such a national task.

In the same way, the House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea should promptly take action to carry out this national task.

As we have made clear on several occasions, we are ready to welcome at any time any public figures in South Korea who desire to work hand in hand with us for the peaceful unification of the country, regardless of his past life.

The stationing of the U.S. army in South Korea is a decisive barrier to the peaceful unification of the country, and particularly, it constitutes the major source from which Syngman Rhee derives encouragement in his reckless clamour for another war.

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea and the public circles in South Korea must put up a persis-

tent fight in demand of the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the whole territory of Korea.

For the promotion of the peaceful settlement of the Korean question and for the relaxation of tension, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declared that it would not resort, as it has not heretofore, to arms first against the other side, and it reduced its armed forces by 80,000 men. Such steps taken by the Government of the D.P.R.K. further prove that "threat from the North" alleged by Syngman Rhee is groundless.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is always ready to conduct negotiations with South Korean authorities on the reduction of armaments of North and South Korea.

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea and the entire South Korean public must rise up to curb the attempt to resume war in Korea and in support of the convening of a conference for the reduction of armaments of the North and South.

The stupendous military budget of South Korea constitutes the decisive factor in the bankruptcy of all national industries including medium and small enterprises as well as the impoverishment of the people in South Korea.

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea should cut down extensively the stupendous military budget for the new fiscal year, and turn the sum thus released to the stabilization of the people's living.

The entire youth and students of South Korea and the men and officers of the ROK army should stop to think seriously about what misfortunes the provocation of civil war by Syngman Rhee would bring upon the people of North and South Korea and upon the country, and should come out valiantly in opposition to "march north" instigated by Syngman Rhee, against armaments expansion and conscription.

The entire South Korean people must wage a struggle against Syngman Rhee's manoeuvre to wreck the Armistice Agreement, and consolidate peace by converting the Armistice in Korea into lasting peace.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. once again calls upon the House of Representatives of the Re-

public of Korea and the general public in South Korea to see to it that the proposals which represent the unanimous aspiration of the entire Korean people should be realized.

The Supreme People's Assembly expresses its desire to meet as early as possible and at any place representatives of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea or individuals to discuss ways of materializing the proposals.

Rise up, the Korean people, for the realization of the proposals!

All for the prevention of war and for the peaceful unification of the country!

*November 7, 1956*

## **STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE D.P.R.K. ON THE "ROK-U.S. TREATY ON FRIENDSHIP, TRADE AND NAVIGATION"**

On November 28, 1956, the so-called "ROK-U.S. Treaty on Friendship, Trade and Navigation" was signed between the South Korean authorities and the United States government. This treaty, which has been prepared by both South Korea and the United States since the Armistice, legalized the selling off of the southern half of our Republic to the U.S. monopolists politically, economically and culturally.

On the strength of this treaty, the American capitalists are permitted to reside, travel and carry on investigations and all other activities in any place in South Korea without any hindrance and with more freedom and privileges than they enjoy in the United States.

The treaty endows American capital with the privilege of exploiting the Korean people and plundering their wealth, seizing the entire economic artery and property of South Korea, that is, all properties, both movable and immovable, corporeal and incorporeal, and engaging themselves without any restriction in commercial, industrial, financial and other business activities anywhere in South Korea.

The South Korean authorities are under the obligation to give full protection to these American residents, their privileges, properties and agencies; privileges similar to extraterritoriality are accorded to all Americans as well as American organs and establishments aimed at exploitation and plunder.

According to the treaty, even when American capitalists commit a crime in South Korea, the South Korean authorities, in disposing of the cases, are subject to the intervention of the U.S. consulates; the South Korean authorities cannot freely levy nor collect even taxes and

custom duties from Americans and their enterprises, nor can they place on them any impositions or obligation as the need arises.

Besides, the Americans and their enterprises are ensured unlimited privileges for exploiting the South Korean people and pillaging the South Korean economy at will, and, as matters stand, these privileges of Americans are free from any kind of control whatsoever.

It is stipulated under the cloak of "equitable treatment" in a number of articles of the treaty that the contracting parties will enjoy the right of "the most favoured nation" and the residents of one side in the country of the other side are given the same treatment as is afforded natives. But it is inconceivable that "equitable treatment" can prevail between the formidable American capitalists and the extremely feeble national capitalists of South Korea.

And as for the free economy based on "impartial treatment" between America and South Korea, it means nothing but the latter's bankruptcy and subjugation by the former.

In the face of the American monopolists who are infiltrating into South Korea on the strength of this treaty, the meagre national industry as well as medium and small scale trade and industry in South Korea are bound to be completely ruined; and the workers, peasants and the entire people of South Korea will be thrown out on the road of hunger, poverty and humiliation and doomed to be a ruined, rightless people—slaves of the U.S. aggressors.

Since liberation, the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee have been consistently pursuing a colonialization policy toward Korea, stubbornly rejecting the peaceful unification of our fatherland.

As early as September 11, 1948, Syngman Rhee concluded the "ROK-U.S. Agreement on Initial Financial and Property Settlement," and thus unconditionally acquiesced, as a matter of fact, to the plunder of valuable national treasures by the U.S. aggressors in South Korea after the liberation.

As the U.S. imperialists had no excuse for their continued occupation of South Korea as a result of the conclusion of the Armistice Agreement in Korea, they invented a new pretext for an indefinite, military occupation of South Korea by concluding the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Treaty" on October 1, 1953, in league with Syngman Rhee and in violation of the Armistice Agreement, and at the following stage, they made an unscrupulous attempt to pave the way for the inroad of the U.S. monopoly capital into South Korea.

After prolonged negotiations conducted toward this end between the U.S. government and the South Korean authorities, the American Ambassador in Seoul handed a note to the South Korean Foreign Ministry on February 24, 1956, strongly demanding ten points of "freedoms" and two points of "rights" for incursion of U.S. capital into South Korea. Such a diplomatic step taken by the U.S. government is typical of an outrageous intervention in the internal affairs of other countries, which can hardly find its parallel in international diplomacy.

After the revision of the clauses dealing with economic matters in the Constitution made at the end of 1954 for the purpose of opening the way for the invasion of U.S. capital, Syngman Rhee legislated the Foreigners Business Act to grant exclusive right to U.S. capitalists in the South Korean economy, and in order to effect the Foreign Capital Introduction Act under contemplation, has gone so far as to conclude another humiliating, traitorous treaty.

A series of treaties and agreements signed between America and South Korea, including the "ROK-U.S. Treaty on Friendship, Trade and Navigation," are documents betraying the interests of the country, and no less humiliating than the ignominious, traitorous pacts under which traitors at the close of the Li Dynasty sold out Korea to the Japanese militarists.

The Korean people, who underwent the 36-year long Japanese imperialist colonial rule, will never tolerate traitorous measures and nation-splitting policy, whatever form they may take.

In the name of the entire Korean people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea de-

clares that it is categorically opposed to the "ROK-U.S. Treaty on Friendship, Trade and Navigation" signed between the South Korean authorities and the United States government, and that the responsibility for the consequences arising therefrom will rest entirely with the South Korean authorities and the United States government.

The national capitalists, medium and small merchants and industrialists and public figures with conscience in South Korea should not connive at Syngman Rhee's traitorous manoeuvres. They should wage a further vigorous struggle for rescuing the South Korean national industry, which is being strangled by American capital on the strength of the "ROK-U.S. Treaty on Friendship, Trade and Navigation," and for delivering our homeland from the misfortune brought about by the split of the country.

The House of Representatives, which takes legislative measures in South Korea, and its members must refuse to ratify the "ROK-U.S. Treaty on Friendship, Trade and Navigation" and wage a resolute struggle against Syngman Rhee's continuance of traitorous plots.

The entire South Korean people must have the courage to struggle against this recent traitorous treaty, along with a series of "agreements" concocted between South Korea and the United States.

Owing to Syngman Rhee's criminal, traitorous plots, the South Korean people today are faced with the most grave danger of being converted into the colonial slaves of the U.S. imperialists which would be more terrible than their grim state at the time of the Japanese imperialist rule.

The entire Korean people, who do not want the lot of a doomed nation and prize the unification and independence of the country and their national honour, should wage a resolute struggle against the open aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee's treachery, irrespective of their social status, political views and religious beliefs.

Together with the entire Korean people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will

achieve with credit the peaceful unification and independence of the country and safeguard the well-being of our posterity, by frustrating Syngman Rhee's traitorous activities and rescuing our fatherland from aggression by the American monopolists.

*December 4, 1956*

## STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea adopted on October 30, 1954 an appeal to the members of political parties, social organizations, public figures of various sections in South Korea and to the entire South Korean people, for the purpose of promoting the cause of the peaceful unification and independence of the fatherland.

The entire people of North and South Korea who desire the speedy realization of the peaceful unification of the fatherland are enthusiastically welcoming and supporting this appeal, and have risen up in the struggle for its materialization.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is authorized by the Government to announce that all preparations have been made for fully ensuring the freedom of travel over the whole area of North Korea, freedom of activities and personal security, when the leading personnel of various political parties, social organizations, members of the National Assembly, enterprisers, merchants, religionists, men and officers of the national defence army and other persons of all walks of life in South Korea visit North Korea for the purpose of furthering the peaceful unification of the fatherland and promoting economic, scientific, cultural, art and postal exchange, mutual contacts and friendly relations between North and South Korea.

**Bang Hak Se**  
Minister of Internal Affairs,  
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*November 17, 1954*

**LETTER OF MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS,  
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, TO  
SOUTH KOREAN MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS**

In the appeal adopted by the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 30, 1954 for facilitating the peaceful unification of the fatherland, the matter of opening communication and postal services between North and South Korea has been referred to, together with a series of other important problems.

To open communication and postal services between North and South Korea at an early date is the unanimous desire of the entire Korean people and is a problem which must be solved, first of all, for the daily life of the people.

Now that normal communication is maintained between the peoples, though they are thousands of miles apart from each other, there is no reason whatsoever, we consider, that there cannot be similar contacts among the Koreans belonging to a single nation, simply because they are living separately in northern and southern areas.

Being authorized by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I hereby make the following proposal:

1. To convene a meeting of the representatives of communications of North and South Korea in February 1955, in Panmunjom or Kaesong, with a view to discussing the question of opening normal communication and postal services at an early date between North and South Korea and other relevant questions.

2. With a view to taking preparatory measures satisfactory to both sides as provided for in Paragraph I, to hold a preliminary meeting of two representatives from each of the two sides, at 10 a.m. on December 17, 1954, in Panmunjom.

I am firmly convinced that you will fully support and accept this proposal, and hope you will reply by letter or through radio or other proper channels.

*December 1, 1954*

## STATEMENT OF MINISTER OF ELECTRIC INDUSTRY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KO- REA IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROBLEM OF SUP- PLYING ELECTRICITY TO SOUTH KOREA

As is reported, the life of the entire South Korean people and the operation of various factories and enterprises in particular, are now confronted with great difficulties due to the lack of electricity in South Korea.

Our country abounds in electrical resources. Most of electricity is produced by power plants in the northern half of our Republic.

Electricity turned out in the northern half of the Republic at present is more than sufficient to meet the demand of the entire Korean people, and is a powerful guarantee for the modern industrialization of our fatherland and for the steady improvement of people's living.

During the three years of the Korean war, all the power generating installations in the northern half of our Republic were utterly destroyed by the indiscriminate bombing of the U.S. air force. But all the generating installations in the northern half of our Republic have been rehabilitated in the course of only two years after the Armistice. As a result, the power output has become more than enough to meet the increasing demand for electricity.

Under such circumstances, the entire people of the northern half of our Republic cannot remain aloof from the serious electricity famine affecting the compatriots in the southern half of our Republic, and deem it their national duty to share with them the electric power of the northern half of our Republic.

For a long period after the August 15 Liberation, the South Korean people were supplied with electric power from the northern half of our Republic.

In spite of our positive effort for ensuring the transmission of electricity to the compatriots in the southern half of our Republic, the transmission of electricity to South Korea was obliged to be temporarily suspended due to the insincerity of the U.S. Military Government authorities. But if the South Korean authorities show good faith, the supply of the electric power of the northern half to South Korea is also possible at present just as in the past.

Proceeding from the above-mentioned facts, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea authorized me to make the following statement:

The Ministry of Electric Industry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is ready to transmit immediately electricity to South Korea for all peaceful production enterprises and for the daily life of the masses of the people.

The Ministry of Electric Industry proposes to negotiate in Kaesong on November 25, 1955, with the representatives of the government organs concerned or electric companies or other business organizations, or civilian representatives of South Korea with a view to effecting speedily the above proposal.

The Ministry of Electric Industry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is firmly convinced that the general public of South Korea will extend wholehearted support and approval to the above proposal which is intended to satisfy the urgent requirement of the South Korean people and business circles including electric industry of South Korea, and expects a positive answer to this proposal.

**Kim Doo Sam**  
Minister of Electric Industry,  
D.P.R.K.

*November 8, 1955*

## STATEMENT BY PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER LI BYUNG NAM

*(Li Byung Nam, Minister of Public Health of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, mailed a statement on August 24, 1956 to Jung Joon Mo, Minister of Health and Social Affairs of South Korea, on question of exchanging information on anti-epidemic work between the public health authorities of North and South Korea.)*

In order to undertake prompt and expedient preventive measures against epidemics, it is necessary above all to obtain in time information on anti-epidemics.

For this very reason, today all countries are directing keen attention to reinforcing anti-epidemic information work, and it has become international practice particularly between neighbouring countries to provide each other with such information, whether there is an agreement or not.

Nevertheless, there is still no exchange of anti-epidemic information between North and South Korea—a single nation comprising one and the same people—which should form a closer relation in the interests of epidemiology than between other neighbouring countries.

The present situation brings about enormous obstacles to the North and South Korean public health authorities in taking anti-epidemic measures, and is exerting negative influences upon the life and health of the Korean people.

We know well that due to the lack of the exchange of anti-epidemic information between North and South Korea the totally unfounded reports on the anti-epidemic work are spread from time to time, creating apprehension and confusion among the South Korean people and public circles.

To cite instances of such reports, South Korean news agencies said in April that typhus had been prevalent in

North and South Pyongan and Hwanghai Provinces, and reported recently that there were some six hundred deaths from cholera in the area of Keumsung, Kangwon Province.

We sincerely hope that such a regrettable thing as above mentioned, resulting from the lack of exchange of anti-epidemic information between North and South Korea may not be repeated and that we may better protect the life and health of the North and South Korean people of the one and same nation.

Therefore we, ardently desirous of the early realization, first of all, of the exchange of information on anti-epidemics between the North and South Korean public health authorities, propose that the representatives of the North and South Korean public health authorities sit around one table as soon as possible in a place considered convenient by both sides and discuss concrete questions to this end.

We are convinced that the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of South Korea is also of the same opinion, and will respond in the affirmative to our proposal at an early date.

**ON THE WORK OF THE DELEGATION OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE D.P.R.K. TO THE GENEVA  
CONFERENCE FOR THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT  
OF THE KOREAN QUESTION**

**Report by Foreign Minister Nam Il at the Eighth Session  
of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K.**

*October 28, 1954*

Comrades Deputies!

It is already more than one year since the day when the heroic Korean people achieved an honorable armistice after winning victory, with the help of the fraternal Chinese People's Volunteers, in the Fatherland Liberation War against the United States aggressors and the traitorous clique of Syngman Rhee.

The Armistice in Korea means a brilliant victory not only for the Korean people who fought against foreign interventionists for their freedom and independence but also a great victory for the whole camp of peace and democracy. It has contributed greatly to relaxing tension in the Far East and the whole world, and opened up a way for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

The Government of our Republic has been making consistent efforts to convene the political conference of a higher level contemplated in the Korean Armistice Agreement and settle the Korean question by peaceful means, thereby consolidating peace in Korea.

In spite of the sincere efforts of our side, the discussions between both sides on the question of the political conference were broken off without having attained any results, owing to the unilateral destructive action of the United States side.

Nevertheless, the efforts of the peace-loving people who desire the peaceful solution of the Korean question,

relaxation of international tension and world peace made it possible for us to discuss the problem of settling the Korean question by peaceful means.

At the Foreign Ministers Conference of the U.S.S.R., the United States, Great Britain and France convened in February 1954 in Berlin, an agreement was reached at the initiative of the Soviet Union to hold discussions on April 26, 1954 in Geneva on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, with the participation of the U.S.S.R., the United States, Great Britain, France, the People's Republic of China and other countries concerned.

The Government of our Republic fully approved that agreement and sent its delegation to the Geneva Conference.

Our delegation did everything in its power at the Geneva Conference for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question. But owing to the obstructionist policies of the U.S. and certain nations following her lead, the Geneva Conference could not fulfil the tasks imposed upon it and came to a halt.

In connection with the conclusion of the work by our delegation to the Geneva Conference, the Cabinet of our Republic heard the report of our delegation concerning the results of the discussions on the Korean question and passed a relevant decision on the 24th of last July.

Even after the breaking off of the Geneva Conference the Government of the Republic has continued its peace-loving policies for the achievement of the peaceful unification of the country.

Being authorized by the Government of the Republic, I now present you Deputies the report on the proceedings of the discussions on the Korean question at the Geneva Conference and the tasks before us.

In accordance with the policies of our Government for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, our delegation firmly adhered at the Geneva Conference to the principles that the Korean questions be, in any event, settled peacefully in conformity with the interests of the entire Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world and that the task of unifying Korea by peaceful means on the basis of democracy be left to the Koreans themselves.

The rightful position of our delegation enjoyed the unanimous support of the U.S.S.R., the People's Republic of China and all those who were interested in the preservation of world peace.

At the outset of the Geneva Conference, on April 27, our delegation put forward its proposals for the "reestablishment of Korea's national unity and the holding of free all-Korea elections."

Firstly, our proposals envisaged the holding of general elections to a national assembly for the formation of a unified government of Korea on the basis of free expression of the will of the entire population of Korea.

We proceeded from the standpoint that the holding of all-Korea elections should be an important phase in bringing about Korea's unification. This measure should be carried out by the Koreans themselves through negotiations between North and South Korea; hence we contemplated the setting up of an All-Korea Commission composed of representatives of both North and South Korea.

The main task of the All-Korea Commission was to draw up a draft election law of a genuine democratic character which could guarantee a truly free atmosphere for the holding of general elections, and to take necessary measures to ensure all the democratic freedoms to all the population of Korea such as freedom of assembly, freedom of the press and freedom of recommending candidates to the legislature.

And the All-Korea Commission, it was contemplated, would immediately take measures necessary for economic and cultural rapprochement between North and South Korea in order to create the necessary conditions for promoting the materialization of Korea's national unification.

Secondly, our proposals envisaged the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the entire territory of Korea within a given period of time.

Under the condition that such aggressive troops as the U.S. forces which have brought to the Korean people untold sufferings and disasters are stationed in Korea, their interference in the internal affairs of Korea is inevitable, and the peaceful unification of our country is impossible. That is why our proposals provided that all foreign forces be withdrawn from Korea prior to all-Korea elections.

Thirdly, our proposals contemplated that the countries which are most interested in the preservation of peace in the Far East should guarantee the peaceful development of Korea, thus recognizing the necessity of creating conditions for promoting the task of unifying Korea by peaceful means as a single, independent and democratic state. Such an agreement is of great significance in eliminating all schemes to launch new military adventures in Korea and in consolidating peace.

The delegations of the U.S.S.R. and the People's Republic of China fully endorsed our proposals, and expressed their willingness to assume together with other countries certain obligations to guarantee Korea's peaceful development. In putting forward its proposals, our delegation proceeded from the standpoint that Korea's national unification on a democratic basis should take into consideration the national interests of the Korean people and the peculiarities of the different situations now prevailing in South and North Korea.

Our proposals which intended to pave a clear and broad way for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question contemplated the elimination of any and all foreign interference in the country's unification and independence and in her domestic affairs, and at the same time, the creating of all necessary conditions for unifying her as a single, independent and democratic state in a peaceful atmosphere.

Our proposals are in full accord with the fundamental interests of the Korean people and the cause of consolidating universal peace.

The proposals of our delegation submitted to the Conference, therefore, were hailed with warm approval not only by the Korean people, but were supported also by the peoples in the democratic camp of the world and particularly by the peoples of the Asian countries.

The delegates of the U.S. and the Syngman Rhee clique and those of certain other nations supporting them were unable to put forward any counter proposals of their own whatsoever against the fair and clear proposals of ours for the restoration of Korea's national independence and the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

While hampering the progress of the Conference, the delegations of the U.S. and South Korea who had been striving from the outset to wreck it were unable to put forward any proposals for more than one month.

As their attempts to frustrate the Conference had turned out to be unpopular even among their own colleagues, the U.S. delegation, under the pressure of world public opinion and for fear of being politically isolated, did submit its so-called proposals through its stooge Pyun Yung Tai, the main points of which are as follows:

Firstly, "With a view to establishing a united, independent and democratic Korea, free elections shall be carried out under the supervision of the United Nations in accordance with the previous resolutions of the United Nations in relation to it."

This means that elections in Korea would be carried out not by the Koreans themselves, that is, by the All-Korea Commission to be composed of the representatives of North and South Korea, but by the puppet government of South Korea as well as the United Nations.

Secondly, "Free elections shall be held in North Korea where such elections have not hitherto been possible, and in South Korea in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of Korea." And "the existing Constitution of the Republic of Korea shall remain in force except in so far as it may be amended by the all-Korea legislature."

This means that they did not wish the elections to be carried out in accordance with a new election law of a genuinely democratic character and simultaneously throughout the country, but in accordance with the procedures provided for in the existing so-called "Constitution of the Republic of Korea" and in North Korea alone, under the United Nations supervision, while in South Korea they would substitute for them the anti-popular separate elections which had already been carried out spuriously under the threat of the bayonet.

Thirdly, "The Chinese Communist troops shall complete their withdrawal one month in advance of the election date." And "withdrawal of the United Nations forces may start before the elections, but must not be finished

until complete control over the whole of Korea has been achieved by the unified government of Korea and certified by the United Nations."

It means that the Chinese People's Volunteers alone shall be withdrawn from Korea, but the aggressive "United Nations forces" shall remain stationed in Korea.

As is well known, the United Nations has, under U.S. pressure, taken a unilateral, unreasonable position on the settlement of the Korean question, has been used as a tool of U.S. aggression in Korea, and has acted in the capacity of one of the belligerents in the Korean Armistice negotiations. Our delegation, therefore, clearly pointed out that the United Nations had forfeited in the eyes of the Korean people its prestige as an international organ for peace and security, and was incapable of taking a fair position in solving the Korean question, or showing genuine respect to the will of the Korean people.

In the discussions, some delegates expressed their opinions that since the already abnormal relations between North and South Korea had grown all the more strained as the result of the three years' bloody war, the all-Korea organ to be composed of representatives from North and South Korea would encounter a series of difficulties in holding the elections.

Consequently, with a view to availing ourselves of any and all possibilities of overcoming with the least difficulty the obstacles which might come in the way of carrying out the all-Korea elections by the All-Korea Commission, the delegation of the People's Republic of China proposed to form a Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission composed of representatives of those neutral nations which had not participated in the Korean war — a commission which would help in and supervise the work of the All-Korea Commission which would be responsible for holding all-Korea elections.

Taking into consideration the opinions of the delegates of other countries who had referred to international supervision, our delegation agreed to this proposal, but firmly maintained that the establishment of international supervision should not violate the principle of non-intervention

by foreign countries in the internal affairs of Korea which ought to be settled by the Koreans themselves.

The U.S. delegate and certain other delegates subservient to him rejected this proposal, and repeated the old, fully-refuted assertion that a U.N. commission carry out supervision of the Korean elections, thus insisting that a neutral organ would not be competent for supervision of them.

It cannot be denied that the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission formed of the neutral states which had not participated in the Korean war, in accordance with the Korean Armistice Agreement, has been functioning and is now playing an important role in assisting in the implementation of the Korean Armistice Agreement.

In spite of all this, the delegates of the U.S. and the Syngman Rhee clique and certain other delegates who were supporting them opposed the proposals of our side. Their intention, therefore, was in effect to deprive the Korean people of their lawful rights to settle their own destiny by themselves and to freely express their will in establishing a unified, independent state of Korea.

It goes without saying that such an intention of theirs originated in their fear that the anti-popular regime of Syngman Rhee was bound to collapse if the U.S. intervention should cease. This fear was more clearly revealed in connection with the withdrawal of foreign forces from Korea.

The question of withdrawing foreign forces from Korea was one that had to be solved first of all by the Geneva Conference for the settlement of the Korean question. However, the U.S. delegate and Syngman Rhee clique were doggedly set against the withdrawal of foreign forces from Korea.

The South Korean delegation which was selling out its country and betraying the interests and will of the Korean people demanded a unilateral withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers, and went so far as to insist upon the continued occupation of South Korea by the so-called United Nations forces of 16 nations led by the U.S. forces. In other words, the U.S. ruling circles pursued the policy of threatening our people with their aggressive troops so as

to maintain the anti-popular regime of Syngman Rhee as well as of extending that regime throughout the entire country.

With a view to keeping up international tension, they refused any compromise, so that they might wreck the Geneva Conference.

The U.S. delegate at the Conference was afraid that if the Korean question should be solved in a peaceful way, it would be impossible for them to turn the Koreans into their colonial slaves, and that their attempt at perpetuating the national division of Korea and instigating another military adventure in Korea would be completely foiled.

For the purpose of facilitating the final solution of the Korean question, and in order to reach a preliminary agreement on certain questions of principles on which the participants had already found unanimity of view-points or on which it would be possible to do so in the course of discussion on the Korean problem, the U.S.S.R. delegation submitted on June 5 the following proposals for the consideration of the Geneva Conference.

1. The free all-Korea elections shall be conducted throughout the territory of Korea within six months on the basis of the principle of proportional representation.

2. With a view to preparing for and conducting free all-Korea elections, an All-Korea Commission shall be set up, composed of representatives of North and South Korea.

3. All foreign forces shall be withdrawn from Korea prior to the holding of the elections.

4. An international commission shall be set up to supervise the holding of free all-Korea elections.

5. It is deemed necessary for the states most directly concerned in the maintenance of peace in the Far East to assume obligations for ensuring Korea's peaceful development.

Our delegation and the delegation of the People's Republic of China expressed their full support to these proposals.

These proposals of the Soviet delegation contained the substance of the proposals submitted earlier by the British delegation on May 13. The British delegate pointed out in his proposals the necessity of holding elections at

the earliest possible date, under international supervision of neutral states and in accordance with the principle of proportional representation, so as to set up an all-Korean government, and the necessity of withdrawing foreign forces from Korea.

Under the pressure of the U.S.A., however, the British delegation ignored the proposals submitted by itself and the U.S. delegate and his followers were unconditionally opposed to these proposals, without producing any justifiable arguments.

This action on their part served only to reveal their obvious intention to speedily break off the Conference, allowing no agreement to be reached.

Quite in contrast to this was the position of the delegations of our Republic, the People's Republic of China and the U.S.S.R. We continued our efforts to find ways and means of reaching agreements acceptable to all concerned, in spite of the fact that there were a series of major differences of opinions concerning the settlement of the Korean question.

Even though it was impossible to reach agreement on the problems relating to the holding of the elections for the unification of Korea, our delegation emphasized that agreement should be reached on other important question, above all, on the question regarding the maintenance of peace in Korea, and, proceeding from the vital interests of all peoples who desire the maintenance of peace in Korea and the Far East and the easing of international tension, put forward on June 15 the following new proposals for the guarantee of peace conditions in Korea.

In the interests of guaranteeing conditions for peace in Korea:

1. To recommend to the governments of appropriate states to take measures for the withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from the territory of Korea at the earliest possible date, with observance of the principle of proportionality. The time limit for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea is subject to agreement by the participants in the Geneva Conference.

2. To reduce, within the period of one year, the numerical strength of the troops of the Democratic People's Re-

public of Korea and of the Republic of Korea, thereby limiting that of each side to one hundred thousand men strong.

3. To set up a commission consisting of representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea for the examination of the question of creating conditions for a gradual liquidation of the war situation and of transferring the troops of both sides to a peace footing, and for the recommendation to the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea to conclude a corresponding agreement.

4. To recognize the incompatibility of the existence of treaties between one or the other part of Korea and other states with the interests of a peaceful unification of Korea, in so far as such treaties are related to military obligations.

5. To form, with a view to creating conditions for the rapprochement between North and South Korea, an All-Korea Commission for the working out and enforcement of measures agreed upon for establishing and developing economic and cultural relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea — trade, financial accounts, transport, border relations, freedom of movement of the population, freedom of correspondence, cultural and scientific interchanges and other relations.

6. To recognize the necessity of guaranteeing by the member states of the Geneva Conference Korea's peaceful development and of creating, thereby, conditions conducive to the speediest fulfilment of the task of a peaceful unification of Korea as a single, independent and democratic state.

We are convinced that the execution of the measures provided for in our proposals will guarantee the conversion of the armistice into a durable peace in Korea, thereby furthering a peaceful unification of the country.

In these proposals, we proceeded from the fact that it is the fundamental prerequisite for the peaceful unification of our country and the establishment of a single, democratic state to grant the Korean people the possibility of settling the problem of their destiny by themselves without any foreign interference.

Moreover, guaranteeing the peaceful development of Korea by the participants in the Geneva Conference, as was provided for in our proposals, would be a positive assurance for eliminating the menace of a renewal of war in Korea.

And the reduction of the numerical strength of the troops of North and South Korea and the transferring of them to a peace footing would considerably reduce unproductive expenditures and people's burdens and enable our people to engage themselves in peaceful labour without cares, thus making it possible for them to heal their wounds sustained during the three years of war and develop their economy and improve their livelihood.

In fact our proposal for the rapprochement between North and South is not only of a practical nature but of great political significance. It is beyond any doubt that it would promote the relaxation of tension created in the relations between North and South and the direct contact between North and South, and constitute a more favorable prerequisite for the peaceful solution of the Korean question and for the restoration of Korea's national unity.

The delegation of the People's Republic of China supported this proposal of our delegation and proposed to convene a restricted meeting of the seven states — China, the U.S.S.R., Britain, the U.S.A., France and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea, so as to discuss measures relating to the consolidation of peace in Korea.

However, the U.S. delegate and the delegates of certain other countries subservient to him rejected these proposals of our delegation without even making an adequate study of them. They had no intention whatever to work out measures for the settlement of the Korean question at the Geneva Conference.

The delegates of the Western nations, therefore, rejected even the draft declaration of the Soviet delegation which stipulated that the participants in the Geneva Conference would be in duty to take no actions which would menace the work for the maintenance of peace in Korea.

In view of the situation that the delegates of the U.S.-British bloc had openly declined to continue with the dis-

cussion on the Korean question, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China proposed that the participants in the Conference should carry on their efforts in the future to reach agreement on the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem.

Some of the Western delegates showed signs of consent to this proposal. The British delegate confirmed that this proposal of the delegate of the People's Republic of China reflected "the spirit of the task of our Conference." But under the pressure of the U.S. delegate, this proposal was also defeated.

Having rejected, without presenting at the Conference any convincing arguments, a series of fair proposals put forward by our delegation and the delegations of the U.S.S.R. and the People's Republic of China, the U.S. delegate and his followers read the unreasonable Joint Declaration of 16 Nations prepared in advance and wrecked the Conference.

Comrades Deputies!

The Geneva Conference could not fulfil the tasks entrusted to it owing to the obstructive schemes of the U.S. ruling circles and their servitors.

However, the Geneva Conference on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question has achieved certain results.

It has shown that it would be impossible for any international conference relating to the interests of the Korean people to solve its question without the participation of the delegate of our country.

The participants in the Geneva Conference had to give serious considerations to the proposals and statements by the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who participated in it in the capacity of a prime mover of the question concerned.

The fact that the People's Republic of China took part in the Geneva Conference in her capacity as one of the Five Great Powers is of great significance in connection with the Geneva Conference as well as in the field of further development of international relations.

It is impossible to achieve a fair settlement of international disputes and of issues relating to the maintenance

of world peace and peace in Asia in particular without the participation of the People's Republic of China.

Although there existed grave differences of view-points concerning the questions of principles in the course of the examination of the settlement of the Korean question by peaceful means and on a democratic basis, it was proved that there also existed possibilities for reaching an agreement on certain basic problems.

The Geneva Conference has shown clearly who is striving to achieve the peaceful unification of Korea and who is obstructing it.

Throughout the discussion on the Korean question at the Geneva Conference, it was clearly exposed that the U.S. ruling circles are enemies not only of our people but also of the peoples of the Far East and the world who desire peace, while it was more clearly shown that the very position of the governments of the U.S.S.R., the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which had fought resolutely for a durable peace and unification of Korea and for the relaxation of international tension was in full accord with the interests of the peace-loving people all over the world.

The U.S. ruling circles and their supporters interrupted the discussion on the Korean question at the Geneva Conference. However, the Korean question has not been and cannot be eliminated from the agenda.

The just settlement of the Korean question is becoming an earnest request not only of the Korean people, but also of the peoples of Asia and the whole world who are concerned with the lessening of international tension and the maintenance and consolidation of universal peace.

The agreement reached at the Geneva Conference concerning the cessation of hostilities and the principles of settling political problems in Indo-China has again shown that if the countries concerned would try to settle major international questions through negotiation, they could surely achieve positive results. This has dealt a telling blow to the notorious "policy of strength" which reflects the aggressive design of the U.S. ruling circles.

Our Republic is steadily striving to achieve the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, believing that

there is no question in dispute that cannot be solved by means of conference and negotiation.

In the northern half of the Republic, since the armistice, our people have been achieving, with the fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the People's Democracies, brilliant successes in their post-war rehabilitation and construction of the national economy, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic with Marshal Kim Il Sung at the head. The Three-Year Plan for the post-war rehabilitation and construction of the national economy for the strengthening of the democratic base which is a solid guarantee for the peaceful unification of the country is being successfully carried out; factories and mills rising out of the ruins, numerous new houses built everywhere; agriculture recovered at a rapid pace; the livelihood of the people stabilized and their material and cultural standards improved day by day.

Contrary to this, the southern half of the Republic under the control of the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous clique of Syngman Rhee is being turned into a springboard for the materialization of the aggressive plan of U.S. imperialism against the Far East, and the people of South Korea are undergoing immeasurable tribulations and sufferings.

After they wrecked the Geneva Conference, the Syngman Rhee clique are fanatically carrying on preparations for war, opposing the peaceful unification of the country, at the instigation of the U.S. occupiers.

The so-called "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Treaty" concluded between the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique with a view to placing South Korea indefinitely under the forced occupation of the U.S. aggressive troops illustrates their intension to use South Korea continuously as a base of U.S. aggression in the Far East.

In Washington, Syngman Rhee conspired with his masters to map out a plan for militarizing South Korea and preparing for new aggression against North Korea.

Flagrantly violating the Armistice Agreement and openly clamouring about "march northward to unify the coun-

try", the Syngman Rhee clique have declared that they are planning to increase the South Korean army from thirty-five to forty divisions.

Under the guise of the so-called "assistance" to South Korea, the U.S. imperialist aggressors are strengthening their war preparations and their colonial exploitation of the South Korean economy, and are reviving militarism in Japan.

The U.S.A. does not want a peaceful settlement in Korea, and furthermore she is continuing her insidious scheme to rekindle the flames of war in Korea, thus making still more acute the situation in the areas of Asia.

The new military bloc in Southeast Asia recently fabricated by the U.S. ruling circles to stifle the national liberation struggle of the Asian peoples and maintain tension in Asia clearly demonstrates this fact.

At the same time they are trying to create the so-called "Northeast Asian Defence Alliance" consisting of the reactionary forces of Japan, the Syngman Rhee clique and the traitorous clique of Chiang Kai-shek. The design of the U.S. imperialists to form aggressive military blocs for launching a new war is being openly carried out not only in Asia but also in Europe.

When the design for the creation of the so-called "European Defence Community" had come to a fiasco as a result of the bold rejection of the French National Assembly, U.S. and British diplomats called the Nine-Power London Conference in a great hurry, and concocted the London Agreement, a rehash of the "E.D.C." for the rearmament of Western Germany. This agreement also will have to be frustrated, as the "E.D.C." has been, by combined force of the European people who are fighting for the just settlement of the German question and the general security of Europe.

The U.S. government, in its attempt to continue the occupation of Taiwan which is a part of the Chinese territory, protecting the traitorous clique of Chiang Kai-shek and preventing the Chinese people from liberating the island, is not only encroaching upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity, interfering in the domestic affairs of China and preparing for the extension of aggression against China,

but also increasing the menace of war in the Far East and exacerbating the international situation. The Korean people are, therefore, giving full support to the righteous struggle of the Chinese people for the liberation of Taiwan.

The policy of the U.S. ruling circles which defies the wishes of both the Korean and Asiatic peoples for freedom and independence is inevitably doomed to failure.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea holds that the countries concerned should seek for a way to resume the discussion on the Korean question to achieve its final settlement.

Therefore, "in view of the fact that the achievement of Korea's unification is one of the essential tasks which have tremendous significance in the consolidation of peace in the Far East," as was pointed out in the Joint Declaration of the Government of the U.S.S.R. and the Government of the People's Republic of China dated October 12, 1954, the Government of our Republic "deems it necessary to convene in the nearest future a conference on the Korean question with the broad participation of the countries concerned", and expresses its wholehearted support to the afore-said declaration.

Comrades Deputies!

The foreign policy of our Republic is clear. Our steadfast policy of peace originates from the very nature of the people's democratic system of our Republic. This policy coincides with the fundamental interests of the Korean people, for the Korean people are firmly convinced that in peaceful conditions alone it is possible for them to realize a peaceful construction for their happy future and their prosperity, and to constantly improve their material and cultural standards.

Above all things, we must further fortify the democratic base in the northern half of our Republic in order to accomplish the peaceful unification of the country which is the fervent desire of the Korean people.

Successful fulfilment of the post-war Three-Year Plan of the national economy is the most important guarantee for the achievement of a peaceful unification of the country as well as for the rehabilitation and development of the

national economy destroyed by the war and for improvement of the living standards of the people.

The achievements we are attaining in the northern half of the country are a source of inspiration and encouragement for the people of the southern half who are fighting for the peaceful unification of the fatherland against the U.S. occupiers and the puppet Syngman Rhee clique.

The Koreans, with a long history and a brilliant culture, have always lived within one and the same territory as a single nation.

Generation after generation, our people have defended from any and every encroachment of foreign foes their beloved homeland as one harmonious and united family. Today, however, this once harmonious family of Korea has been artificially divided, contrary to its wishes, by the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique. Is there any conscientious Korean whose heart is not moved by the fact that the country has been divided into two parts? In the northern half economy and culture are being rehabilitated by the creative labour of our free working people, and steadily pressing forward towards prosperity, while in the southern half economy is being ruined, culture trampled upon and the life of the people reduced to extreme poverty. Who is not heartbroken over the fact that one's dear folks and relatives are separated from each other living scattered in North and South, and the territory where their ancestors are buried is divided? How could you think it a tolerable situation that near as they are to each other they cannot exchange even their correspondence, to say nothing of meeting each other?

It is an unshakable truth that irrespective of whether they are North or South Koreans, everybody except a handful of national traitors eagerly hopes to live as one harmonious family in a unified, sovereign and independent state.

For realizing the desire of the numerous family members of Korea to live together in their own homes and the burning desires of the entire Korean people to live in one country as one unified nation, there is only one way. That is the way of peaceful unification. The complete, peaceful unification of Korea — this is the fundamental aim of the

platform of our Government, and has become the vital concern of the entire Korean people regardless of sex or age. It is not only the desire of the Koreans themselves but it is also a concern of progressive mankind all over the world. For the peaceful unification of Korea will not only remove the misfortunes of the Korean people but also do away with the hotbed of a new war in Asia, thereby bringing about a considerable relaxation of international tension.

Now what is the obstacle blocking the road to the peaceful unification of Korea which is the demand of the vast majority of the Korean people and the concern of the progressive mankind the world over?

Needless to say, it is the aggressive action of the U.S. imperialists who intend to seize Korea in its entirety and of their faithful puppets, a handful of Syngman Rhee's traitorous clique. Should we pause simply because of this obstacle on the road to the country's unification? Should we sit down and wait for unification? Absolutely no! The peaceful unification of our homeland will not come of itself. We, therefore, must win it through our steady efforts and struggle. We must proceed from the standpoint that the peaceful unification of Korea is a question for us Koreans. Frustrating every obstruction and manoeuvre of the enemies, we must take and carry out any and every measure capable of promoting the peaceful unification of the country.

We welcome every form of negotiation and discussion on questions relating to the peaceful unification of the country in the interests of developing in various ways friendly relations between the people of North and South Korea. We are in full agreement with the idea that the representatives of various political parties, social organizations and personages from all walks of life, and the representatives from both governments or those from the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the National Assembly of South Korea should sit down and talk together at one table. At the present moment, the establishment of rapprochement between the people of North and South Korea is a measure to be taken without any further delay. The establishment and extension of connection between the people of both parts

of Korea is a necessity arising from our internal situation and the vital interests of the Korean people themselves. It is high time for the people of North and South Korea to come in friendly contact with each other.

Who on earth fears or dislikes meeting his own relatives and his own fellow countrymen? It is only those treasonous elements and traitors who sell out the people and the country that are afraid of confronting the people, and it is only the U.S. imperialist occupiers who harbour the delusions to perpetuate Korea's division and convert South Korea into a springboard for a new war that hate the meeting together of the people of North and South Korea. Can it be that we are unable to realize mutual rapprochement between compatriots, which is the eager desire of the thirty million people of this country, just because it is unpalatable for the Americans and the traitorous clique of Syngman Rhee?

This would not be contact between malignant enemies, nor is it an association between foreign nationals whose tongues and customs are different from each other. This would be a meeting of sons and parents who have been longing for each other, and of brothers and sisters and friends who have been separated from each other; it would be contact between the fellow countrymen of the same language and the same custom. Such a rapprochement would be a first practical step in promoting the peaceful unification of the nation. We must take any and every measure conducive to the peaceful unification of our homeland.

It is necessary, therefore, to create in the first place conditions guaranteeing freedom of movement and correspondence between the people of North and South Korea and freedom of economic and cultural interchanges.

Comrades Deputies!

It should be fully understood that all the achievements we have won in the northern half of the Republic are also for the benefit of all the people in South Korea, not merely of the people in North Korea. We feel nothing would give us greater joy than to share with the South Koreans the fruits borne by the labour of North Koreans.

Our rest homes and sanatoria, hospitals and clinics are wide open at all time for the working people of the southern half, and our orphanages and asylums, schools and colleges always leave reserve accommodations for orphans and boys and youth of South Korea. Our theatres and clubs are at all times at the service of art workers of the southern half for their performances, and our art workers are prepared to present the South Koreans the results of their creative activities with great satisfaction. Our sportsmen in the northern half are always well prepared to meet sportsmen from the South in friendship sports and athletic games. Commercial workers of state stores and co-operatives and merchants in North Korea are prepared to conduct negotiations with persons interested in the business and commercial circles in the southern half for starting trade between North and South.

It is beyond doubt that such economic and cultural interchanges between North and South Korea would be highly conducive to the cause of the peaceful unification of Korea.

With the cooperation of the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique, the U.S. imperialists are scheming to place under their exclusive control the armed forces, politics and economy of South Korea, and furthermore to subordinate the economy of the South to the Japanese imperialists who are inveterate enemies of our people.

Today, all the Korean people must determinedly reject the traitorous schemes of the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique which are inimical to our freedom and independence, and frustrate every machination of theirs which interferes with the peaceful unification of the country.

Our claims and position are quite obvious. "Korea for the Koreans!", "Let us settle the Korean question among us Koreans!", "Let us sit around one table, all by ourselves!", "Americans, pull out of Korea!" — these are our demands

Comrades Deputies!

The Government of the Republic which is faithful to its policy of peace will endeavour to establish diplomatic relations with any country which observes the principles

of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, and to strengthen in every possible way business ties with any country.

It should be our sacred duty to further strengthen economic and cultural ties with the U.S.S.R., the People's Republic of China and the brotherly People's Democracies.

The constant assistance rendered us by these countries for the rehabilitation and construction of our national economy ruined by the war, is one of the essential guarantees for our victory in the cause of achieving the peaceful unification of the country.

While fighting ever more stubbornly against war instigators and for peace in the Far East and the world, the Government of the Republic will be categorically opposed to the rebirth of Japanese militarism.

The lawful rights and interests of our fellow countrymen in Japan should be respected, and discriminative treatment against them abolished without delay.

The Korean people must faithfully observe the Armistice Agreement in order to solidify the armistice in Korea, and watch with enhanced vigilance all provocative actions of the enemy, and strengthen steadily the national defence of the Republic.

Acting up to its policy of peace unswervingly, the Government of the Republic will henceforth do everything in its power for the peaceful unification of the country, for the relaxation of international tension, and for the strengthening of peace and international cooperation.

Our just work will enjoy the unanimous support of the peace-loving people throughout the world and win victory without fail.

With a view to accomplishing the peaceful unification of the homeland and establishing a sovereign and independent state, let us go forward towards victory banding ourselves most solidly around the Government of the Republic headed by Marshal Kim Il Sung!

**MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO MEMBERS OF POLITICAL  
PARTIES AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INDE-  
PENDENT PUBLIC AND POLITICAL FIGURES IN  
SOUTH KOREA**

Members of the Liberal Party, Democratic Nationalist Party, Nationalist Youth Groups, Daihan Nationalist Party, Chosun Democratic Party, Independent Labourers and Farmers Party, Heung-Sa Dan, Daihan Women's Nationalist Party, Daihan Nationalist Society, General Confederation of Daihan Trade Unions, Daihan Farmers' Federation, Daihan Women's Society, Daihan Fishermen's Federation, National Federation of Cultural Organizations, Daihan Lawyers Association, Daihan Democratic Public Opinion Association, National Council of Korean Young Men's Christian Association, Central Headquarters of Chundo-Kyo, General Council of Chosun Buddhists, Hankook Independence Party, National Independence Federation, Socialist Party, New Life Association, Labouring People's Party, Chosun People's Republican Party, Democratic Independence Party, Socialist Democratic Party, New Progressive Party, Labouring Masses Party, Democratic Hankook Independence Party, People's Alliance, Chosun Kun Min Hoi, South Korean Christian Democratic Association, South Korean Buddhist Association, Chosun Confucianist Association, Korean Language Association, Press Association!

Independent public and political figures!

Having discussed the appeal adopted at the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the acceleration of the peaceful unification of the country and adopted a resolution to give it full support and to wage an active struggle for its realization, the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front addresses this mes-

sage to you in the name of all the political parties and social organizations under its banner.

It was stated in the appeal adopted at the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that in order to discuss the question of peaceful unification of the country, a conference of representatives of all political parties, social organizations and personages from all sections of society, or a combined session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea should be convened in 1955 in Pyongyang or in Seoul; that to discuss the matter of convening such a conference and the issue of opening economic and cultural intercourse, trade, personal travel and postal communications between North and South Korea, a conference of North and South Korean delegates should be held in February 1955 at Panmunjom or at Kaesong; that all political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea and patriotic personalities of all walks of life should establish connections with each other, travel to and fro and come in contact with each other with a view to adopting measures for peaceful unification; and that the government authorities of North and South Korea should ensure them freedom of activities in the entire territory of Korea.

This proposal reflects the unanimous desire of the North and South Korean people impatiently waiting for the peaceful unification of the country, and is the most proper and practical one conforming entirely to our national interests.

We, therefore, together with the entire people of the northern and southern parts of the Republic, give full support to this appeal, and rise as one for the implementation of the proposals set forth in the appeal.

We believe that you also will rise up in support of this appeal.

Fellow countrymen residing abroad ardently support and welcome this appeal, and foreign persons wishing to see a fair settlement of the Korean question are in favour of this proposition.

Syngman Rhee and some of his colleagues, however, ignore this proposal, suppress the activities of the South Korean people for its realization or even any expression in favour of it, and try in every way to hamper the peaceful unification of the country.

Members of political parties and social organizations and independent public and political figures in South Korea!

The uneasiness and anxiety of the North and South Korean people are increasing due to the continued division of the country.

Indeed, is there any conscientious Korean national whose heart is not rent over the loss inflicted by the division of the country, which has continued for nearly ten years, upon political, economic, cultural and all other spheres of life in Korea? Who does not sincerely desire a peaceful unification of the country?

The peaceful unification of the country is not only a desire of the Koreans but is a demand of all people concerned for the preservation of peace. For the peaceful settlement of the Korean question can eliminate the source of another war in the Far East and considerably reduce international tension.

We consider the national split and the division of the territory as a division of our own body, and cannot tolerate this painful state of affairs even a day long.

Time has long been ripe for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

We maintain that an international conference for the settlement of the Korean question through negotiation should be held at the earliest possible date with the countries concerned widely represented. At the same time, adhering to the principles that the Korean question must be settled by the Koreans themselves, by peaceful means on a democratic basis, we always are ready to take and carry out any measure that can accelerate the peaceful unification of the country by our own efforts.

We have made consistent efforts for the peaceful unification of the country. Our efforts, however, have not produced the expected results due to the obstructive manoeuvres of the American imperialists and their henchmen.

On November 4 last, the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea again adopted, under the pressure of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee, an anti-popular "resolution" rejecting the proposal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, without producing any argument to deny the fairness of this proposal.

We are well aware that this "resolution" of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea is by no means an expression of the will of the absolute majority of members of the South Korean National Assembly with national conscience, nor is it an expression of the will of the political parties and social organizations to which they belong, still less an expression of the will of the entire South Korean people.

Syngman Rhee and his colleagues, under the pressure of the American imperialists, do not want Korea's peaceful unification and openly declare "unification by northward march."

Before the tears of mothers who lost their sons in the Korean war have dried up and before the bomb smoke has vanished from the grounds of the houses destroyed, they are frenziedly expanding armaments and trying to provoke another war. The unification by force advocated by the Syngman Rhee group is an attempt to resume by themselves what they already failed to attain even with the help of the 16 nations. What is this but a day-dream?

The "march north" they are clamouring about is an attempt to leave Korea permanently divided and to make the southern half of our country a permanent colony of the United States. This is enough to incur the wrath of everybody.

We cannot allow the American imperialists, their lackey Syngman Rhee and his colleagues to plunge again the Korean people into horrors of war, and we cannot tolerate the continued division of our country for their sake.

We deeply realized how immeasurable were the misfortunes and sufferings brought upon the people in the past three-year sanguinary war. And we are well aware that if the people are united heart and soul in their struggle they can prevent war and preserve peace, and can

peacefully settle the Korean question through negotiation. The achievement of the Armistice in Korea and the restoration of peace in Indo-China are good evidence of this.

International disputes are settled through negotiations and conferences of representatives of various countries. Can there be any reason why the Koreans cannot sit at one table to discuss heart to heart and settle by themselves such a simply internal affairs of Korea as the question of peaceful unification of Korea or cultural and economic intercourse, personal travel and postal communications between North and South Korea?

As long as the peaceful unification of the country remains a common desire of everyone, even though there may be difference of party affiliation, political views and religious faith, there can be no reason to oppose negotiations for achieving the cause of unification.

We maintain, above all, that as a first step towards a peaceful settlement of the Korean question ties in all fields should be established between North and South Korea, that all political parties, social organizations and personages of North and South Korea should come in contact with each other to discuss the question of the country's unification and that their freedom of activities should be guaranteed throughout the whole territory of Korea.

We stress the necessity of establishing mutual contacts between all political parties, social organizations and personalities of all strata in order to open up the road towards rapprochement in all fields between North and South Korea prior to the conference of North and South Korean representatives to be held at Panmunjom or at Kaesong in February 1955 — a conference proposed in the appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

On the instruction of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the Minister of the Interior of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declared in his statement of November 17, 1954 that persons coming from the southern half to pave the way for the rapprochement between North and South Korea would

be guaranteed their security and freedom of activities in the northern half of the Republic.

We are fully prepared to receive personages coming to North from South Korea in the capacity of representatives of political parties and social organizations or in their personal capacity, and to discuss practical questions pertaining to the country's unification as well as economic and cultural intercourse between North and South Korea or questions regarding personal relations.

In order to provide facilities to persons travelling to and fro between North and South, the North Korean representatives of the political parties, social organizations and government authorities are stationed at Panmunjom and Kaesong, and such representatives will also be dispatched to places designated hereafter.

Following the example of the Ministry of the Interior of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the government authorities of the Republic of Korea should also undertake to guarantee the safety of persons travelling to and fro between North and South as well as their freedom of activities throughout the South Korean territory.

We are prepared to dispatch delegates to discuss and confer on the country's unification and other practical issues.

We hope that you will make active efforts to induce the government authorities of the Republic of Korea to take such measures at the earliest date. We expect that such measures will certainly be taken.

Our proposal is the very expression of the will of the entire conscientious Koreans of North and South Korea who desire a peaceful unification of the country.

We believe that you will support this fair proposal and rise up to put it into practice, thrusting aside all obstructive manoeuvres aimed at breaking the will of the Korean people to settle the Korean question peacefully by themselves.

The Central Committee  
of the United Democratic Fatherland Front

*November 19, 1954*

**STATEMENT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF  
THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FATHERLAND FRONT  
AT ITS 38TH SESSION ON MARCH 7, 1955**

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea appealed on October 30, 1954, to the National Assembly, various political parties, social organizations and personages of all social strata of South Korea to convene a conference for negotiations between the North and South in February this year at Panmunjom or Kaesong in order to facilitate the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

This appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has met with the unanimous support and warm welcome of the entire Korean nationals at home and abroad.

The entire Korean people who love their fatherland and are anxious about the destiny of the nation have risen up as one for the implementation of this just appeal; the progressive public circles throughout the world accorded full support to this appeal, regarding it as an appropriate measure, the realization of which would contribute to the relaxation of tension in the Far East and to the prevention of the provocation of another war in Korea.

All this proves that the peaceful unification of Korea is a ripe issue waiting for urgent settlement and must be solved by peaceful means.

As soon as the appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was announced, the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a statement on guaranteeing the personal security of personages who come to the North from the South as well as their free activities while in the North; the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front declared in its letter to the members of the political parties and social organizations

and the independent social and political figures of South Korea that every preparation was made for the convenience of the personages who would travel to the North.

Also the Minister of Communications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed to the Minister of Communications of South Korea to hold a meeting of the representatives of communications of North and South Korea with a view to reopening communication between North and South Korea. But the South Korean government authorities, manipulated by the U.S. imperialists, rejected without any justified ground the afore-mentioned sincere proposals put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aiming at the peaceful unification of the fatherland. Moreover, the government authorities of South Korea has been suppressing, threatening and blackmailing in the most barbarous way the patriotic people who support the peaceful negotiations between North and South Korea. As a result, the conference for negotiations between North and South Korea which had been scheduled to be held in February 1955 at Kaesong or Panmunjom failed to be held.

The U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique must stand responsible before the Korean people and the peoples of the world for the delay of the settlement of the question of peaceful unification of the fatherland and for the grave consequences arising therefrom.

The American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, who defy any and all negotiations and rapprochement between North and South for promoting peaceful unification of Korea, are more feverishly carrying out their criminal war preparations.

For the purpose of reinforcing the puppet army and undermining the Korean Armistice Agreement, they are attempting to disband the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and are perpetrating without hesitation various provocative act against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Under the circumstances an urgent task today is presented before the entire Korean people to struggle more resolutely than ever for safeguarding peace as well as for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, and at the same

time, to crush to dust the plot of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee gang to incite a new fratricidal war. The whole of the Korean people oppose war and eagerly wish for the peaceful unification of their fatherland.

The criminal manoeuvres of Syngman Rhee for driving the Korean people again into the ruins of war to serve the American imperialists can never be permitted, and a staunch struggle must be launched against them.

Korea is one; the Korean people wish to live harmoniously in a single state. Korea must be unified peacefully and the "march north" which the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee are attempting to push through must be shattered by the nation-wide resistance of the entire Korean people.

The Korean people firmly stand for solving their internal affairs among themselves without foreign intervention, by peaceful means—negotiations and discussions.

The rejection of the appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly, Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the American imperialists and the government authorities of South Korea does not indicate the indefinite closure to the avenue to negotiations between North and South Korea.

Based upon the spirit of the appeal of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front will continue efforts with all sincerity to attain the peaceful unification of the fatherland. It declares that all the preparations are made to conduct negotiations between North and South Korea, if the South Korean National Assembly, political parties, social organizations or personages of all strata desire to do so.

There is no force that can break the militant spirit of the entire Korean people who are filled with determination to attain the peaceful unification of the fatherland at any cost.

The Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front calls upon all the Korean people to rise up as one in the struggle for opposing staunchly the American imperialist aggression on South Korea and the inhuman oppression of the Syngman Rhee clique and for promoting the peaceful unification of the fatherland through negotiations between North and South Korea.

**SPEECH BY COMRADE PAK JUNG AI, HEAD OF THE  
KOREAN DELEGATION, AT THE PLENARY SESSION  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF ASIAN COUNTRIES**

*April 7, 1955*

Mr. Chairman, Fellow Delegates:

On behalf of the entire peace-loving people of Korea, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Madame Rameshwari Nehru and other persons of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Asian Countries, for their kind service in arranging the opportunity for us, delegates of peace-loving Asian countries, to sit together and discuss the question of peaceful reunification of Korea, which is of great significance for the relaxation of tension in Asia.

On this occasion I should also like to express thanks and my sincere feeling of friendship to you, who supported the Korean people in their righteous fight for freedom and independence of their country, against the foreign armed interventionists, and through you extend friendly greetings to all the peace-loving peoples of Asian countries.

Fellow Delegates:

The issue of peaceful reunification of Korea now under discussion at this Conference, is a matter of concern not only to the Korean people alone, who yearn for a peaceful unification of their country, but also to the peoples of Asia and the whole world, who are interested in the maintenance and consolidation of peace in Asia.

Thanks to the decisive role of the great Soviet Army, on August 15, 1945, the Korean people were liberated from the yoke of the protracted Japanese imperialist rule. A broad prospect was opened before our people for the establishment of a unified, independent state.

Having found the possibility of establishing a free, united and independent state, the Korean people, with the

power in their own hands, started with all their hearts to create a happy, new life.

However, our country has been artificially divided into two parts — North and South — despite the fact that we are a single nation.

Ten years have elapsed since the liberation, but Korea's unification has not yet been realized. Particularly, this national misfortune is painfully gnawing at the hearts of the Korean people.

In the past Fatherland Liberation War caused by foreign interventionists, our people displayed heroism and self-sacrificing spirit, thereby achieving the Korean Armistice.

The Armistice in Korea brought to an end the war which had been causing immeasurable suffering and disaster to our people, opened up a prospect for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, and contributed to the relaxation of tension in the Far East and Asia.

We ardently supported the Geneva Conference for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question held in April 1954, and we looked forward to a successful solution of the issue of peacefully reunifying Korea. All our people resolutely insisted on the principle that Korea should be unified peacefully by the Koreans themselves on democratic lines, without any foreign interference.

The proposals for Korea's peaceful unification, put forward at the Geneva Conference by the delegation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, were in full accord with the interests of the Korean people as well as of the entire peace-loving peoples.

In those proposals it was provided that general elections to a National Assembly for the formation of a united Korean government should be held on the basis of free expression of the will of the entire population of Korea, that all foreign forces should be withdrawn from the entire territory of Korea within a definite time limit, and that nations, most interested in the maintenance of peace in the Far East, should ensure Korea's peaceful development.

The Korean people, therefore, unanimously supported these proposals and maintained that they should constitute

the basis for an agreement on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

However, delegates of the U.S.A. and certain other nations following her wake, who disregarded the national interests of the Korean people, unilaterally wound up the Geneva Conference, insisting on the extension of the anti-popular regime of South Korea to North Korea.

Nevertheless, the Korean question has not been, and cannot be, dropped from the agenda. The Korean question, which awaits solution, is the most urgent problem of the day.

For a satisfactory solution of the Korean question an international conference, with the broad participation of the states concerned, should be convened soon, and the unification of Korea should be carried out peacefully by the Korean themselves on democratic lines.

This is the most just way to the settlement of the Korean question, a way to the removal of the danger of another war in Korea, a way to the lessening of tension and the consolidation of peace in Asia.

Without the peaceful unification of the country, which is in the common interests of the Korean people, a single nation with an age-long history, they cannot free themselves from their present sufferings from the division. They cannot bring about economic and cultural prosperity of both North and South Korea, and cannot get rid of the danger of foreign aggression upon our country and the insecurity of livelihood of the people.

On October 30, 1954, the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued an appeal expressing the unanimous will of the Korean people, to the entire people of Korea for the acceleration of the peaceful unification of the country.

The appeal calls for liquidating the national misfortune of the Korean people which they have undergone for more than nine years, the strengthening of relations between the people of North and South Korea and sitting together of the Koreans in one place to settle peacefully the question of the unification of Korea. In other words, in order to discuss the question of peaceful unification of

the country a conference of representatives of all political parties, social organizations and persons of all strata of North and South Korea or a combined session of the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly and the South Korean National Assembly should be convened in 1955 in Pyongyang or in Seoul, and in order to discuss the matter of convening such a conference and the issue of opening economic and cultural intercourse, trade, personal travel and postal communications between North and South Korea a conference of North and South Korean delegates should be held in February 1955.

This proposal enjoys the unanimous support of all the patriotic political parties and social organizations and the entire Korean people who yearn for the peaceful unification of the country, for it is a most practical one which fully accords with the national interests of the Korean people.

The loss resulting from the division of the country, which has continued for almost ten years, is immeasurable in the political, economic, cultural and all other fields.

The division of Korea is a great hindrance to the unified comprehensive economic and cultural development of the country.

In the northern half, industry and agriculture are rapidly growing and the material and cultural standards of the people are rising day by day. The southern half, however, is being turned into a spring-board for the realisation in the Far East of the aggressive schemes of the U.S.A., and the inhabitants in South Korea suffer great misery. Whereas in North Korea national culture is making remarkable progress, in South Korea it is being trampled upon owing to the anti-popular measures of South Korean authorities.

The division of the country has brought great misfortune to Koreans in their personal relations. A great number of families and relatives are separated from each other in the South and North. They cannot meet and are even unable to correspond with each other.

It is, therefore, the unanimous wish of all the Korean people who ardently yearn for a peaceful, happy life in a

unified, independent, sovereign state to do away, as soon as possible, with such a misfortune arising from the artificial division.

Syngman Rhee and his clique, however, ignoring the wish of the entire Korean people, suppress the activities of the South Korean people demanding the peaceful unification of Korea, or even any expression in favour of it, and commit anti-popular acts of terror.

Syngman Rhee and his clique turned down without any reason all the consistent and sincere measures supported by our people for accelerating the peaceful unification of the country. They even rejected the proposal for the resumption of normal postal communications which the entire Korean people ardently desire.

In this way, under the instigation of the American armed interventionists, Syngman Rhee and his clique are hampering the just struggle of the Korean people for contacts between North and South Korea and for the realization of peaceful unification of the country, ignoring the hearty wish of the Korean people.

Syngman Rhee and the U.S. armed forces in the southern half, in flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement, are introducing large quantities of combat materials to arm their steadily increasing forces and continuously engage in all sorts of hostile activities.

In 1954, the so-called "U.S.-ROK Mutual Defence Treaty" was concluded for the purpose of an indefinite occupation of South Korea by the U.S. forces, and thereafter the "Protocol on Military and Economic Aid between South Korea and the U.S.A." was signed with a view to bringing South Korean economy under the domination of the U.S.A. and to driving the South Korean people into war preparations.

Following the Korean Armistice, Syngman Rhee and his clique, giving wide publicity to their plan for another invasion on North Korea, increased the armed forces from 16 to 20 divisions, equipped with American arms. They have a plan to increase another 10 reserve divisions within this year. They have already formed two new divisions.

At present, all the schools in South Korea have been turned into places of military training, and youth are being forcibly enlisted into the army.

In order to justify such violation of the Armistice Agreement, the U.S.A. and the Syngman Rhee clique openly try to dissolve the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission which ensure an effective enforcement of the Korean Armistice Agreement. They have even gone so far as to threaten the members of the Commission.

Continued stationing of the U.S. forces in South Korea and large scale expansion of the Syngman Rhee forces under American aegis are a threat to peace in the Far East and Asia and are driving the South Korean people into hunger and poverty and into the horrors of another aggressive war. The occupation of South Korea by the U.S. forces is a flagrant intervention in the internal affairs of Korea, and the major factor which stands in the way of the national reunification of Korea.

The Korean people can reunify their country peacefully, and form a single democratic state only when they are able to settle the questions affecting their own fate by themselves without any intervention from without.

Hence we maintain that all foreign forces should be withdrawn from Korea, the expansion of armaments in South Korea stopped, and all military treaties concluded between Syngman Rhee and the U.S.A. abrogated, and an international conference convened in which states interested in the peaceful settlement of the Korean question should widely participate.

We appeal to you to help us to achieve our aims.

The Korean people ardently love peace, and want to live under the peaceful circumstances. The Korean people prize their peaceful and creative labour and are filled with the determination to safeguard their achievements and their peaceful construction.

Mr. Chairman, Fellow Delegates:

We are discussing the question of Korea's reunification, the question of common interest to Asia, at this conference which is of great significance for the relaxation of international tension, especially the strengthening of friendship and cooperation among Asian people. I am confident

that the discussion will make a great contribution to the peaceful settlement of the Korean question and to the cause of consolidating peace in Asia. Therefore, on behalf of the entire people of Korea, who desire peace and unity of their country, I suggest that a resolution comprising the following points be adopted by this Conference so as to accelerate the peaceful reunification of Korea:

1. To convene as soon as possible an international conference for the settlement of the Korean question, in which the countries concerned, particularly Asian countries, should widely take part;

2. To confirm the principle that the matter of Korea's national reunification should be left to the Koreans themselves;

3. To withdraw all foreign forces from Korea at the earliest possible date, in view of the fact that the stationing of foreign forces in Korea will bring forth an intervention in the internal affairs of Korea and oppression of the Korean people;

4. To abide by the Korean Armistice Agreement and to stop immediately the expansion of armaments by the U.S.A. in South Korea, which creates the danger of another war in Korea.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE 40TH SESSION OF  
THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED DEMO-  
CRATIC FATHERLAND FRONT**

*August 23, 1955*

Ten years have elapsed since our fatherland was liberated by the great Soviet Army from the yoke of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule.

These ten years are marked by the heroic struggle of the Korean people for defending freedom and independence of their fatherland against the foreign aggressive forces and for the peaceful unification and democratic, independent development of the fatherland.

However, due to the policy of dividing Korea into North and South by the Syngman Rhee gang under the manipulation of alien aggressive forces, our fatherland has not yet been unified.

This artificial division into North and South and split of the nation have brought enormous suffering and calamity to the entire Korean people, in particular to the South Korean people.

The Syngman Rhee clique, who replied with armed invasion to the consistent proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the peaceful unification of the fatherland which voiced the sincere desire of the entire Korean people, are still opposing the peaceful unification of the fatherland till this day, ten years after liberation, and are plotting again to provoke a new war, violating the Armistice Agreement.

This provocative machination of the Syngman Rhee clique under the instigation of the foreign aggressors will bring about a new danger of horrible fratricidal bloodshed.

These sinister provocative designs of the Syngman Rhee clique which endanger the destiny of the fatherland

and the future of the nation must by all means be curbed to peacefully unify our fatherland.

Today the entire Korean people, who celebrate the tenth anniversary of the August 15 Liberation — the day of resurrection of our nation — are further confirming their staunch fighting spirit in order to eliminate the abnormal state of affairs created in our fatherland and for achieving the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

In his report made at the celebration meeting of the tenth anniversary of the August 15 Liberation, which reflected such unanimous aspiration of the entire Korean people, Marshal Kim Il Sung said that measures should be taken to withdraw all the foreign armies from Korea in order to accomplish the peaceful unification of the fatherland and that the government authorities in North and South Korea should declare before the Korean people and the people of the world that they would assume the duty of settling the question of the unification of the fatherland only by peaceful means, not resorting to arms against the other side, and proposed to reduce the armies of North and South Korea to the minimum, to convene at an early date a conference of government representatives of North and South Korea and to call a Far Eastern conference with a wide participation of Asian countries for the peaceful solution of the Korean question.

These proposals of Marshal Kim Il Sung constitute the most just and reasonable measures for the peaceful unification of the fatherland in the present circumstances, and completely fall in line not only with the national interests of the Korean people but with the interests of peace-loving mankind of the whole world.

Precisely for this reason, today the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front warmly approves and supports the measures outlined by Marshal Kim Il Sung for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, and is firmly resolved to mobilize all the members of the political parties and public organizations affiliated with the Front as well as the people of all walks of life for the nation-wide struggle for their realization.

The members of the political parties and social organizations affiliated with the United Democratic Fatherland Front and the people of all strata in North and South Korea should rally more closely around the Workers' Party and the Government, uphold the measures for the peaceful unification of the fatherland set forth by Marshal Kim Il Sung and devote all their energy, wisdom, patriotic fervour to the lofty struggle of the entire people for strengthening the revolutionary democratic base and for the peaceful unification and independence of the fatherland.

**REPORT OF HONG MYUNG HI AT THE ENLARGED  
SESSION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE  
UNITED DEMOCRATIC FATHERLAND FRONT**

*May 24, 1956*

Friends!

The Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, held in the latter part of April 1956, adopted a Declaration on the peaceful unification of the fatherland to be addressed to the entire Korean people.

The Declaration elucidated the steadfast, bedrock principles of the peaceful unification of the fatherland, maintained the unity and solidarity of the entire national forces for the accomplishment of the great cause of the unification of the country, called for the unity of action and formation of a broad common front of political parties, social organizations and individual personages in North and South Korea, and put forward a series of practical measures for this purpose.

The Declaration proceeded from the sincere desire of the Party to spare no efforts and to utilize every possibility for the freedom, happiness and prosperity of the fatherland and the nation.

The measures set forth in the Declaration are based on a scientific analysis of the present-day internal and international situation, and at the same time clearly reflect the idea and will of the entire Korean people for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The Declaration has further strengthened the conviction of every Korean that our country can be unified only by peaceful means, and powerfully inspired him to the sacred struggle.

Fully approving and supporting this Declaration voicing the long-cherished desire and unanimous aspiration of our nation of thirty millions, we decided to call this meet-

ing to discuss the immediate national tasks clearly set forth in the Declaration.

It is the first duty of us who represent the interests of various strata of North and South Korea to discuss the future path of the nation and strive together for the attainment of the cause of the peaceful unification of the fatherland in response to this Declaration which calls for the unity of all national forces which are desirous of the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Friends!

As you know, the history of the period from liberation to this day is that of the unflagging efforts and struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland by the Government of the D.P.R.K., the United Democratic Fatherland Front and the political parties and social organizations affiliated with the Front.

Especially, the Joint Conference of Political Parties and Social Organizations of North and South Korea held in April 1948 was a landmark in joining the entire national forces together and in forming a joint front of political parties and groups with different political views for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The Conference was attended by delegates of fifty-six political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea, who represented the will of the people of all walks of life with different political views. It was noteworthy that the patriots, Messrs. Kim Koo and Kim Kyoo Shik attended this Conference in the teeth of oppression, threat and menace of the American imperialist invaders and Syngman Rhee clique.

The delegates of the Joint Conference of North and South Korea showed that it was possible, despite the differences of political views, to sit at one table, discuss openly, join forces and form a united front for the future of the country.

On the basis of the spirit of this Conference, the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front put forward proposals for the peaceful unification of the North and South on several occasions. Particularly, on June 19, 1950, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. proposed to unify the country by means of coali-

tion of North and South Korean parliaments. The U.S. imperialist aggressors and Syngman Rhee clique, however, replied to this fair and just proposal with the launching of the fratricidal war.

Although the American invaders and Syngman Rhee clique met an ignominious defeat in the war against the Korean people, yet they are not willing to derive a lesson from it.

At the Geneva Conference in 1954, they rejected our most just and reasonable proposals for peaceful unification, and wrecked the Conference, thus revealing their true colours.

In spite of interference and manoeuvres of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, the Government of our Republic and the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front exerted the constant efforts, knowing that the division of the country and the dismemberment of the nation are an obstacle to the development of our country politically, economically and culturally, and at the same time, brings untold misfortune to the entire people.

To cite two instances among many, the appeal of the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly which proposed the convocation of a North and South Consultative Conference and the Declaration of the Ninth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly which proposed a series of practical measures including the reduction of armaments of North and South Korea, bear witness to such efforts.

However, the government authorities of South Korea have stubbornly rejected any kind of political conference.

Even under such circumstances, the Government of our Republic made a series of proposals in all sincerity, including, first of all, the exchange of mails and free communications between North and South Korea, showing concern for improving the livelihood of the South Korean people in the mire of poverty and for rescuing the national industry of South Korea from all-round bankruptcy.

The letter of the Minister of Communications in 1954 suggesting the opening of regular postal services and communications between North and South Korea, the statements by the Ministers of Internal Affairs and Fish-

ing Industry in May 1955, which envisaged the ensuring of the conditions for the South Korean fishermen to fish in the territorial waters of our Republic, and the statement by the Minister of Electric Industry in November 1955 on transmitting electricity to South Korea, etc., are practical measures for economic and cultural interchange as well as the mutual contact between North and South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, however, categorically rejected all our proposals, blocking the way to their realization.

As shown in the historic events during ten years since the liberation, the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee gang are bringing unheard-of calamities upon our nation by opposing or turning down all our proposals for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

What are Syngman Rhee clique and the American imperialist aggressors pursuing? The aim of American imperialist aggressors and Syngman Rhee horde is not the peaceful unification but the division of the country and provocation of another fratricidal war in Korea.

That being so, the Syngman Rhee gang, at the instigation of the American imperialist invaders, has issued the slogan of "march north war" instead of peaceful unification held by the Government of our Republic and the Fatherland Front.

Our political line in regard to peaceful unification reflects the national aspirations of the Korean people, while the "march north war" policy pursued by the Syngman Rhee clique stands for the American aggressors' plundering, colonial and war policy.

The line of the peaceful unification means democracy, independence of the country, freedom of people and happiness of our posterity, while the "march north war" means disaster and calamity to the nation.

The line of the peaceful unification representing the people's aspiration is based upon the ardent patriotism of 30 million people and their unshakable will and invincible might for achieving the great task of the unification of the fatherland. But the policy of the "march north war" running counter to the nation's desire is subjected to

the indignant protests of the North and South Korean people, and at the same time could not escape from hatred of our descendants as well.

Therefore, it is only too evident that the line of our peaceful unification is bound to win, while the "march north war" policy cannot but evade the destiny of insolvency.

Friends!

The situation created in our country in recent years shows graphically the bankruptcy of the provocative "march north war" policy of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique and the victory of our consistent line of peaceful unification, thus providing further favourable conditions and prospects for Korean people's struggle for peaceful unification of the country.

As you know, during the post-war period the Government of our Republic, upholding the line of peaceful unification of the country, has already achieved a considerable success in the peaceful construction and contributed to the consolidation and development of the revolutionary democratic base in the northern half as well as to the improvement of people's living standards.

In the northern half, 307 medium and large enterprises have been restored or newly built during the first two years of the Three-Year Plan for the post-war rehabilitation and development of the national economy. By the end of 1955 the gross output of the state and cooperative industries had surpassed by 56 per cent the level of 1949; during the same period arable land was expanded by more than 37,700 *jungbo*; 43 reservoirs and 568 pumping stations were rehabilitated or newly established.

The material life of the people was stabilized and the cultural standard greatly enhanced; and political-moral unity and solidarity of the people of all walks of life has been further strengthened.

The achievements in the peaceful construction made in the northern half during the post-war period bear witness to victory of our consistent peace policy and the line of the peaceful unification.

However, South Korea under the sway of the U.S. imperialists and traitorous Syngman Rhee clique has been

converted into a hotbed of the gendarmes, policemen and terrorists.

After the armistice, the U.S. imperialist invaders and Syngman Rhee clique again revised for the worse the anti-popular traitorous "Constitution" of South Korea and fabricated such evil laws as the "National Security Law," the "Temporary Publication Regulations," the "Assembly and Demonstration Control Law," etc.

The political parties, social organizations and popular masses are deprived of freedom of political activity and even of elementary democratic rights, and morals are degenerated. The terror and massacre are rampant in the broad day.

The educational institutions have absolutely no freedom of study; they are swarming with plain-clothes detectives and profiteers.

Owing to the unrestricted introduction of American monopoly capital on a large scale, import of surplus goods of the U.S.A. and the predatory "economic aid", the national industry in South Korea is subordinated to American capital; the real power over the national economy in South Korea and the entire financial and monetary policy of the South Korean government has been seized by the "American economic coordinator."

Furthermore, without the "approval of purchase" of the said agent, the South Korean authorities cannot import any kind of goods.

As revealed in the South Korean press, the South Korean people are living in terrible circumstances. They cannot breathe freely the air of their country nor drink to their fill the water of the land.

The national capitalists and the medium and small tradesmen are being brought to bankruptcy; an army of more than 2,000,000 unemployed are wandering about the streets begging for food; the workers are groaning under the yoke of hardship, exploitation and maltreatment; the farmers are plundered of most of their grain by "grain payment for distributed land" and "land income tax" as well as by miscellaneous taxes and usury. Thus the foodless farm-households and the farmers who are giving up farming are increasing year by year.

The rotten "American way of life" is being imposed upon the South Korean people, while the national culture is held in contempt and trampled upon. These are the consequences brought about by the aggressive colonial, traitorous and reactionary policy pursued by the American invaders and Syngman Rhee horde for the past ten years.

As a result of the anti-popular rule, the Syngman Rhee gang is confronted with serious political, economic crisis and social contradictions which are causing them no small uneasiness.

They are nursing the delusion that they can find a way out of this critical situation created in South Korea by unleashing another criminal war.

Croaking about the "march north", they attempt to create a war atmosphere, and pressgang all youth into army. They are now scheming to recruit all students of high schools as well as of universities.

In violation of the Armistice Agreement they try to terminate the activities of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and are more and more frequently committing the provocative acts along the military demarcation line.

In his recent speech at the time of the "Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections," Syngman Rhee bellowed that "only by armed force can we achieve the unification of the fatherland," and "we must push our way to the North." However, the "march north war" of Syngman Rhee cannot intimidate anyone, but will only serve to intensify resentment and hatred of the Korean people and further aggravate the crisis of the puppet regime.

With a view to escaping the crisis confronting the puppet government and to maintaining the fascist police dictatorship which is on the verge of collapse, the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique concocted the "Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections" on May 15.

As in previous "elections", this time too, the traitorous Syngman Rhee gang resorted to his old line of terrorist suppression and various crafty and fraudulent means.

By such frenzied means Syngman Rhee sought "re-election". Yet Syngman Rhee's isolation from the people

was further revealed in the course of the "elections."

Worthy of note is it that Syngman Rhee was seriously defeated in the cities: in Seoul 71 per cent of the voters opposed Syngman Rhee; in Taegu, Pusan, Junjoo, Jinjoo, Chinhae, Kumchun, Talsung, Kyungjoo, Chilkok, Ryangsan, and so on, he also met with crushing defeat.

Through the recent "elections," the degraded and reactionary character of Syngman Rhee was brought to light, and the mounting anti-Syngman Rhee sentiments not only among the popular masses but among the personages of various strata were further revealed.

It is not fortuitous that in the course of the recent "elections" the voice of the South Korean people rang out through such slogans as "peaceful unification!" and "we can't go on living this way. It's high time for a change of government" in opposition to the "march north war" policy and anti-popular, fascist dictatorship of Syngman Rhee.

This clearly shows that the more nefarious the anti-popular, traitorous policy of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee horde becomes, the stronger becomes the aspiration of the popular masses for the peaceful unification.

The situation in South Korea today clearly substantiates that U.S. imperialist aggressors and their running dogs, the Syngman Rhee gang, are being isolated from and rejected by the popular masses, and the forces in support of peaceful unification are steadily growing and gaining in strength.

The international situation is also developing in favour of the struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful unification of the country.

Today, the forces of the camp of socialism, democracy and peace headed by the great Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China is immeasurably growing and being strengthened day by day, whereas the camp of capitalism and imperialism is falling into bankruptcy and decay. Particularly, the collapse on a world-wide scale of the colonial and semi-colonial system has further accelerated the process of decay of capitalism.

In Asia, too, a great change has occurred influencing the international development.

The historical victory in the revolution of the great Chinese people, the decisive defeat of the armed aggressors in Korea and in Viet-Nam as well as the independence and development as peace-loving states of a number of countries such as India, Indonesia and Burma are graphic proof that the time when the Asian people could be exploited and plundered by the imperialists has gone forever.

The international tension has been considerably eased. The idea of conference, negotiation and peaceful co-existence continues to gain ground, and a vast "Peace Zone" including peace-loving states, both socialist and non-socialist, has emerged and is being expanded on a world-wide scale.

Today, America's "positions of strength" policy is condemned throughout the world, and even among certain allies of the United State we notice signs of more uneasiness and discontent towards the America's adventurous policy.

Thus, even among the ruling circles of the imperialist camp some have to admit that the solution of the international issues of our times can no longer be solved by the "positions of strength" policy but by the method of conference, negotiation and peaceful co-existence.

The present-day international development cannot but exert increasing influence upon the people of North and South Korea.

It is not fortuitous that today the people of all strata in South Korea with national conscience as well as even some of Syngman Rhee's followers are raising louder and louder their voices opposing the so-called "march north" of Syngman Rhee and demanding the achievement of the peaceful unification of the country by means of negotiations.

Reflecting those sentiments prevailing in South Korea, the *"Tonga Il Bo"* wrote on February 16, 1955: "Today unification by force... is out of the question. Unification by peaceful means is the only way. Therefore, the only method is to hold general elections throughout North and South Korea. This is a practical method under the present political condition.

The present situation in our country, especially the ever growing enthusiasm of South Korean people who are opposed to Syngman Rhee fascist dictatorship and yearn

for peaceful unification has opened a new vista in the struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The Declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea brightly illumines the path to be followed by the people of all strata both in North and South Korea by laying down measures for saving the country from disruption.

Friends!

The master of Korea is not the American imperialists but the Korean people themselves.

The Korean question, therefore, is a matter for the Korean people themselves, who will permit no foreign intervention. It is the duty as well as national rights of the Koreans themselves to solve the question.

The Declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth consistent, cardinal principles in relation to the unification of the country; the final settlement of the Korean question must be materialized by the Korean people themselves on democratic lines; a unified government of Korea must be established through all-Korean free elections and without foreign interference and on the democratic principles. It specifies that a coalition government to be formed through general elections should carry out a genuine democratic policy with the participation of the representatives of all walks of life including workers and peasants, and at the same time, should guarantee the rights and interests of the broad popular masses.

Proceeding from the present situation of our country, the Declaration emphasized that we must first of all abide by the armistice achieved in Korea and convert it into a lasting peace in order to accomplish the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The Declaration made it clear that for this purpose both sides of the truce must strictly observe the Armistice Agreement; the government authorities of both North and South Korea must declare that they will not resort to arms on any account against each other and will solve only by peaceful means the question of Korea's unification; and that the armed forces of North and South Korea must be reduced to the minimum.

The Declaration also announced that all foreign armed forces must be withdrawn from Korea, no foreign interference whatever in the internal affairs of Korea should be tolerated, neither part of North and South Korea should be inveigled into any military alliances with foreign countries, and all humiliating, unequal treaties concluded between the governments of South Korea and the United States must be declared null and void.

One of the biggest stumbling-blocks in the way of strengthening the main forces for the unification of the country lies in the fact that under the reactionary police and fascist dictatorship of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee horde, the people cannot enjoy democratic rights and freedom of political activities. The Declaration stressed, therefore, that in the entire social and political life in South Korea the democratic principles should be materialized and the practical conditions for stabilizing and improving the livelihood of the popular masses be created.

And it is also pointed out that the international agreement on the preservation of peace in Korea and the peaceful settlement of the Korean question should be carried out.

It is of prime importance for the peaceful solution of the Korean question that an international conference be convened by the countries concerned with the broad participation of the Asian countries including the representatives of the North and South Korean governments, and an international guarantee be given to prevent any occurrence of the menace to lasting peace in Korea.

The Declaration set forth the most reasonable, feasible and practical measures for accelerating the peaceful unification of the country in the present situation. Above all, the artificial barriers lying between North and South must be removed and mutual contacts and negotiations between the people of North and South Korea realized.

Therefore, various political parties and social organizations affiliated with the Fatherland Front must explore every possibility for effecting political economic and cultural ties, mutual visits and exchange of letters between North and South Korea, which are cardinal prerequisites for removing the barriers lying between North and South Korea.

The Declaration set forth the most practical measures for solving this question. It proposed to set up a permanent committee composed of representatives of governments or political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea in order to discuss concretely the question relating to the unification of Korea.

The setting up of this kind of committee is the most practical measure under the present circumstances. And this is quite possible, if both sides show sincerity by responding to the aspiration of the Korean people. And it will certainly have a great, positive effect upon the solution of the question on the peaceful unification of the fatherland. Therefore we must unconditionally approve and support it, and strive for its earliest realization.

Moreover, the Declaration set forth, as the most feasible measures for accelerating peaceful unification, the strengthening of the unity and solidarity of the entire nation, the rallying of all patriotic, democratic forces, the securing of unity of action between various political parties of North and South Korea, and the uniting of various social organizations.

To this end, it is, above all, eagerly desired that various organizations of workers, peasants, youth and women as well as scientific and cultural associations in North and South Korea, which include the widest sections of the Korean people, should unite and march ahead as a united force with a view to solving the questions which are of common interest to us and achieving our common aim.

The United Democratic Fatherland Front and the various political parties and social organizations affiliated with it are confronted with the momentous task of uniting the forces of the entire people.

Because they are interested in perpetuating the split of our country, the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee gang fear the contact of the Koreans with each other. They attempt to prevent the Korean people from being united and at the same time to obstruct by every means the unity of patriotic forces.

We have to answer the enemy's ruse to split the nation with the unity and consolidation of our strength.

The unity and solidarity of our nation promises us victory, while antagonism and dismemberment means adversity and ruin.

The unity and solidarity of all the national forces is the key to the attainment of our supreme task, the unification of the fatherland. It constitutes a sure guarantee for unification.

We will make every effort to hold a joint conference of political parties and social organizations or separate talks between all individual personages of North and South Korea in order to attain the unity of the entire political parties, social organizations and individual personages, and to form a broad united front of all the political parties, social organizations and individual personages of North and South Korea.

At the conference, measures for carrying on the joint struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, for promoting the unity of forces and for examining and effecting ways and means of setting up a permanent committee should be discussed among all the political parties, social organizations and individual personages of North and South Korea.

The Declaration provides that a warm welcome be extended to all political parties and social organizations, and even to the persons who committed no small wrongs against the country and the people in the past, if they repent and sincerely wish to contribute to the peaceful unification of the country. And they will be allowed to participate, according to their merits and talents, in the coalition government to be formed following the accomplishment of the unification, and their property and social status will be guaranteed.

We will sincerely welcome and negotiate with anyone who wishes to take an active part in the struggle for attaining the unification of the fatherland by peaceful means.

Friends!

The entire people in North and South Korea demand that the Koreans get together at one table to discuss openly the problem of the peaceful unification of the fatherland and that all the national, patriotic forces desirous of the peaceful unification of the fatherland be united.

Because our country is divided into the North and South by the machination of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, fathers and sons, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends have been separated from each other for ten years and unable to exchange letters. How can the patriotic and political leaders reconcile themselves to this abnormal state of affairs? And how can they look on with folded arms before all the hardships and misfortunes of the people or be indifferent to the urgent demand of the people?

Today, when the peoples in the East and West, proud of the freedom and honour of their own, are marching onward upholding the banner of national independence, why should the Korean people who had lived in peace and happiness as a single nation through a long history, and who possess the great achievements inherited from their ancestors and the lofty ideas of the patriotic martyrs, remain divided and suffer such an unbearable national misfortune and disgrace?

At a time when even the countries with different political ideas, languages, customs, and state and social systems, are avoiding conflicts or antagonism among them and seeking to settle differences through peaceful means and fraternal co-operation, why should the Koreans be set against each other and look with suspicion at each other?

Why is it impossible for the Koreans of the same blood to sit at one table and have heart-to-heart talks on questions concerning the country's destiny and their future? Is it impossible for us to act in concert and cooperation?

Today, the reply of the entire people of North and South Korea to this is, "It is possible."

Any political party, social organization or person in North and South Korea, who turns a deaf ear to the voice of the people, fails to meet the solemn demand of the country and does not unite in the struggle for the cause of the unification of the fatherland, is committing an unpardonable crime against the people.

We are convinced that if various political parties and social organizations and personages of all strata in North and South Korea, irrespective of their political views, religious beliefs and ideology, make concession to each other

and exert sincere efforts for the accomplishment of the peaceful unification of the fatherland, which is the urgent, supreme task of the nation, ways and means of forming a joint front will certainly be found, and all the measures set forth in the Declaration will be materialized.

Friends!

Today, the rise or fall of the fatherland depends upon the activities of genuine patriots, political parties, social organizations and politicians.

Unless the fatherland is united, the hardships and misfortunes of the thirty million Korean people cannot be done away with; the improvement of the livelihood of the people in South Korea who are struggling in the mire of poverty is impossible; the ruined national economy of South Korea cannot be rehabilitated and the development of an integrated national economy and national culture cannot be expected.

The supreme task of the fatherland and people today is to liquidate the abnormal state of territorial division and national split which has continued now more than ten years since liberation, and to rise up in the struggle for attaining the unification of the fatherland.

If you desire prosperity and happiness of future generations, if you do love your own land of three thousand *ri* where our forefathers lie buried and our beloved sons and daughters are growing up, you all must immediately rise up as one and enter the way of struggle for accomplishing the paramount national task.

Under no circumstances can we hand down to our posterity our divided country to live in a state of disunity.

Just as our ancestors preserved as a single nation this land of three thousand *ri* and created a time-honoured history, so we must pass on to future generations a united, free land in which they can build a paradise of people and live in happiness and prosperity.

The enemy can never break the surging fighting spirit of the people who have risen up in the noble struggle for achieving the cause of the peaceful unification. We shall not fail to accomplish our long-cherished aspiration for the unification of the fatherland through a nation-wide struggle.

Let us vigorously march forward together towards the ultimate victory of the peaceful unification of the fatherland upholding the Declaration of the historic Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Long live the peaceful unification and independence of the fatherland!

Long live the United Democratic Fatherland Front!

Long live the unity and solidarity of the entire patriotic national forces in North and South Korea struggling for the peaceful unification of the fatherland!

## APPEAL OF THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FATHER- LAND FRONT

*May 25, 1956*

Dear fellow-countrymen, brothers and sisters!

The Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, which is of enormous significance in the development of the history of our country, adopted a declaration for the peaceful unification of the country.

This declaration clearly laid down a concrete program of action for the peaceful unification of the country, the greatest desire of the Korean people at the present stage.

The declaration elucidated the democratic character of the coalition government to be set up by the Korean people in the future, in which representatives of broad popular masses of workers, peasants and others will participate without fail through all-Korean free elections based on democratic principles and which should ensure the rights and interests of the people of all walks of life. The declaration also held that the Armistice attained in Korea should be turned into a lasting peace, all foreign armed forces including the U.S. forces and the Chinese People's Volunteers should be withdrawn from our land, no foreign interference whatsoever in the internal affairs of Korea should be tolerated, and the Korean question should be solved by the Korean themselves. The declaration also noted that for creating practical conditions for the peaceful unification it was necessary to ensure the popular masses in South Korea freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and religious belief, to guarantee the freedom of political activities of political parties and social organizations and of personages of all walks of life, and to undertake various measures for stabilizing and improving the livelihood of the people who are in a dire predicament.

The declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea proposed to organize a permanent committee comprising representatives of the parliaments and governments, or of political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea for discussing questions ranging from those of eliminating the artificial barrier existing between North and South Korea and of promoting mutual contacts between them, such as the political, economic and cultural ties, exchange of goods, travel and exchange of communications between the North and South, to those concerning the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

It appealed to the political parties of North and South Korea to attain unity in their action, and to all the social organizations to unite themselves and form a joint front, with the common aim of the peaceful unification of the country. It expressed the hope that for the peaceful solution of the Korean question the countries concerned in the Korean question would convene an international conference with the broad participation of Asian countries including representatives of the governments of North and South Korea. These are the basic demands of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

These proposals of the Workers' Party of Korea proceeded solely from the sincere desire to stint no efforts to turn to account all possibilities for the good of the fatherland and for the prosperity of the nation.

The declaration manifested the conviction that the national aspiration of the Korean people would be achieved without fail, if all the political parties, social organizations and individual personages of North and South Korea, regardless of the differences of political views and religious beliefs, unite themselves and strengthen and develop their own forces for peaceful unification.

It is also envisaged that even those who committed no small crimes against the country and the people in the past would be welcome, if they repent their crimes and sincerely strive for achieving peacefully the unification of the fatherland, and that they would be permitted according to their merits and talent to participate in the coalition

government to be established after the achievement of unification.

This is a genuine reflection of the unanimous desire of the entire Korean people, and is a most fair and practical measure fully in line with our national interests.

The Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front fully supports the declaration, and once again urges the compatriots throughout the country to be mobilized on a nation-wide scale in the struggle for its implementation.

The division of the country is causing sufferings and misfortune not only to the South Korean people under the oppression of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, but also to the entire Korean people, and constitutes a definite obstacle to the overall political, economic and cultural development of our country.

We have time and again set forth proposals for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, and continued sincere efforts to this end. However, the peaceful unification of the fatherland has not yet been achieved because the U.S. imperialists occupying South Korea and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique are dead set against the unification.

The Syngman Rhee gang, the faithful servants of the U.S. imperialists, have servilely followed the colonial enslavement policy of the U.S. imperialists, with the result that South Korea has been converted into their military base, the artery of the entire economy subordinated to American monopoly capital, the national industry and rural economy utterly ruined and the people's livelihood plunged into a quagmire of poverty.

South Korea today has been turned into a dark world where terrorism and massacre are rampant, and the people are deprived of even elementary democratic freedom and rights due to the fascist police rule of the Syngman Rhee clique. What is more, the Syngman Rhee horde is frenziedly preparing another fratricidal war by "northward expedition," even before tears have dried in the eyes of our fellow-countrymen who lost their beloved parents, wives and children in the scourge of the war ignited by the Syngman Rhee clique at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists.

Is it not enough to provoke the wrath of gods and men? The U.S. imperialists who artificially split our country and are opposing the peaceful unification of the Korean people and the reactionary rule of Syngman Rhee who are selling the interests and rights of our nation are the object of the hatred and imprecation of the entire Korean people.

Recently the Syngman Rhee gang concocted the so-called presidential election, suppressed and massacred democratic personages and resorted to every vile means for prolonging their fascist police dictatorship under the occupation of the U.S. imperialists.

Even a child would know that the "election" was nothing but an anti-popular and fraudulent farce which had nothing in common with the genuine will and interests of the South Korean people. Today such a reactionary, anti-popular "election" can by no means solve the urgent demands of the South Korean people.

The important thing is to eliminate foreign intervention in the home affairs of Korea, put an end to the murderous, fascist dictatorship of the Syngman Rhee clique, carry out a genuinely democratic policy and put into force democratic principles in the general political, economic and social life. The one and only way is to implement the measures for the peaceful unification outlined in the declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In South Korea of today, an ever increasing number of personages are opposing the suppression of the people by the U.S. aggressors, and are resisting the personal dictatorship of the Syngman Rhee clique and unification by force, and the demand for the peaceful unification of North and South Korea is growing with every passing day.

How can the Koreans with conscience, who are sincerely anxious about the destiny of the fatherland and the future of the coming generations, turn down this just proposal? Why should our single nation, which lived harmoniously in one land, remain divided this way, and why can our people not sit together in one place? We eagerly hope that for the furtherance of the peaceful unification representatives of various political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea will, as early as possible, sit at one table face to face with each other and have heart-

to-heart talks. We also welcome preliminary contacts and liaison between individual personages.

We desire that a conference similar to the Joint Conference of April 1948, in which Messrs. Kim Koo and Kim Kyoo Shik participated, be opened once again, and are firmly convinced that numbers of patriots, prominent figures, scholars and personages from all circles, not to mention the political parties and social organizations affiliated with the Fatherland Front, will come out to the struggle for peaceful unification in support of this declaration.

No matter what vicious plot American imperialists and Syngman Rhee gang may hatch up, it will certainly be frustrated before the united forces of our entire nation, and they cannot block our way to peaceful unification.

We trust that the peoples of all countries, who are interested in the peaceful settlement of the Korean question and who express sympathy with the work of the Korean people for unification, will likewise support as one this declaration and encourage us.

Dear compatriots!

The peaceful unification of the fatherland depends upon how the Korean people themselves struggle and endeavour for that purpose.

If you value this beautiful land where your forefathers lie buried, if you wish the happiness of future generations, and if you treasure the patriotic tradition of your forerunners who fought selflessly for national independence and honour, support with one accord this declaration and come out valiantly to join the ranks which struggle for the peaceful unification and independence of the fatherland and against the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee bandits.

We are confident that victory is certainly on the side of the united Korean people.

## JOINT DECLARATION OF FORMER PROMINENT SOUTH KOREAN POLITICAL FIGURES

Dear compatriots in South Korea!

Dear comrades in South Korea!

Leaders in political, military, economic, cultural and other fields of South Korea!

Today, ten years after liberation from nearly forty years of atrocious, colonial oppression and plunder by the Japanese imperialists, our great tragedy of territorial division and national split still continues.

What indeed you have gone through during the period of the past ten years when you should have enjoyed the glorious weal of reforms and construction which are the fruits of independence, freedom, cooperation and unity and of national initiative and creative work under the proud flag of a reborn fatherland!

Today, two years since the conversion of the deplorable 38th parallel into the military demarcation line, it is high time for you to make an extraordinary resolution for the sake of your own happiness and of your aged parents, young sons and daughters as well as of the generations to come.

The marks of incalculably great national losses, unprecedented in modern history, suffered during the stern three-year war in which the fatherland was almost reduced to ashes and compatriots were slaughtered en masse, have not yet been completely effaced. Should we, notwithstanding this, bring once again such a grave misfortune upon our country by provoking a new war?

If serious consideration is given to the horrible fratricidal war that drenched with blood our land of three thousand *ri*, not a single person out of the thirty million Koreans would approve of such bloodshed.

We have now reached the crucial moment of whether we rise or fall, that fateful moment of decision of whether

or not we Korean people rise up and settle our problem by our own hands.

Dear gentlemen and compatriots!

Without unification there is no true independence, for our fatherland is one and our people is one.

That you could not demonstrate even once the glory and might of free Korea while undergoing twofold and threefold insult and unbearable oppression, is due to the lack of our united strength.

The territorial division and the national split are the source of all our misfortunes. But should another war occur, it would not bring about the unification of the fatherland but would only result in enormous losses for the country and nation.

You should realize that we have reached the grave stage where reviewing all past events in a new light, we must work out and put into effect new measures.

You are most keenly aware of the present misfortune caused by the division of the fatherland. Let us turn our eyes to the actual advantages that the unification of the fatherland would bring to the livelihood of the people.

The southern half is blest with abundant agricultural resources including the rice bowls of three southern provinces. In addition, it has establishments of textile industry and bountiful labour power.

On the other hand, the northern half has rich underground resources of all kinds, hydro-power, aquatic and forestry resources, and many large scale industrial establishments, with the progress of the rehabilitation and construction made following the war, are producing an ever greater quantity of electricity, chemical fertilizer, fuel and minerals. More than sufficient quantities of such material necessary for metal industry as pig iron and steel are being turned out, and the production of various kinds of machines, textile goods and other daily necessities is growing at a striking pace. Great advance has also been made in the fields of agriculture, fishery and animal husbandry.

What a great material well-being it will render to the livelihood of the nation to integrate the two parts of Korea into a single unit by way of exchange of these materials, technique and culture! Why then should we for no

reason suffer hardship and poverty with all these materials within the bounds of our fatherland? Why should we purchase daily necessities at a predatory, exorbitant price from a country thousands of miles away?

And when one thinks also of the fact that a way must be found out of the distressing reality in which the brothers and sisters of one family and the same blood living in the North and South are unable even to communicate with each other, separated as if tens of thousands of miles lay between them, he feels more keenly than ever what a pressing and urgent national demand it is to achieve the peaceful unification of the fatherland. The peaceful unification of the fatherland — this thought never leaves the minds of our 30 million people, awake or asleep. It is the accomplishment of this paramount task that will provide us with the conditions for a prosperous life worthy of human beings.

In view of this state of affairs the North Korean government has repeatedly made important proposals calling for the peaceful unification of the fatherland and negotiations between North and South.

It declared that, with a view to removing mistrust and tension existing between North and South, the government authorities of North and South Korea should undertake to settle only by peaceful means all problems pertaining to the unification of Korea, without one side resorting to force against the other side; to convene a conference of representatives of North and South Korea at the earliest possible date to discuss problems on unification; to convene a Far Eastern conference of the countries concerned with a wide participation of Asian countries and let it take measures for the peaceful unification of Korea and assume the obligation for ensuring the prevention of another war; to effect the withdrawal from Korea of foreign troops, to reduce the armed forces of both North and South to the minimum; to establish mutual contact between the North and South Korean people and exchange achievements in the fields of economy, culture, science and art.

We believe that these proposals are most reasonable at the present stage in view of the international situation now prevailing in the East and West and in view of the

political, military and historical conditions now being created in our fatherland. At the present stage, the first step should be taken to make it possible for personages of all social strata of North and South to sit around one table and to exchange views with an open mind with a view to putting an end to the tragedy of the national split. We are convinced that you will accept these proposals.

We can conduct negotiations at one table even with foreigners when the need arises. Why is it impossible for Koreans of the same blood and from the same forefathers to sit around one table with each other?

The time has come when you should display, without hesitation, bravery and loyalty to the full for effecting negotiations and contact between North and South Korea along the line of peaceful unification and for saving the country from its split.

The long history of our fatherland is filled with the records of our forefathers who honorably upheld the cause of safeguarding the fatherland and nation by uniting themselves as one in every period.

Therefore, at this critical moment of historical importance, any Korean should not look on with folded arms or remain aloof from a major event which will decide the rise and fall of the fatherland but be held responsible for it, the more so for one who has been devotedly struggling for the independence of the fatherland and the freedom of the nation.

Friends!

Today, our fatherland is confronted with the greatest difficulties and our nation is being put to the severest test.

Rise up, all of you, with a firm determination for conducting successful negotiations between North and South along the road of peaceful unification!

In that event, the difficulties confronting the fatherland will be overcome and the great national trial will end in splendid victory.

This is the time when you who are sitting in the depth of mournful despair should come forward again as heroic patriots and set our beloved fatherland on the glorious road to unification, independence and peaceful develop-

ment, on which you all set your hearts. There is no longer any time to hesitate or idle.

Though some of you may have taken the wrong side in your past life, do not hesitate, come out confidently in this great epoch and take prompt action as new courageous fighters for unification and independence, holding high the banner of peaceful unification.

Dear friends!

Conveying you these few words which cannot be repressed, we assure you that we will come forward, together with you, to do our bit as sincere champions of peaceful unification.

All of you, without any exception, march forward resolutely along the road of peaceful unification!

Let us achieve as soon as possible negotiations between North and South.

**Oh Ha Yung, Yoon Ki Sup,  
Cho So Ang, Song Ho Sung,  
An Jai Hong, Um Hang Sup**

*November 12, 1955*

**REPORT DELIVERED BY CHO SO ANG AT THE INAUGURATION MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF FORMER SOUTH KOREAN LEADERS IN THE NORTH FOR PROMOTION OF PEACEFUL UNIFICATION HELD ON JULY 3, 1956**

Dear comrades and friends!

We, who were formerly engaged in political activities in the southern half, are here today to inaugurate the Consultative Council of Former South Korean Leaders in the North for Promotion of Peaceful Unification and to fight for the peaceful unification of the fatherland and the independence of the nation.

In the light of the internal situation of Korea, we deem it timely and greatly significant to form this consultative council.

Today, the internal and international situation of Korea urgently demands us who came from South Korea to form such an organization.

We form the council in consideration of our nation's heroic struggle for the past 70 years for self-independence, and of the unremitting efforts for peaceful unification made by the compatriots of the North and South in the past ten years since the August 15 Liberation.

Despite our nation's valorous struggle for the self-independence during the past 70 years, we have not yet attained complete success, and though we have made persistent efforts for the past ten years since the August 15 Liberation to achieve the unification of the North and South, the question still remains unsettled.

As far back as the close of the Li Dynasty, our nation fought against the aggression and interference of foreigners, as well as against the corrupt feudal despotism, bureaucratic system, trucklers and pro-Japanese traitors,

but the fight having ended in failure, our country became an ally, then a protectorate, annexation, and finally a colony of Japan.

Even under the cursed Japanese rule, which lasted 36 years, our nation never for a moment ceased to fight for freedom and independence. We waged persistent struggles, such as the Armed Volunteers' Movement, March 1 Independence Movement, the independence movement at home and abroad — in the Maritime Province of Siberia, North-east China, Shanghai, Japan and the U.S.A. — the June 10 Uprising, the Shinkan-hoi Movement, armed anti-Japanese and the Fatherland Restoration Association movements in North-east China and Shanghai, peasants' and workers' struggle at home, etc., drenching our land with the blood of hundreds of thousands of patriotic martyrs.

But we were unable to greet even the August 15 Liberation as complete victors in our struggle. If we had been able to meet the day of the liberation by the united forces of our nation, and if there had been no American aggression following the Second World War, our long-cherished national aspiration for freedom, unity and independence would have been realized.

Since the August 15 Liberation, our country has been divided into two parts and our nation splitted. This contradiction posed two new tasks before our people to attain independence and to achieve peaceful unification.

We greeted the August 15 Liberation, yet our national independence movement has not culminated in complete victory, and the independence movement and the movement for peaceful unification are the inseparable tasks, the latter being the continuation of the former.

More than ten years have already elapsed since the August 15 Liberation. The internal and external contradictions in our country have been aggravated. We are duty bound to remove them.

Attempts to solve the Korean question internationally through the Decision of the Moscow Three Foreign Ministers' Conference or the U.S.S.R.-U.S. Joint Commission also ended in failure due to the internal and international con-

traditions and opposition and the issue of unification and independence has become more complicated.

However, patriotic political parties, social organizations and personages of our country have continued to strive for the peaceful unification of the fatherland — earnest desire of the entire Korean people.

At the North-South Consultative Conference held in April 1948, representatives of 56 North and South Korean political parties and social organizations including Messrs. Kim Koo and Kim Kyoo Shik met together, though their positions, political views and ideology were different from each other. They discussed at one table the future of our fatherland and attained considerable results. They laid a foundation for the successful consultation in the future.

The North-South Consultative Conference was held on the initiative of the North Korean side, but the necessity of such consultation had been raised in South Korea, too.

Already at the time when the Right-Left Cooperation Movement was started following the August 15 Liberation, even some of the rightist parties, not to mention the middle-of-the-road parties, emphasized the necessity of North-South consultation, and the item of peaceful unification was put on agenda in the Legislative Assembly under the American military government, envisaging the forming of a North-South consultative council.

All this shows that it is possible to convene such conference in the future, too.

The North-South Consultative Council demonstrated that the patriotic political parties and personages, regardless of different positions and political views, could unite their forces, work out measures for saving the country, and launch a nation-wide movement with the only one desire to achieve the peaceful unification of the country.

It also showed that despite persecution and difficulties, if the North and South are determined to decide the fate of their own country and the people, personages in the North and South can sit at one table and surmount the barrier of the 38th parallel. In 1949, over 70 patriotic members of the “National Assembly” of the Republic of Korea succeeded, by a joint petition, in placing on the agenda

of the House the question of the peaceful unification of the country, and conducted fierce debates.

This threw the U.S. and the South Korean authorities into a state of confusion. They proceeded to arrest about 10 of members of the "National Assembly", and put them on trial who are now present in this meeting.

Although this item on the agenda failed to pass, it proves that if the masses are united and press hard calling for peaceful unification, it will be able to make even the "National Assembly" and the government authorities of the Republic of Korea join in the movement for the peaceful unification of the country.

In June 1950, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. proposed to the "National Assembly" of the Republic of Korea to realize the peaceful unification of the country by forming a coalition assembly. This proposal was rejected by the South Korean authorities, and the joint front of the North and South for peaceful unification failed to be formed.

The cruel three-year war took a toll of millions of lives, reduced our land, both North and South, to debris and brought about misfortunes to the people.

Moreover, the war unleashed under the slogan of "march north and unify" failed to bring unification, but prolonged the split.

Efforts to convene, after the Armistice, political conference capable of solving the Korean question and the concrete proposal of the North Korean side at the Geneva Conference in 1954 ended in failure due to the unilateral manoeuvring of the other side.

However the movement of the Korean people for peaceful unification has been persistently carried on without interruption.

The ravages of the three-year war further inspired the aspiration for peaceful unification in the hearts of the entire compatriots of the North and South.

North Korea, which has been consistently striving for peaceful unification, has recently put forward more concrete and practical measures for peaceful unification.

In South Korea too, the spirit of the popular masses which is gradually mounting, and discussions among po-

litical parties and social organizations are being reflected in gradual animation of press circles which had remained silent.

The appeal of the Eighth Session of the Supreme People's Assembly in October, 1954 called for the convocation of the consultative conference of the North and South, and through the declaration adopted at its Ninth Session the proposal was put forward for the reduction of the armed forces of each side. Proposals were also made for solving the practical problems that exist between the North and South. They are the letter of the Minister of Communications in 1954 on the exchange of letters between the North and South, the statement of the Minister of Electricity in November, 1955, on providing electric power. And the statement of Six Men including Oh Ha Yung and An Jai Hong in November 1955, and other proposals for promoting the peaceful unification were made at press conferences.

Although these proposals were rejected by the South Korean authorities, they enjoy the enthusiastic welcome and support of the compatriots of broad strata in South Korea, thereby promoting the possibility of realizing the peaceful unification.

Especially, the declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the appeal of the Enlarged Session of the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front and the announcement of reduction of armed forces by 80,000 men, made it more easy to achieve the peaceful unification.

These proposals and measures, which represent the advanced views of the compatriots of the North and South, serve as a common, practical example in developing the movement for peaceful unification in the southern half, indicating clearly the direction and methods of the movement.

The above-mentioned proposals in accordance with the movement for peaceful unification at the present stage are wise and far-sighted measures elevating the past 70 years' struggle for independence to its highest form. We must concentrate all our energy and attention on translating the said proposals into life, casting away all shades of prejudices and conflicting views. Only in this way, we

firmly believe, the cause of rescuing the country and nation will be accomplished.

But in the past there were diverse views and positions in the North and South as to the methods of unification.

There must be a concerted movement in the North and South for peaceful unification. To this end the following should be mentioned:

1. There is a program of unilateral unification by means of annexation. This means that one side annex the other by force. We must rid ourselves of this erroneous idea of unilateral unification by means of annexation, and work out a common program for unification which is practicable and reasonable, through mutual concessions and cooperation.

Due to the different systems in the North and South brought about by the division of the country, which has existed for the past ten years, it is impossible for one side to impose its system upon the other and achieve unification by one side annexing the other.

Moreover, I think it is an erroneous view by a small number of people in the South that separate elections must be held in the North to fill the 100 vacant seats in the "National Assembly."

This is nothing but a variety of the unification by force to repeat another war or maintain their true colours.

2. There is also a program of unification by force, this is, to vanquish the other side through a fratricidal war. We condemn this idea, and adhere to the view that the peaceful consultation is the only way.

The three-year fratricidal war was a shameful blot on our history. We must not repeat such a mistake. We think that the idea of "march north and unify" still maintained in South Korea by a small number of people is a very dangerous and criminal one. For it is bound to again drive the Korean people into destruction and jaws of death.

Moreover, this method of unification was defeated in the three-year long war and is now hated and bitterly opposed by the entire Korean people and ridiculed by foreigners.

3. And some takes the stand that unification can be achieved by relying on foreign powers. That means semi-sov-

ereignty and semi-independence. We must do away with this idea of unification through foreign forces. We must realize that the only way is national independence without foreign interference. The Korean people should be the ones to solve the question of Korea's unification themselves. We will accept assistance from foreign countries, but we cannot tolerate any interference from outside.

We learned from Japanese rule and from the courses traversed by all the colonial countries that foreign interference in their internal affairs eventually leads to enslavement.

4. There is a program of unification by totally relying upon a kind of formal agreement between the North and South or by a decision of an international conference.

Needless to say, it may be useful and worthy one. But we must also do away with the attitude clinging to only this view. The most reliable and sound method of attaining unification is through the agreement and the popular opinion of the people of all strata, political parties and social organizations in North and South Korea, and through the unity of action among them.

This does not mean that we are opposed to international cooperation, and negotiations between the authorities of both governments. They are, of course, necessary, but of more importance is the solidarity and unity of the masses, for only then can unification be made durable and wholesome. The division of the country and the split of the nation should be liquidated and the founding of a sovereign, unified and independent state must be achieved through mutual contact, negotiations and concessions between the North and South.

The unification of the North and South must be achieved on the basis of the above-mentioned points.

Now that a concrete program on peaceful unification proposed by the North Korean side is sure to expedite the unanimity of different unification programs in North and South Korea, the weighty question of today hinges on how to realize this.

However, we should never lose sight of the fact that the situation in South Korea still leaves many difficulties and obstacles in the road of peaceful unification of our

country. Here, I wish to speak once again about the situation in South Korea.

If the pressmen and patriots had the freedom of expression, I am sure, they would criticise the U.S. policy in South Korea in the following manner.

“Some South Korean officials abhor and detest the peaceful unification believing that it is a different name for Communism. They go so far as to think that ‘peaceful unification’ and ‘aggression’ are synonymous. What other reasons are there for their opposition to the national peaceful unification?”

Since 1948 many treaties and agreements have been concluded between the United States and the South Korean government: “Initial Financial and Property Settlement,” “the ROK-U.S. Economic Aid Agreement,” both in 1948, and “ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Pact,” “Agreement on ROK-U.S. Joint Economic Committee,” both in 1953, to name only a few. These and many other one-sided, unfair agreements and treaties put shackles on the South Korean authorities. Politically, economically or militarily they have come to be dependent on the U.S. and they serve the interests of the U.S. rather than those of the Korean people.

America does not want the peaceful unification of our country but wishes to perpetuate the misery and disquiet of the Korean people. And by prolonging the wartime atmosphere the South Korean army is being increased as part of its aggressive plan.

Notwithstanding South Korea is a poor country, the South Korean government maintains a standing army of more than 700,000 and appropriates more than 70 billion *hwan* for military expenditures. And as if this were not enough, there are some officials who are seeking to import nuclear weapons and modern arms from the U.S.

Three years have passed since the Armistice. But the wartime atmosphere is kept alive in South Korea with its more than 700,000 regulars and 200,000 annual recruits. Thus, uneasiness prevails over South Korea. On top of this, the U.S., under the cloak of so-called economic aid, dumps unlimited quantities of goods in South Korea, carries away all the precious resources, so as to secure its com-

plete grip on the artery of the entire South Korean economy—finance, industry and trade.

Thus the national economy has been totally subjugated by American capital, resulting in bankruptcy and ruin. And inflation, soaring prices, and high taxation are a constant threat to the daily life of the people.

As a natural result of the U.S. control over the South Korean military and economic affairs, democratic activities of the political parties and organizations are suppressed, civil and human rights are trampled upon. But corruption of officials is connived at, and brutal terror of police and military police and special service are intensified.

All these factors tend to bring about the political, economic crisis, social contradiction and confusion in South Korea, which darken the life of the people. It was, therefore, no surprise, during the so-called presidential election of last May, for the Democratic Party to come out with the slogan: "We cannot go on living this way; we must have a change of government." This reflects the sentiments of the South Korean personages.

Incidentally the Liberal Party, which is in power, took pains to explain why it lost in the May elections. Among other reasons it confessed that its failure was due to the people's complaint about the war policy, recruiting system, high taxes and various levies, and due to the farmers' resentment over the policy of raising the price of fertilizer and cutting down the rice price.

Today, the U.S. and the South Korean authorities, suppressing the people's desire for peaceful unification, are trying to force the people along the road to war. But the situation has changed and they cannot bend the people to their wishes.

I wish to call your attention, particularly, to the activities of various South Korean political parties.

Generally speaking, there are three positions taken by political parties on the question of unification. One group is clamouring for the "march north"; the second has no clear-cut stand on this, and the third insists on peaceful unification.

The Liberal Party, which is in power, dances to the tune of "march north." But this party failed miserably

in the May presidential elections. Its presidential candidate received only 52 per cent of the total votes while its candidate for vice-president received less than 39 per cent. It goes without saying that even these few votes were wrung from the people by threat, intimidation and with the bayonet.

After the elections, there was a fierce feud among many factions within the party. I must mention here one of these factions, which is advocating the reformist idea in opposition to the governmental officials and party leaders.

The Democratic Party which is the opposition party, is taking ambiguous attitude towards the question of peaceful unification. Some top members join the cry for "march north" while many others do not. This party too has been suffering from factionalism after the elections.

Another party, that is, the Progressive Party which is still in its infancy, is for the peaceful unification of our fatherland. This party has yet to make clear what concrete, practical measures it proposes for achieving the peaceful unification. But the item on peaceful unification contained in its platform, was enough to secure more than two million votes.

Besides these parties, at present, there is a group of people formerly belonging to various parties, who are trying to organize themselves into a socialist party. Their stand on the unification issue is more or less the same as that of the Progressive Party.

A glance at the position taken by these parties shows what makes the people in South Korea support or desert a political party. It is the question of how a party stands on the issue of unification of Korea — whether or not it advocates bloodshed among Koreans. In a word, the South Korean people want the peaceful unification of our country. People of every walk of life—national capitalists, medium and small merchants and industrialists, workers, officials and office employees, youth, students, writers and artists, men of the ROK army and some government leaders and members of the "National Assembly", and the peasants and former landlords—none of these people want to see again Koreans killing Koreans. "We don't like to think our

families and fellow countrymen in the North as our enemies," they say.

Now I should like to turn to the situation in North Korea.

In North Korea the gigantic rebuilding on the ruins of war is in full swing.

Already more than 300 large and medium factories, either restored or newly built, are in full operation turning out various machines and instruments, produced for the first time in our country.

Along with this, grand irrigation systems have been laid out for increasing the acreage of arable land. The Pyongnam Irrigation System succeeded in joining the rivers of Taidong and Chungchun on the Anjoo plain.

When the huge construction in the North is compared with the situation in South Korea, one cannot but be convinced that only unification and peace will bring progress to South Korea.

Let us hold North-South negotiations!

Let us effect North-South intercourse!

Let the entire people of the North and South be united!

This convinces us that the program for building the country, which laid down in black and white the long-cherished aspiration of our revolutionary martyrs and patriots, is being implemented in the North ahead of the South.

The northern half of Korea, while pushing ahead with this gigantic peaceful construction day and night, put forward many sincere proposals for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, and makes every effort to put them into practice. The realization of peaceful unification and peaceful construction are the two great basic tasks in the northern half of our country today.

The compatriots in the North are appealing to their fellow countrymen in the South to march forth shoulder to shoulder, overcoming all the barriers and oppositions between North and South through negotiations, mutual contacts and understanding.

True patriotic persons in North and South Korea are desirous of marching hand in hand with each other, isolating a handful of "march north" advocates, and

are determined to press ahead, at a certain stage, when necessary, resolutely toward a decisive direction in unity and cooperation.

The mounting spirit of the North and South Korean people desiring peaceful unification should be felt even in Kyongmudai Residence of Syngman Rhee, the originator of the "march north." Also it is our task to see that the U.S. radically alters its policy toward Korea correcting all the mistakes it has committed in Korea in the last ten years since the second world war.

I should like to touch briefly upon the international situation which is turning in our favour in relation to the task of achieving peaceful unification.

Our peace program conforms to the line followed by the majority of governments and peoples.

The peace zone, which includes all peace-loving countries of Asia and Europe embracing more than one and a half billion people, stands for the strengthening of friendship, mutual contacts and cooperation. Today, the peace forces are much stronger than those of the war mongers, with the result that the war mongers' schemes for war are being frustrated.

Today, the question of peaceful unification is not limited to us. It has become an urgent international issue like that of East and West Germany and of North and South Viet-Nam. In these countries, too, the movements for uniting their country by peaceful means, not by war, are gaining in strength. As regards the independence movement, it has become a common problem of the peoples of African and Asian countries which still are under colonial rule, and is developing rapidly since the second world war.

China has emerged as a powerful, completely independent state. The development of India, Indonesia, Burma and Egypt as independent states, and the all-round independence movements of Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco in Africa are great events deserving admiration.

No one today can deny that peace, unification and independence are three inseparable elements, not only from the point of our national question but also from the international standpoint. Confronted with the question of peaceful unification and independence, North and South Korea

are bound with the ties which cannot be cut off under whatever circumstances.

Today, this question constitutes the most urgent and important common task and supreme order to be implemented without fail not only by various political parties and social organizations but also by individuals in North and South Korea.

In view of such internal and international situation, the formation of the Consultative Council for Promotion of Peaceful Unification is indeed timely, and its purpose and intention has a historical message.

You know well why this council is composed of pre-war South Korean political leaders.

Founded at the initiative and on the urgent demand of the entire Korean people, this Consultative Council has set to work for realizing the peaceful unification of our land against the subordination of Korea to foreign countries and another blood-shed among the Koreans, and for promoting negotiations and contact between the North and South.

The question of peaceful unification of the fatherland is a great task that can be achieved only through a nationwide mobilization and by putting our heads and hands together and by combining our efforts. It cannot be undertaken by either side alone, nor by any one political party or organization.

Therefore, we are going to do all within the reach of our ability for peaceful unification and independence by jointly taking part in the realization of this task, though we have different political views, ideologies and religious belief. Our council must always maintain a just and fair stand as one wing of the united front to promote the peaceful unification and negotiations between the North and South, while making every effort to erase the opposition and distrust among us.

Our council is composed of people of different political parties and religions. Among us are former members of the Korean Independence Party, Socialist Party, Democratic National Party, National Republican Party, Women's National Party, Korean Worker-Peasant Party, National

Independence Federation, New Life Association, Mass League, Korean National Association, Korean Women's Organization, Korean Labour Federation, Youth Association for Building the Country, Association of Korean Overseas in Japan, educators and journalists. There are also former South Korean national assembly members and government workers and officials. Besides, believers of Christian faith and Chundo-kyo and many other creeds are among us.

The fact that this Consultative Council is composed of personages with different political views, ideologies and religious belief clearly proves that any political party and any organization can cooperate with another one for the sole purpose of peaceful unification of our fatherland, and any person can unite with another one for unifying our country, no matter what career he may have had and in what situation he may be placed. Also it shows that future negotiations between the North and South are possible.

I think the Consultative Council has some basic tasks to carry out.

Firstly, we stand firmly with the people. We are fully determined to give all our energy, devotion and even very lives for the freedom, independence, happiness, honour and prosperity of our people, and for our national rights and interests. We will not permit any kind of political or economic aggression or intervention by foreigners. Nor will we allow the signing of any kind of humiliating, unequal pact with other countries.

The fate and prosperity of our country should we not trust to the hands of countries. We must solve our problems by our own strength and wisdom in defiance of any difficulty and misfortune.

The most important task of uniting our country by peaceful means should also be accomplished by the Korean people themselves. In order to stand firmly for the people, we should cherish national conscience and loyalty which will not bend in face of any intimidation or temptation of traitors.

However, when I speak of a firm stand on the nation's interests, I wish to emphasize that it should not be interpreted as chauvinism. On the contrary we welcome friend-

ship and cooperation among nations based on equality, and reject only those countries which indulge in aggression and intervention.

Secondly, we declare that in the interests of peaceful unification we are against another blood-shed among Koreans.

If any attempt be made to unleash another war in Korea, it would not be of our own making, but as before, it would be a calamity caused under foreign direction.

Is there a single Korean who wants again to go through the horrors of war? The cry of "march north and unify" is a means of money-making by a small group of certain foreign countries and is nothing but their tactics for world domination.

Every Korean should oppose such "march north" cry and refuse to be involved in another war in Korea.

Unless war is prevented, the peaceful unification and the removal of the calamities and suffering of the Korean people are impossible. Therefore, if one believes truly in peaceful unification, he must stand resolutely against war.

For preventing war, the governments of North and South must take the following steps: to strictly observe the Armistice Agreement; to reduce the size of armed forces and military expenditures; to turn the truce into a lasting peace; to see to it that foreign troops stationed in the South and North are speedily withdrawn; to avoid even the smallest armed clashes between the North and South; to nullify all existing military pacts and alliances with foreign powers. In this way prevention of war should form one of the basic tasks of our council.

Thirdly, negotiations and intercourse between the North and South constitute the first step towards the accomplishment of peaceful unification. Some people hold that negotiations are unfeasible due to the ill feeling caused by the war between the North and South.

But we can cite many examples from the world history of even belligerent countries reaching agreement through negotiations, and then establishing friendly relations between them.

Therefore, we must let bygones be bygones, if we are really to reckon with the destiny of the fatherland.

Some are sceptical about the success of negotiations on account of differences in ideology and social system, others on account of mutual distrust.

Yet, the present-day international situation shows that the co-existence of socialism and capitalism is possible, and the nationalists and communists of many colonial and dependent countries are in cooperation fighting against foreign invaders, as was frequently found in our past history. Therefore those who are really anxious about the future of the country do not fear such differences of views. The question lies in the foreign interventionist's direct or indirect obstruction, and, therefore, we must see through their schemes and do away with such hindrances.

There must be mutual exchange of products, one side replenishing the shortage of the other with the products in which it itself abounds; there must be freedom of travel between the two parts and exchange of letters as well as mutual visit of men in the fields of culture, science, art and sports. Representatives of both governments, political parties and social organizations as well as individuals of the North and South must sit around one table for open-hearted talks.

And then we must set up a permanent body to conduct exhaustive discussions on the question of unification. The Consultative Council must regard the establishment of this permanent body as one of its primary tasks to attain North-South negotiations and intercourse.

Fourthly, for the peaceful unification of the country, a unified government to be formed in the future should be a democratic, independent coalition government.

Such a government must be formed through free, democratic elections. It should be a genuinely democratic and independent government, which should set up the political, economic, educational and cultural system on democratic lines and guarantee the people of all social strata their rights and interests, and assume in no case any obligation of military alliance to any foreign country.

The Consultative Council will strive to establish such a unified government.

Lastly, it must be pointed out that, for the attainment of peaceful unification, we need the co-operation of the

countries concerned. The Consultative Council will do everything in its power to accelerate the early convening of a conference of the countries concerned for Korea's unification.

Dear friends!

All the above-mentioned are, we firmly believe, the unanimous demand and the urgent desire of the Koreans in both parts of the country.

Today when the Korean patriots at home and abroad pledge to devote themselves to the cause of peaceful unification of their country, I believe that the whole of people in the North and South will give warm support to our call. And it is our duty to continue to wage an unremitting struggle in order to justify expectations reposed in us.

You respond to the call of this council to prevent the resumption of war in our territory and to realize our country's peaceful unification!

I call upon our fellow countrymen in South Korea to unite themselves ever more closely to attain our objective regardless of the difference in their political views, ideology, religion, occupation, position and past career.

The situation at home and abroad as well as the urgent demand of the fellow countrymen in both parts of the country has compelled us to take a courageous stand for peaceful unification.

The Consultative Council earnestly appeals to the fellow countrymen, brothers and sisters, to effect North-South rapprochement, to resume relations of kinship between the patriots in the North and South, to unify the divided territory of the country, to prevent war and accomplish peaceful unification and independence.

Dear friends!

Let us win peace and attain unification!

Let us oppose subjugation and civil war!

Let us hold North-South negotiations!

Let us effect North-South intercourse!

Let the entire people of the North and South unite!

**DECLARATION OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF  
THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF FORMER SOUTH  
KOREAN LEADERS IN THE NORTH FOR PROMOTION  
OF PEACEFUL UNIFICATION**

*July 3, 1956*

Dear patriotic compatriots within and without the country!

We are a nation with a long history of five thousand years, a nation which waged the great resistance war of Imjin (against Japanese invasion in 1592 — *tr.*) and the forty-year long anti-Japanese struggle, and has valorously fought for 10 years since the August 15 Liberation for the unification and independence of the country.

However, the unification and independence of the country, freedom and liberation of the entire people, which we are so ardently desirous of, have not yet been achieved, and the territorial division and national split is continuously causing all kinds of misfortunes and sufferings.

The movement for attaining and defending peace against war is growing in the world; the voice against fratricidal war and for peaceful unification is ringing throughout the North and South of the fatherland. Like-minded South Korean persons in North Korea, who are deeply concerned about the destiny of the nation and the future of the country, gathered here to discuss the great task of expediting the peaceful unification of the North and South.

It has become clear through our consultations on this question that we are of one accord in our desire and in our undertaking; therefore, we have decided to devote all of our energy to the promotion of the cause of the peaceful unification and independence of our country by sponsoring the Consultative Council of Former South Korean Leaders in the North for Promotion of Peaceful Unification. We hereby declare the commencement of our activity.

The Consultative Council is composed of a group of people varied in their past political affiliation and career.

Nevertheless, they are of one accord on the one point that the peaceful unification is the common desire of the North and South Korean compatriots, and is a great national task that should be carried out through common efforts.

We are of the same opinion that the Korean people cannot be divided and the state of division can no longer be tolerated. This view is deeply rooted in the hearts of the entire Korean people. How heartbreaking it is that parents, wives and children, relatives and friends are separated in the North and South, and how great is the suffering of the people of this country caused by the stoppage of the commodity exchange and cultural interchange! This is the source of all the political unrest, economic distress and misfortunes in our country.

Immeasurable, indeed, would be the sufferings and misfortunes of the nation, should the division continue any longer.

Only those who create dissension and antagonism like to cause misfortune to a happy family and sow the seed of hatred and discord in this country against unification and solidarity, and it is they who are hindering unification.

We are also unanimous in our view that, given unification, our nation can construct a happy paradise in this land. Who can say that our nation, with inexhaustible natural resources above and under the ground and in the sea, and with talent and wisdom that are in no way inferior to that of others, is not capable of constructing a happy paradise in this land? If only unification, independence, freedom and democracy are achieved, why should we be meekly subjugated by another country, betray the honour and fidelity of the nation and perish in poverty and beggary? Therefore, the sober-minded people of this country in both North and South are aspiring after unification and fighting for it, picturing in their minds a happy paradise which will be constructed in the future.

Only those people who do not believe in their happy paradise are oblivious of their national unity, independ-

ence and honour, and play into the hands of others to be slaves.

Also we are of one opinion that the unification should be attained by peaceful means, not by war. There are no other people so averse to war and fratricidal conflict and so desirous of peace as the Korean people today. The bloody wounds of millions of our people are not yet dry, numerous cities and villages have not risen from ruins, and the desperate cry of numberless orphans and widows is still heard. Under such circumstances, why should we start another war? All the people of North and South Korea are resolutely opposed to war. What did the three-year war bring us? Nothing but further split and misfortune.

Should there be another war, we can expect only a greater national tragedy. Therefore, the peaceful unification is the only road of life, and the road of happiness for the people of our country. Certain bellicose elements alone are plotting a fresh war, that is, a larger scale of fratricidal war. Also concordant is our opinion that unification must be attained of our own free will, without foreign intervention.

From ancient times the Korean people have loved freedom and independence, and struggled for the rights to national existence and the sovereignty of state.

True Koreans want to solve their own affairs by themselves but want no intervention of others. The Korean people do not wish to see a foreign army stationed for a long period in their territory, nor to have their freedom and independence restricted by a unilateral, aggressive pact or foreign interference.

This is why the Korean people are demanding the withdrawal of foreign armies, an end to foreign intervention and the abolition of unequal agreements. Only those who are inclined to depend on foreign countries are desirous of prolonged stationing of foreign troops in their land and greet intervention with a smile, forsaking their independence.

We are likewise unanimous in our view that for the sake of a peaceful unification, first of all, the North and South should come into contact and negotiate with each other. The Korean people are of one blood, one family, and

have shared bitters and sweets throughout a long history. It is the usual thing for members of one family to smile at each other after being angry, and to make up after squabble.

Should we be separated permanently and be inimical to each other forever because there are differences in political views and ideas and have had a war?

We believe that negotiations are possible and there is no question that cannot be settled, if we cast aside petty grudges to stand for a great cause, and sacrifice individual interests to restore the fatherland which our forefathers assiduously built up for five thousand years.

Through major and minor contacts between the North and South can we come to mutual understanding and mutual acceptance; we can be reunited as brothers in one family, and can succeed in negotiations. Only those who are in fear of peaceful unification and make war a profession impede contacts and reject negotiations.

Further, we agreed that we must establish in the future a democratic, unified, coalition government. The history of our country which has been divided for ten years shows clearly that it is impossible for either the North or South to impose mechanically a system of one side upon the other. Everyone considers that the united government to be established in the future should be a democratic one that will guarantee the interests and rights of the people of all strata, if the Korean question is to be settled fairly. This government must be formed through democratic, free, general elections in the North and South. Only those who do not want unification or those who seek to monopolize power are opposed to the establishment of such a coalition government.

These are points upon which we have reached agreement of views. Our unanimous wish is also that of all the true-hearted men of North and South Korea, and is identical with the demands of the patriotic political parties and social organizations. Our cause of unification is an arduous and stupendous one. Therefore this is not to be shouldered by either side alone, nor to be undertaken exclusively by any one party, one faction or one circle. Regardless of class or circle, of political view, religious belief, property status,

education or career, the entire nation must strive for attaining our common object with united effort and with one mind.

The Consultative Council of Former South Korean Leaders in the North for Promotion of Peaceful Unification holds that:

First. The Korean people should uphold the honour and fidelity of the Korean nation and maintain a self-independent spirit, defying all enslavement and interference;

Second. The Korean people, uniting themselves as one, should oppose the fratricidal war, and attain the unification and independence by peaceful means;

Third. Mutual contacts, understanding and negotiations between North and South should be realized, and exchange of letters, travel of inhabitants and economic, cultural, art and scientific exchanges promoted;

Fourth. A permanent organ should be composed of representatives of government authorities, parliaments, political parties, public organizations, and patriotic personages of North and South Korea for negotiating peaceful unification;

Fifth. A united, democratic, independent coalition government should be set up through all-Korea general elections;

Sixth. We should see to it that the countries concerned cooperate for the peaceful solution of the Korean question.

These are our slogans.

Fellow-countrymen in North and South Korea desirous of the peaceful unification of the fatherland!

Friends and acquaintances in North and South who are of one mind with us!

Let us become promoters of the national cause of the peaceful unification of the fatherland, regardless of political party and other organizational affiliations, of differences in ideology, political views and religious beliefs and of career, trade and position!

Dear patriotic brothers and sisters within and without the country!

If you agree with the slogans of the Consultative Council of Former South Korean Leaders in the North for Promotion of Peaceful Unification, then make your utmost to bring them into realization.

## LETTER TO SOUTH KOREAN YOUTH AND STUDENTS

Dear brothers and sisters!

Dear youth and students of South Korea!

You, who are living in the southern half of our fatherland, and we, in the northern half, are the younger generation of a single nation of the same blood and same ancestors.

Just as the clear sky above us and the blue waters of our eastern sea cannot be cut into two parts, neither can our nation and youth be divided.

However, our beloved fatherland is artificially divided into two parts. The division of our country, which is rich in natural resources such as gold, silver and other treasures, is thwarting the prosperity of the country and happiness of the people, and split of the nation is shattering the happy dream of our youth. What a deplorable situation!

We shall observe the 11th anniversary of our liberation from the dark rule of the Japanese imperialists.

Every year we mark this national day with festivities. But not even once have the brothers and sisters of North and South Korea been able to celebrate together and share the national joy of being liberated from the yoke of slavery! Let us, at any cost, celebrate the liberation day of this year at one place, sharing our joy.

This year, too, we are going to mark the anniversary of the August 15 Liberation with great merriment. We are planning to arrange a national youth and students festival in Pyongyang in celebration of the 11th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation.

We are expecting a demonstration of the seething might and beauty of young gymnasts of the whole country in this national spartakiade; there will be more than 20 athletic events such as foot-ball, basket-ball, volley-ball, boxing, and field and track events as well as competition in national sports including swinging, Korean wrestling and archery.

The beautiful sentiments and talent of young artists and youth and student circles of all Korea will be displayed in the various programmes of music, dancing and drama presented at the art festival.

The entire youth and students of North Korea who are making preparations for a grand and glorious celebration eagerly hope that you will come and join us.

We will afford you every facility for your coming. We heartily welcome South Korean youth and students, sports teams and art troupes, in groups or individually.

We shall also gladly receive those groups and individuals who come only for the purpose of looking around our Republic.

All the expenses for your visit and sojourn here will be taken care of by us.

Let us talk together about our pride of being youth living in this beautiful land stretching three thousand *ri*, and about the plan of climbing magnificent Twelve Thousand Peaks of the Diamond mountains.

Let us talk together open-heartedly about the cherished desire of youth, strolling along the sandy beach of Songdo-wun where the blue waves of the eastern sea break upon the shore.

Dear brothers and sisters!

The delegates selected at the national youth and students festival in celebration of the 11th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation will participate in the Sixth World Youth and Students Festival to be held next year in Moscow.

The World Youth and Students Festival, a traditional event, is a red-letter day of peace and friendship, when sons and daughters of more than a hundred different nationalities all over the world will meet together.

We hope to participate in the Sixth World Youth and Students Festival together with you as a proud delegation of a single nation.

No doubt you hope so as we do. We have met freely and cordially with the youth and students of the whole world in Vienna, Calcutta, Berlin, Bandung and other

cities. We share our dreams of youth with them through letters.

What is more, we played host to youth and students of such countries as France, Japan, Italy, Chile, Ecuador, etc. We had many talks with them; we showed them about Diamond mountains and Rakrang tombs, Sukkoolam and Pooyu.

We are proud of our beautiful country and noble traditions, and find joy in sharing our sentiments through friendly intercourse with the youth of other countries with different languages and customs. Why cannot we, the younger generation of a single country and a single nation, sit at one table and talk together about the precious national monuments bequeathed by our forefathers? Is it impossible to endeavour to make further brilliant achievements?

Who is preventing us from meeting with our parents, brothers, sisters and relatives, and who is keeping us from even corresponding with them? We have time and again proposed to meet together and share the warm feeling of fellow-countrymen.

But, as you know, our urgent proposals have not yet been accepted because they are not to the liking of those who are trampling upon your democratic rights and freedom in South Korea.

What does it matter if our political views and religious beliefs differ from each other? What does it make difference if our trades differ from each other? Are not the vigorous Korean youth, who cherish in their hearts the ardent desire for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, sons and daughters of the same nation?

The youth of this country recently participated in the international sports festival, and won a good reputation of the Korean youth.

The elegant national arts of our country are admired by the peoples of the whole world. Then, how can we help demonstrating the pride of Korea in international gatherings by pooling our talent and skill?

We propose to form a joint preparatory committee for participating, together with dear South Korean youth and students, in the Sixth World Youth and Students Festival.

For the establishment of this joint preparatory committee, representatives of North and South Korean youth and students should meet and have discussions.

It does not matter whether the representatives meet in Seoul or in Pyongyang or some other place.

We hope you will decide this yourselves.

We believe firmly that you will send a positive reply to our sincere proposal.

Our nation of 30 millions which has a long and brilliant tradition has been and must remain one family forever.

Today, an artificial barrier has been raised between us, but the conscience and cherished desire of youth who love truth could not be clouded by any kind of forces.

Dear youth and students of South Korea!

We expect good news from you at the earliest possible time.

Impatiently waiting for the day when we heartily embrace each other, we wish you good health.

The National Meeting in Preparation for  
the Youth and Students Festival Marking  
the 11th Anniversary of the August 15  
Liberation and for the Sixth World Festival  
of Youth and Students

*July 20, 1956*

## APPEAL OF THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE DEMOCRATIC YOUTH LEAGUE OF KOREA TO THE YOUTH AND STUDENTS IN SOUTH KOREA

*November 7, 1956*

Dear youth and students in the southern half!

Both you and we are the younger generation of one and the same people, descendants of the same forefathers.

However, we cannot share our love with each other as one nation nor talk with each other about the beautiful ideals of our youth, even though we live in the same territory. Why should we live apart from each other and our country remain divided into North and South?

Our people with their long history created a brilliant culture in the past and have produced many a patriotic, distinguished general, scholar, thinker and writer. This is proof of the bright, creative talent of our people.

Our native land of three thousand *ri* with its azure sky and lovely landscape, fertile soil, and abundant resources such as gold, silver, and other treasures, is, indeed, a good place to live.

Our country has everything necessary for its prosperity and for its development into a rich, strong, sovereign and independent state.

However, the division of the country and the split of the nation by the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous clique of Syngman Rhee is causing great disaster to the country and the people, bringing unbearable misfortune to the entire youth and students of Korea.

Today the southern half of our fatherland has been converted into a prison for the people through the fascist tyranny of the U.S. occupationists and Syngman Rhee clique. The national economy is being stifled and ruined; industry and rural economy utterly deteriorated; hunger,

illness and poverty are menacing the life of the people at every moment. Our proud national culture is held in contempt and the fine customs of our people are trampled upon.

In the South youth and students, instead of marching ahead with confidence along the highway of science, truth and hope, are forced to become disgraceful dollar mercenaries, pressganged into the army as cannon-fodder for a fratricidal conflict.

How could your ideals and happiness blossom out under such circumstances and how could you enjoy the nectar of youth there?

For this very reason, your brave fight for the peaceful unification of the country and for the right to existence is entirely justifiable.

We extend with warm brotherly love our ardent support and encouragement to the sacred fight of our fraternal youth and students in the southern half.

Dear youth and students in the southern half!

We live in an age when the whole mankind wants to live in peace, and the spirit of friendship and cooperation fills the mind of everyone.

The imperialists, however, who are making desperate efforts to launch war and seize colonies, are frenziedly flinging themselves against this grand march of history with underhand tricks and lies.

At this very moment, aggressors are stretching out their vile, blood-stained hands over the territory of Egypt, taking the lives of those who are crying for peace.

You and we are living today in a land divided by such aggressors.

The fatherland and people are solemnly calling upon us, Korean youth and students, to work for the glorious cause of peaceful unification.

In the name of the clear conscience of the Korean youth and students, the Fourth Congress of the D.Y.L. of Korea, which is of the greatest significance for the youth and students of our country makes an earnest appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters.

Our fatherland should be unified peacefully at the earliest possible time in the interests of the country's pro-

sperity and the people's happiness, for the bright future of us youth and students.

This is our most cherished desire.

With a view to realizing this greatest desire of the Korean people, the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea adopted a Declaration.

As is set forth in the Declaration, the Korean issue should be settled peacefully by the will of the Korean people, and a unified government of Korea set up by their own hands.

The Armistice in Korea should be consolidated and developed into a lasting peace, and all foreign troops in North and South Korea withdrawn simultaneously.

In order to speedily accomplish the cause of peaceful unification of the fatherland, a permanent committee should be formed with the participation of the representatives of the parliaments, governments or political parties and social organizations in North and South Korea, and an international conference of the countries concerned should be convened. For the peaceful unification of the country, all shades of humiliation and misery, above all, should be wiped out and democratic rights and freedoms ensured in South Korea.

In the southern half, the dictatorship of Syngman Rhee should be done away with, and the freedom of speech, the press, association and religious belief be won.

Youth and students should be given the right to organize democratic organizations of youth and students and to carry on their activities free from any restriction or interference of the ruling circles, and bestial suppression and terror; arrest and imprisonment of youth and students should be categorically prohibited.

Labouring youth should win an eight-hour working day and social insurance, while peasant youth should oppose the expropriation of land and grain, and become permanent masters of land.

Young women should fight for ensuring equal right with men in social and political life, while students should secure the right to attend school as well as the right of democratization of educational institutions.

All young intellectuals should have the freedom to engage in science, literature and art; religious youth should have freedom of belief; and young commercial men and enterprisers be allowed to carry on business and trade with no restraint or restriction whatsoever.

We have an earnest desire to live in peace and happiness.

Still vivid in our mind is the bitter memory of the past three-year war provoked by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique.

We hate war, which deprives us of our happiness and dreams of youth. Least of all do we want to engage in a fratricidal tragedy in which brothers level guns against each other.

You must fight resolutely against the forced conscription and militarization of educational institutions by the Syngman Rhee clique, and foil at each step the intrigues for provoking another fratricidal war.

Dear brothers!

We are descendants of a sagacious and courageous people.

Each one of us should cherish deep in his heart the glorious patriotic traditions so as to safeguard and advance our celebrated cultural heritage keeping it from the plunder and destruction by the enemy, and defend firmly our proud national customs from the encroachment of the decadent Yankee culture and the American way of life.

We should make tenacious efforts to establish mutual contacts and ties between the youth and students of North and South Korea, and to realize the exchange of science, art and sports as soon as possible.

We should continue our efforts to hold symposia on our achievements gained in our scientific research work, joint performances of the creative works achieved in our cultural and art activities, and joint festivals of physical culture and sports.

We should also strive to mutually visit well-known places of scenic beauty and historic interest and to exchange tourist parties as well as individual sightseers.

We sincerely hope you will come to visit us as a first step toward realizing such mutual contacts.

Should any one of you come to us to find occupation or for study, we will extend you a cordial hand and satisfy your desire, and when you need medical attention, we will provide accommodations for you in well-equipped hospitals, sanatoria or rest homes.

And should you extend an invitation to us, we are ready at any time to respond to it with pleasure.

We advocate firm solidarity among the youth and students of North and South Korea as well as the federation of youth and student organizations in North and South Korea.

We, youth and students in North and South Korea, live under different social systems and it is quite natural that there should be differences of views among us. Nevertheless, are we Korean youth and students not the sons and daughters of one and the same people?

There can be no difference between your idea of freedom and democracy and ours, nor can there be any difference between your idea of the peaceful unification of the country and prosperity of the nation and ours.

The Korean youth aspiring after one and the same ideal, therefore, naturally should cooperate and unite with each other, despite the difference of views.

We should form and dispatch a single delegation of our country to the international meetings and in case the youth and student delegates of North and South Korea should appear at such place separately, they should trust and cooperate with each other.

We maintain that youth and student representatives from North and South Korea should sit together at one place and have heart-to-heart discussions about our unity and about the federation of youth and student organizations in North and South Korea.

We hope the date and place will be fixed by you.

The Fourth Congress of the D.Y.L. of Korea makes a solemn appeal to the entire youth and students of North and South Korea to be united in the cause of the unification

of the country, for peace, not war, for national freedom and independence, not colonial slavery.

United we triumph, divided we fall.

If you hold dear this land where our forefathers lie buried, and treasure the fate of yourselves and your posterity, fight bravely for the independence and honour of the nation, holding aloft the banner of the peaceful unification of the country.

If we achieve peaceful unification, and our land of three thousand *ri* prospers as a paradise of people, our posterity will glorify our names; if we fail they will have undying rancour against us.

The fatherland is insistently calling for patriotic enthusiasm of the Korean youth and students.

Let us march forward energetically, for the future of the fatherland and for the well-being of youth, along the road of the peaceful unification of the country, pooling all our strength, wisdom and passion.

## LETTER TO WRITERS, CRITICS, MEN OF LITERATURE AND ART AND LOVERS OF LITERATURE IN SOUTH KOREA

Dear writers, critics, men of literature and art and lovers of literature in the southern half!

We address this letter to you on behalf of the Second Congress of the Korean Writers' Union and the entire writers attending the Congress, and in the name of our beloved fatherland, people and literature.

The Second Congress of the Korean Writers' Union summed up with pride the tremendous achievements made by our literature during the period under review under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea and with the support and love of our working people, and discussed in earnest the theoretical and practical problems arising in connection with the further development of our Korean literature to a new stage.

The participants in this Congress were unanimous in their opinion on developing our national culture and bringing it to full efflorescence, on correctly inheriting our cultural heritage resplendent with the age-old tradition and on raising our literature to the advanced level of world literature. The Congress also demonstrated the ardent, patriotic passion and elated spirit of the entire participants to render further devoted service through literature for the peaceful unification and independence of the country and the freedom and happiness of the people. Everyday our Congress hall was crowded to the limit, but we could not help feeling something was vacant there. This was because you were not with us. Many foreign countries sent their delegates, congratulatory telegrams and messages to our Congress across tens of thousands of miles of land and waters, yet your familiar faces were not among us and your voices were not heard, though you are living in the same territory with us, in one and the same country. You were

not able to attend the present Congress owing to the oppression of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique. But we are confident that many of you are deeply interested in our Congress and eagerly desirous of seeing North and South Korean writers, critics and men of literature and art sit around one table.

We know well through our past experiences under the Japanese imperialist rule how bitter and painful it is for a writer with the writer's conscience and humanistic spirit to be deprived of the freedom of creation and unable to speak or write what is in his mind and heart.

Hence, paying our profound respects to the writers, critics and men of literature and art in the southern half, who are true to their conscience in face of the fascist oppression of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique and are fighting to safeguard the freedom of writers and the glory of the nation, we extend to you our warm sympathy and encouragement.

At the same time, the fact is once again brought home to us that we must have a further correct understanding of your actual situation, must have close contact with you and must unite and rally all the patriotic literary forces of the North and South.

We consider that the patriotic, conscientious writers, critics and men of literature and art of Korea, just as they fought together in the past for the liberation of the country and the development of the national literature, even when there were differences in their view-points and positions, can wage a common struggle also today for the peaceful unification of the country and for the development of the national literature regardless of such differences.

With this in view, we must begin by establishing cultural exchange between us.

Such intercourse and contact between us will promote mutual understanding and cooperation, dispel the doubt and distrust artificially created between us, and will pave a broad road for us to join hands for the common idea — the peaceful unification of the country and the upbuilding of Korean literature.

Therefore, let us writers of North and South Korea exchange letters and works with each other and also see

to it that letters and works are exchanged between the Korean Writers' Union and the literature and art organizations in South Korea.

We want to inform you about our creative achievements and experiences and, at the same time, we want to know what you are writing and planning to write.

We are ready to publish your works through our radio, newspapers, magazines and other press media, so long as they are written with national conscience. And we hope that you will send us such works, which you cannot publish under the oppression of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique.

Let us open a road for exchanging with each other views and experiences on literary or other questions, organizing joint discussions, research meetings and commemoration meetings, mutually dispatching delegates for inspection and travel to and fro in search of necessary materials.

Today we are making utmost efforts to faithfully implement in the field of our literature the Declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea for the Peaceful Unification of the Country.

We should gladly accept an invitation to visit you and if you come here, we shall heartily welcome you at all times.

Let us sit down at one table and exchange views on advancing our Korean literature to the world cultural level, on bringing to full efflorescence the inexhaustible cultural heritage handed down by our forefathers, on the problems of aesthetics and creative methods as well as on the future fate of our country, and on acting up to conscience as a man, on promoting culture and on safeguarding security from the threat of war and fascism.

Then we will be able to find a series of common views and a road of mutual cooperation.

As you know well, today, the conscientious and sober-minded people of the whole world are working for mutual benefit and friendship through cultural exchange, mutual visits and contacts with each other across the national boundaries and oceans regardless of their different nationalities and systems.

Many of us are friends, colleagues and acquaintances who studied together in the past and fought together for the fatherland and literature under the Japanese oppression, to say nothing of the fact that we are members of a single nation living in the same country, with the same history, language and customs.

How can one, unless he has lost faith in man and become a misanthrope, oppose shaking hands with each other and, still less, take the view that we are unable to settle our problems without resorting to arms?

Only American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique are opposing such intercourse and contact between the North and South and the unification of the country, clamouring about the "impossibility" of it.

This can be explained by the fact that they do not want to see our country reunited, and are trying to involve our country in another war in the interests of the American aggressive circles.

Therefore, if one maintains the "futility" of intercourse and contact between the North and South and gives up his struggle by any preconceived opinion or on some pretexts or other, he not only reveals his prejudice and dogmatism, but also places himself in a position where he may be utilized by the American aggressive circles and Syngman Rhee clique in their criminal manoeuvring, thus removing himself further from the urgent demand of the fatherland and nation.

As writers of Korea, one and the same nation, we cannot look on with folded arms at the situation confronting us at present. We must work for rapprochement and for cultural exchange between us. We must rally and unite as writers of the same Korea.

This not only represents our national aspiration but also the sincere voice of us who love literature, aspire for the brilliant efflorescence and development of Korean literature and respect and stand for the conscience and wisdom of mankind.

We are confident that this aspiration is shared by the conscientious writers, critics, men of literature and art and lovers of literature in the South.

Dear writers, critics, men of literature and art and lovers of literature in the southern half!

Come out against every anti-national, inhuman trend which creates discord and barriers between us, for the peaceful unification of the country, for the brilliant efflorescence and development of Korean literature, and for the promotion of unity and our mutual benefit!

Rise up in defence of your freedom of creation and writer's conscience against the fascist oppression and persecution of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique!

Expose in your works in every possible way the aggressive policy of the American imperialists and the fascist-terrorist rule of the Syngman Rhee clique, and hold high the banner of peace, humanism and freedom against the fratricidal war and the misanthropical ideology propagandized by them!

Create works that defend our cultural tradition and the fine customs inherent in our nation as well as national characteristics from violation and obliteration of the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique!

Depict realistically what national misfortune has been brought about through the division of our country into North and South and what a miserable life has been forced upon the people of South Korea under the domination of the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique!

Delineate in your works with the pen of intense wrath the misfortunes and sufferings of the people of all walks of life of South Korea, who are groaning in the depths of unemployment, hunger, sickness and slaughter!

While describing the features of the historic socialist construction in the North, we will further actively endeavour together with you to represent the reality of South Korea, and we desire your cooperation in this.

We believe that at present it is your noble mission as a writer of South Korea to convey the voice of the people and give them solace and encouragement.

Along such a line of creation, you will make a brilliant contribution to our Korean literature as well as to the treasure house of world literature.

We wish you good health and successes in your patriotic, creative work and anticipate a favourable response from your organizations, groups or individuals to our sincere proposal and appeal.

The Second Congress of the Korean Writers' Union

*October 16, 1956*

*Pyongyang*

## LETTER TO UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND SCIENTISTS IN SOUTH KOREA

Dear professors and assistant professors of South Korea!

Respected scientists of South Korea!

We, the attendants at the National Scientific Conference of College and University Professors, are sending this letter to convey our unanimous desire to you, who are absent from this conference.

At the conference, recent scientific achievements made by college and university professors and teachers in the northern half were made public; experiences were exchanged; and matters pertaining to the further development of our scientific research work were discussed.

The achievements made public here are indicative of the fact that our sciences are now forging ahead along the road of acquiring the most advanced sciences of the world and that the ranks of our scientists are daily growing in number and strength.

We noted with satisfaction that all the teachers who presented their achievements in their research work have unanimously expressed their determination to strive for an ever brighter future of Korea by carrying forward in the proper way the valuable scientific and cultural heritages of our country and by widely assimilating advanced sciences of the world. Thus, they have manifested their patriotic aspirations.

Reports were made on educational ideas of such scholars of the Practical School as Pak Yun Am and Jung Da San who were patriotic and democratic thinkers of Korea, on the poetry of Jung Chul who was a gifted poet of the 16th century, on the tradition of the Korean paintings, and on the theoretical and practical questions of interest to us in the field of social science such as measures for unifying the country by peaceful means. All of them have

enhanced the national pride of all attendants, the pride in their long cultural tradition. And the professors who are entrusted with the task of creating a new national culture and making new scientific discoveries have become even more keenly conscious of their weighty tasks.

Professors in the field of physical sciences — engineering, agriculture, medical science, etc.— made reports on their study of advanced technique in the world of today and of the important scientific problems in the field of physical sciences.

The reports and debates covering all fields of physical sciences and technique including the problem of atomic energy testified to the fact that the educational and scientific research work of our professors is closely linked with production and that they are successfully solving all the theoretical and practical questions.

Such sweeping development of sciences in the northern half of the Republic is thanks to the conditions provided by the Government of the Republic to give full scope to the scientific research of professors and scientists.

Bitter experience in the days of Japanese rule taught us that the subjective desire of the scientists alone could yield no results to speak of. Unless he is provided with books, laboratory and instruments and materials for experiment, unless he is given political guarantee for free scientific research, unless his stable livelihood is ensured, no scientist will achieve the results as he desires, no matter how inspired he may be by his love for the country and science.

We professors of higher educational institutions in the northern half of the Republic are provided with every necessary condition for scientific research: the Government provides the opportunity to make trips for collecting data and receiving practical training, affords facilities for conducting experiments, helps in procuring books, instruments and materials for experimental work, and encourages experience-exchange meetings and free debates.

We lost numerous books and instruments and materials for scientific research during the war due to the barbarous

bombing and atrocities perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists.

But, in a short space of time since the war, the libraries attached to higher educational institutions, including the library of the Kim Il Sung University, have been furnished with hundreds of thousands of books — such rare classics of national treasures as the books printed from the Koryu wooden block, Poetic Essays by Sul Kok, Collection of Song Kang's Poems, Kwansuh Books, all of which were hardly obtainable in the pre-liberation days, and new books published at home and abroad. And research institutes and laboratories are being equipped with the most up-to-date experimental instruments.

Maintaining close creative cooperation with workers and peasants, our sciences are serving the cause of turning our country into a wealthy and mighty one, of promoting the welfare of the people, of developing national culture and of attaining the peaceful unification and independence of the country.

Our sciences are forging ahead along the highway the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea pointed to.

Dear professors, assistant professors and scientists in South Korea!

We are very sorry that you are unable to attend the present meeting where the very important questions concerning the development of sciences in our country are discussed.

As was stressed by many who took the floor, we wished to hear your opinions on every question of interest to us scientists.

Territorial division caused by the splitting policy of the U.S. imperialists occupying the southern half of the country is not only the root of suffering and misfortune for the people in both parts of Korea. It also throws enormous obstacles in the way of the development of our science and culture.

We are making a study of, and giving lectures on, our cultural heritages and historical data preserved in the southern half, such as the Chumsung-dai, which is the first astronomical observatory in the world, engravings in the Suk-

kool-am and the voluminous Buddhist sutras.

But for us professors and scientists of university and college there is no way of inspecting and utilizing them, nor can we go deep into the study of them.

Our geologists and biologists have made a survey of the alkaline land on the west coast. We have gained some experiences in this survey work, thereby rendering great help to the work of expanding on a large scale the acreage of arable land in our country.

But the territorial division makes it impossible for us to share experiences with each other and bars the possibility of exploiting further the natural wealth abundant in our country by combining our forces.

Without data, without experiences and practical training, no achievement can be expected in science.

We firmly believe that you are also much interested in the cultural heritages and natural wealth of the northern half and are looking forward to the day when you can freely utilize them.

Dear friends!

We are Koreans of the same blood. We are the educationists and scientists of our dear fatherland.

Even in the grim conditions under Japanese imperialist rule, we strived for the freedom and independence of the country while working in the fields of education and science.

We, Korean educationists and scientists, cannot tolerate any longer the territorial division which brings suffering and misfortune upon the people.

We Korean educationists and scientists can no longer tolerate the destruction and pillage of our valuable scientific and cultural heritages by the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique have gone shamelessly so far as to pursue their reckless war policy, the policy of obliterating the Korean national culture.

You fought and are fighting against the forcible enforcement of the so-called "Measures for the Simplification of Korean Language" and the plundering and shipping away of valuable works of the fine arts of our country

under the cloak of the so-called "Bill of Art Exhibition Abroad." They also evoke our indignation.

We extend unbounded respect and ardent encouragement to your valiant struggle, in the face of horrible oppression, for freedom of learning and scientific research in opposition to the all-round conscription of youth and students by the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique under the pressure of the U.S. imperialists.

Along with you, we, the honest-minded and conscientious intellectuals of the same nation, cannot sit idle watching the closing down of factories and enterprises in South Korea, the decline of production, the roaming of unemployed about the streets, and other heart-rending sights in South Korea.

We share with you the righteous national indignation over the miserable situation presented in South Korea, the rice-bowl of Korea, where land lies in waste and peasants are compelled to leave their dear native villages, wandering from place to place.

Respected friends!

People are watching every movement of us educationists and scientists. The destiny of the Korean nation is dependent only upon the united forces of the entire people of the North and South, that is, only on the Koreans themselves. No matter how loudly the U.S. imperialists and certain bellicose elements may call for the "march north", the wise Korean people correctly understand that the path to territorial division and war is not the path they should take.

Colonialism has lived out its day. It is no longer permitted in the present-day international development.

Throwing off the chains of imperialist plunder and persecution which have lasted for centuries, the peoples of Asia and Africa have risen up resolutely for the liberation struggle, and are winning freedom and independence one after the other.

No imperialist force can extinguish the raging flames of the national liberation movement for freedom and independence.

The course of history cannot be turned back.

Colonialists are rejected everywhere in the world and are the object of imprecation and contempt.

The Anglo-French imperialists, who are trying to bring the Egyptian people to their knees by armed force and then to revive colonialism, now find themselves between the two fires, with the united forces of the peace-lovers throughout the world on the one hand and the courageous Egyptian people on the other.

Dear professors and assistant professors of South Korea!

Respected scientists of South Korea!

Why should we Koreans, who had lived a humiliating life as colonial slaves for 36 years, suffer again misfortune and pain even after our country was liberated and our liberation received international recognition?

All honest-minded peoples throughout the world un-animously admit that the present-day situation in Korea is against the course of history, against international commitments and decisively runs counter to the interests of the Korean people.

We, educationists and scientists, must act in conformity with the vital interests and just aspirations of the people.

We must work together to find reasonable measures for unifying the territory and ensuring that the entire Korean people live in an unbroken family.

In the interests of the progress of Korean science and the happy life of our posterity, let us scientists, before anyone else, unite ourselves!

Let us, professors and scientists in North and South Korea, establish mutual contact, discuss freely all the problems of concern to us, exchange experience and cooperate with each other!

Does this not constitute a mighty corner-stone promoting the unification and independence of Korea?

Does this not make the people happy and set them an example to follow?

Will it not promote the progress of science and culture of Korea?

We are always ready to meet you whenever you desire and at any place you designate.

We welcome you, if you come to the northern half of the Republic in personal or official capacity. And the doors of our colleges and scientific research institutes are open to you. We shall show you the achievements of our research work.

If you ensure us necessary conditions, we are prepared to visit you in the South with the aim of scientific research.

We can also exchange with each other scientific magazines through a certain third country and carry on discussions through the publications of that country.

From ancient times, valuable scientific discoveries and research achievements attained by all mankind have been utilized in common by all nations, thus making contributions to the progress of human culture.

Still more, we Koreans of the same blood and with the same language and customs lived in the same family.

No difference whatever of political views, ideology or religious belief can prevent the Korean people belonging to a single nation from being united.

The peaceful unification of the country is our unanimous aspiration, and the desire to serve in the interests of the progress of science of Korea is common to all of us.

We wish you good health and still greater success in your work in the interests of the early unification of the country and further advance of science in our country.

We are confident that you will gladly accept our sincere proposals. We eagerly await your answer.

National Scientific Conference of  
College and University Professors

*November 16, 1956*

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