

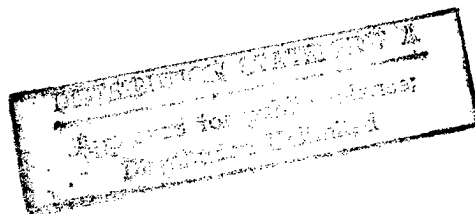
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JPRS-CPS-86-010

21 January 1986

China Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS



1998/027 090



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19981027 090

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21 January 1986

CHINA REPORT
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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GENERAL

JUSTICE MINISTER MEETS WITH UN OFFICIALS

OW232000 Beijing XINHUA in English 1629 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, 23 December (XINHUA) -- The best way to prevent crime is to publicize the law and encourage people to abide by it, Chinese Justice Minister Zou Yu said here today.

He was speaking during a meeting with officials of the United Nation's Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), who are attending a Sino-U.N. judicial seminar here.

Zou said Chinese people were seriously studying and implementing a resolution, passed by the National People's Congress Standing Committee three weeks ago, calling for laws to be publicized all over the country over the next five years.

Institute Director Masaharu Hino said the five-member delegation had acquired a better understanding of China's judicial system through traveling in the country and holding discussions with Chinese officials.

They were deeply impressed by China's "comprehensive approach" to crime prevention and control.

Since the week-long seminar began last Thursday, discussions have touched on such topics as the role of the police in crime prevention and control, and the role of prosecution in criminal justice.

The delegation arrived in China on 9 December, and visited Guozhou, Shanghai and Xian before coming to Beijing last Wednesday.

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CSO: 4000/122

GENERAL

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORT SUBMITTED TO SEMINAR

OW201608 Beijing XINHUA in English 1438 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, 20 December (XINHUA) -- China's public prosecution is a socialist system of criminal justice, says a report to an ongoing international judicial seminar.

The 4,000-word report, submitted by the Supreme People's Procuratorate of China, was read at today's session of a joint judicial seminar co-sponsored by China's Ministry of Justice and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) which opened here Thursday.

The report says that public prosecution plays the main role in criminal proceedings in China. The people's procuratorate is the only organ that has the authority to make a decision to initiate a public prosecution.

No other organs, organizations, enterprises, institutions or individuals have any right to exercise or interfere in such authority, it adds.

The adoption of such a system, the report says: is determined by the socialist nature of China where the rights and duties of citizens and the state are "closely related."

Citizens have various duties under the law, while the state is responsible for protecting the rights of the people.

Therefore, "criminal acts infringing upon the rights and lawful interests of citizens endanger not only individual citizens but also the social relations which the laws of the state protect."

In addition, certain crimes threaten the masses seriously through the public prosecution system, the state can exercise its power to investigate crimes, protect the people, and maintain social order and peace, the report says.

In order to exercise its authority correctly, a procuratorial organ "must make a serious review of criminal cases" and make decisions of prosecution, non-prosecution or exemption from prosecution, respectively, in each specific case according to the principle of "taking facts as the basis and the law as the criterion."

Such a system is a key link in realizing the principle stipulated in the constitution that the public security, the procuratorial and the adjudicative organs should share their responsibilities, coordinate with each other and act as checks on each other in handling criminal cases.

Therefore "it fully embodies the unity of punitive effect and protective effect of socialist law, and the unity of dictatorship and democracy," the report says.

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CS0: 4000/122

GENERAL

PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS PROMOTE PEACE, FRIENDSHIP

OW270812 Beijing XINHUA in English 0750 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, 27 December (XINHUA)---China has added new people's organizations promoting friendship and peace through international contacts this year.

They include the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament, the China Association for International Friendly Contacts, the China Association for the Promotion of International Friendship, and the Chinese Workers' Center for International Exchange.

In the six months since its establishment, the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament has established contacts with over 60 similar organizations in 32 countries, as well as four international organizations.

It has also sent delegations or representatives to a number of international peace conferences including the world conference against atomic and hydrogen bombs in Japan, and the 4th European Nuclear Disarmament Convention in Amsterdam.

The association's president, the physicist Zhou Peiyuan, attended the 35th Pugwash Conference against nuclear war attended by physicists from many countries.

Meanwhile, the association has been host to delegations and representatives from many foreign peace organizations.

It has also helped people in other lands understand China's independent and peaceful foreign policy and its position for a total ban and complete destruction of nuclear weapons.

The Association for International Understanding of China was established in 1981. Its President Li Yimang, a veteran diplomat, told XINHUA that his group maintained broadly-based contacts and cooperation with foreign organizations, political parties, scholars, noted persons and social activists working for peace and mutual understanding during the past four years.

This year, the association has played host to 84 groups of visitors from 36 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, America and Oceania. It has sent 19 visiting and study groups to 18 countries.

In addition are such older organizations, including the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs and various bilateral friendship associations.

All these organizations of the Chinese people share the belief that despite different political views as a result of differences in political and religious beliefs, people's friendship and peace organizations of different countries can maintain contacts since they share the common desire for peace and friendship by airing their views freely to seek common points and hear differences.

Heads of various Chinese people's groups pledged that their organizations will participate in diversified bilateral or multilateral activities in 1986, the International Year of Peace proposed by the United Nations.

They will work with people's organizations as well as others advocating peace and friendship for world peace and growth, the development of the world economy, regional development, and international economic and technical cooperation.

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CS0: 4000/122

GENERAL

BRIEFS

CRIME CONTROL--Beijing 25 December (XINHUA)--A coordinated and sound social development will certainly help reduce crimes, Chinese Minister of Justice Zou Yu said here today. While developing a material civilization, China is striving to promote socialist ethics, and this is the "fundamental measure" for preventing and controlling crimes. Zou made these remarks at the closing ceremony of a week-long judicial seminar jointly organized by China's Ministry of Justice and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI). During the seminar, representatives of the China's Ministry of Justice and five officials from the UNAFEI explored into problems related to crime prevention and control. Masaharu Hino, director of the institute, said he and other UNAFEI officials were impressed by China's "comprehensive approach" toward crime prevention and control. Minister of Justice Zou Yu gave a banquet to mark the closing of the seminar at Beijing Hotel here this evening. Ramesh P. Upadhyay, deputy resident representative of the United Nations Development Program, was among those present at the banquet. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1513 GMT 25 Dec 85 OW]

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CSO: 4000/122

SOVIET UNION

KAPITSA SAYS SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS 'IMPROVING VERY RAPIDLY'

HK050544 Hong Kong AFP in English 0521 GMT 5 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, Dec 5 (AFP)--Sino-Soviet bilateral relations are improving quickly Soviet Vice-minister for Foreign Affairs Mikhail Kapitsa said here today.

"Our bilateral relations are improving very rapidly," Mr Kapitsa told reporters on his arrival here today for a nine-day visit including talks with his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen.

Mr Kapitsa said the two sides would discuss "international problems and the situation in the world and Asia."

Asked if the two sides would be discussing Soviet support for the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia he said, "No, not this time."

Smiling and gesturing warmly at Mr Chen [as received], he added that whether or not other obstacles to improved Sino-Soviet ties were discussed would "depend on him, my Chinese friend."

China maintains that normalization of ties requires removal of three obstacles: Soviet support for Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, the Red Army presence in Afghanistan, and the Soviet military buildup on China's northern frontier.

Referring to a new consular agreement between the two nations, Mr Kapitsa said they had agreed to open consulate general offices in Leningrad and Shanghai. "We hope there will be more in the future," he said.

He said that he would be briefing Mr Chen on the recent Soviet-U.S. Geneva summit, including the Soviet position on the U.S. strategic defense initiative, star wars.

Mr Kapitsa drew a distinction between bilateral talks and consultations on international issues.

Bilateral consultations had been handled by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilichev and Mr Chen during a visit to the Soviet Union last year, while Mr Kapitsa himself and Mr Chen were to discuss international issues, he said.

Beijing maintains that the international and bilateral issues cannot be separated, analysts said.

He said that the Soviet Union sought the resumption of Sino-Soviet party links but that "it may be some time."

Mr Kapitsa said in response to a polite question from Mr Chen about his health that he had recently been in the hospital for two months for "an old war wound."

Mr Kapitsa is to stay one week in Beijing and visit the western provincial capital of Xian before returning to the Soviet Union, Mr Chen said.

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CSO: 4000/104

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

PHILIPPINE UNITED OPPOSITION LEADERS ASK FOR SUPPORT

OW121226 Beijing XINHUA in English 1214 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, December 12 (XINHUA)--United opposition leaders Mrs Corazon Aquino and Salvador Laurel today asked the Philippine people to support them in the coming presidential election on February 17, 1986.

The appeal was made at a joint press conference held this noon in which the two opposition leaders formally announced their agreement to run against President Marcos of the ruling New Society Movement.

Mrs Aquino and Laurel agreed last night to unite under a single ticket and they arrived at the commission of elections only one hour before the midnight deadline for filing of certificates of candidacy which they earlier filed separately.

This last-minute agreement was realized after Corazon promised to run under the banner of United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), a proposal which she had rejected earlier, and UNIDO's President, S. Laurel, on the other hand, agreed to be her running mate for vice-presidency.

Mrs Aquino, widow of the assassinated former Senator Benigno Aquino, said at the press conference that the interests of the Philippine people were far more crucial than the interests of partisan political groups.

"It was in this spirit that Laurel and I continued discussion and finally forged the agreement to offer the Philippine people the best possible opportunity to end the Marcos dictatorship," she added.

Laurel emphasized that the unity among the opposition "is the key to victory." "United, we can't lose, and divided, we can't win," he said.

Mrs Corazon Aquino, born on January 25, 1933 in Manila, comes from a prominent political family, the Cojuangcos of Tarlac, Central Luzon. Her father and a brother were congressmen. She was educated in the U.S.A.

Salvador P. Laurel, 57, son of former Supreme Court Justice Jose Laurel who served as war-time president, was a senator and for a long time a friend of the assassinated Senator Benigno Aquino's family. The UNIDO which he

heads is said to be the largest and best organized of the four mainstream opposition parties.

It is commonly held here that the present joint Cory-Doy (Corazon-Laurel) ticket is the strongest possible team against Marcos.

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CSO: 4000/106

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

FORMER GOVERNOR ON FUTURE STATUS OF PORTUGUESE

HK090815 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Dec 85 p 14

[By SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST's own correspondent]

[Text] Macao: The former Governor of Macao, Mr Garcia Leandro, said the status of Portuguese citizens should be protected in the forthcoming negotiations on the future of the territory.

Mr Leandro was interviewed by the Lisbon newspaper NOTICIAS and the story was reported in Macao yesterday.

He was the first Governor of Macao after the 1974 revolution in Portugal and he served between 1974 and 1979.

Mr Leandro said when China and Portugal start the negotiations on the future of Macao, the two should strive to protect Portuguese interests, culture and history in the territory.

He said Macao is not a colony and the governments should consider the views of all the people in the territory regardless of race and religion.

He said there are several channels which could be used to test public opinion. These include the Chinese press and community leaders.

Mr Leandro said, however, it would be difficult to make contacts with labor unions and kaifong [neighborhood] associations.

On the talks between China and Portugal on the future of Macao, scheduled to start next year, Mr Leandro said the handing of Macao over to China in a hurry would not be beneficial to Portugal.

Mr Leandro said the Legislative Assembly should have more members. At present there are only 17 seats.

The Macanese community is "a very complicated and sensitive matter", Mr Leandro also said.

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CSO: 4000/099

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

BRIEFS

SRV USING BIOCHEMICAL WEAPONS--Bangkok, December 15 (XINHUA)--The local English newspaper "BANGKOK POST" today brought to light the using of biochemical weapons by the Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea against the resistance forces. Quoting a military report released yesterday by the supreme command, the newspaper said that a unit of about 900 Vietnamese troops armed with Soviet-made smoke grenades have been sent to Allongveng District, Addar Meachey Province, to repress the resistance guerrillas. The smoke grenade contains no shrapnel, but releases poisonous smoke upon exploding, which causes loss of consciousness and impairs the nervous and respiratory systems, according to the military report. This kind of grenade has been used before in Phra Vihear, Koh Kong and Battambang Provinces, the report said. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 0708 GMT 15 Dec 85 OW] /12858

CSO: 4000/106

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BAINQEN ENDS 3-MONTH INSPECTION IN XIZANG

OW221810 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1347 GMT 21 Dec 85

[By Reporter Qun Sang]

[Text] Lhasa, 21 Dec (XINHUA) -- Bainqen Erdini Goigyi Gyaincain, vice chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, left Lhasa by plane for his return trip to Beijing this morning, winding up more than 3 months of inspection in Xizang.

Vice Chairman Bainqen remained to inspect and guide the work in Xizang after attending celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Xizang Autonomous Region. Beginning 12 September he inspected in Nagqu, Xigaze, Shannan, and Lhasa for a first-hand look at the situations in these places concerning production, scientific research, medicine, education, and religion, traveling a total of more than 8,000 km. He also visited rural households to talk with Tibetan peasants and herdsmen and learn about the changes in their life and about their wishes and requests. Everywhere he went, Vice Chairman Bainqen talked about the major changes in Xizang during the short period of 3 years since his last inspection in 1982 and his impressions during these two inspection tours. He fervently propagated and explained the Party Central Committee's special principles and policies applied in Xizang, pointing out that they were the fundamental factor behind all achievements made in Xizang and also the fundamental guarantee for the region's future development. He emphatically pointed out that, as long as it unswervingly implements the special principles and policies defined by the party Central Committee, Xizang will have a boundlessly bright future.

In view of the misgivings some of the masses had about the possibility of a policy change, Vice Chairman Bainqen said: The various special policies currently applied by the party in Xizang will not change. If there is to be any change, it will only be for the better, to make these policies more in keeping with the reality in Xizang and the wishes of its people.

Vice Chairman Bainqen was satisfied with the unity between different nationalities in Xizang he witnessed during the inspection. He said: In Xizang the people of Tibetan nationality cannot do without those of Han nationality and other minorities and vice versa. This belief should be the foundation stone on which Xizang implements the party's nationality policy. When Tibetan,

Han, and other minorities closely cooperate and fight in unity with each other, they will come closer to the goal of building a united, prosperous, and civilized new Xizang. He called on Tibetan cadres and people to take the initiative to warmly take good care of the cadres, scientists, and technicians of Han and other minorities who have come to work in Xizang by creating good working environments and conditions for them, helping them resolve actual difficulties, and making adequate arrangements for their daily life. He called on the cadres, scientists, and technicians of Han and other minorities to respect the culture, customs, and habits of the people of Tibetan nationality show loving care for the Tibetan people; and work together with them in building the southwestern frontier region of the motherland.

Vice Chairman Bainqen specifically called on the Tibetan cadres to step up study to improve scientific and cultural knowledge, pointing out that this is a major condition and prerequisite for the Tibetan nationality to develop and prosper and join the ranks of the advanced nationalities. He said: Xizang still remains far behind many other localities of the motherland. Every Tibetan cadre should undertake the important historical mission of reinvigorating his own nationality. In order to do so, he must display fortitude; act with national self-respect, self-confidence, and self-dependence, and strive to study again and again.

During his tour to inspect and give work guidance, Vice Chairman Bainqen convened discussion meetings with personages in united front work and religious circles on several occasions. At these meetings, he explained the party's policy on the freedom of religious beliefs and the party's united front work policy and urged them to continue to conscientiously use their knowledge and talents to help the party and government do a good job in carrying out their work in various fields. He called on the religious personages to hold high the banner of patriotism, strictly abide by and carry forward the religious teachings and principles of Buddhism, and make new contributions in building a new Xizang.

Pagbalha Geleg Namgyai, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee and vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Xizang Autonomous Regions, accompanied Vice Chairman Bainqen on the return flight to Beijing.

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CSO: 4005/348

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

STUDENTS FEAR GOVERNMENT REACTION TO PROTESTS ON 9 DECEMBER

HK060812 Hong Kong AFP in English 0755 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Reported by Lawrence MacDonald]

[Text] Beijing, Dec 6 (AFP) -- Tension has mounted on university campuses here in advance of the 50th anniversary of an anti-Japanese student protest, with students expressing cynicism and resignation at government efforts to stifle dissent.

Students at the elite Beijing University and other institutions said they had been warned to confine their activities to officially-organised commemorative programs on campus.

Any attempt to mark the anniversary of the December 9, 1935 protest with a gathering in Tiananmen Square, the symbolic centre of the Chinese Revolution, could be seen as a challenge to communist party authority and would likely meet with stiff punishment, sources close to the student protestors said.

Following recent anti-Japanese student protests in Beijing and at least four other cities, officials launched a nationwide campaign linking Monday's anniversary with the country's open economic policy and the leadership of the communist party.

"The original December 9 protest was suppressed by Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists. This time student protests are being suppressed by the communists," said one student.

In putting down the original protest, which criticised the Japanese occupation of north China, Nationalist troops wounded and arrested a large number of students, sparking a nationwide boycott of classes.

Students at several universities here said that they and their classmates have concluded that costs of participating in any protest now were too high, given the party's clearly-stated opposition.

"A lot of us have been persuaded by the propaganda that this is not the time for protests. It's better to devote our energy to study," said a graduate student at Beijing Normal University, a non-elite institution where students put up wall posters demanding better living conditions last winter.

A government spokesman this week denied foreign press reports that students had been arrested and expelled in connection with protests in Tiananmen Square on 18 September and 20 November.

Students said that strong pressures could be brought to bear without arrests or expulsions.

Authorities in recent years have punished outspoken students by assigning them on graduation to work in harsh, remote Qinghai Province, a form of defacto exile that could last a lifetime, student sources said.

One university professor said that because of the large number of secret police and informers, each student was likely to decide alone whether or not to protest next week, not even confiding in their roommates or closest friends.

Sources close to student activists in Tianjin, a major industrial port southeast of Beijing, said secret police had infiltrated student circles there in an effort to block protest plans.

University sources said it was possible that those who planned to protest would do so on Sunday to avoid the heavy control measures expected on the anniversary of Monday.

Tension has been building at Beijing University since 18 September, when students marked an anniversary of Japan's World War II invasion of China by gathering in Tiananmen Square to shout slogans calling Japan's economic activities here a "second invasion."

Wall posters appeared on campuses criticising Japan, while a few posters questioned government policies and one said that students in British-ruled Hong Kong had greater freedom of speech than those in China.

University sources said students who had put up the posters were subject to strong criticism and had since been living in fear of expulsion or other punishment.

On 20 November, about 1,000 young people responded to the call of an underground leaflet to take a victory of China's women's volleyball team over Japan's as an occasion to gather again in Tiananmen Square.

Eyewitnesses said police detained several people before dispersing the crowd.

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CSO: 4000/097

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BIRTH CONTROL POLICY TO BE RELAXED

HK060735 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 6 Dec 85 p 1

[By staff reporter Wang Gangyi]

[Text] China will continue to encourage one-child families during the next 5 years to keep the country's annual population growth rate at about 1.2 percent, according to Wang Wei, chairman of the State Family Planning Commission.

At the same time, Wang added, the one-child family policy will be gradually relaxed to allow couples with special circumstances to have two children if they wish to.

Wang told CHINA DAILY in an exclusive interview in Beijing yesterday that the Seventh Five-Year Plan period would be extremely important for China's birth control work.

"On one hand," he said, "we are facing a new baby boom which will last more than 10 years. On the other, we are relaxing our policy."

There were 361.2 million people born from 1962 to 1975. From next year until 1999 the women in this group will successively reach the peak child-bearing age of 24, which means that the country's population will increase by more than 12 million annually under the one-couple-one-child policy. And most likely the figure will be higher due to a relaxed policy and other factors.

Wang described the situation as "grim" and asked family planning workers to work harder to realize the nation's goal of holding the population to about 1.2 billion by the end of the century.

The state decision to allow some people to have children seems a confirmation of some relaxed measures adopted by local governments in the past few years which already accommodate certain special circumstances.

For example, in some areas in Shandong, Zhejiang, Guangdong and Guangxi provinces people can have one more child if their first-born is a girl.

People living in remote areas, ethnic minority areas, mountainous areas and on islands are allowed to have two children provided they are born four or five years apart.

As these local policies are adopted nationwide, it is expected that more people will be able to have two children.

Wang said that in the last 5 years the trend of rapid population increase had been brought under control and the nation's birth control work had been put on a planned track.

Last year, the country's population was 1.03475 billion compared to 1980's 987.05 million. It is expected to reach 1.046 billion by the end of this year, Wang said.

In the past 5 years, China's population increase represented an annual growth rate of 1.17 percent, he said.

Wang concluded that the figures pointed to the fact that China has sailed smoothly out of its first baby boom since 1949 without creating a future one.

Some outstanding features of China's family planning work have emerged during the past few years, according to Wang, who summarized them as follows:

-- Family planning is one of the country's fundamental national policies. Population growth has to keep pace with the development of economic construction and social welfare, the exploration of natural resources and environment protection.

-- Social benefit is the sole and only criterion. Birth control planning should take both social and individual interests into consideration. It should neither allow a predominantly young population structure to last too long, nor should it lead to an ageing population too soon.

-- Basic principle of China's family planning is the combination of the state guidance and the people's own initiative.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

PRC FERTILITY SURVEY SHOWS BIRTH RATE SLOWING

HK130535 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 13 Dec 85 p 4

[Text] A fertility survey by the State Statistical Bureau (SSB) indicates that the postponement of marriages, the one-child policy and the wide use of contraception have effectively slowed down the country's birth rate. Results of the survey have been released by SSB's population department.

Conducted earlier this year, the survey looked at 5,000 women in Hebei Province and 4,000 in Shanghai. All were married, under the age of 50 and representatives of general fertility in the areas. The data provides a scientific basis for future population policies.

The survey shows that divorce is rare and that increasing numbers of women are getting married older--in their mid-twenties.

The divorce rate is only 0.1 percent in Hebei, 0.3 percent in Shaanxi and 0.4 percent in Shanghai--not only lower than in the West but also than in other developing countries.

The death of a spouse is the most common reason for a marriage coming to an end. But longer life expectancy, thanks to better medical care and nutrition since Liberation, has reduced the number of widowed women. Among the 45 to 49 age group, widows made up 7.1 percent in Shaanxi, 4.2 percent in Hebei and 3.8 percent in Shanghai.

The number of early marriages has dropped markedly over the past three decades.

The survey shows a steep drop in the proportion of women married before the age of 20. In Shanghai, they accounted for 42.2 percent of the 45-49 age group, 33.6 percent in the 40-44 age group, 10.3 percent in the 35-39 age group, 4.2 percent in the 30-34 age group, 1.2 percent in the 24-29 age group and 2.8 percent in the 20-24 age group.

Early marriage was very common among Hebei and Shaanxi women born in the 1930s and 1940s. But the number has plummeted among younger women.

In Shanghai, the survey found that women married after the age of 30 accounted for 2.3 percent of the 45-49 age group and 9.2 percent of the 30-34 age group.

The average marriage age in Shanghai rose from 24 in the mid-1970s to 25 in the early 1980s. It dropped slightly in 1981, as a result of a lower legal marriage age in the new Marriage Law. But since 1982, it has risen again. In 1984, the Shanghai average marriage age reached 26.

In Shaanxi it has fluctuated between 21 and 22.5 since the mid-1970s. In Hebei, the average marriage age had been declining steadily over the past decade, and dropped from 22.9 in 1976 to 21.7 in 1982. But in 1983 and 1984, it rose slightly--meriting some attention.

About 20 percent of the Shaanxi women in the 20-24 age group married before the legal marriage age (20 for women, 22 for men). So in the interior and rural areas, late marriage should be further encouraged, the SSB noted in its report.

The survey shows that state policy and education on late marriage were largely responsible for the postponements.

Of the sampled women of child-bearing age, 52 percent in Hebei, 50 percent in Shaanxi and 43 percent in Shanghai said they had postponed marriage because of state policy and education. Others had put off marriage because of housing problems and education.

The average number of births (including children who later died) among the sampled women of child-bearing age were 2.45 in Hebei, 2.80 in Shaanxi and 1.54 in Shanghai. The younger age groups had fewer births than the older ones.

The age at which women had their first child has been getting progressively older, according to the survey. In Hebei, 51 percent of women first gave birth before the age of 22, in Shaanxi 67.6 percent and in Shanghai 43.8 percent in 45-49 age group. But the percentages in the 25-29 age group were respectively 13.7, 23.3 and 2.

The interval between marriage and the first birth has decreased. In 1984, the average first-birth age was 26.8 in Shanghai, 26 in Shaanxi and 24.9 in Hebei.

First-born babies made up 80.6 percent of all new-born babies in Shanghai, 46.8 percent in Hebei and 44.3 percent in Shaanxi between 1980 and the beginning of 1985. Second children made up 13.9 percent in Shanghai, 29 percent in Hebei and 28.5 percent in Shaanxi. Babies following the second child made up 5.5 percent of the total in Shanghai, 24.2 percent in Hebei and 27.2 percent in Shaanxi.

Infant mortality is low, thanks to improvement in maternity and child care. From the survey the women reported infant mortality rates of 19.3 per 1,000 in Shanghai, 34.1 per 1,000 in Hebei and 34.3 per 1,000 in Shaanxi.

The survey shows that married women are well acquainted with contraceptive methods. In Shanghai, the number of known contraceptive methods averaged six to seven a person, in Hebei five to six and in Shaanxi five.

Intrauterine devices (IUDS) were the most frequent form of contraception used, especially by rural women. In Hebei, 62 percent used IUDS, in Shaanxi 61 percent and in Shanghai 55.4 percent.

In Shanghai, 82.8 percent of married women used contraception, in Hebei 75.6 percent and in Shaanxi 69 percent.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

CPPCC HEARS OF GAINS IN REGIONAL AUTONOMY

OW072116 Beijing XINHUA in English 1501 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, December 7 (XINHUA) -- Another 22 autonomous counties inhabited by ethnic minorities have been set up in China since October 1984, when the law on regional autonomy for minority nationalities went into effect.

Now, China has 130 autonomous areas for minority nationalities, including five regions, 31 prefectures and 94 counties.

This was revealed here today by Hwang Guangxue, a vice-minister of the State Nationalities Affairs Commission, in his report to the working group of nationalities of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee.

Huang said that the policy on regional autonomy in areas where ethnic minorities live in compact communities has been carried out in the country for more than 30 years, but, he stressed, it is rare for so many autonomous areas to be set up within one year.

The population in the autonomous areas has reached 130 million, of which 55 million are ethnic minorities accounting for 78 percent of the total population of China's 55 minority nationalities. Autonomous areas have been set up for 43 different ethnic groups.

Huang Guangxue, 57 and of Korean nationality, told XINHUA here today that the law on regional autonomy has also accelerated the growth of local economies and cultures in autonomous areas, as well as having spurred the number of minority cadres.

The central government has given preferential treatment in finance to the country's five autonomous regions and Yunnan, Guizhou and Qinghai Provinces, where many ethnic minorities live, Huang said. Various provinces and autonomous regions have also adopted local special economic policies.

As a result, he stressed, new economic progress has been made in minority areas. In the first half of this year, the industrial output value for

each of three autonomous regions out of the five was higher than the average in China's 29 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. And the output value of light industry of all of the five autonomous regions, except Tibet, was higher than the national average.

Referring to the growth of minority cadres, Huang said there are 1.3 million cadres from the minorities, including primary and middle school teachers, of whom 10,000 hold leading posts above the county level. All of the People's Congress Standing Committee chairmen and government heads of the autonomous areas are cadres from the autonomous minority nationalities, he added.

He said that more scientists, technicians and enterprise managers from the minority nationalities are being trained.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

INDUSTRY WELCOMES NONRESIDENTIAL GRADUATES

OW030746 Beijing XINHUA in English 0720 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Wuhan, December 3 (XINHUA) -- Graduates of non-residential colleges stressing practical courses are welcomed by factories and other enterprises in China, according to the State Education Commission.

"The graduates adapt to the work in a short period," said a director of a large factory in Wuhan.

A survey made by Jiangnan college, a non-residential college in Wuhan City, indicates that over 90 percent of its first group of 232 graduates adapt to factory life in 3 to 6 months.

Set up in 1980, the college now has 4,000 students and offers 39 specialities. It will supply the city with 15,000 professionals by 1990, equal to the number assigned by the state over the past 15 years.

China started to set up non-residential colleges in 1980. It has now 124 such colleges, with 75,000 students. In the past 5 years, 22,000 students have graduated from those colleges.

Zou Shiyan, vice-chairman of the State Education Commission, said here that those colleges need less investment, yield faster results and suit China's economic construction. They have become an important part of China's higher education.

Unlike other college students, those of the non-residential colleges have to pay tuition and get jobs according to contracts between the colleges and employers instead of assignments arranged by the government.

With courses running from 1 to 3 years, the colleges offer specialities that are urgently needed, including secretarial work, librarianship, enterprise management, accounting, statistics, law, electronics, computer science and environmental protection.

Some colleges have also opened such specialities as tourism, dress designing, pre-school education and hotel management to meet the needs of the growing service trades.

Non-residential colleges have narrowed the gap between demand and supply of personnel. Since the state only assigns 800 college students to Wuhan each year, small enterprises and rural areas have long lacked skilled people.

Development of non-residential colleges have attracted the attention of international organizations and foreign experts. The World Bank has provided loans for 17 non-residential colleges, and a community college in Ohio in the United States has established friendship relations with Jiangnan College.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ENTERS 'GOLDEN AGE'

OW031206 Beijing XINHUA in English 1148 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Fuzhou, December 3 (XINHUA) -- The local government will be eager to set up a college of its own when a Chinese county is able to annually produce two billion yuan worth of industrial and agricultural products.

This is the opinion of sociologist Fei Xiaotong, now here after attending a meeting to mark the first anniversary of the founding of the Fujian branch of the China Vocational Education Society.

Fei, 75, is honorary fellow of the London School of Economics and Political Science and vice-chairman of the national committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

He said he had made investigation tours of southern Jiangsu Province, the pioneer of China's rural industrialization, where at least one county has started a college.

"Fast-growing local industries and township-run enterprises need large numbers of qualified personnel," said Fei.

But almost no college graduates are assigned to factories run by rural townships.

Shazhou County and Wuxi and Changzhou cities have opened colleges and senior vocational schools with their own funds. A rural factory pays several thousand yuan a year for a trainee, Fei said.

Shazhou is one of the few counties in Jiangsu which have attained the two billion yuan mark. It opened an institute of industrial engineering in 1983, with physicist Qian Weichang as its honorary president.

Fei described the opening of local schools as "encouraging," saying it was due to the on-going reform of the county's educational system which encourages initiative of all sectors to promote education.

As a matter of fact, Fei said, this and other reforms as well as the open policy have ushered in a "golden age" for vocational education.

The China Vocational Education Society, a non-governmental organization, was founded in 1917, and was originally financed by educators, industrialists and well-known public figures.

It was closed down during the "Cultural Revolution" (1966-76) and resumed operation first in the Yunnan provincial capital of Kunming in 1980.

Party leader Hu Yaobang has praised the society for its success for helping train "large numbers" of personnel.

So far, the society's head office and its Shanghai, Yunnan and Fujian branches have been re-established and an office has been set up in the Shenzhen special economic zone, Guangdong Province.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

YOUNG COMPOSERS MODERNIZE TRADITIONAL MUSIC

OW261348 Beijing XINHUA in English 1148 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, 26 December, (XINHUA) -- Young composer Wang Shi displayed the efforts he and his contemporaries are making to modernize Chinese traditional music at a concert here on Wednesday night.

Critics described his nine compositions performed at the concert as having a graceful style and strong sense of timing.

Composition number seven, written for soprano and piano, has been clearly influenced by folk songs from Sha'anxi Province, while it contains a rich colorful harmony.

Wang said, "Chinese traditional music has a rich source and a long history. If we can combine it with Western modern composing techniques which are more advanced at present, Chinese music will gain its long-deserved position in international music."

Wang, 27, is one of several talented young composers exerting considerable influence on Chinese music today.

According to some critics, these young composers are trying to express the Chinese national spirit through the universal form of music.

They are said to have made considerable achievements through inheriting Chinese traditional music's characteristics and drawing on the experiences of Western modern music composition techniques.

Another of the young composers is Ye Xiaogang, the first prize winner in the American [word indistinct] composition contest who has just held his symphony works concert here early this month. His works are said to be pursuing the makings of modern Chinese style. While applying modern tone color and rich harmony, his works lay stress upon the melody, lyrics and national characteristics.

When his symphony "Moon Over the Xijiang River" which depicts the communication between one's inner and outer world was performed at the "Asia and Pacific Area Art Festival and Composers Conference" held in New Zealand last

year, it won protracted applause from many well-known foreign musicians including Lucrecia Kasilag, president of the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The foremost of the young composers, according to critics, is Tan Dun, a 28-year-old post graduate at the central conservatory. His no 1 string quartet "Feng-ya-song" (folk songs, court music, temple hymns), inspired by the "book of songs" -- China's first anthology of poems compiled more than 2,500 years ago -- won him the second prize at the 1983 Dresden International Weber Chamber Music Composition Contest.

"This composition is a remarkable combination of Chinese folk music and Western modern music," said the chairman of Composing Association of Democratic Germany after hearing Tan Dun's piece.

Though these young composers are still controversial, the Chinese Musicians Association expressed its support.

"A nation will never progress if it denies young people's chance to explore," said Li Huanzi, chairman of the Musicians Association.

According to Li, the musicians association has set up a "pursuing and exploring" group to help the young composers. It has also organized a series of concerts for the young composers to introduce their new compositions.

Li also revealed that the association will send several young composers to attend the "First Chinese Modern Composers' Festival," to be held in Hong Kong in June next year.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

OVERSEAS CHINESE FEDERATION OFFICIAL ON GROUP'S PLANS

HK110855 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 11 Dec 85 p 1

[By staff reporter Wu Jingshu]

[Text] Any victims of earlier political upheavals who are overseas Chinese or their dependants can expect help from the All-China Federation of Overseas Chinese next year when it celebrates its 30th anniversary.

The federation (ACFOC) looks after the welfare of returned overseas Chinese and their dependants in China. It serves the interest of more than 20 million domestic dependants of Chinese overseas in addition to 900,000 such Chinese resettled in the Peoples Republic, according to Xiao Gang, ACFOC vice chairman.

Following a 10-year suspension during the "Cultural Revolution," the federation made the rehabilitation of thousands of overseas Chinese and their families -- who had been victims of persecution during the years of political chaos -- its top priority, Xiao told CHINA DAILY.

This included arranging the return of property that had been illegally seized during the "Cultural Revolution," and appealing for the rehabilitation of those persecuted or wrongly labelled during the turmoil.

Now that most "Cultural Revolution" victims have had their reputations cleared, the ACFOC faces a much tougher job -- rehabilitating these overseas Chinese families who were wrongly labelled as landlords and had their property confiscated during the Land Reform Movement more than 30 years ago after Liberation, according to ACFOC spokeswoman Ren Xiuzhi.

The Guangdong Provincial Government, with the help of ACFOC, had nevertheless decided to push forward the rehabilitation drive at all costs, Ren said.

In Xinhui County near the provincial capital of Guangzhou, the government is paying 60 yuan per square metre of floor space to local farmers who have agreed to vacate houses belonging to overseas Chinese families. The houses were given to the farmers to live in after their owners had been

labelled "landlords" during the Land Reform Movement. The money was paid to help farmers build new houses.

However, the rehabilitation is so complex that it will take the ACFOC and the local authorities in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces many months to finish the job.

"But we'll try our best to tackle the problem before our 30th anniversary," Ren said.

The ACFOC not only takes care of the rehabilitation of people victimized during political turmoil over the last 36 years, but also rehabilitating those overseas Chinese who suffered at the hands of Kuomintang governments before liberation.

The most pressing case is that of 3,000 overseas Chinese truck drivers who had returned to China from Southeast Asia during World War II to help run the famous Burma Road -- the life-line that supplied the Kuomintang government in Chungking (now Chongqing) in the 1940s when Japan occupied large areas of the country.

Truck drivers, who returned to China on the urging of the celebrated overseas Chinese business leader Tan Kah-kee to help fight the Japanese aggressors, were completely ignored by the Kuomintang after the war. They had to spread out and seek a living in the border region of Yunnan Province.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

MAO DUN LITERATURE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

OW130825 Beijing XINHUA in English 0735 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, December 13 (XINHUA)--"The Yellow River Runs Eastward" by Li Zhun, "Heavy Wings" (revised edition) by Zhang Jie and "The Bell and Drum Tower" by Liu Xinwu have won the second "Mao Dun Literature Awards", the highest such awards in China.

Feng Mu, deputy director of the Appraisal Commission, said here yesterday the three winners were selected by a 20-member Appraisal Commission headed by Ba Jin, chairman of the Chinese Writers Association, from some 450 novels written between 1982 and 1984.

Briefly commenting on the three novels, he said "The Yellow River Runs Eastward" gives a good picture of the War of Resistance against Japanese aggression (1937-1945) in the central part of China.

"Heavy Wings" was written at a time when the country's economic reform had just begun. Telling the story of how a local woman official carried out the reform in spite of obstacles, it clearly points out the inevitability, importance and urgency of the reform.

Full of local flavor, "The Bell and Drum Tower" depicts the present-day life of Beijing citizens and their inner world.

Named after Mao Dun (1896-1981), one of China's greatest modern writers and late chairman of the Chinese Writers Association, the awards are given for the best novels every three years.

An award-granting ceremony will be held December 17.

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CSO: 4000/108

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICIAL NOTES DEVELOPMENTS IN ETHNIC LITERATURE

OW051922 Beijing XINHUA in English 1456 GMT 5 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, December 5 (XINHUA) -- Judging by its development in recent years, China's ethnic-minority literature no longer concentrates on fairy tales and folklore as its themes, but is paying more and more attention to the exploration and reflection of people's present-day life.

Wureertu, a member of the secretariat of the Chinese writers association, expressed the above view in a recent interview with XINHUA, when commenting on the award winners of the second national ethnic literature contest.

The 33-year-old Ewenki writer said the country's minority literature, which was famous for its narrative poems in the past, has made great progress in fiction writing, with diversified themes and techniques of expression, and improving quality.

Altogether, 118 works of fiction and nonfiction, poems, prose and critiques written between 1981 and 1984 were in the list of the awards winners unveiled on Monday, among these, 54 percent were works of fiction.

For example, he said, "An Intoxicating Village," a novel reflecting the change in a Tujia village since the country's rural economic reform, by Sun Jianzhong of the Tujia nationality, was praised by critics for its successful depiction of the former spiritual depression of the young people, who had been restricted by a backward economy, and their spiritual resuscitation caused by an economic boom. It is now being broadcast nationwide by the Central Broadcasting Station.

In his novel in the Kazak language, "Crimes," which tells of the miserable life of the Kazak people in old China, Hajiomar Xabdan developed the plot through a minute psychological description of "me," the hero.

And the secret of success of another award winner, "Exploration," a novel in the Uyghur language dealing with intellectual problems, by Zordun Sabir, also lies in its exquisite description of the inner world of its characters, the noted writer said.

Himself a short story writer, Wureertu added that among the award winners, short stories such as "Great Slope," "Musk" and "Shifting Sand" were also successful in depicting people's inner world.

Beginning his literary career in 1976, Wureertu devoted most of his stories to the reflection of the life and spirit of the Ewenki people in northeast China, who have a population of less than 20,000.

His "A Hunter's Hope," "A Deer with Seven-Branched Antlers" and "Amber-Colored Bonfire" were winners of the national prize for the best short stories in 1981, 1982 and 1983. They also won honorary awards in the current contest.

Akbar Majit, deputy director of the ethnic literature section of the association is on the list of award winners. His short story, "Oh, You Fifteen-Year-Old Halyda" criticises the feudal, traditional ideology through a love story.

The 31-year-old Kazak writer said many people think that the national characteristics of ethnic literature lie in its descriptions of the local scenery and the costumes and customs of the minority nationalities. But this is rather external and superficial.

As human beings, he said, all nationalities are equal. And ethnic writers should pay more attention to the reflection of the noble and sympathetic inner world of their people, in order to create vivid literary characters.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

MINORITY AREAS PUBLISHING ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS

OW072155 Beijing XINHUA in English 1457 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, December 7 (XINHUA) -- Twelve provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities on China's mainland have set up special organizations for the collation and publication of ancient ethnic manuscripts, according to a current national meeting here.

They are located in the country's northeastern, southeastern and southwestern areas, where most of the country's 55 minority nationalities live. Meanwhile, some ethnic autonomous prefectures and counties have also set up relevant organizations.

Li Hongfan, deputy head of the national planning group for collating and publishing ancient ethnic manuscripts, said the state pays particular attention to the protection of the historical and cultural relics of China's ethnic minority people, who make up only 6.6 percent of the country's total population.

According to incomplete statistics, he said, more than 300 kinds of ancient ethnic manuscripts have been published in the past few years, by 10 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

Northwestern China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous region has published "Knowledge of Happiness, Enjoyment and Wisdom," an epic of advice written in the 11th century a.d., "Great Turkic Dictionary," compiled in 1074, "Secret History of the Mongols," a 13th century classic which records the origins of the Mongolian nationality, "Jangariad," a 15th-century Mongolian epic, and other manuscripts.

Some important manuscripts of other nationalities, such as "Historical Materials About Tibet (Dunhuang edition)," which chronicles Tibet's history between 650 and 764, "King Gesar," an ancient Tibetan folk epic, and "The History of Southwest China's Yi Nationality," which traces the history of the Yi nationality to its earliest days.

Some local authorities, Li said, are paying equal attention to the collection of oral materials.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

TEXTILE INDUSTRY SCHOOLS LAUDED--Shanghai, 18 Dec (XINHUA)--Some 9,000 middle-aged and young political work cadres of China's textile industry are receiving regular Marxist training and taking college courses in more than 50 spare time schools in China. This is a strategic measure taken by the Ministry of Textile Industry to train a large number of incumbent political work cadres. Comrade Den Liqun is currently in Shanghai, attending the second annual meeting of the China Society for Study of Workers' Political and Ideological work. He praised the measure and said: This is a creative endeavor. The discoveries made in this respect by the Ministry of Textile Industry surely will also enlighten the comrades of other departments. There are nearly 100,000 political work cadres working among China's 5 million textile workers and staff members. In order to improve the quality of political work cadres to meet the needs of the ideological and political work in the new period, the Ministry of Textile Industry has tapped the potential of all quarters and set up the spare time college for the political work cadres of China's textile industry. The spare time college for the political work cadres of China's textile industry has its main school in Beijing and 52 branch schools in 24 provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions where textile industry enterprises concentrate. The schools formally started in March this year. [By reporters Wu Fumin and Zhang Gaopeng] [Excerpts] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0927 GMT 18 Dec 85 OW]

RETIRED CADRE PRAISED--Changsha, 21 Dec (XINHUA)--President Li Xiannian recently wrote Comrade Yu Jie, a retired cadre, a letter and praised him for "always maintaining a revolutionary spirit and lofty communist moral character, and setting an example for other veteran comrades who have retired or are about to retire." Yu Jie, 85, retired and returned to his native village, Lijiang, in Jiayi Township, Pingjiang County, Hunan Province, in 1970. In the 15 years since retirement, Yu Jie has joined the people of his native village in developing and building the mountain region. By setting up the Jiayi Hydroelectric Power Company, they have developed the water resources in the Lianyun mountain region and put them to effective use. In his letter to Yu Jie, President Li Xiannian also said in praise: "You have done many useful things for the people of your home town and won the local people's praise and love. This is an honor for our party, as well as for yourself." [By correspondents Yang Chunhua and Li Zhenzhi] [Excerpts] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0222 GMT 21 Dec 85 OW]

CHEN YUN INSCRIBES BOOK--Recently Comrade Chen Yun, Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission, wrote an inscription for a book on the history of Hunjiang City, reading "People's martyrs have an imperishable noble spirit." Hunjiang City grew out of Linjiang County. In November 1946, Comrade Chen Yun came to Linjiang to hold the posts of the secretary of the Liaodong sub-bureau of the CPC Central Committee and the political commissar of the Liaodong military district. He took the lead in building the (Nanman) base and arduously fought to defend it. He sponsored a well-known meeting in (Qidaojiang), commanded the well-known (Sibaoting-jiang) battle, and directed in the battles to repel the KMT army's attacks on (Nanman) base four times. [Text] [Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin 2200 GMT 23 Dec 85 SK]

DENG YINGCHAO WRITES INSCRIPTION--Beijing, 25 Dec (XINHUA)--At the invitation of the Chinese Photographers' Association, more than 160 photographers from Hong Kong and Macao arrived in Beijing by plane this afternoon to attend a forthcoming "Hong Kong and Macao Photo Exhibition" and cultural exchange activities here. Deng Yingchao, chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, wrote a congratulatory inscription for the large-scale exhibition jointly sponsored by the Chinese Photographers' Association and 12 photography groups in Hong Kong and Macao. The inscription reads: "Promote the blossoming of Chinese photography." In his congratulatory telegram to the exhibition, Xu Jiatusun, director of the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY Hong Kong branch, hoped that "this exhibition will contribute to strengthening the unity, cooperation, and artistic exchange among photographers in Hong Kong, Macao, and the interior of the country, and promote the blossoming of photography." [By reporter He Ping] [Excerpts] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1535 GMT 25 Dec 85 OW]

IDEOLOGICAL STUDY SOCIETIES--To explore the characteristics and laws governing ideological and political work in the course of making reform and opening to the outside world, and to sum up and exchange experience and results in the study of workers' ideological and political work, a study network centered around the China Society for the Study of Workers' Ideological and Political Work and encompassing many localities, departments, and fields of study is taking shape in China. Since the founding of the China Society for the Study of Workers' Ideological and Political Work in 1983, mass organizations have mushroomed devoted to study of this work. The society has 119 collective members of various localities, and study societies have been set up in 27 provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions. [Summary] [Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese 10 Dec 85 p 1 OW]

STUDENTS OPPOSE NUCLEAR TESTS--Beijing, 23 Dec-- A spokesman for the PRC Foreign Ministry gave a prompt reaction today to the event of some Xinjiang Students staging a demonstration in Tiananmen Square yesterday. He pointed out that students did not fully understand some problems. Yesterday, some 200 students of Xinjiang's Uygur nationality studying at the Central Institute for Nationalities assembled and staged a demonstration in Tiananmen Square, protesting to the Chinese Government about its carrying out of nuclear tests within the boundaries of Xinjiang. They believe that this will endanger the

lives of the people in Xinjiang. This was the first open anti-nuclear demonstration to occur in China. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said: Under the present international environment, it is necessary for us to conduct a small number of nuclear tests in order to safeguard the security of our country. The broad masses of people throughout the country favor and support this. In the course of conducting the nuclear tests, we have paid full attention to the safety of the people. After several preliminary tests, we found that they were not hazardous to people's health. [Dispatch from Beijing by Cheng Hsiang: "China Did Not Arrest the Xinjiang Students Who Demonstrated in Beijing"] [Text] [Hong Kong WNN WNI PO in Chinese 24 Dec 85 p 1 HK]

FENG YOULAN CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY--Beijing, December 4 (XINHUA)--Noted Chinese philosopher Feng Youlan celebrated his 90th birthday here today. More than 80 Chinese and foreign guests, including his colleagues and students, congratulated him on his birthday at a party sponsored by Beijing University's department of philosophy. Professor Feng has devoted his life to teaching and research on philosophy form more than 60 years and established his own school of philosophy. After liberation, he abandoned his new rationalism and accepted Marxism. The book "A New History of Chinese Philosophy" on which he is working is the result of his painstaking study of Marxism. Even at his advanced age, Feng still spends 3 hours a day working on the new book. He said that he would live to see his new works published and China exercising the sovereign right over Hong Kong. The first of the 14 volumes of his complete works has been published. Feng graduated from Beijing University's department of philosophy in 1919 and earned his PhD degree at Columbia University in 1923. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1657 GMT 4 Dec 85] /12640

EXHIBITION ON STUDENT MOVEMENT'S ANNIVERSARY--Beijing, December 5 (XINHUA)--An exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Beijing students patriotic movement against Japanese aggression opened here today at the capital museum. Four hundred photos and other graphic displays show scenes from demonstrations which began on December 9, 1935. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, the students left their classrooms and took to the streets to protest the Japanese invasion of their motherland and the compromising attitude of the Kuomintang government. Beijing college and middle school students today crowded into the exhibition which is sponsored by the All-China Students Federation and the Capital Museum. A memorial hall marking the patriotic movement of students in Kunming, Yunnan Province, opened there last Sunday. More than 300 photos and memorabilia of revolutionary martyrs are on show giving a real picture of how Kunming students, led by the party, started the movement for democracy and against the civil war on December 1, 1945. The hall is located in the Yunnan Teachers University. Formerly it was the Southwest Associated University where the movement was based. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1101 GMT 5 Dec 85] /12640

HU YAOBANG INSCRIBES MUSICIAN'S WORKS--Guangzhou, December 6 (XINHUA)--China will publish "The Complete Works of Xian Xinghai" in the next few years, to commemorate the famous Chinese composer. This was decided recently jointly by the Ministry of Culture and the Chinese Musicians Association. The Chinese Communist Party's top leader Hu Yaobang has inscribed the title for the book. The works, in several volumes, will include the scores of all Xian's books, his writings, diary and letters. Vice-minister of Culture Zhou Weizhi is the chief editor of the editorial board and the musician's daughter, Xian Nina, is also on the board. The 80th anniversary of the birth of Xian Xinghai was marked with a rally last Tuesday. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1838 GMT 6 Dec 85] /12640

CARE FOR HANDICAPPED--Beijing, December 6 (XINHUA)--China has 806 welfare institutes looking after more than 10,000 handicapped orphans, according to the latest issue of the newspaper, "Health News." The paper reported that there are 20,000 workers and about 60,000 doctors and nurses engaged in welfare for handicapped children. The Ministry of Civil Affairs has held training courses for doctors and nurses engaged in such work in Wuxi and Guangzhou cities since 1982. The institutes train the children to look after themselves and teach them employment skills while treating their ailments. At present, the majority of handicapped children are looked after by their parents. Local governments also encourage private citizens to aid handicapped orphans with subsidies from the state. The paper also reported that China has recently set up an institution to help mentally handicapped children, which integrates medical, dietary and physical therapies with special care and education. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1840 GMT 6 Dec 85] /12640

OVERSEAS CHINESE COMMITTEE HOLDS FORUM--Xiamen, December 6 (XINHUA)--China will strengthen legislation on overseas Chinese affairs and continue to carry out policies related to overseas Chinese and their relatives at home. He Ying, vice-chairman of the Overseas Chinese Committee of the National People's Congress, said this at the opening of a week-long forum held by the committee here. Ye Fei, vice-chairman of the NPC standing committee and chairman of the Overseas Chinese Committee, is attending the forum. The committee has been set up to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the overseas Chinese, the returned ones and their relatives at home and encourage their enthusiasm for building their homeland, He Ying said. Representatives from the standing committees of people's congresses of Guangdong, Fujian, Zhejiang and some other provinces are attending the forum. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1910 GMT 6 Dec 85] /12640

CROWD ATTACKS SUDANESE STUDENTS--Beijing, December 2 (AFP)--An angry crowd in Shanghai attacked and insulted two Sudanese students at a bus stop, sparking a strike by African students in the eastern city, an African diplomatic source said here today. One of the Sudanese students is still in a hospital after the incident last Saturday, which occurred after a row with a policeman, the source added. The more than 100 African students in Shanghai went on strike and staged a protest demonstration

outside the university administration headquarters in the city Sunday, the source said. They then tried to organise a strike of all African students in China, but the strike has since ended. The diplomatic source said his department was still awaiting a full account of the affair. There have been a number of incidents involving African students and Chinese people, the most serious in Shanghai in 1979, when 43 people were injured in pitched battles. Since then, African students in Shanghai and Beijing have organised several demonstrations to protest against the way they were treated in China. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 7 Dec 85] /12640

BAINQEN LAMA PRESENTS LAMP--Lhasa, December 9 (XINHUA)--The Bainqen Lama presented a golden lamp to the image of Sakyamuni, founder of Buddhism, here last Saturday. Bainqen Erdini Qoigyi Gyaincain, who is a Tibetan vice-chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee and also honorary president of the Buddhist Association of China, presented the lamp at a ceremony to mark the 566th anniversary of the death of Zong Kaba (1355-1418), founder of the Yellow Sect of Tibetan Lamaism, in the golden-roofed Zuglagkang (Qoikang) Temple. The 32-ounce lamp was carved with a good luck design, and on its base is a poem written by the Bainqen Lama in Tibetan to eulogize Buddhism. The date has been an important religious festival in Tibet. Almost 1,000 lamps were lit up inside the temple while Buddhists also hang their lamps in and out their houses. The Bainqen Lama is touring Tibet. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 0700 GMT 9 Dec 85] /12640

ETHNIC LITERATURE--Beijing, December 9 (XINHUA)--More support should be given to the literature of minority nationalities with small populations, said a leading literary critic here today. Feng Mu, vice-chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association (CWA), made the remark at a ceremony at which the CWA and the State Nationalities Affairs Commission granted awards to 118 writers at the second national ethnic literature contest. He said it is encouraging that a great number of ethnic writers have emerged in recent years. Even those nationalities with small populations and relatively short cultural history, such as the Jingpo, Va and Yugur nationalities, have their own writers now. Statistics show that altogether 245 writers from 47 nationalities have won awards in national contests. Feng Mu said the realization of the country's modernization program has become the common historical task of all the Chinese people. Therefore, writers of all nationalities should follow closely developments in everyday life and try their best to reflect it. He praised ethnic writers for their enthusiasm in this field, especially for their efforts in depicting the national disposition and inner world of their literary characters. The awards have shown, he said, that the country's ethnic literature, which was mainly centered on oral ballads, folklore and poems in the past, has made encouraging progress in fiction writing. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1602 GMT 9 Dec 85] /12640

PERIODICAL BANNED--Beijing, December 11 (AFP)--China has banned a regional periodical after finding its directors had made two thousand dollars by trafficking in fake journalists identification cards, the GUANGMING DAILY said today. The NATIONAL NEWS, begun early this year by three workers from Xuchang, Henan Province, sold 13,000 fake cards and made 6,400 yuan (2,000 dollars) profit, the paper said. The three were sent back to their original work units and the Henan Propaganda Department is conducting an inquiry into the affair "to safeguard the honor of the press," the paper said. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1318 GMT 11 Dec 85] /12640

ROBBERS CONVICTED OF KILLING--Hong Kong, Dec 12 (AFP)--China recently executed two robbers convicted of killing 18 people and injuring 16 others in a bank hold-up in central Hunan Province in July, it was reported here today. The two, Liu Suichun, 24, and Li Shunnian, 21, "behaved like madmen" and attacked their victims with knives, iron bars and other weapons after their abortive attempt to rob a branch of the People's Bank of China on July 19, the independent MING PAO daily reported. The branch was in Changde City in the north of the province. The dead included a woman bank teller. The robbers killed a passerby who tried to stop them and then went on the rampage as they made their escape massacring 16 others and injuring the same number, the report said. The two were arrested on the same day. They were described as gamblers loaded with debts, the report added. The paper gave no further details. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0453 GMT 12 Dec 85] /12640

CSO: 4000/097

EAST REGION

LATER MARRIAGE AIDING POPULATION CONTROL POLICY

OW061122 Beijing XINHUA in English 1042 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Text] Beijing, December 6 (XINHUA)--The average Shanghai woman now has her first child just before her 27th birthday--four years later than the average 30 years ago, according to figures just released.

The State Statistical Bureau said the average age of marriage for both men and women in the city was now 26. In the early 1950s, it was common for women to marry at 18 and men at 20.

The bureau gave Shanghai as an example of the success of the publicity campaign to promote late marriages in the interest of family planning.

Basing itself on a sample survey in Shanghai and several Chinese provinces, the bureau said late marriage was now common in both town and countryside.

The first birth now takes place when the average Shaanxi mother is 26 years old, almost three and a half years later than 30 years ago, and the figure for the average Hebei mother is 24, more than two years later.

The one-child policy has also been well accepted by the public, said the bureau. Over 80 percent of Shanghai couples have only one child.

As a result of family-planning publicity, most married women now know how to use five or six contraceptive methods.

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CSO: 4005/313

EAST REGION

HEFEI CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE ENDS 4 DEC

OW120251 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0822 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Article by reporter Dong Ying]

[Text] Hefei, 6 Dec (XINHUA)--Comrades attending the National Conference on Continuing Engineering Education [ji xu gong cheng jiao yu 4949 4958 1562 4453 2403 5148] maintained that, to keep up with the needs presented by the nation's present economic construction, it is essential to upgrade the knowledge of scientists and technicians in a planned and organized manner.

Continuing engineering education means constantly upgrading the proficiency of the college-graduated scientists and technicians engaging in teaching, researching, designing, production and administration in the scientific, industrial, medical and agricultural spheres. Because of the rapid scientific and technological development in the world today, knowledge is becoming obsolete increasingly more quickly, and those who fail to upgrade their knowledge will be outstripped in the course of competition.

The conference, which took place in Hefei, provincial seat of Anhui Province, ended on 4 December. According to the attendants, many areas and departments in the country have become increasingly aware of the importance of continuing education for scientists and technicians. Some units, by sponsoring various forms of educational programs of all levels through various channels, have upgraded the knowledge of those scientists and technicians who graduated from colleges during the 1950's and 1960's. The Beicheng Machine Tool Plant in Jilin, for example, has been able to increase the variety of its products and demonstrated a noticeably better economic performance over the past several years as result of upgrading the technological knowledge of its scientists and technicians in a planned and organized manner. However, the leaders of certain units, due to a lack of understanding of the strategic significance of continuing engineering education, are not interested in dealing with the problems of continuing engineering education, such as funds, teachers, teaching materials, retraining sites, and so forth. The attendants hoped that leaders at all levels will pay greater attention to continuing engineering education.

The nearly 200 comrades attending the conference came from institutes of higher education, research organs, and industrial and mining enterprises from all parts of the country.

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CSO: 4000/104

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

MAO ZHIYONG ATTENDS HUNAN PARTY RECTIFICATION CONFERENCE

HK171310 Changsha Hunan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] The provincial conference on rural party rectification work held by the Provincial CPC Committee concluded in Changsha yesterday [15 December]. This conference lasted 4 days, seriously studied the spirit of the circular of the Central Commission for Guiding Party Rectification on making arrangements for the rural party rectification work, and in conjunction with the realities of Hunan, discussed and arranged for the party rectification work in the grass-roots units at and above the county level, mainly for the rural party rectification work. At the same time, the conference also studied the problems of how to complete party rectification work in the prefectures and counties well from start to finish.

Yesterday afternoon, Mao Zhiyong, secretary of the Provincial CPC Committee, and Liu Fusheng, deputy secretary, attended the conference and spoke. Liu Fusheng said: The rural areas in our province have some 49,000 party branches and some 1.2 million party members. Together with the party members in the grass-roots enterprises and institutions at and above the county level, they have a total of some 1.62 million party members, who account for 76 percent of the total number of party members in the whole province. The rural grass-roots party organizations and party members are an indispensable, important force and foundation of our party in completing political, economic, and all other tasks. Facts have proved that the great majority of the village party organizations and party members are good or relatively good. However, we must clearly see that it has been disclosed in the course of rural reform that many problems really exist among some grass-roots organizations and party members in ideology, workstyle, and discipline. Some of them are fairly serious.

In the light of the problems existing among rural grass-roots party organizations and party members, Liu Fusheng talked about his specific views on three problems: Education is the basic aim of the party, the workstyle of party member cadres, and the rectification and building of leadership groups. Liu Fusheng said: Strengthening education for the party members and improving their quality is the central link of the ideological rectification and building of the party. It is necessary to conduct ideological education for the party members in the course of party

rectification. Through relatively systematic ideological education, we must enable the rural party members to further unify their thinking and develop the excellent rural situation still better.

In dealing with the policies on rural party rectification, Liu Fusheng pointed out that, regarding the problems among rural party members and party member cadres in the aspects of the economy and workstyle, in accordance with the spirit of the relevant policies of the central authorities and the province, we must pay attention to drawing demarcation lines and dealing with each case on its merits. Must carefully deal with the problems which involve important policies and we must promptly ask for instructions and make reports.

In conclusion, Liu Fusheng said: The key to whether party rectification work in a place or unit is done well or badly lies in the leaders there. If the leaders have the correct ideology and understanding, are greatly determined, and grasp it firmly, the results will be good. All prefectural, city, and county CPC committees must seriously sum up and absorb the experiences and lessons in party rectification work at the preceding stage and really do well in grasping grass-roots party rectification. In party rectification, it is essential to guarantee and promote rural reform and economic work. This is the basic guiding ideology of rural party rectification and is also an important principle of rural party rectification. Leaders at all levels must clearly understand this and thoroughly carry out party rectification.

Mao Zhiyong spoke at the conference, demanding: CPC committees at all levels must really strengthen leadership over party rectification work. In particular, the No 1 men must personally grasp party rectification. In the course of party rectification, it is imperative to implement the principle of both solving problems and not making a mess and to seriously do well this winter and next spring in the training of rural party members and in first making corrections before rectification so as to strive to carry out rural party rectification better than the first and second stages of party rectification.

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CSO: 4005/325

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

HUNAN HOSTS SOUTH CHINA CIVIL DEFENSE MEETING

HK070631 Changsha Hunan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Text] From 2 to 6 December, the Guangzhou Military Region held a civil defense meeting of Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong, and Guangxi in Changsha City. Responsible comrades of the military region, Hunan Provincial CPC Committee, government, and military district Liu Cunzhi, Liu Fusheng, Yang Huiquan, Jiang Jinliu, and Gu Shanqing attended the meeting, which conveyed and implemented the spirit of relevant national conferences on civil defense and exchanged experiences. The participants inspected the exploitation and use of civil defense projects in Changsha and viewed the results of civil defense research.

The meeting held: These three central-south provinces and one autonomous region have scored great success in civil defense construction during the sixth 5-year plan. Key civil defense cities have organized specialized contingents, launched propaganda, education, and training in civil defense, drawn up war and dispersal schemes, improved the reliability of civil defense warning signals, and constructed a large number of combat and protection projects. In particular, they have implemented the principle of combining peacetime and wartime use of civil defense projects, and a very good start has been made in the peacetime exploitation and use of these projects.

The meeting stressed: Civil defense work must adapt to the changes in the strategic situation and switch from a status of imminent war to one of long-term preparedness. We must seriously implement the CPC Central Committee's guideline of making all-round plans, focusing on key points, combining peacetime and wartime use of projects, and putting quality first, to ensure that civil defense construction will advance along the track of peaceful construction and of being centered on modernization.

The meeting demanded that the civil defense departments at all levels keep up with the excellent situation in reforms of the economic structure in the whole country, further correct their guiding ideas on work, subordinate themselves to and serve the overall situation in the four modernizations drive, and persist in reform and innovation, to suit the needs of combining peacetime and wartime uses of projects and the ability to react quickly.

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CSO: 4005/325

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

GUANGDONG HOLDS CONFERENCE ON IMPROVING PARTY STYLE

HK041053 Guangzhou Guangdong Provincial Service in Mandarin 0400 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] According to NANFANG RIBAO, a provincial conference of CPC Committee secretaries of all cities and prefectures was held from 25 to 29 November in Panyu County.

At the conference, the participants earnestly studied the spirit of the national conference of party delegates, and discussed the problems of how to further strengthen the building of socialist spiritual civilization, how to grasp the improvement of party style, how to investigate and deal with major and important cases, and how to take resolute measures to bring about a basic turn for the better in party style and general social mood.

Wang Ning, deputy secretary of the provincial CPC Committee, and (Wang Zhongchun), Standing Committee member of the provincial CPC Committee and secretary of the provincial Discipline Inspection Committee, delivered speeches at the conference.

The participants earnestly analyzed the current situation in the building of party style in the province. They held that since the 3d Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee, and since conducting party rectification and resolutely halting various malpractices in particular, party style has been greatly improved in the province. At the conference, the participants exchanged experiences in grasping improvement of party style in all cities and prefectures.

The conference held that many problems still exist in regard to party style in the province. Some problems are very serious. Some problems are very serious. The conference stressed that it is necessary to raise the consciousness of party members and cadres in grasping the building of spiritual civilization and improvement of party style, to take advantage of the current opportunity of party style, to take advantage of the current opportunity of party rectification, and for them to do their utmost to create a new situation in correcting party style in the province.

At the conference, arrangements were made for investigating and dealing with major and important cases.

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CSO: 4005/286

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

GUANGXI CELEBRATES CONSTITUTION PROMULGATION ANNIVERSARY

HK051208 Nanning Guangxi Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Excerpts] This morning at the regional CPPCC hall, the regional People's Congress Standing Committee and the regional CPPCC jointly held a forum marking the third anniversary of the promulgation of the current Constitution. More than 100 people attended the forum, including Chen Higuang, secretary of the regional CPC Committee; Huang Yun, chairman of the regional Advisory Committee; Gan Ku, chairman of the regional People's Congress Standing Committee; Qin Yingji, chairman of the regional CPPCC; some Standing Committee members of the regional CPC Committee; some Standing Committee members of the regional People's Congress; representatives of democratic parties, mass organizations, colleges, universities, regional units, and units concerned of Nanning City and Nanning Prefecture; responsible comrades of PLA units attached to the region; and representatives of well-known figures.

The forum was presided over by Zhong Feng, vice chairman of the regional People's Congress Standing Committee. Chen Huiguang, secretary of the regional CPC Committee, delivered a speech at the forum.

He said: The current Constitution, which was adopted in 1982 by the Fifth Session of the Fifth NPC Standing Committee, has been promulgated for 3 years. Over the years, the region's people of various nationalities have scored successes in implementing the Constitution and the Law. However, we should realize that there are still problems in implementing the Constitution and the Law. These are mainly that some party members and cadres do not have a firm concept about the legal system and tend to replace the law with their authority. Therefore, we must promptly take effective measures to rectify the situation.

Comrade Chen Huiguang said: The central authorities pointed out that the focal point and target is publicizing legal knowledge for the public and cadres, particularly leading cadres and youths. Therefore, cadres at various levels, particularly the leading cadres, must learn more about and get a deeper understanding of the law. They should play an exemplary role in studying and observing the law. At the same time, the leadership of party committees and governments at various levels, as well as various units, must seriously examine their local units' situation of observing

the law by acting in accordance with the work of popularizing knowledge about the law. They should sum up their experiences and formulate measures for improving the situation, so as to heighten the masses' conscientiousness in observing discipline and law. Anyone who violates discipline or law or who behaves abominably must be dealt with by law.

Comrade Chen Huiguang said: In the course of implementing the Constitution and the Law, we must continue to launch an in-depth struggle of seriously hitting at serious crimes and economic crimes. We must resolutely get rid of disgraceful social phenomena, ban pornography and gambling activities, and check feudalistic and superstitious activities.

In conclusion, Comrade Chen Huiguang said: Through the activities marking the third anniversary of the promulgation of the current Constitution, we must mobilize people of various nationalities to study hard and implement the Constitution and various laws and to consolidate and develop the region's political situation of stability and unity, so as to make great contributions to invigorating the region's economy.

Also making speeches at the forum were Gan Ku, chairman of the regional People's Congress Standing Committee; Qin Yingji, chairman of the regional CPPCC; Zhao Mingjian, vice chairman of the regional People's Congress Standing Committee, Mo Naiqun and Ye Pei, vice chairmen of the regional CPPCC; (Li Shoufa), deputy director of the regional CPC Committee Propaganda Department; (Lu Yuan), chairman of the regional law society; and (Meng Guo), president of the regional higher people's court.

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CSO: 4005/325

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

HENAN CONCLUDES WORK FORUM ON LEGAL SYSTEM

HK121436 Zhengzhou Henan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1030 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The provincial forum of legal system committees of city, county and district people's congress standing committees on the work of legal system divisions concluded in Zhengzhou yesterday afternoon.

The forum pointed out: We must give priority to observing the law, strictly enforce the law, and hold accountable anyone who violates the law. This is a matter of prime importance now when we are building our legal system.

The forum held: The province's general situation of building the legal system is good. The provincial People's Congress Standing Committee has, since its establishment, formulated 41 sets of local regulations. The judicial organs have been constantly strengthened. Both the political quality and professional ethics of the judicial cadres have been greatly improved. The people have heightened their understanding about the legal system, thereby strengthening in an all-around way their struggle against crimes. However, the most prominent problem in building the legal system is that some people do not observe the law, strictly enforce the law, or hold accountable those who violate the law.

The forum urged the People's Congress Standing Committees at various levels to promptly conduct education on the legal system, so as to heighten the cadres' and people's understanding about the legal system, as well as their awareness of enforcing and observing the law. On the implementation of a particular law or a set of regulations, they must listen in a systematic way to reports of the judicial organs and the administrative departments concerned, and conduct thorough discussion. For those laws and regulations directly concerning the immediate interests of the people, or which are likely to bring about problems during implementation, the People's Congress Standing Committee should frequently concentrate their efforts on solving the problems, so that the people will be accustomed to observing the law. They should strengthen the investigation of the work of enforcing the law. They should propose suggestions and opinions about the controversial points in the law and regulations. Furthermore, they should ask the legislature and competent administrative departments to explain issues about legislating and enforcing the law as well as about supplementary regulations, so as to safeguard the unity of laws. They should pay attention to collecting and sorting out the typical cases of violating the constitution and laws. They should use them to educate cadres and arouse the interests of various sectors.

Zhang Shude, chairman of the provincial People's Congress Standing Committee; Ma Ruihua and Ding Shi, vice chairmen; as well as (Feng Luoquan), chairman of the provincial People's Congress Legal Committee, spoke at the forum.

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

HENAN GIVES VIEWS ON RURAL PARTY RECTIFICATION

HK130211 Zhengzhou Henan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Text] The 13 December HENAN RIBAO frontpages the views of the Henan Provincial CPC Committee on implementing the circular of the Central Commission for Guiding Party Rectification [CCGPR] on arrangements for party rectification in the rural areas. The views demand that the party committees at all levels, especially at prefectural and county level, and provincial, prefectural, and county departments directly linked to rural reforms work together to provide careful guidance and seriously make a success of rectifying the rural party organizations.

The provincial CPC Committee has put forward the following views on how to implement the CCGPR circular in light of Henan realities:

1. Correctly evaluate the state of the party organizations and party members in the rural areas.
2. Seriously implement the demands of the CCGPR regarding rural party rectification. First, it is necessary to exert efforts to conduct education for rural party members in the party's fundamental program. Second, it is necessary to take a more correct view of the party's rural reforms and economic development policies. Third, it is necessary to seriously deal with the very small number of party members who have made serious mistakes. This must be done in a truth-seeking way. Fourth, further strengthen the building of the leadership groups. This is the key to strengthening the party's organizational building.
3. Methods, measures, and timing. Party rectification in rural Henan is beginning this winter and is planned to be completed by spring 1987. In general, rectification at township level can follow the methods used at county level and advance in three big steps. Village-level rectification should in general be carried out in two main phases. Each stage of township-level rectification should last no less than 3 months. Each stage at village level should last no less than 2 months, take up not less than 4 hours a day.
4. A number of problems to be noted. In order to ensure the healthy progress of rural party rectification, we must constantly pay attention to the following problems: 1) Bring democracy into full play and adopt a variety of methods to listen to the masses' criticisms and views of the party organizations and

party members. 2) Persist in conducting education by negative example and focus on enhancing the party members' ideological awareness. 3) Persistently carry out simultaneous rectification and correction. 4) Correctly unfolding criticism and self-criticism is an effective way of solving contradictions in the party. We must insist on seeking truth from facts, apply mild rain and gentle breezes, and succeed in both clarifying thinking and correcting errors and also in uniting the comrades and working together to get rich. 5) Party rectification must be closely integrated with economic and other professional work. We must correctly handle the relationship between party rectification on the one hand and reform and economic work on the other, and truly succeed in making party rectification spur reforms and in further developing the excellent situation in the rural areas. New achievements in reform and various other tasks should be applied to test the success of party rectification.

5. On the question of leadership. The county CPC committees must be comprehensively responsible for leading rural party rectification. The county CPC committee secretaries must personally grasp the work. The provincial, prefectural, and city CPC committees must assign considerable forces and time to providing good guidance.

The views of the provincial CPC Committee point out: The basic intentions of this document are also applicable to rectification of the party organizations of enterprises and units at and below county-level and urban neighborhoods.

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CSO: 4005/321

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

BRIEFS

CONTROLLING ADMINISTRATION COSTS--The province has basically controlled the trend of a large increase in administration expense. The administration expenses of the province from January to October this year increased only 9.95 percent over the same period of last year, the lowest increase rate in any year. Since the State Council issued a circular in February on reducing administration expenses, the governments in all areas of the province have strictly controlled administration expenses and have taken measures to reduce them. Zhaoqing Prefecture has firmly grasped the work of controlling meeting costs and the purchase of cars. No county-wide large meetings have been held in the prefecture this year. Administrative organs in the prefecture have bought only one car this year. The Hainan Administrative Region and the Hainan Li and Miao Autonomous Prefecture have greatly reduced their administration expenses. The provincial finance department recently repeated its demand that all areas effectively control various expenses and particularly avoid issuing money at the end of the year. [Text] [Guangzhou Guangdong Provincial Service in Mandarin 1000 GMT 10 Dec 85 HK]/12766

MEETING ON SOCIAL ORDER CONCLUDES--The provincial meeting on comprehensively tackling the issue of social order concluded today in Guangzhou. The meeting proposed five measures calling for resolutely eliminating some repulsive phenomena in society, doing well in social order, and promoting the building of spiritual civilization. These five measures are: First, the province will continue to conduct a campaign to seriously hit at serious crime, so as to maintain continued stability and social order. Second, the province will continue to ban pornographic videotapes, seriously punish by law those criminals who lure or force women into prostitution, resolutely ban gambling activities, and check on magazines which publish harmful articles. Third, the province will further mobilize various departments and the forces of society to strengthen the ideological education of youth. Fourth, the province will strengthen supervision over shops and stalls along the roads and in recreational facilities, guesthouses, and hotels. Fifth, it will strengthen propaganda and education on the legal system, educating all citizens in a down-to-earth manner regarding general knowledge of the law, so that the cadres and masses will understand and observe the law. [Text] [Guangzhou Guangdong Provincial Service in Mandarin 1000 GMT 5 Dec 85 HK]/12766

CSO: 4005/321

SOUTHWEST REGION

XIZANG PARTY MEETING STUDIES TASKS IN CURRENT WORK

HK260419 Lhasa Xizang Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpts] The participants in the enlarged meeting of the regional CPC committee standing committee have since 22 November been seriously discussing the draft for discussion on the main points of work for this winter and next spring submitted by the regional CPC committee and people's government. Proceeding from the common aspiration of allowing the people of Xizang to get rich as soon as possible, the participants have pooled their views and wisdom for doing a good job in these tasks.

(Zhao Jie), deputy secretary general of the regional government, said: The main points of work for this winter and next spring assign an important place to studying and implementing the spirit of the three central party meetings and further correcting the ideological line. This is completely correct. Nothing can be done successfully if the ideological line is not straightened out.

(Zhang Zhiwei), deputy director of the propaganda department of the regional CPC committee, said: The main points of work for this winter and next spring mention strengthening ideological and political work. How should this be done in light of reality in Xizang? I think we should insist on the following three aspects: face the grassroots, face the reforms, and face the peasants and herdsmen. In this way we can promptly find out the new situation and solve new problems.

(Lesang Dawa), chairman of the regional (?planning) commission, said: The main points for work this winter and next spring clearly state that we should vigorously promote diversification and do everything possible to increase the masses' income. This is pointing out the way for the enrichment of the peasants and herdsmen. However, in view of Xizang realities, we must also step up education in the commodity concept so that the masses will learn how to turn products into commodities and increase their income and their own vitality.

(Zhang Shaowen), manager of the Xizang branch of the People's Bank of China, gave his views on developing capital construction. He said: Large-scale non-productive capital construction projects must be put under control. As to essential projects, let us see if we can change the old way of immediately asking the financial authorities and the government for funds, and instead

practice integration of raising capital oneself and having funds and loans allocated. He also said: We should have high fervor and cool heads for making a success of external economic relations and trade. Our comrades must learn how to do business.

Speaking on structural reform and streamlining of the organs, (Pingcuo Wangqiu), secretary of the party branch of the regional nationalities affairs commission, said that the methods, measures, and principles put forward by the main point of work are correct and accord with Xizang reality. Some departments put up very large signboard but in fact they are in charge of very little, and their existence is not essential. We must summon up resolve to change the situation in which the superstructure does not match the economic basis.

The representatives also put forward methods and ideas for promoting nationality, religion, and [word indistinct] work, rationally arranging and using the limited finances, improving communications, transport, and commerce, and developing the economy and culture in border areas. They resolved to work hard to consolidate and develop the excellent situation in the region.

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CSO: 4005/313

SOUTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

ELIMINATE LEFTIST INFLUENCE URGED--Xizang Regionals CPC Committee Secretary Wu Jinghua has expressed the hope that the regional federation of women will further negate the Great Cultural Revolution, further eliminate leftist influence, further straighten out the ideological line, and do everything possible to mobilize women to develop production, so as to enable the people of Xizang to enjoy a happy life as soon as possible. An enlarged meeting of the regional women's federation standing committee was held in Lhasa from 22 to 30 November. Regional CPC Committee Secretary Wu Jinghua and Deputy Secretaries Redi and Ba Sang visited the representatives attending the meeting on 30 November and listened to their views and demands. Comrade Wu Jinghua said: We must help the regional federation of women to surmount difficulties and assist it in unfolding its work. [Excerpts] [Lhasa Xizang Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 3 Dec 85 OW] /6662

CSO: 4005/313

NORTHWEST REGION

GANSU OFFICIAL URGES TRADE UNIONS INCREASE EDUCATION

HK261334 Lanzhou Gansu Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Recently, after listening to a report delivered by the provincial federation of trade unions, Lu Kejian, deputy secretary of the provincial CPC committee, pointed out that the province's trade unions at various levels must actively respond to the call of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and, this winter and spring, must concentrate their efforts on educating the workers on the current situation and policies.

Comrade Lu Kejian said: Trade unions have the glorious tradition of carrying out mass work, as well as the advantage of carrying out political and ideological education. The trade union organizations must give play to their advantages and features, and strengthen the building of spiritual civilization among workers. In the light of the fact that some workers have some confused ideas about the new situation of and new problems developed in reforms, they should launch an in-depth education about the situation and policies.

Comrade Lu Kejian stressed: Trade unions at various levels must actively probe new ways for conducting the workers' political and ideological work under the new circumstances. Various trade union activities must embody the education about the situation. The trade unions must be good at developing and propagating the models in various areas.

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CSO: 4005/313

NORTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

QINGHAI: PLA HEROES FAREWELL--The No 6 subgroup of the PLA heroes and models report group left Xining on 5 December at the conclusion of its activities in Qinghai. The group was seen off at the railroad station by leaders of the party, government, and army in the province Yin Kesheng, Liu Feng, Han Yinxuan, Chen Yunfeng, Zhao Haifeng, Song Lin, Bainma Dandzin, and (Mu Baoyun), and more than 600 people's armed police and university students. [Excerpts] [Xining Qinghai Provincial Service in Mandarin 2330 GMT 4 Dec 85 OW] /6662

CSO: 4005/313

MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PLA LOGISTICS RESEARCH--During the Sixth 5-Year Plan period, researchers of PLA logistics departments have accomplished more than 8,000 scientific and technological research projects, or 3.8 times the total number of projects accomplished during the first 30 years after the founding of the Republic. Over the past several years, scientific research units of PLA logistics departments have bravely restructured the outmoded system and replaced the traditional, closed-door research with open research, thus greatly enhancing scientific research. In 1985, PLA logistics departments won 19 national awards for inventions, 1 national award for special scientific and technological achievement, and 11 first-class awards--the largest number of awards won by the Armed Forces and by the logistics research departments since the founding of the Republic. The national award for special scientific and technological achievement went to the Academy of Military Medicine, which successfully developed treatment for stress in wartime. During the all-Army logistics conference, which opened on 10 December, Hong Xuezhong, deputy secretary general of the Central Military Commission, highly evaluated the achievements made by medical researchers of PLA logistics departments. [Text] [Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 2230 GMT 10 Dec 85 OW] /6662

JIANGSU: CONSCRIPTION WORK MEETING--The Jiangsu Provincial Government and the Jiangsu Military District held a meeting on 12 December to sum up the situation in conscription work. The meeting studied and explored new ways for conscription work. This year, 98.5 percent of all conscription-age youth in the province registered for military service. Many young people vied to join the army. The quality of new recruits has remarkably improved. The number of CPC and CYL members among this year's new recruits increased 12 percent, the number of senior middle school graduates among them rose 13 percent, and the number of persons with special skills increased 20 percent, as compared with last year. The comrades present at the meeting attributed the delightful situation in this year's conscription work to effective day-to-day ideological and political work, the preferential treatment given to servicemen's families, and the fundamental improvement made in party conduct. They regard this as a valuable experience which will help future conscription work. [Text] [Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 13 Dec 85 OW] /6662

XIAO KE MOURNS DEATH--Beijing, December 6 (XINHUA)--Xiao Ke, vice-minister of national defence, went to the embassy of German Democratic Republic in Beijing, this morning, to express his condolences on the death of General Heinz Hoffmann, Democratic German defense minister. [Excerpt] [Beijing XINHUA in English 0716 GMT 6 Dec 85 OW] /6662

TAIWAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON SAUDI ARABIAN RELATIONS

OW280337 Taipei CNA in English 0237 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Taipei, 27 Dec (CNA) -- Relations between the Republic of China and Saudi Arabia have been always cordial and the Saudi Government has not changed its policy to this nation, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Friday.

The ROC authorities are closely watching the Chinese Communists intention to expand their influence in the Middle East countries as shown by the visit of Communist China's "Foreign Minister" Wu Hsueh-chien to that region earlier this month, Foreign Ministry spokesman Cheyne J. Y. Chiu said.

The ROC Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Tsai Wei-ping had returned recently from Saudi Arabia for home consultations, he said.

The Saudi Government has assured the ROC Government that their reception of the Chinese Communist pilgrims was only to show support and concern to all Moslems in the world, and has nothing to do with politics, Chiu said.

According to Saudi officials, talks during their reception of the Chinese Communist pilgrims were limited to religious matters, he said. Saudi Arabia has absolutely not changed its policy to the Republic of China, he said, while answering questions at a press conference at the Government Information Office Friday.

As a Moslem country, Saudi Arabia basically will not stand together with the atheistic Chinese Communists, he pointed out. The Chinese Communists will fail in their attempts to undermine the traditional relations between the Republic of China and Saudi Arabia as the ROC-SAUDI friendship has been stable and close, he stressed.

Wu visited Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates December 10 attempting to attract investments from the Gulf countries. Wu's trip was also aimed at winning friendship from Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia so as to isolate this nation in that region, he pointed out.

The ROC authorities are paying attention to the communist plays in that region, he said.

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CSO: 4000/121

TAIWAN

COUNCILMEN SWORN IN AFTER OPPOSITION CHALLENGE

OW290644 Taipei CHINA POST in English 26 Dec 85 p 12

[Text] Conflicts between several ruling Kuomintang councilors and 11 nonpartisans during the swearing-in of the fifth Taipei City Council delayed the ceremony for one and a half hours yesterday morning.

Mayor Hsu Shui-teh was invited to preside over the ceremony of the 51 newly elected Taipei City Councilors at 10:00 a.m.

But right from the start, the 11 nonpartisans raised questions challenging Mayor Hsu's position as the man to preside over the ceremony. They pointed out that the host should be chosen by the councilors themselves or by a minister.

Interior Minister Wu Poh-hsiung, who was invited to witness the ceremony, then gave a "go-ahead" signal to the mayor. The 38 KMT councilors and two "middle of the roaders" then raised their hands to take their oaths to serve Taipei citizens in the coming four years, while the 11 nonpartisans looked on.

After the disturbance, the 11 nonpartisans were eventually persuaded by the mayor to swear in for fear of forfeiting their positions as councilors.

The elections of the speaker and the deputy speaker followed immediately afterwards. The nonpartisans again motioned that all the candidates should be allowed to give three-minute speeches to expound on their political platforms. The request was turned down because it was not on the agenda.

As expected, the KMT incumbents Clement C.P. Chang garnered 40 votes and Chen Chien-chih 39 votes to win a reelection bid for the two posts.

The nonpartisan candidates Lin Wen-lang and Hsieh Chang-ting got 11 and 12 votes respectively in their bid for the speaker and the deputy speaker positions. Lin and Hsieh bagged the most votes in the first and the third Electoral Districts in Taipei's Nov 16 local elections.

Clement C.P. Chang pledged his determination to control the Taipei taxpayers' money strictly and to push the Taipei City Government to expedite the city's development.

A judicial expert later said that Article 14 of the Taipei City Council Organization Regulations stated clearly that it is legal for the mayor to preside over the swearing-in ceremony.

As the furor subsides, the new Taipei City Council will hold its opening ceremony today and tomorrow.

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CS0: 4000/121

TAIWAN

EXECUTIVE YUAN ISSUES STATEMENT ON NEWSPAPERS

OW200311 Taipei CNA in English 0245 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Taipei 19 Dec (CNA) -- The government values and also protects the people's freedom of speech while implementing the democratic constitutional rule in the Republic of China, the Executive Yuan said Thursday in a statement.

The government has accepted any opinions or comment given sincerely if they are not against the basic national policy and will not harm social tranquility, the executive body said in a written reply to a joint interpellation of legislators Wang Meng-yuan Hsieh Hsueh-hsien, and Fei Hsi-ping.

Recently, several political periodicals, in the name of freedom and democracy, have published articles distorting truths to sow discord among the people and to confuse their thinking, the Yuan said. The authorities have handled the cases in accordance with the laws, it added.

The authorities have often contacted owners of various political periodicals to make them know better the government's policies and lead their publications in the right direction, the Yuan said. The government will promote national unity and harmony by giving sure and certain penalties to those who violate the laws intentionally, it added.

On the opening of more newspapers, the Yuan said, presently there are 31 newspapers in this country with an aggregate daily circulation of between 3.5 million and 3.7 million copies. Every five persons in this country, on the average, shared one paper daily. In Taipei alone, 15 papers are enough for its 2.5 million citizens, it pointed out.

The government has stopped, only for the time being, accepting applications to publish new papers; it has not prohibited their publication, it said. The move absolutely "has not been against the freedom of speech," the Yuan added.

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CSO: 4000/121

TAIWAN

GIO CHIEF ON PUNISHING SLANDERERS OF TOP LEADER

OW201246 Taipei CHINA POST in English 17 Dec 85 p 12

[Text] Chang King-yuh, Director General of the Government Information Office (GIO), yesterday told legislators that as a national leader represents the dignity of a nation, no one should gratuitously slander his reputation, and that all such persons will be handled according to the law.

As the proverb goes, "The pen is mightier than the sword," and Chang especially called on the press to respect others' dignity and rights in any reports.

Chang made the remarks in response to nonpartisan legislator Chiang Peng-chien's interpellation on a resolution recently passed by the National Assembly to revise the criminal code to give severe punishment to those slandering the national leader. Chiang reasoned that as a national leader is a public figure, he should tolerate more criticism. "That is what I call the freedom of speech," he stressed.

The GIO head countered that though public figures should receive more concern than ordinary people, they also have their own rights which should never be encroached upon.

Chang reiterated that though the GIO has made an all-out effort to ensure the freedom of the press, it will not tolerate any wild accounts that may hamper the security of the nation or undermine others' dignity.

Meanwhile, Chang noted that the GIO will confer with government authorities, scholars and law makers to work out standards governing local reports on Chinese Communist affairs.

He stressed that at present, as long as the mainland reports are "objective, impartial and honest," the government will not impose any restriction. He, however, warned the local press to note that the Peking regime's intrinsic totalitarian nature to persecute our mainland compatriots will never be changed, and its attempts to isolate the ROC from the world will continue as long as the regime exists.

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CSO: 4000/121

TAIWAN

TAIWAN TO CONTINUE EXPANDING FOREIGN RELATIONS

OW310411 Taipei CNA in English 0251 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Taipei, 30 Dec (CNA) -- Foreign Minister Chu Fu-sung restated Monday the government's efforts, based on the basic anti-communist national policy, to continue expanding the nation's foreign relations.

The Republic of China will strengthen various cooperative relations with all free nations. To defend national interest, the government will often revise national policy by considering interior and international situations, he said.

The government will also join more international activities to upgrade its status in the world community to crush the Chinese Communist plots to isolate this nation, Chu said, while meeting local reporters at a year-end news conference at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Monday.

Chu stressed that the government will stick to the principles of "no compromise, to contact and no talks" with the Chinese communists in working out any policy.

On the nation's membership in the Asian Development Bank [ADB], the minister reiterated the government stand that any new members' application should not affect the Republic of China's [ROC's] status and interest in the organization. He referred to the Chinese Communists' application for ADB membership.

The government has maintained contact with the ADB authorities to seek a rational resolution of the problem. Many incumbent members have acknowledged the ROC's contributions to the ADB development and uphold the ROC's membership, he said.

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CS0: 4000/121

TAIWAN

COSTA RICA'S MONGE CITED ON TIES WITH TAIWAN

OW190433 Taipei CNA in English 0256 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] Panama City, December 18 (CNA)--Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge Tuesday reiterated his support for the Republic of China [ROC] saying that no matter how the world situation is changing, Costa Rica will remain its stance for the ROC.

President Monge made the remarks in a reception hosted by Wong Ming-chin, executive chief of the Evergreen Line in American area on board of the Evergreen training ship "Ever Trust."

The Costa Rican chief of state said that he had visited the ROC three times and observed with his own eyes the progress made by this admirable country in all aspects. He said that his admiration for President Chiang's wise leadership has made himself a cordial friend of President Chiang.

The ROC and Costa Rica have the same ideology of democracy and are anticommunist bastions of the world, President Monge said, adding that the cooperation between the two nations has made a great contribution to the world anticommunist cause. The visit of Vice President Li Teng-hui to Costa Rica in last September has drawn the two nations closer, he stated.

President Monge also expressed thanks to the Evergreen Line for opening the route to Costa Rica, which, he said, has greatly contributed to the exports and industrial development of his country. The Evergreen Line now has two voyages monthly to Costa Rica.

He praised the Evergreen Line President Chang Yung-fa as a farsighted entrepreneur. In 17 years, the Evergreen Line has become one of the world's main liners with a largest fleet of container ships of the world from a little firm that had only a cargo ship, President Monge said, this can be attributed to the excellent administrative capability of Chang.

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CSO: 4000/109

TAIWAN

BRIEFS

URUGUAY TIES CORDIAL--Taipei, 30 Dec (CNA)--Foreign Minister Chu Fu-sung said Monday that the relations between the Republic of China [ROC] and Uruguay are very cordial and the technical and economic cooperations and the cultural interflow between the two nations have been close and productive. Chu made the remarks in a press conference held at the Foreign Ministry. Chu said the ROC and Uruguay signed an economic technical cooperation agreement after vice President Lee Teng-hui visited that South American nation earlier this year. At the request of the Uruguayan Government, the ROC has sent agricultural experts to help that country plant soybeans, he added. Chu pointed out that the Chinese Communists have been actively launching their united front plots in Latin America in recent years and Uruguay has been one of their main targets. However, Chu said, the current ties between the ROC and Uruguay are firm and cooperative and are difficult for the Peiping regime to destroy. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 0255 GMT 31 Dec 85 OW]

LATIN AMERICA, AFRICA TIES--Taipei, 30 Dec (CNA)--The government will soon sign a extradition treaty with Paraguay, Foreign Minister Chu Fu-sung said Monday. Some questions about the agreement have been resolved, Chu said. The minister made the remarks at a year-end news conference Monday. On the progress of reaching extradition agreements with South Africa and Swaziland, he said, negotiations have been going on smoothly. Although this nation has suffered diplomatic setbacks in Central and South America, Chu said, the government has achieved economic and cultural cooperation in that region. The government will also advance various cooperative programs in the Caribbean Sea countries, he added. On African countries, he said, the government will promote relations with them by expanding agricultural and medical cooperation. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 0313 GMT 31 Dec 85]

ENVOYS TO EL SALVADOR, SOLOMONS--Taipei, 29 Dec (CNA)--The Executive Yuan Thursday approved the appointment of two new ambassadors at its regular weekly meeting. Andrew J.P. Shen, director of the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Department of the Foreign Ministry, is to be new ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador. Shen will replace Lo Yu-lun, who will return to Taipei for another assignment. Ning Chi-kuan, director of the ROC representative office in [word indistinct] will be ambassador to Solomon Islands. Shen, 56, is a native of Changhua, Taiwan. He had been a secretary in the Chinese embassy in Thailand, section chief in the Foreign Ministry and director of the Atlanta office of Coordination Council for North American

Affairs before he assumed the present post. Ning, 54, of Honan, is a graduate of National Chunghsin University. He once served as consul to New Zealand, director of the East Asian trade center in Fuji. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 1032 19 Dec 85 OW]

FUJIAN-TAIWAN RELATIONS--Xiamen, 26 Nov (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE)--Fujian Governor Hu Ping held a press conference here this afternoon, at which he answered questions put by Chinese and foreign reporters concerning Fujian-Taiwan relations. Hu Ping affirmed that Fujian's practice of opening up to the world has promoted the development of the situation on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. He said: As the shortest distance between Fujian and the islands under the control of the Taiwan authorities is only some 3,000 meters, people in this "frontline" could often hear the roaring of big guns in the past, and navigation was not available in the Taiwan Strait. Now the situation has changed, and every day there are over 1,000 vessels passing through this strait. Fishermen from both sides fish in the same fishing areas and are on good terms. They can also present gifts to each other. He said: Many Taiwan people who were natives of Fujian have come back to Fujian to visit their native places or relatives, or for sightseeing. Some old men who have come back from Taiwan to Fujian have found their first wives. Hu Ping believed that Fujian's opening up to the world will promote the peaceful reunification of the two sides of the Taiwan Strait. [Text] [Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 1433 GMT 26 Nov 85] /12600

FUJIAN ON TAIWAN TRAVEL POLICY--According to a dispatch from Xiamen, speaking at a press conference on 27 November, Governor of Fujian Hu Ping called on the Taiwan authorities to further relax the restrictions so that more people of Taiwan origin on the mainland can visit Taiwan and be reunited with their families there. He said Fujian and Taiwan are tied historically, and a considerably large percentage of the people in Taiwan are natives of Fujian. Hu Ping said: It is good to know that the Taiwan authorities have tacitly consented that some old people on mainland China can be reunited with their families in Taiwan, but the condition that only people in their 70s can go is too harsh. It is hoped that the restrictions can be relaxed further. [Text] [Beijing in Mandarin to Taiwan 0400 GMT 30 Nov 85] /12640

CSO: 4005/289

HONG KONG

PRC'S KE ZAISHUO COMMENTS ON HONG KONG POLITICAL REFORMS

HK300128 Hong Kong Television Broadcast Limited in English 1100 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] The Sino-British Joint Liaison Group [JLG] today wound up its meeting in Beijing. It's the second meeting the group has held. The next will be in Hong Kong. TVB's Nancy Lee reports from the Chinese capital:

[Begin recording] After the conclusion of the second joint liaison group meeting in Beijing, a press communique was issued in the afternoon. One brief but important line is: Both sides discussed the recent changes in the political system in Hong Kong.

During a cocktail reception for Hong Kong reporters, head of the Chinese team Ke Zaishuo explained why China is so concerned about political reforms in Hong Kong. He said, if Hong Kong's present political system is to continue after 1997, it must couple with what it laid down by the future basic law. He said China is not trying to control the pace of reform in Hong Kong, but is eager to understand more about what's going on, or else there will be contradictions and discrepancies.

Another group member, Zheng Weirong, said the exchange of information on Hong Kong's political changes in this JLG meeting is a good start. Both sides will hold further discussions on this whenever there is a need.

On the BNO [British National, Overseas] the press communique said good progress was made on travel documentation for Hong Kong residents. Ke Zaishuo told reporters that the whole problem is already settled in principle, but declined to give details about the solution.

Zheng Weirong meanwhile said the Chinese side raised the problem for CI or certificate of identity holders. He said these people will not be entitled to BNO passports, and their interests should be taken care of. The problem will be further discussed in the next JLG meeting.

On the problem of Hong Kong's future position in the GATT, Zheng said both sides have agreed to form an expert group to find a solution. He assured that Hong Kong will not lose the favorable conditions which it now enjoys. According to the press communique, arrangements for Hong Kong's continuing participation in the Asian Development Bank after 1997 have been agreed on.

The second day of the meeting was described as friendly and cooperative. After 5 hours of discussions this morning, both sides had lunch together. In the evening the British team was invited to a Beijing opera by its Chinese counterpart.

The next JLG meeting will take place in Hong Kong from 11 to 14 March 1986.
[End recording]

/8918

CSO: 4000/098

21 January 1986

HONG KONG

KE ZAISHUO SAYS DEVIATION NOT SUGGESTED IN XU JIATUN SPEECH

HK300134 Hong Kong Asia Television Limited in English 1200 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Excerpts] The leader of the Chinese team on the Joint Liaison Group [JLG] says he believes that Britain has not deviated from the spirit of the treaty on Hong Kong's future. Ke Zaishuo was commenting on remarks made recently by China's top official in Hong Kong on the pace of political reforms in the territory. Mr Ke's statement came after the second JLG meeting ended in Beijing today. We have this report from Stacey Mosher:

[Begin recording] The joint communique released this afternoon described the atmosphere of the meeting as friendly and cooperative. In a tea reception for newsmen at the Diaoyutai guesthouse this afternoon, the leader of the Chinese team, Ke Zaishuo, said most aspects of the future travel documents have already been settled. A detailed statement on the travel documents will be produced after the next JLG meeting.

Regarding Hong Kong's political development, he said it's a matter of great concern that changes to the system before 1997 don't conflict with the political system after 1997, which has not yet been decided. But he denied that China is setting the pace for Hong Kong's political reforms.

Mr Ke was asked again if he agreed with the statement by the director of the Hong Kong branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Xu Jiatun, that there has been a departure from the spirit of the joint declaration. He said he'd recently read the full text of Mr Xu's speech, and believed that in its full context the speech did not suggest that there has been a deviation from the spirit of the joint declaration. [End recording]

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

JI PENGFEI MEETS WITH HONG KONG GOVERNOR

HK120935 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Dec 85 p 1

[By Staff Reporters]

[Excerpt] China's State Councillor and Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Mr Ji Pengfei, and the Governor, Sir Edward Youde, in a meeting yesterday agreed that exchanges on Hong Kong's present situation and future prospects were useful and should continue.

And in speeches delivered last night at a banquet, the two reiterated their wish that Hong Kong will maintain its stability and prosperity.

In the morning meeting at the Government House, Mr Ji was briefed by Sir Edward Youde and top government officials on the latest developments in the territory.

During the two-hour "friendly discussion" on the second day of Mr Ji's 13-day visit, the veteran Chinese statesman spelled out the timetable and procedures envisaged by Beijing for the drafting of the Basic Law--Hong Kong's constitution after 1997.

In a statement issued afterward, the government said both sides are satisfied with the progress made and the spirit of cooperation shown since the signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration last year.

The present situation in Hong Kong and its future prospects were discussed, and both sides agreed that such exchanges are useful and should continue, the statement said.

It said the officials expressed confidence in, and determination to promote, the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong through the full and faithful implementation of the Joint Declaration.

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CSO: 4000/107

HONG KONG

LOCAL LEGISLATORS TO TELL JI PENGFEI CHANGE IS INEVITABLE

HK170529 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 85 p 1

[By staff reporters]

[Text] Senior Chinese official Mr Ji Pengfei is expected to get a letter this week from local legislators asserting their belief that Hong Kong's political reforms will be compatible with the future Basic Law.

But the letter, initiated by four Legislative Council Unofficials and currently being circulated among other Unofficials seeking their endorsement, says changes are inevitable.

Dr Conrad Lam, one of the drafters, said the letter had received the backing of four other Unofficials by yesterday afternoon.

The three-page letter was drafted over the weekend by Dr Lam and Dr Daniel Tze, Mr Poon Chi-fai and Mr Liu Lit-for. Dr Lam said he hopes it will be sent to Mr Ji--a state Councillor and Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office--on Thursday.

Mr Ji, the most senior Chinese official to visit Hong Kong since 1949, is scheduled to leave for Beijing on Sunday after a 13-day visit.

The letter reaffirms the signatories' commitment of preserving the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong. But it also says Hong Kong has been constantly modifying its own system for the past 10 years, to survive and prosper in the changing world.

The Unofficials say they recognize the importance of a smooth transition in the run-up to 1997, and affirm that they, as legislators, will try their best to develop a political system in Hong Kong that is compatible with the "one country, two systems" formula. They will also strive to develop a political system that will link with the Basic Law, the letter says.

The Basic Law will be completed by the end of the decade and will apply in Hong Kong for 50 years after 1997, the letter states. But it says the development of Hong Kong's political system will have to take into account

the views of the local public and the "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong" principle. Hong Kong must promote the rights of freedom of speech and autonomy, it states. The letter says that people, despite differing views on political reforms in Hong Kong, can speak their minds under the protection of the law. "This is most important," it says.

The Unofficials urge both the British and Chinese Governments to try to eliminate misunderstandings and suspicions through the regular and frank exchange of views. The letter says the people of Hong Kong should participate actively in the search for a future political model for Hong Kong that will not infringe the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

"We hope this successful model can be established and we hope that this model will contribute to China's modernization drive," it says.

The Unofficials say they welcome the open-minded and pragmatic approach of Mr Ji towards the question of political reforms. They also urge more frequent visits to Hong Kong by senior Chinese officials.

The letter said legislators have not had the opportunity for substantive talks with Mr Ji about Hong Kong during his visit, because of his busy schedule.

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CSO: 4000/107

HONG KONG

JI SEES NO MAJOR CHANGES TO BASIC PRINCIPLES OF HONG KONG

HK120927 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Dec 85 p 19

[By Chris Yeung and Nciola Parkinson]

[Excerpt] State Councillor Mr Ji Pengfei is reported to have said yesterday that there will be no major changes to the fundamental principles of Hong Kong.

The director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and his visiting Chinese team lunched with Chief Secretary, Sir David Akers-jones and 15 government officials, Legislative and Urban councillors, academics and political group leaders at Victoria House on the Peak.

Mr Ji said the principles that make Hong Kong work and maintain its stability and prosperity should be retained as far as possible, Mr Man Sai-cheong of the Hong Kong Affairs Society, who was among the guests, quoted the Chinese official as saying. "We had discussions on a wide range of topics including the problems of Hong Kong's future, the political reforms," Mr Man said. "Mr Ji indicated he has no particular worries over Hong Kong's present development. But he reiterated China's principle that those that can be kept intact should not be changed." "But this does not imply that there is no need for changes because the society of Hong Kong is every-changing and needs development in many areas," Mr Man said after the one-hour lunch meeting.

Mr Man said the Chinese officials also spoke of the importance of maintaining both a bilingual system and the legal system to keep Hong Kong an international city.

"We hope they can listen more to people from different strata...it will be beneficial to Hong Kong, Britain and China," said Mr Man.

Another political group leader, Mr Lau Nai-keung of Meeting Point, said Mr Ji did not elaborate in detail on what he meant by the fundamentals of Hong Kong, or the pace of political reforms now taking place in Hong Kong.

"My impression is that Mr Ji is not resisting changes which are necessary and good for Hong Kong as a whole," Mr Lau said. Mr Lau also quoted Chinese official Mr Li Hou as saying that "democratic dictatorship," as has happened in China, will not happen in Hong Kong. "The message was clearcut and reassuring--that China's styles (of politics) will not be introduced in the territory," he said.

HONG KONG

JI PENGFEI URGES FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT DECLARATION

HK170423 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 85 p 17

[Reports by Stanley Leung, Chris Yeung, and Daniel Chung]

[Text] Visiting Chinese official, Mr Ji Pengfei, called for "all parties concerned" to co-operate and work hard for the full and faithful implementation of the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

Mr Ji who is in charge of Hong Kong affairs in China's State Council said the territory's situation has been good, its society fairly stable, and its economy has grown steadily since the signing of the Joint Declaration last year.

"The development of this situation has strengthened people's confidence for the future of Hong Kong," he said.

The State Councillor and Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office was addressing a cocktail reception--the largest since he arrived at the territory last Tuesday. It was hosted by the five vice-chairmen of the basic Law Drafting Committee in Hong Kong, Mr T. K. Ann; Sir Yue-kong Pao; the director of the Hong Kong branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiatusun; Mr Fei Yimin and Mr David Li.

More than 1,200 leading citizens packed the grand ballroom of the Hilton Hotel shortly after 5:30 pm. Distinguished guests included the Governor, Sir Edward Youde and his top aides, executive, legislative and urban councillors, business leaders; Basic Law Drafting Committee and Consultative Committee members, and political and community groups leaders.

Mr Ji said: "It is our universal and common responsibility to continue the maintenance and development of this good situation and to preserve Hong Kong's stability and prosperity at the time when Hong Kong has entered into a new historical period."

Mr Ji called for a "fresh contribution" from Hong Kong people to the reunification and four modernization programs of the country and Hong Kong's prosperity and stability. He assured Hong Kong people of the continuity of the on-going reforms in the mainland and the country's future

prosperity and growth in strength. The 76-year-old Chinese statesman said: "The future of the motherland is very promising, so is the future of Hong Kong." "I sincerely hope that compatriots in Hong Kong will, under the banner of loving the motherland and loving Hong Kong, get united and make fresh contributions to the grand cause of reunifying the motherland to the four modernization programs and to the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong."

Mr Ji said the future of Hong Kong is intimately linked with that of China. China's future development and the continuity of its present policies has been consolidated in the Chinese Communist Party's National Congress when its fourth and fifth plenary sessions took place earlier this year.

Guidelines for formulating the seventh five-year plan and further steps to replace old members in the central leadership by the young were approved in the meetings, said Mr Ji. He said economic reforms have been proceeding in the right direction. "Although there are problems of one kind or another arising from the course of development, we are now making an earnest effort to solve them." "You may rest assured that the momentum of the reform in China is irresistible and China's future prosperity is beyond any doubt," said Mr Ji.

Sir Yue-kong said in a welcome address that Mr Ji's visit will contribute to the implementation of the Joint Declaration, the drafting of the Basic Law and the maintenance of the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong as a whole.

Mr Ji stayed for less than 50 minutes in the reception.

In the morning, Mr Ji and his entourage visited three business establishments of China in Hong Kong.

He called at the Bank of China's headquarters in Central [?] shortly before 10 am and held talks with representatives of 13 China-funded banks in the territory.

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HONG KONG

UK PRESS REPORTS JI'S VISIT, POLITICAL REFORM CONTROVERSY

HK170551 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 85 p 17

[Text] Mr Ji Pengfei's visit to Hong Kong and the recent controversy over political reforms in the territory is receiving worldwide coverage.

Some newspapers in Britain and the United States not only carried reports on Mr Ji's visit but also its implications on the territory's political situation.

THE LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH said in an article that Mr Ji's trip was being viewed with apprehension in some quarters. It said recent remarks made by the Director of the local branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiatusun, on Hong Kong's political reforms, had shocked the business community. The article continued: "His comments promoted a heated public debate as to whether the Chinese intend to allow any sort of free elections once they take control in 1997." "In the pact signed with Mrs Thatcher 11 months ago, elections were promised but nothing was settled on the method of polling." The report said Mr Ji had been given the job of countering the territory's mood of cynicism and depression.

THE FINANCIAL TIMES reported that Mr Ji "arrived in a city more troubled by political worries than at any time in the past year". It said recent veiled comments by Mr Ji and Mr Xu had raised questions over Beijing's willingness to allow Hong Kong the autonomy promised in the Sino-British Joint Declaration. "Unhappily, demands that political reforms should be stalled until the Basic Law is in place, and more specifically that a political review planned for 1987 should be postponed, were seen by Hong Kong people and the press as premature attempts to interfere in Hong Kong's internal affairs," it said.

The reports said if the Hong Kong Government came to the conclusion after the 1987 review that there was a strong demand for direct elections and the Basic Law Consultative Committee told Beijing that the Hong Kong Government had got it wrong, the colonial administration would be under immense pressure from Beijing to think again.

A report in THE TIMES said Mr Ji's visit "comes against a background of mounting concern about China's apparent attempts to interfere in the

democratization and political reforms by the territory's British-dominated Government before its return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997."

In a dispatch from Hong Kong, the newspaper said controversy centered on two main issues. One, it said, was the type of travel document to be issued by the government of the future special Administrative Region. Another was the type of self-governing political system the territory should set up in the transition period.

Meanwhile, an article in THE WASHINGTON POST said China had upset Hong Kong's political calm by criticizing the territory's electoral reforms and news of Mr Ji's visit had heightened uncertainty. It said Mr Ji came at a time of sharply increased tension between the two governments about the degree of autonomy Hong Kong would have after 1997. It said diplomats interpreted Mr Xu's attack as an attempt to pre-empt the development of local democracy before Beijing had a chance to draft its own political system for the territory.

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HONG KONG

ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE REPORTS ON JI PENGFEI'S HONG KONG VISIT

HK180835 Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE in Chinese 1555 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Report by Guo Weifeng [6753 0251 1496]: "Ji Pengfei Listens to Public Opinion with an Open Mind"]

[Text] Hong Kong, 16 Dec (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE) -- State Councilor Ji Pengfei, addressed respectfully by Hong Kong people as "the revered Mr Ji," will have to attend more activities since his visit has entered the second stage. Over the past few days, he has visited the New Territories, including the Chinese University of Hong Kong, in spite of the cold weather, and has unexpectedly made an inspection tour of PRC-financed organizations, listening to opinions from all sides. He has left a deep impression on Hong Kong people with his words and deeds.

Incessant Activities

In order to have an intimate understanding of the actual situation in Hong Kong, Ji Pengfei, who is already over 70, vigorously took part in the activities, regardless of his weariness. According to the original plan, Ji Pengfei would today only attend the banquet given by the vice chairmen of the basic law drafting committee. However, he also made an inspection tour of PRC-financed organizations. He visited the Bank of China, the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, and the China Resources Group respectively, and met with responsible persons of these organizations. According to the plan, no activities were arranged for Sunday also. Unwilling to stay in the villa residence on the peak, Ji Pengfei visited the Chinese University and other places in the New Territories, in spite of the chilly weather. While at the Chinese University, he visited the administrative building, the conference hall, and the colleges. He met and talked to the professors and responsible persons of the colleges. Later, he visited new residential areas, including Hong Lok Yuen and Kam Sau Fa Yuen, and became a guest at the residences of Ma Lam, vice chancellor of the Chinese University, and Huang Chen-fai, director of the Hong Lok Real Estate Company Limited, respectively. That evening, he attended the banquet given by T.K. Ann, Y.K. Pao, and others, and met with people of all walks of life in Hong Kong. So he spent the Sunday in that busy a manner.

Ready to Listen to Others' Opinions

Seeing that Ji Pengfei was taking part in activities one after another, reporters asked whether he was tired or not. Ji Pengfei replied: "I am not tired at all. I think you are much more tired than me." His remarks amused everyone. While visiting the Chinese University yesterday, Vice Chancellor Ma Lam told him that the university had more than 6,600 students and planned to increase the number to 8,000 or so. In response, Ji Pengfei said: "The Chinese University is really a seat for training talented people!" The Vice Chancellor was so excited by the favorable comment that he said: "It is our unshirkable duty!" The people who talked to Ji Pengfei over the past few days unanimously held that Ji was amiable and willing to listen to others' opinions. For example, Li Chu-ming, a member of the basic law drafting committee, made a lot of suggestions recently on the establishment of the consultative committee. When he had the opportunity to meet Ji Pengfei, he said that the Hong Kong people must be allowed to speak out freely and express their innermost thoughts and feelings. Ji Pengfei gave his consent to the idea right away. He also wished that Hong Kong people could set their mind at ease because their opinions could be reported to the basic law consultative committee at any time. Unassuming and easy to approach, Ji Pengfei has left a deep impression on the Hong Kong people. As a result, the local inhabitants cannot help applauding whenever Ji appears in public.

Favorable Public Comments

As Ji Pengfei will give a press conference before his departure for Beijing, no reporter has had any chance so far to have a direct interview with him. However, reporters have tried by every means to ask questions. Most of the questions involved impressions of his visit. Four days after Ji Pengfei had a bird's-eye view of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon, some reporters asked him about his impressions. Ji Pengfei replied: "Hong Kong is prosperous and very beautiful." This again became the major news in all newspapers. From the day of his arrival, Ji Pengfei has made favorable comments now and then. Following his visit to the Academy of Performing Arts, he spoke highly of the students' performance; and following his visit to the Trade Development Council, he commended the positive role played by the council. He also reiterated during a public occasion: The situation in Hong Kong has been relatively good since the signing of the joint declaration a year ago. Appreciating the sincere hospitality of the host, he considered problems from Hong Kong's actual circumstances. Public opinion here holds that Ji's current visit will be advantageous to Hong Kong's stability and prosperity.

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HONG KONG

SPEAKERS VIEW HONG KONG REACTION TO 'STRONG WINDS' FROM NORTH

HK140340 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 14 Dec 85 p 7

[Text] Some people in Hong Kong are bowing too low and too early to the "strong winds from the north," speakers at the 10th anniversary of the Hong Kong Observers said yesterday.

A FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW writer, Emily Lau, said it was getting more difficult for reporters to ask local personalities to speak out candidly on public issues. She pointed out that few Basic Law Consultative Committee members dared to speak out last week when their group contravened its own constitution in selecting executive members.

Reporters were now expected to act as commentators because many political bodies and pressure groups were too frightened to speak out, she added. Miss Lau also observed that the news media had imposed undue self-censorship on themselves after the signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration a year ago. "This is an alarming trend and is bound to undermine public confidence because, without a free and lively press, Hong Kong will become a closed society," she said.

Another speaker, a member of the Consultative Committee, Denis Chang, urged the public not to attach too much importance to some comments attributed to China.

An article in the latest issue of the MIRROR magazine, run by a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Tsui Sze-man, suggested that political parties would be harmful to Hong Kong because the idea of "using democracy to fence off communism" was impracticable.

The author proposed further that the future Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region should be selected from a 100-strong advisory assembly either through election or consultation.

Mr Chang said the public should not take these proposals as a blueprint for Hong Kong from Beijing and should approach the issue with an open mind.

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CSO: 4000/107

HONG KONG

WORKING GROUP TO STUDY HONG KONG'S POSITION IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES

HK270619 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 27 Nov 85 p 1

[From Yau Shing-mu in Beijing]

[Text] Plans are afoot to set up a working group under the Joint Liaison Group with experts on international treaties to study the future position of Hong Kong in various international bodies, sources said.

The group will be given the task of exploring the technical problems that involve in maintaining Hong Kong's links with various international bodies when the territory is reverted to China in 1997.

As Hong Kong is currently linked with the international community through more than 300 treaties, it would be a gigantic task to hammer out arrangements that will allow the territory to continue to be accepted by the international community as a separate entity, the sources added.

To ensure the future prosperity of Hong Kong, the sources said, both Chinese and British governments share the view that a satisfactory settlement on the issue should be given priority.

Since the joint liaison group meets only three times a year, it is felt that the setting up of a working group with experts on international treaties will help work out a solution as quickly as possible, according to the sources.

At yesterday's meeting, the leader of the British team Dr David Wilson said they had given the Chinese team a list of international treaties and agreements that Hong Kong had signed with other countries.

But he declined to elaborate on the proposals under discussion.

The sources pointed out that the economic issues involved with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade would still be the focus of the meeting.

The British intention is to maintain Hong Kong as an independent entity in its relations with international bodies.

At the last meeting held in London in July, Britain had forwarded proposals to China on the issue, and the Chinese team is expected to give its views on them during the present talks, the sources said.

The passport and nationality issue will also be raised but it now [word indistinct] a solution is likely to emerge at the end of the meeting.

The Chinese team leader, Mr Ke Zaishuo, had said he expected there would be no major problem for the passport issue, but he declined to reveal details.

The British Government plans to issue a new British Nationals (Overseas) passport (BNO) to replace the current British Dependent Territories Citizens passport (BDTC) for Hong Kong people from 1987.

The issue has been discussed by working groups of both governments earlier this month.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

EDITORIAL WELCOMES BASIC LAW CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

HK270707 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 27 Nov 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Bold Bid To Gather Public Opinion"]

[Text] The announcement of the wide-ranging membership of the Basic Law Consultative Committee is a timely palliative to the worrying remarks made last week by the local head of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiatur.

In choosing 180 people from all walks of life in the territory, China is placing on record its desire for the future laws of Hong Kong to be soundly based on broad consultation.

Not since the government undertook the Assessment Office exercise to ascertain the views of local people about the Joint Declaration has there been such an ambitious plan to consult Hong Kong opinion.

Judging from the background of some committee members, Beijing has gone out of its way to be seen to encompass all shades of opinion.

The big surprise, of course, was the inclusion of Mr T.S. Lo, who earned his spurs as the maverick of the political establishment by resigning from the Executive and Legislative Councils over the 1997 [word indistinct] and by setting up an organisation to help worried people leave Hong Kong.

Three of the members are said to be pro-Taiwan. There are others who sit on political and consultative bodies in Beijing; 18 are part of Hong Kong's evolving political structure through membership of the Legislative Council, district boards and Urban Council. There [word indistinct] fall broadly into the category of moderates, ranging from artists to lawyers, businessmen, community workers, civil servants and media representatives.

Apart from being a bold and welcome endeavour to gather community opinion, the Consultative Committee is also a tough test of organisational skills.

By most standards a committee of 180 is very large. Strict discipline will be needed over the way it conducts its business if it is to avoid dangers of becoming unwieldy and amorphous to the point where it looks cosmetic.

Doubtless, considerable thought has already been given to this important point and to the need for the committee to be seen as more than just a public relations exercise on a grand scale.

The four vice-chairmen of the Hong Kong members of Beijing's Basic Law Drafting Committee meet next month to pave the way for the Consultative Committee's first gathering, probably before Christmas.

If the first draft of the Basic Law is to be ready for further consultations by 1988, the new committee must be held to a tight work schedule. It is currently scheduled to meet twice yearly.

Still to be announced are details of whether all or any of its deliberations will be open to the public, the procedures governing the conduct of meetings, whether it will divide into working groups or sub-committees headed by other members and how retiring members over the years will be replaced.

Such factors will be important in enabling the committee to gather and process opinion from diverse sectors of the community--and to distill consensus.

Looking at the sheer mechanics, when the full committee is in session, with its advisers who are expected to be named soon, it will require a sizeable venue and solid administrative back-up, with simultaneous translation facilities.

It would make sense for the co-ordination work to be done by a standing committee, currently being set up, aided by a bi-lingual secretariat with enough staff to keep abreast of a flood of paperwork--in English as well as Chinese.

Those who are to serve on the committee can expect substantial demands on their time, as befits the important task in hand. Even if members discipline themselves to speak for one minute each when they hold the floor, a meeting of the full committee would last 3 hours.

It is in everybody's interests to see mutual understanding flow from the interlocking memberships of people who sit both on the Consultative Committee and various bodies responsible for steering Hong Kong towards 1997.

It is also in the interests of the committee that it should welcome and encourage lively discussion on fundamentals of the future Basic Law. The presence of a number of members known for their outspoken and independent views suggests that this is, indeed, the intention.

The biggest challenge will be to find consensus among a committee of 180, when it is inevitable that contentious points will emerge. And at the end of the day, the biggest test will be how Beijing acts upon these views.

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HONG KONG

HONG KONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SPLIT OVER DIRECT ELECTIONS

HK280518 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Nov 85 p 1

[By Daniel Chung]

[Text] The first major debate in the new-look Legislative Council [Legco] yesterday saw heated argument among unofficial members over whether direct elections to the legislature should be introduced soon.

No less than eight unofficials spoke on the issue on the first afternoon of a 2-day debate on the governor, Sir Edward Youde's policy speech.

Members' views were split, with Mr Martin Lee, Qc, and Mr Stephen Cheong apparently representing opposing schools of thought.

Mr Lee, a firm supporter of direct Legco elections, said direct polls are the Hong Kong people's "only hope" of realising the ideal of "one country, two systems."

He said a directly elected legislature would serve as a safeguard against possible interference from China in the internal administration of Hong Kong.

"It is not realistic to hope that China will not interfere or at least attempt to interfere; and we must be prepared for it.

"...Unless we have direct elections, we will never have an effective and highly autonomous government to keep our system separate from the rest of China."

He suggested that, in order to carry out political reforms gradually, 25 per cent of Legco members should be directly elected in 1988.

Mr Lee disagreed with suggestions that the introduction of direct elections might contravene the Joint Declaration.

Mr Stephen Cheong, however, expressed grave doubts over the desirability of introducing direct elections.

Mr Cheong said there seems to be undue haste on the part of certain groups of people to force on the community a future form of government long before the legislature has a chance to review its structure in 1987.

"It has even been postulated that a democratic Special Administrative Region government created through direct elections is the only desirable means of structure that will be able to withstand adverse effects and pressure arising from possible excesses in China."

Mr Cheong said he cannot see any pragmatic reason why Hong Kong must be that impatient to establish beyond any doubt the desirability of direct elections.

He said Hong Kong has survived and thrived economically without having to undertake political experimentation.

But Mr Lee said the strength of the economy can only be maintained if the people of Hong Kong believe the principle of "one country, two systems" can work.

Mrs Selina Chow said the people of Hong Kong must not lose the sense of urgency in their deliberations for the future, adding that the pitfalls of stagnation and retrogression could be detrimental to public confidence.

She said Hong Kong now has less than 12 years to arrive at the final structure.

"The more we delay that finalisation, the more changes we would need to effect within a shorter time frame, which could only mean that we will be running a higher risk of instability," she said.

Mr Lee Yu-tai expressed hope for more indirectly elected seats in the Legco and the introduction of a more direct electoral system.

While favouring a gradual approach in political reforms, Mr Lee said a gradual approach is "still one that is constantly on the move and is not at a stand-still."

Mr Ho Sai-chu said Hong Kong's political reforms must be in tandem with the Basic Law which is to be drafted and passed by the Chinese National People's Congress.

Mr Hilton Cheong-Leen said it is in the long-term interests of the Hong Kong people to have a balanced proportion of indirectly and directly elected Legco seats by the 1988 elections.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST EDITORIAL ON LIAISON GROUP MEETING

HK300436 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 30 Nov 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Take a Deep Breath With the Joint Liaison Group"]

[Text] Despite the drama which accompanied statements last week by the local head of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiataun, the second meeting of the Joint Liaison Group [JLG] in Beijing gave the impression that it was business as usual.

The phrase "friendly and co-operative" displaced the weary cliché of "useful and constructive."

Anyone who searched the joint communique for signs of a growing rift in the way the Sino-British Joint Declaration is being interpreted headed for disappointment.

For there was little reference to the profound divergence of views which apparently provoked Mr Xu to warn last week about radical political changes in Hong Kong. Nor was there any mention of the downward spiral Mr Xu's remarks remarks triggered in the stock market and in confidence, generally.

At the end of this week's 3-day meeting in Beijing, both sides issued a statement that was, to say the least, workmanlike.

There was hardly any new ground broken, apart from a progress report on Hong Kong's role in the Asian Development Bank after 1997.

It is gratifying that the JLG was able to over-ride the political concern generated by Mr Xu and to focus on fundamentals such as Hong Kong's continued membership of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement.

The issue of the Asian Development Bank [ADB] has long been linked to that of Taiwan and of its financial involvement with a larger community of nations in the region. It is heartening to hear that the JLG feels it has reached a satisfactory result on the subject of Hong Kong's continued participation in the ADB after 1997. The fine details are eagerly awaited.

It must also be noted with interest that the two sides discussed changes in our political system and future travel documents for Hong Kong residents.

Sympathy should be extended to minority groups such as Hong Kong-born Indians who fear they will fall between the two stools of China's perception of the new travel document and Britain's.

As they have rightly highlighted, China regards the document as one valid only for travel--and that represents a world of difference from a document which stands for a right of abode and nationality.

While both sides talked of useful progress on this topic, it means little until we can see how it is translated into real terms for the travelling public.

In the week since Mr Xu dropped his bombshell on further political reforms in Hong Kong, response from the leftwing has been surprisingly subdued. The Chinese side has achieved its objective of having the subject of political changes in Hong Kong raised in the forum of the Joint Liaison Group. As long as both sides adhere to the concept that the JLG is not an organ of power, few could object to its use as a channel for a clearer interpretation of the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

Because the agreement was--under the duress of a 1984 deadline--only a statement of principles, what we are seeing now is the hard bargaining how those principles can be realised in concrete terms.

Recent changes in Hong Kong's political system are, inevitably, open to different interpretation.

However, yesterday's communique gives us no indication of the positions taken by "the two sides." As anticipated, there are indeed two different positions regarding Hong Kong's future political system. And we are left holding our breath until March to see how these positions might be reconciled.

At most people noted during the 1997 negotiations, a breathing space can be a good thing. However, Hong Kong with its fragile confidence does not take kindly to uncertainty.

If Mr Xu cares to spell out details of the "deviations" he has perceived in Hong Kong during its advance to 1997, it would help clear the atmosphere which surrounded this session of the JLG.

By the time both sides meet again, it will be spring in Hong Kong. And by then, any cold fronts from the north should have dissipated.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

HONG KONG POLITICAL REFORMS MAY BE 'BREACH' OF JOINT DECLARATION

HK290539 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Nov 85 pp 1, 13

[By Chris Yeung]

[Text] The way political reforms are going in Hong Kong at the moment may amount to a breach of the Sino-British Joint Declaration, an outspoken lawyer, Miss Liu Yiu-chu, claimed yesterday.

She warned that the present political reforms might have been steered not towards the upholding of prosperity and stability of Hong Kong during the transition period but to the nurturing of a political system that is able to survive beyond that date.

Miss Liu said: "Any unilateral acts which are not directly related to or necessary for the maintenance and preservation of prosperity and stability may amount to abuse of the right to be responsible for the administration of Hong Kong during the transitional period.

"In this sense (such acts) may very well be regarded as a breach of the terms of the Joint Declaration."

She pointed out that political reforms which amount to fundamental changes that will trigger lasting effects beyond 1997 or may affect the smooth transfer of government at that time should be tabled for discussion before the Joint Liaison group.

The comments Miss Liu--a Hong Kong member of the Basic Law Drafting Committee who has strong links with China--were publicised amid a row over Hong Kong's political reforms sparked by the director of the local branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiatun, last week.

Mr Xu said there have been "deviations" from the Joint Declaration.

He refused to elaborate but said a few days later he would explain his remarks at the appropriate time.

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs described on Wednesday the implementation of the Joint Declaration by China and Britain as "good as a whole" but added that "some problems exist in reality."

Speaking at a lunch of the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce in her capacity as a lawyer, Miss Liu said there was a lack of consensus regarding the nature, direction, degree and speed of changes that are said to be necessary for the 1997 change-over.

She indicated that "a radical minority" has been pressing for change regardless of whether a consensus can be reached in support of such changes.

"If these tendencies continue to develop, misunderstanding and disagreement may result."

Miss Liu quoted a clause in the Joint Declaration to point out that the British Government did not have the duty, the right, the power or the function to unilaterally bring about fundamental changes in the political structure of Hong Kong--either in preparation for a smooth transfer of government in 1997 or an effective implementation of the Sino-British pact.

"The British Government is directly responsible to China, in terms of the Joint Declaration, for the administration of Hong Kong during the transitional period only with the object of maintaining and preserving its economic prosperity and social stability."

Any reforms deemed necessary for a smooth transfer of government in 1997 and effective implementation of the Joint Declaration are matters for the Joint Liaison Group, she said.

"They are in any case not matters for a unilateral British decision and least of all can they be decided through deliberations in the Legislative Council chambers."

Miss Liu said the Basic Law will elaborate on the clauses in the Joint Declaration with regard to the political system of Hong Kong after 1997.

The Basic Law Drafting Committee will take into account the wishes of the Chinese people, including Hong Kong people, in its deliberations.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

TAIWAN OFFICIAL BARRED FROM VISITING HONG KONG

HK030403 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 3 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] A senior Taiwanese official has been barred from visiting Hong Kong, in contrast with the announcement that a top-ranking Chinese official will be visiting here late this month.

The director-general of Taiwan's Government Information Office, Dr Chang King-yuh, was denied permission by the Hong Kong Government to visit the territory, Taiwanese sources told THE STANDARD yesterday.

Conversely, State Councillor of the People's Republic of China, Mr Ji Pengfei, is coming to Hong Kong at the invitation of the governor.

Dr Chang planned to visit Hong Kong, the front line of anti-communist fighting in the eye of the Taiwanese Government, for the opening of a new office under his wing.

The information office has taken over the foreign affairs liaison for Taiwan since diplomatic links between Britain and the island were severed.

The FREE CHINA REVIEW, a publication under the direction of Dr Chang, has moved into new and bigger offices in central. Dr Chang, the publisher and general manager of the publication, had planned to attend a cocktail party for the opening.

The publication's spokesman here, Mr Jimmy Hsieh, yesterday declined to comment on the matter.

Dr Chang's original plan was seen as an effort to boost the morale of anti-communists in the territory amid China's growing influence since the signing of the Joint Declaration last year.

Pro-Taiwan sources said Dr Chang might have been barred from coming here because of a premature leak of his plan that caused embarrassment to the Hong Kong Government.

Some of the sources also suggested Beijing might have exerted pressure upon the Hong Kong Government to stop Dr Chang from coming here.

But local XINHUA sources told THE STANDARD that since Dr Chang's activities are not of an official nature, they were encouraged because Beijing authorities maintain the "one China" stance while boosting various types of contact between the people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits.

Britain recognises Beijing as the legitimate authority of China and has no diplomatic connections with Taiwan. Any official Taiwanese visits here are expected to bring protests from Beijing.

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CSO: 4000/098

21 January 1986

HONG KONG

HONG KONG POLITICIAN ACCUSES PRC OF MEDDLING

HK020657 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 2 Dec 85 p 1

[By C.K. Lau]

[Text] Outspoken Legislative Councillor Martin Lee yesterday hit out at what he described as attempts by the Chinese Government to meddle in Hong Kong's affairs.

Mr Lee, also a member of the Basic Law Drafting Committee, warned that the Hong Kong Government would be a "lame-duck administration" if it was to become accountable to Beijing now.

Speaking at a Basic Law seminar in Tsun Wan, he stressed that having a directly elected government was Hong Kong's only hope in resisting pressure from China.

And he said he was disappointed the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY was listening only to the views of Hong Kong's big businessmen who had plans to leave Hong Kong before 1997 and who were opposed to direct elections for fear they might ruin their chances of earning more money before they leave.

Mr Lee's views were echoed by Mr Szeto Wah, also a member of Legco [Legislative Council] and the drafting committee, who said direct elections were the way to fulfil the concept of Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong under the "one-country, two-systems formula.

If both the Chinese and Hong Kong governments were really sensitive to public opinion, he said, the political system prescribed by the Basic Law should not conflict with the development of representative government.

He said the Hong Kong Government must carry out the 1987 review as promised so that the views expressed then could be fully considered by the drafting committee while preparing the first draft of the Basic Law, scheduled to be released in 1988.

After the seminar, Mr Lee was asked to comment on recent remarks by the director of the Chinese State Council's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, Mr Ji Pengfei, who suggested that the British Government should confer with the Chinese Government on political reforms in Hong Kong.

"If the Hong Kong Government is to be accountable to the Chinese Government now, then it must be a lame-duck administration," he said.

Asked how a smooth transition could be ensured if China did not have a say in Hong Kong affairs, Mr Lee said this was the joint concern of the people of Hong Kong and Chinese and British governments.

"But how to show this concern is another problem," he said.

"Of course, it is good for the two governments to communicate through some channels, but what form the communication would take is another thing."

At the seminar, Mr Lee described the recent remarks by the director of the Hong Kong branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Xu Jiatun, as "an attempt to intervene" in Hong Kong's affairs during the transition period.

Mr Xu had said some people had deviated from the provisions of the joint declaration.

Mr Lee said it was up to the courage of legislative councillors to resist this attempted intervention.

He likened Hong Kong to a rabbit which was trying to build a hut for protection before it was swallowed by a tiger.

"Unless we have direct elections, we will never have an effective and highly autonomous government to keep our system separate from the rest of China," Mr Lee said, repeating the words he used at last week's Legco debate.

Mr Szeto Wah said Hong Kong's political system must change in order to ensure its socio-economic system is unchanged after 1997.

The key element in the Basic Law was thus the political system which determined whether other provisions of the mini-constitution would be implemented, he said.

In turn, the key element in the political system was elections.

Mr Szeto rejected the view that Hong Kong was moving too fast.

"If we don't move quickly now, there will be a rush towards the end of the transition period," he said.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

HONG KONG PAPER COMMENTS ON JI PENGFEI'S VISIT

HK110747 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Dec 85 p 2

[Editorial: "A Message to Mr Ji: Trust Hong Kong"]

[Text] Hong Kong people warmly welcome the director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office in the Chinese Government, Mr Ji Pengfei, on this his first visit to the territory, together with members of his delegation. It is a historic occasion, marking the visit of a high-ranking official to see at first-hand what will one day be a special administrative region of China.

It is important that he should be here now at this stage in its social and political evolution, because it will give him a clear idea of the way that Hong Kong functions and of the special environment that its people need in order to perform most effectively.

He will see and hear many voices during his visit and may well be bewildered by the variety of views expressed. This is how Hong Kong's democratic process works. For it is only by the free generation of ideas and views that a consensus can be achieved in the way in which Hong Kong should be governed.

Mr Ji must not be deterred by what he may perceive as criticism of China's role. For China is itself entering into a new experience in its relations with Hong Kong. Many regret the recent statements from Chinese officials which appear to interfere with what was promised to be a high degree of autonomy, and which indicate high-level concern with the way our political system is evolving. But misunderstandings of some kind are unavoidable. However, the over-riding message we wish to give Mr Ji is this: Trust Hong Kong.

Not only Hong Kong, but the people who govern it, who live here, who do business among themselves and with the world. There is no question of going back to the past; there is no desire by Britain or its supporters to try and maintain a presence or to perpetuate a past that will be incompatible with its future status and future role.

Hong Kong is going to become a Special Administrative Region of China. We stress the word "special" as one for China to keep in mind. We only want to

preserve a way of life in which the special features of Hong Kong can be allowed to perform at their best and this will in turn generate confidence here and achieve the best long-term results for Hong Kong.

China is today embarked on the four modernisations. So it must not be surprised if Hong Kong attempts its own plans to modernise its system. For in shedding our colonial past we are anxious to build up a stable and workable system that survives until well after 1997 and which will be seen as a model for longer-term future.

This will be fully consistent with the dictum of "one country, two systems" and will ensure a community that is not just satisfied but remains individual, creative, and above all contributory to the general desire of China to take its rightful place as an equal in the modern world with the most progressive countries.

We feel that in Hong Kong we have tapped the genius of the Chinese people to work for the good of five million of their fellow countrymen. And we hope that this workhorse can be encouraged to continue and with perhaps its best points being adapted for use in other parts of the country.

Hong Kong also [word indistinct] lot to learn from the world's oldest and most highly venerated civilisation and at the efforts of the People's Republic to harness these virtues together with the natural skills and aptitudes of its highly diverse people in an acceptable framework for its one billion people.

We are yet another "minority" contributing to the majority. But we repeat our message to Mr Ji and his colleagues in Beijing: Trust Hong Kong to do the right thing. For it is as much in our interests as in China's to see it succeed. And we intend to do our utmost to achieve that success.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

PRC'S JI PENGFEI SAYS HE WANTS TO HEAR HONG KONG PEOPLE'S VIEWS

HK110749 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Dec 85 p 1, 18

[By Stanley Leung]

[Text] The director of China's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Mr Ji Pengfei, arrived yesterday in Hong Kong for a 13-day visit to "hear the people's views on the maintenance of stability and prosperity and the drafting of (the) Basic Law."

Mr Ji--the highest-ranking Chinese official to visit Hong Kong since 1949--was welcomed at the airport by the governor, Sir Edward Youde, and China's chief representative in Hong Kong, Mr Xu Jiatun.

Four other vice-chairmen of the Basic Law Drafting Committee were also present.

Mr Ji, who is also a state councillor, arrived at the heavily-guarded airport with seven other Chinese officials shortly before noon.

A group of pro-Taiwan people were at the time staging a demonstration outside the airport.

Mr Ji did not speak to reporters, but a written statement was issued after he was whisked away by officials to a villa in the Mid-Levels.

In his statement, Mr Ji said: "The main purpose of my current visit is to gain first-hand knowledge of Hong Kong, to meet old friends while making the acquaintance of new friends and to hear from the people of all strata their views on the maintenance, of stability and prosperity in Hong Kong and on the drafting of the Basic Law."

Mr Ji believes that during his visit he will gain a deeper understanding of the situation in Hong Kong that will be of use in the drafting of the Basic Law.

Mr Ji and his deputy, Mr Li Hou, will be here for 13 days at the invitation of the governor.

Others who invited him are the five Hong Kong-based vice-chairmen of the Basic Law Drafting Committee, Mr Xu, also the director of NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY [NCNA] Mr T.K. Ann, Sir Yue-kong Pao, Mr Fei Yimin and Mr David Li.

"I am very happy to visit Hong Kong on the eve of the first anniversary of the formal signing of the Joint Declaration on the question of Hong Kong by the governments of China and Britain," he said.

During the last few years, he said he had met in Beijing quite a few friends from Hong Kong, who have expressed the hope that he could pay a visit to the territory.

"I personally shared their view," he added.

No special ceremony was held to welcome Mr Ji.

Arriving from Beijing in flight CA105, his party was met by a team of Hong Kong officials including Lady Youde and China's major representatives here.

The Hong Kong officials were the chief secretary, Sir David Akers-Jones; political adviser, Mr John Boyd; senior unofficial Legislative Council member, Miss Lydia Dunn; senior unofficial Executive Council member, Sir Sze-yuen Chung; director of protocol, Sir Mark Heath; and director of Information Services, Miss Cheung Man-ye.

Apart from the five Basic Law Drafting Committee vice-chairman, other Chinese officials attending the welcome session were NCNA's four vice-directors, Mr Li Chuwen, Mr Zheng Hua, Mr Chen Daming, and Mr Chen Bojian, its deputy secretary-general, Qiao Zonghuai, the Bank of China vice-chairman, Mr Jiang Wengui, and vice-chairman of China Resources Company, Mr Zhang Jianhua.

In his remarks, Sir Edward said in Mandarin that he welcomed Mr Ji would like to introduce the guests to him.

Sir Edward introduced Sir David, Sir Sze-yuen and Miss Dunn to Mr Ji one by one.

More than an hour before Mr Ji's arrival, about 10 Chinese immigrants--calling themselves "Hong Kong's Self-rescue Action Group--were shouting anti-communist slogans.

They were holding nationalist flags and a banner.

Mr Ji had no official functions yesterday. From the airport, his party directly went to a China-owned villa at the scenic Mount Parker Road. In the afternoon, four Drafting Committee vice-chairmen went to meet Mr Ji at his residence for about 90 minutes.

Mr Ji dined at the NCNA headquarters in Wanchai.

Mr Ji's wife, Mrs Xu Hanbin, did not come with him as originally planned. She was reported to be recovering from an illness in a hospital in China.

Mr Ji is to meet Sir Edward at Government House this morning before going on a helicopter tour of Hong Kong. He is to have lunch with Sir David at Victoria House and dinner with Sir Edward at Government House.

NCNA yesterday published programmes for Mr Ji's visit between Saturday and December 22 which is at the invitation of the five Basic Law Drafting Committee vice-chairmen.

He will be the governor's guest during his first 4 days here. On Saturday, Mr Ji will meet the five vice-chairmen of the Basic Law Drafting Committee and all other drafting committee members in Hong Kong at 4 pm at the China Resources Building.

At 6 pm, the five vice-chairmen will invite all Hong Kong delegates to China's National People's Congress and People's Political Consultative Conference, drafting committee members and the Consultative Committee Standing Committee members, to meet and dine with Mr Ji at the World Trade Centre in Causeway Bay.

There will be no official programme on Sunday.

His party will leave for Beijing on Sunday week.

It has been noted that all the announced functions except the inauguration of the Consultative Committee are to be held after [number indistinct] pm.

The CHINA NEWS SERVICE reported that Mr Ji's delegation braved cold weather when they left Beijing, where the temperature was minus 10°C.

Mr Ji was seen off at Beijing airport by a Chinese vice-chairman of the Basic Law Drafting Committee, Mr Wang Hanbin; Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Zhou Nan; secretary-general of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Mr Lu Ping; and a British Embassy official, Mr Peter Thompson.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

CONTROVERSY OVER CHOICE OF BASIC LAW BODY OFFICE-BEARERS

HK090543 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Dec 85 pp 1, 14

[By Daniel Chung]

[Text] Local courts could be called upon to resolve the controversy over the election of the seven office-bearers of the Basic Law Consultative Committee.

This opinion was expressed yesterday by an outspoken drafting committee member, Mr Martin Lee, QC, a vehement critic of the election method used.

He suggested that if a "compromise solution" could not be reached to settle the question of legality, the row could be referred to the courts for a judicial review.

Mr Lee was speaking as another spate of calls went out for a new election. He disagreed with the explanation of the committee's election procedures given by Mr Mao Junnian, an official of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY on Saturday.

"Any Consultative Committee member can apply to seek a court declaration that the election was 'unconstitutional' and ask for a ruling that the election result was 'void'," he said.

Mr Lee, who is also a Legislative Councillor, said the courts of Hong Kong had the power to decide whether the election of the seven office-bearers was in accordance with the committee's constitution.

He noted that this would not amount to interfering with the internal affairs of China.

"The issue in question concerns the constitution of an organization in Hong Kong, which is just the same as the constitution of an ordinary company. This has nothing to do with the Basic Law," he said.

Speaking to reporters after a seminar, Mr Lee said the fact that the Consultative Committee was exempted from registering with the Hong Kong Government did not mean it enjoyed a different legal status from its registered counterparts.

Mr Lee said he would send a letter to the 24 Hong Kong members of the Drafting Committee to express his opinion and urged that the issue be resolved.

The controversy arose from the fact that a four-member ad hoc group comprising four vice-chairmen of the Drafting Committee had suggested the names of the office-bearers for the approval of the Consultative Committee's 19-member Standing Committee members. [as published]

According to some critics this breached the constitution which says that the office-bearers should be elected by the 19 Standing Committee members from among themselves.

But the election method has been defended as "constitutional" by Mr Xu Jiatun, the director of the local branch of the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY.

Mr Xu, who is also one of the four Drafting Committee vice-chairmen responsible for the nomination of the seven office-bearers, said on Saturday that the election method was "election through consultation."

He added that there were [word indistinct] forms of election.

According to the newly-elected secretary-general of the Consultative Committee, Mr Mao Junnian, the word "consultation" was replaced by the term "elected among themselves" in the Consultative Committee's constitution in view of the then prevailing public sentiment.

Mr Mao, who is also the NCNA's deputy secretary-general, said "consultation" was an essential consequence of "election among themselves."

On this point, Mr Martin Lee yesterday said that during the discussions to delete the word "consultation" in the Consultative Committee constitution, it was suggested that the term "elected among themselves" carried an element of "consultation."

But Mr Lee said this did not mean that "consultation" was equal to "election among themselves."

"And even if 'consultation' is equal to 'election among themselves,' it should be left to the 19 Standing Committee members to consult among themselves. It is not for the four people (the four Drafting Committee vice-chairmen) to do the consultation," he said.

Earlier at the seminar, Mr Lee held the four responsible for the mistake. "They shouldn't have been present at the elections at all," he said.

Mr Lee said it was regretted that nobody involved in the election had admitted a mistake was committed.

Instead, they insisted there was nothing wrong.

Mr Lee stressed that he had confidence in the Consultative Committee although he was critical of the way the election was conducted.

He urged Hong Kong residents to continue supporting the Consultative Committee by airing their views on the Basic Law.

Another speaker at the forum, Legislative Councillor Ho Sai-chu, said not only was it important that elections must be fair, they must be seen to be fair.

"If the people of Hong Kong think there are better ways of electing the office-bearers, they should put forth their views," he said.

Mr Ho said it was now for the Consultative Committee members to decide whether the election result should be upheld.

He urged that "such matters" should be handled carefully in future.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

HONG KONG PAPER VIEWS AFFILIATIONS OF LAW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

HK070758 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 7 Dec 85 p 5

[Text] The newly elected Standing Committee of the Basic Law Consultative Committee includes people from different strata and ideologies, but the centre of power is obviously swayed to the Chinese side.

Nine members of the 19-man Standing Committee are accountable to the Chinese authorities in Beijing.

Six of them have been appointed by China's supreme legislature, the National People's Congress (NPC), to the Basic Law Drafting Committee to draw up a constitution for Hong Kong after 1997.

The six are: Dr Ann Tse-Kai, vice chairman of the Drafting Committee and a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Mr Mo Kwan-nin, deputy secretary-general of the Drafting Committee and deputy secretary-general in the local XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, Dr Rayson Huang, Mr Louis Cha, Mr Wong Po-yan and Rev Peter Kwong.

Dr Ann, Dr Huang and Mr Mo are now assuming three key offices on the Standing Committee--chairman, vice chairman and secretary-general, respectively.

The other three Chinese-orientated committee members are either local deputies to NPC or to CPPCC. They are Mr Wong Kwan-cheng, Mr Ng Hong-man and Mr Philip Yuen.

Apart from this slant towards Chinese domination, people with different backgrounds have also been included, although they may not be seen in a balanced way.

The intention to have some sort of balance was reflected in a letter and speech by Sir Yue-kong Pao, a vice-chairman of the Drafting Committee. Both the speech and letter were to encourage members to choose people from different backgrounds, races, professions, strata, sex and age.

Lord Lawrence Kadoorie, whose business interests are vested in China, is the lone expatriate. The member of the House of Lords has been speaking optimistically about the future of the territory after its sovereignty reverts to China.

Four members of the Standing Committee are serving in local government establishments, such as the Legislative Council, the Urban Council and the civil service.

They are: Mr Wong Po-yan, a member of Legco [Legislative Council] and the Drafting Committee; Mr Philip Kwok, an urban councillor whose business has also been tied with China; Mr Justice Yang Ti-Liang, an Appeals Court judge; and Mr Kwok Yuen-hon, a union leader of the Chinese Civil Servants' Association.

The highest number of votes was obtained by Mr Lo Tak-shing, a past executive and legislative councillor who resigned from the post in protest of Britain's failure to meet its obligation to the people of Hong Kong last year. He had 132 votes.

Mr Lo told THE STANDARD that he might have been chosen because of the need for balance.

The Taiwanese connection is also included on the Standing Committee. Mr Kong Tak-yan is the owner of the Hong Kong and Taiwan Trading Company which is involved in heavy transactions with the island.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

COMPOSITION OF BASIC LAW STANDING COMMITTEE CRITICIZED

HK070640 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 7 Dec 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Work on Hong Kong's post-1997 constitution began in earnest yesterday with the election of a 19-member Standing Committee to run the day-to-day affairs of the consultative body.

And promptly renewed fears that it would be dominated by those who will actually be drafting the Basic Law.

All six members of the Beijing-appointed Basic Law Drafting Committee on the 180-member consultative body were voted in. And three of them were appointed office-bearers.

Appointed as secretary-general of the Standing Committee was, significantly, the deputy secretary-general of China's XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Mo Kwan-nin.

But the big surprise of the day was the man who secured the most votes--Mr Lo Takshing. With three absentees, 132 of the 177 present voted for him. But he was given no office.

Mr Lo is the wealthy solicitor and businessman who resigned his seats on the Executive and Legislative councils in protest against the terms of the Sino-British agreement. Since then he has been funding and running an office to encourage people to migrate.

The outcome means that nearly one-third of the Standing Committee members are Drafting Committee members.

And one vice-chairman of the Drafting Committee, Dr Ann Tse-Kai, won the chairmanship of the Standing Committee. This came as no surprise to political observers.

Two other drafters, Dr Rayson Huang and Mr Mo Kwan-nin were "picked" to be vice-chairman and secretary general respectively of the Standing Committee.

A scan of the list of the 19 successful candidates would find that there was a consensus to give the Standing Committee a balanced mix.

Both in the letter to Consultative Committee members and in the opening speech given by the convenor of the elections, Sir Y.K. Pao, the importance of including indifferent talents and people of different interests were highlighted.

Of the 15 candidates from the commercial and industrial field who stood, six were elected.

And of nine professionals and academics, seven secured seats.

But only two "grassroots" representatives were elected.

Prominent names such as Lord Lawrence Kadorie, Legco [Legislative Council] member Wong Po-yan and Urban Councillor Dr Philip Kwok were among the successful candidates.

As far as political inclinations go, five of the seven candidates with direct organisational links with China, for example, the National People's Congress, Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the local XINHUA NEWS AGENCY were elected.

The seven office bearers were chosen after the elections of the Standing Committee.

The list of candidates for the post of chairman, five vice-chairman and one secretary general of the Standing Committee was suggested by Sir Y.K. Pao and three other drafters, who were the convenors of yesterday's election.

The other three vice-chairmen included Mr Justice Yang Ti-liang, businessman Wong Kwancheng, Dr Philip Kwok and union leader Li Kai-ming.

University lecturer, Dr Joseph Cheng said the procedure was against the Consultative Committee which stated that the office bearers should be elected among members of the Standing Committee.

"In Hong Kong, it is important to have the rule of law. But in this case, it is not being respected. It is a sign of danger, and must be rectified," he said.

His view was echoed by the editor of the NINETIES magazine, Mr Lee Yee, both shared the view that the composition of the Standing Committee was against the spirit of the constitution.

They said the presence of the six drafters in the Standing Committee, which has the full authority to carry out the affairs of the Consultative Committee when it is not in session, would mean they would play a dominant role in the body since the full committee would only meet twice a year.

Both said this was against the principle of independence and non-subordination between the Consultative and Drafting Committees.

As for the presentation of the name list of the office bearers, Sir Y.K. Pao said the four convenors merely made suggestions, and any of the Standing Committee members could have objected.

Asked why Mr Lo who secured the highest vote of [word indistinct] not one of the office bearers, Sir Y.K. Pao said a person who [word indistinct] the highest votes "does not necessarily mean that one is automatically the chairman."

As to the selection of office bearers immediately after the Standing Committee list was announced, Sir Y.K. Pao said there was much work to be done before the first meeting on December 18.

It is understood that before the casting of votes, Mr Chang Ka-min and Mak Hoi-wah had objected to the inclusion of so many drafters in the Consultative Committee.

The elections also drew another attack on the openness of the procedure.

Reporters were barred from entering the venue.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

LAWYER SAYS PRC WILL DECIDE HONG KONG'S POLITICAL FUTURE

HK070846 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 7 Dec 85 p 2

[Text] The "high degree of autonomy" enjoyed by the future Special Administration Region [SAR] does not include the rights of Hong Kong people to determine or change the political structure in the post-1997 period, a member of the Basic Law Drafting Committee said yesterday.

According to lawyer, Miss Liu Yiu-chu, she had made a close examination of the wordings of the "high degree of autonomy" in the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

She said: "The decision as to what kind of political structure Hong Kong will have up to 1997 has been reserved by China and will be made by the People's Congress when it comes to drafting and passing the Basic Law."

She was speaking at a luncheon meeting yesterday on the meaning of the "high degree of autonomy."

She said that in Annex One of the Joint Declaration, it started that the SAR should be directly under the authority of the Central Government and Hong Kong should be vested with executive, legislative and independent judicial power.

There are also provisions that executive authorities should be accountable to the legislature and that the chief executive of the SAR shall be selected through either consultation or by election.

"But, there is nothing there to say that Hong Kong will be able to decide its own political structure," Miss Liu said.

Moreover, the SAR legislature could in no way make its own changes in the political system laid down in the Basic Law, she said.

It was in view of this that the Joint Declaration states that only law enacted by the legislature in accordance with the Basic Law and legal procedures can be regarded as valid.

Besides, it had been said that a "high degree of autonomy" was equivalent to "direct election" and that elected political figures might be too influential in counteracting the Chinese authorities.

She pointed out that the influence of local voters could only change people in the local political arena, rather than those in China's central government.

Liu Yiu-chu said that administration Hong Kong during the transitional period could only do things which were "directly related" to maintaining and preserving the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong.

However, anything done in addition to this and with a different objective was ultra [word indistinct] and that was not working to the terms of the Joint Declaration, she said.

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CSO: 4000/098

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

LI HOU COMMENTARY ON LAW GROUPS--Chinese State Councillor Ji Pengfei today continued his familiarization tour of Hong Kong. Meanwhile, guests at his lunch yesterday quote his deputy as disassociating Beijing from the actions of the Hong Kong members of the Basic Law Drafting Committee. Stacy Mosher reports: [Begin recording] Two guests at the lunch said that the deputy director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Li Hou, was pressed repeatedly for comments on the recent controversy surrounding the election of the executive body of the Basic Law Consultative Committee. They said Mr Li finally said that Beijing was only involved in the Basic Law Drafting Committee's first meeting in Beijing. Any actions by Hong Kong members since then, he said, had no connection with Beijing. Mr Li was also quoted as repeating that Beijing has set no blueprints for Hong Kong's political development, and wouldn't rule out direct elections. He also said China's form of government won't be imposed on Hong Kong. One of the guests said he was told afterwards that Mr Li's comments shouldn't be accepted as reflecting Beijing's position. [Text] [Hong Kong Asia Television Limited in English 1200 GMT 12 Dec 85 HK] /12858

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