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Premier KIM IL SUNG Gives Interview to Chairman of the Czechoslovak Radio and Television Committee

Premier Kim Il Sung received on August 28 Frantisek Necasek, Chairman, and Miroslav Ulavic, Vice-Chairman of the Czechoslovak Radio and Television Committee, who were on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion was Kim Chang Man, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party.

Premier Kim Il Sung had a talk with Frantisek Necasek, Chairman of the Czechoslovak Radio and Television Committee, and answered questions put by the latter. The questions and answers follow:

Frantisek Necasek: We should like to express thanks to the Korean Central Broadcasting Committee for having invited us and to you, Comrade Premier, for sparing your precious time to receive us personally.

Kim Il Sung: I thank you for your visit to our country and thank the Czechoslovak Broadcasting Committee for the enormous help it has accorded to the Broadcasting Committee of our country.

Frantisek Necasek: We help the Korean comrades because we are well aware that proletarian internationalism must be translated into practical action.

Kim Il Sung: It is correct to think that way. We are still in the midst of construction. If you have experienced inconveniences during your visit to our country, please take this into consideration.

Frantisek Necasek: We have experienced no inconveniences whatsoever during our stay in Korea. I must say that a country as beautiful as Korea is rare in the world.

Kim Il Sung: The landscape of Korea is fine. The war wrought much havoc on it, yet the scenery of our country is beautiful. The Koreans deeply love and prize this beautiful land.

Frantisek Necasek: The people throughout the world talk about the beauty of Korea. Seeing Korea with my own eyes, I once again feel that this is true, indeed.

Another thing that struck me here is that construction is under way in every nook and corner of the northern part of the Republic,

from Pyongyang to the rural villages in mountainous areas, and enthusiasm of the entire working people is exceptionally high.

Kim Il Sung: I visited Czechoslovakia in 1956 and I was deeply impressed by the people of your country joyously working to construct their beautiful country more splendidly.

We are also all out for constructing our beautiful fatherland into a more beautiful country and one better to live in.

Frantisek Necasek: Korea and Czechoslovakia share a common situation. The fact that Czechoslovakia is standing at the western post of the socialist camp and Korea at its eastern post entitles us to say this.

As for the broadcasting workers, we are confronted with the task of waging a stauncher struggle against the reactionary propaganda of the enemy.

When we take into consideration that both Korea and Czechoslovakia have enemies within a stone's throw, we must say that weighty are the tasks entrusted to us broadcasting workers.

Kim Il Sung: That is right. I think that it is very important and necessary for the broadcasting workers of our two countries to assist each other in the future too, convey news swiftly, expose the machination of the enemy in time in co-operation with each other and exchange experiences in socialist construction.

Frantisek Necasek: Comrade Premier,

would you please answer a few questions for us? What we are most interested in is the question on the socialist construction in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. What are the recent achievements in socialist construction in your country?

Kim Il Sung: Our people will celebrate before long the tenth anniversary of the founding of their fatherland—the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In the past ten years, tremendous changes have taken place in our country.

Today socialist construction in our country is successfully progressing. Now the entire working people of our country are marching forward in an extremely high spirit.

Our people lived in poverty in the past under the oppression of the Japanese imperialists. After liberation their livelihood steadily had improved, but it was again placed in a very difficult situation due to the damage wrought by the severe three-year war provoked by the U.S. imperialists.

To recover the living of our people from deterioration and to enhance it rapidly, it was not enough for us to advance at an ordinary pace. We had to advance faster and work more. We had to run when other people were walking.

This is why today our entire working people are rushing like a flying horse.

In fact, we had nothing immediately after the war.

We started construction on heaps of ashes; we had no facilities producing cement, bricks or structural steel. But our people did not lose heart. Our people had, among other things, the firm confidence with which they had overcome the stern trial of the war and won victory. They were well aware that they have the Party and Government which always lead them to victory.

Our people came out in the postwar rehabilitation and construction with the firm conviction that they can tide over difficulties in construction, too, as they overcame the hard trials of war.

And our people knew well that they were not living in isolation on a solitary island, but in the big family of the socialist camp headed by the great Soviet Union.

Why would work not be done well where there is the correct guidance of the Party, the strong will of the people and the active assistance of the friends in the socialist camp?

We carried out with credit the postwar three-year national economic plan. In the period of the three-year plan, we rehabilitated or newly built more than 320 big and medium factories and enterprises.

The war wounds were basically healed and the material foundation for socialist construction was laid.

On the basis of these achievements, our country embarked upon the fulfilment of the First Five-Year Plan in 1957.

The basic task of the Five-Year Plan set forth by the Third Congress of our Party is to further fortify the economic foundation of socialism and basically solve the food, clothing and housing question for the people.

The course of the past one year and a half of the Five-Year Plan shows very good results. Last year, we turned out 6,900 million kwh of electricity, 5 million tons of coal, 330,000 tons of pig-iron and granulated iron, some 500,000 tons of steel and structural steel and roughly 900,000 tons of cement. And over 320,000 tons of chemical fertilizers and more than 90 million metres of textile fabrics. Marine products exceeded 560,000 tons. All these are far above the prewar level. In 1957, the gross industrial output value was nearly treble the prewar 1949 level. Great development was also noted in the rural economy. Whereas 2.8 million tons of grain were produced in the year before the war, 3.2 million tons were produced last year. Thus, the northern part of the Republic has turned from a grain-deficient area to an area with grain enough and to spare. Particularly noteworthy in the rural economy is its socialist transformation which began after the war. In the area of cultivated land, 99.1 per cent had been embraced in the co-operative economy as of the end of June this year and now we regard the co-operativization as almost completed. Thus the rural economy of our country has completely been converted into a socialist economy.

The transformation of the rural economy in our country has smoothly progressed step by step under the correct guidance of our Party. Now our peasants are marching in a very high spirit for the further development of the socialist rural economy.

All these achievements are precious fruits which our working people attained by waging a heroic struggle, upholding the policy of the Party of giving priority to the devel-

opment of heavy industry, while simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture.

In the postwar period, it was imperative for our Party to adopt the line of giving priority to heavy industry, while simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture.

Because, without the priority development of heavy industry, we could not develop light industry and agriculture which were severely damaged during the war and without the development of light industry and agriculture, we could not improve the deteriorated people's living standards speedily.

Setting forth this policy, we took into consideration many conditions—the rich resources of our country and the technical and material assistance of the friends of the brother countries, and the fact that in the past there were some heavy industrial enterprises in our country.

The correctness of the economic policy of our Party has been proved through practical life.

The gross industrial output value in 1957 was 44 per cent over 1956, the year when the Three-Year Plan was fulfilled, and the gross industrial output value in the first half of 1958 surpassed that in the corresponding period of 1957 by 34 per cent.

Our construction is also progressing at a rapid tempo.

This year, the Pyongyang constructors are building houses for 20,000 households with material and labour originally allocated for the construction of dwelling houses for 7,000.

Our young socialist constructors worked a miracle by completing in a matter of 75 days the project of laying a broad-gauge railway between Haejoo and Hasung stretching over 80 kilometres, which would ordinarily have taken three to four years at the time of the Japanese imperialist rule.

There are many similar instances.

The workers and technicians of the Hwanghai Iron Works splendidly completed the construction of a furnace, which had been said to be impossible for Koreans, in only one year entirely with our own strength, our own technique and our own material.

The working people are rushing ahead at a rapid pace not only in industrial construction but also in all branches of the national economy of our country.

The Five-Year Plan was from the beginning a difficult and strained plan. However, our working people have come out with the resolution to fulfil it by August 15, 1960, about one year and a half ahead of the set time.

It is the same with agriculture.

This year the state worked out a plan for harvesting 3.3 million tons of grain, but, despite the drought and unfavourable weather conditions, the production of 400,000 tons more grain than the original plan is expected.

Such success in the rural economy is attributable to the socialist transformation of the rural economy and many irrigation projects and the large scale production of chemical fertilizers and compost.

Great is the help given by heavy industry to the development of agriculture.

The aid rendered by the peoples of the Soviet Union and all the other brother countries and the lathes turned out by the Hichun Machine-tool Factory, which your country, Czechoslovakia, helped build, are playing a great role.

In the past the machine building industry in our country was not worth mentioning, but today it is producing quantities of lathes and various types of machines needed in various branches of the national economy.

Last year the machine building industry of our country grew 29 times that in 1946.

Now in our country, many machine factories are operating and large numbers of pumps and electric motors required in rural villages are being turned out.

Thanks to the technical assistance of the technicians of your country, Huchun, Jangjin and Boojun hydropower stations are being rehabilitated and, thanks to the aid of the Soviet Union, the reconstruction of the Soopoong Power Plant has been completed. As they are supplying more electricity, large quantities of chemical fertilizer has been produced and supplied, thus bringing about enormous results in rural communities.

Great development has also been noted in the field of construction.

Since the October Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party, a tenacious struggle for overcoming conservatism and passivism in the field of construction has been waged and, as a result, a new innovation is taking place.

In the Three-Year Plan period, dwelling

houses with a floor space of over 6 million square metres were built in towns and cities alone.

Possibilities are envisaged for building in towns houses with a total floor space of 13 million square metres during the Five-Year Plan period instead of about 10 million which was planned at first and in rural villages houses with 12 million square metres by adding 4 million to the original 8 million square metres.

Housing construction is being carried out as a nation-wide movement in all towns and villages. As a result, this will help to rapidly enhance the living standards of the people.

Our country is developing on its own the chemical and staple fibre industry, too, and is building factories for producing fibre out of reed and weaving cloth with it.

Our country will turn out about 120 million metres of textile goods this year and some 160 million metres next year.

In the prewar period the per-capita output of textile goods was only one metre in the northern part of the Republic. But last year it was 9 metres and this year it will be 12 metres and in 1960 more than 20 metres.

In this way, we will be able to solve basically the question of clothing, food and housing for the people, the task set forth by the Party.

We will consistently develop the heavy industry.

We expect rapid development in such fields as metal, machine-building, electric and coal industries.

This will bring about the further consolidation of the socialist economic foundation and the living of the people will be more bountiful in the northern part of the Republic.

In keeping with the uninterrupted upsurge of the national economy, socialist cultural revolution and technical revolution are also being successfully carried out.

Since 1956 we have enforced compulsory primary school education. This year some 95 per cent of the entire primary school graduates have been enrolled in middle schools. From next year we will be able to enforce the universal compulsory middle school education.

We also attach weighty significance to the work of training technicians.

At present, our Party set before the youth

the task of acquiring more than one kind of technique.

Today when socialist transformation has been completed in towns and rural communities, the question lies in more firmly arming the working people with socialist ideology and elevating the level of their culture and technique.

We consider that it is an important guarantee for the peaceful unification of the country to promote socialist construction in the northern part of the Republic and to rapidly improve the living of the people.

Frantisek Necasek: We should appreciate if you would tell us about the prospect of the peaceful unification of Korea.

Kim Il Sung: Our Party and Government have made consistent and unflagging efforts till today for the realization of the unanimous desire of the entire people for unifying the fatherland in a peaceful way.

However, our sincere efforts have not yet yielded fruit owing to the hindrance of the U.S. imperialists occupying the southern part of the country and the Syngman Rhee clique, their minions.

Therefore, the key slogan put up by our Party for the peaceful unification of the fatherland calls first of all for making all the foreign armed forces withdraw from Korea, particularly the U.S. army from South Korea.

As you comrades know, on February 5 this year our Government proposed to the countries concerned the withdrawal of all the foreign troops from Korea. The Government of the Chinese People's Republic manifested its full support to this proposal, and the Chinese People's Volunteers took initiative for completely withdrawing from Korea by the end of this year and have already finished the second stage withdrawal.

The U.S. imperialists alleged that the U.S. army was stationed in South Korea because the Chinese People's Volunteers were in North Korea.

Even today when the Chinese People's Volunteers are withdrawing from Korea on their own initiative, they are desperately trying to hold on in the southern part of the Republic.

Far from withdrawing from South Korea, they have introduced guided missiles into South Korea and are conducting large scale military exercises. At the same time, they are expanding the Syngman Rhee puppet

army and continuously instigating the Syngman Rhee clique to raise a clamour for "march north".

Our Government has already proposed that the North and South Korean authorities reduce their armies and has taken the initiative in reducing the numerical strength of its armed forces by 80,000.

Such steps of ours proceed from the desire for removing distrust between North and South Korea, eliminating tension in Korea, relieving the South Korean people from the heavy burden of military expenditure and opening the way for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

We have been holding that for the conversion of the Korean armistice agreement into a lasting peace, weapons must not be introduced and active support should be given to the work of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and we have been striving to this end, but the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique are continuously perpetrating such acts in flagrantly violating the important provisions of the Armistice Agreement as ousting the inspection teams of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission from South Korea and bringing in new types of weapons.

Our stand on the peaceful unification of the country is clear.

We hold that the Koreans, irrespective of their affiliation with political parties and social organizations, of political views, sit at one place without any foreign interference and open-heartedly discuss and negotiate on the question of the unification of the fatherland.

As they did not accept our proposal on such political negotiation, we proposed on many occasions to open, as a primary step, travel and postal exchange and establish economic and cultural relations between the North and South.

They refused even this proposal.

Today the life of the South Korean people is in a wretched condition.

The northern part of the Republic has powerful centres of electric, iron and chemical industries, bountiful resources of coal and forestry and modernized key industries. The South Korean economy cannot develop without relying on such industries of the northern part of the Republic.

Therefore, we offered time and again to

supply electricity, coal, timber and chemical fertilizers which are urgently needed for the living of the people in the southern part, but the South Korean authorities refused all these proposals and are continuously bringing in American capital and surplus goods.

The South Korean national economy has been devastated due to the colonial enslavement policy of the U.S. imperialists and the cruel fascist terrorist rule of the Syngman Rhee clique over the course of ten odd years.

In 1957 the total industrial output value of South Korea was approximately half that of 1940 at the time of the Japanese imperialist rule.

As for the rural economy, the area of arable land is twice as large as that of the northern part, but grain output is far smaller than that of the northern part. South Korea which used to export annually hundreds of thousands of tons of rice in the past has been turned into a land of chronic famine which has to import over seven hundred thousand tons of grain every year.

Such being the case, even the South Korean press says often that the South Korean agricultural policy proves a complete failure.

Thus, the South Korean popular masses are suffering from starvation and pauperism. Even according to the figures issued by the South Korean authorities, the number of the unemployed and semi-unemployed increased from 3,800,000 this spring to over 4,200,000 lately, and hundreds of thousands of orphans are wandering about the streets.

In view of these circumstances, recently we took another measure for relieving the brothers and sisters in the southern part who are suffering under the occupation of the U.S. imperialists. Proceeding from the compatriotic love for the people in the southern part, we proposed to the South Korean authorities to supply a large amount of rice, footwear and cloth for relieving the unemployed and the vagrant orphans of the southern part and to undertake the upbringing of all the vagrant orphans, even if their number runs into hundreds of thousands.

However, no answer has yet come from the South Korean authorities.

Still occupying South Korea, the U.S. Army is trying to intimidate the Korean people with atomic weapons.

However, the U.S. imperialists should have learned through the past Korean war

that they cannot intimidate the Korean people.

While the Americans are introducing atomic weapons into South Korea, we are building factories, schools, dwelling houses, nurseries and hospitals and beautifully constructing cities and villages.

Today even the elementary democratic rights are trampled underfoot in South Korea.

In South Korea, even those who merely utter the words peaceful unification are regarded as offenders of the law.

In spite of the desperate attempt of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique to hinder peaceful unification, the flames of struggle of the South Korean people are rising higher and higher.

Characteristic of the present South Korean situation is it that the broad popular masses have realized their way out lies in the peaceful unification of the fatherland and that the sentiment against the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique and the aspiration for the peaceful unification of the fatherland are mounting higher among the South Korean people with every passing day.

The South Korean people are waging a more valiant struggle against the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique, carrying out demonstrations, going on strikes and scattering leaflets for winning democratic rights and realizing their demands concerning livelihood.

Under such circumstances it is of weighty importance for the accomplishment of the cause of peaceful unification to further promote socialist construction in the northern part and, at the same time, to unite the broad, patriotic forces with the working class as the nucleus in the southern part.

We are a single nation of the same blood, living in the same country and same land from time immemorial. Nevertheless, today parents, wives and children are living separately in the North and South of our country, unable to exchange even letters, to say nothing of meeting with each other, due to the artificially created barriers. However desperately the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique may try, they will not be able to suppress the desire of the parents and brothers to meet with each other.

Needless to say, our struggle for the

peaceful unification of the fatherland is arduous. However, the material guarantee for peaceful unification is being further consolidated with the rapid progress of the socialist construction in the northern part of the Republic, and the forces opposing the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites are daily growing among the broad sections of the South Korean people. This fact further convinces us of victory.

The powerful support and encouragement of the camp of peace and socialism headed by the great Soviet Union are further inspiring us in our struggle.

The Korean people will certainly accomplish the peaceful unification of the fatherland through their steady and staunch struggle.

Frantisek Necasek: Would you tell us about the development of the political, economic and cultural intercourse and co-operation between Korea and Czechoslovakia?

Kim Il Sung: We Korean people deem it a great honour to have the Czechoslovak people as our friend in the big socialist family.

The peoples of our two countries are very intimate fighters who are firmly defending the socialist position at the eastern and western outposts respectively.

In the trying period when the imperialists and the modern revisionists were engrossed in vicious machination to destroy the unity among the socialist countries and parties, the parties and peoples of our two countries were invariably united around the Soviet Union, supported and defended her, resolutely struggled for further strengthening the unity and solidarity of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, and held higher the banner of proletarian internationalist friendship and unity.

When Comrade Viliam Siroky visited Korea last year, he declared that on the west extreme of the socialist camp the Czechoslovak people would be valorous in the struggle for upholding Marxism-Leninism in opposition to revisionism.

Actually the Czechoslovak Communist Party and people were so.

Likewise, we were resolute in this struggle and have remained your reliable friend.

At the time of the Hungarian event, anti-Party factionists raised their heads within our Party and, on the other hand, in South Korea the Syngman Rhee clique frenziedly

perpetrated heinous provocative acts and spread reactionary propaganda against the northern part of the Republic.

The more difficult the situation became, the closer the Korean people rallied around our Party and the more loyally they upheld the cause of socialism.

We will remain faithful to the spirit of the declaration of the 1957 Moscow meeting of representatives of Communist and Workers' Parties of the socialist countries and will do our utmost for its realization.

There is no doubt that the proletarian internationalist friendship and solidarity between our two Parties, two countries and our two peoples will be further strengthened in the future in line with the spirit of the declaration of the Moscow meeting.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries, especially when our country was undergoing the great ordeals of war, the Czechoslovak people have rendered us material aid and moral support.

During the period of the three-year Fatherland Liberation War, the Czechoslovak people helped and encouraged the people of our country in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and inspired them toward victory by launching the "aid-Korea-movement."

In the postwar period, the Czechoslovak brothers have rendered help to our country in the construction of machine plants, power stations and other establishments. And numbers of our young people who returned after study in your country have become fine workers in the labour struggle for the development of the national economy. Besides, Czechoslovakia has always supported the

just stand of the Korean people in the international arena and made a contribution, as a member nation of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, to the work of the preservation of peace in Korea.

In the recent period, economic and technical co-operation and cultural exchange between our two countries have become further brisk under the agreements on economic and cultural co-operation.

This is of great importance in strengthening and developing the fraternal friendship and solidarity between the peoples of the two countries.

The visit in 1956 of the government delegation of our country to Czechoslovakia and the visit last year of the government delegation of Czechoslovakia to our country strengthened all the more the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of our two countries.

After returning home, please tell the Czechoslovak people that the people of our country are always firmly standing, together with the Czechoslovak people, in the big family of the socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union and that they hope for more frequent mutual visits, more mutual learning and aid in economic, cultural and other fields.

I also ask you to tell them that the Korean people express deep thanks to the Czechoslovak people for the aid and support extended to the Korean people during the war and in the postwar period and that the Korean people will never forget this.

Frantisek Necasek: I am grateful to you for giving hours of your time for detailed answers to our questions.

Kim Il Sung: I wish you greater success in your work in the future.

STATEMENT

of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Situation in the Taiwan Straits

September 12, 1958

Recently the U.S. imperialists are carrying out in the Taiwan Straits open machinations for war provocation against the Chinese people, thereby aggravating the tension in this area and creating a grave danger to peace and security in the Far East and the world.

In this connection Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, through his statement of September 6, gave a stern warning to the U.S. imperialist aggressors against their play with fire in the Taiwan Straits and once again manifested the unanimous resolution of the Chinese people to defend the sacred and inviolable right of the People's Republic of China to Taiwan, the Penghu Islands and the coastal islands as well as peace in this area.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea fully supports the statement of Premier Chou En-lai and states as follows:

The U.S. imperialists occupied Taiwan and the Penghu Islands, China's territory, simultaneously with their provocation of the aggressive war against Korea and have been instigating the Chiang Kai-shek clique, which has been completely repudiated by the Chinese people, to perpetrate continuously provocative acts against China.

While concentrating their military forces in the Taiwan Straits and illegally intruding into the territorial sea and territorial air of China, recently the U.S. imperialists have been not only continuously supporting the Chiang Kai-shek clique, but also plotting to extend the scope of their aggression to the coastal islands of China.

Taiwan, the Penghu Islands and the coastal islands have been the inseparable territory of China from ancient times.

The exercise by the Chinese people of their sovereign right to liberate Taiwan and the coastal islands, their territory, is entirely China's internal affairs and the Chinese people's sacred and inviolable right.

The provocative manoeuvre of the U.S. imperialists against the Chinese people constitutes a flagrant interference in China's internal affairs, an aggressive act against the People's Republic of China and a criminal act which is in direct conflict with the publicly recognized international law and the United Nations Charter. This constitutes a menace to the security of the Far East and the peace of the world and a challenge to the peace-loving people of Asia and the world.

Driven into a corner by the bankruptcy of their aggressive policy in the Near and Middle East and by the mounting voice of the peace-loving people throughout the world demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. and British aggressive forces from the Lebanon and Jordan, the U.S. imperialists are perpetrating new military provocative acts in the Taiwan Straits for the purpose of diverting elsewhere the attention of the world people.

But, such reckless provocative act of the war incendiaries can never be tolerated.

Today the people of the whole world are resolutely denouncing with surging indignation the play with fire of the U.S. imperialist aggressors in the Taiwan Straits.

The just struggle of the 600 million Chinese people for territorial integrity and for the defence of sovereignty against the U.S. aggressors is enjoying the active support and encouragement of the hundreds of millions of people throughout the world and particularly of the mighty socialist camp headed by the great Soviet Union.

The Korean people who are bound with the Chinese people with kindred ties in the common struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggression can never be indifferent to the provocative adventure of the U.S. imperialist aggressors for opposing the Chinese people and disturbing peace in the Far East and the world.

The Korean people will always march together with the Chinese people in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists' war provocation machinations and for defending peace and security in Asia.

Any provocative act against the Chinese people is a grave threat to the Korean people.

Today, the U.S. imperialist aggressors, far from withdrawing their army from South Korea, are bringing even atomic weapons and

guided missiles into South Korea and are instigating the Syngman Rhee clique to intensify the frenzied "march north" clamour.

The U.S. imperialists are the vicious common enemy of the Korean and Chinese peoples.

The provocative acts of the U.S. aggressors in the Taiwan Straits must be immediately checked and the U.S. imperialists must pull out of Taiwan at once.

Should the U.S. imperialists, instead of stopping, continue to expand their reckless, provocative acts against the 600 million Chinese people, despite the warning served by the People's Republic of China and the unanimous opposition of the peace-loving people the world over, it will bring about grave consequences leading to their own ruin.

STATEMENT

of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Recently the Korean citizens residing in various areas of Japan are expressing their desire to return to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea—their fatherland—to lead a stabilized life and are continuously requesting the Government of the Republic to take measures necessary for the early realization of this ardent desire.

In this connection, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea authorized me to state as follows:

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea considers that the return of the Korean citizens in Japan who desire, under the daily worsening living conditions in Japan, to come back to the homeland is an urgent question that ought to be solved at the earliest date.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which deems it an important duty to defend the democratic, national rights of Korean citizens abroad, demanded time and again the Japanese Government to ensure the Korean citizens in Japan a stabilized living and all the legitimate rights due foreigners, unconditionally and immediately release the Korean citizens illegally held in Japanese camps and guarantee their return home in accordance with their free will, and it has taken practical measures related to this.

These just demands and measures of ours are enjoying the support of the peoples of Korea and Japan and the broad public opinion of the world, to say nothing of the entire Korean citizens in Japan.

The Korean citizens in Japan have made every effort for the stabilization of their living, the defence of their democratic rights and the strengthening of the friendly relations with the Japanese people. However, legitimate rights due foreigners have not yet been

ensured them.

Most of the Korean citizens residing in Japan are spending agonizing days under an extremely wretched living condition owing to unemployment and non-rights, and large numbers of youth and students are denied the right to democratic national education and are not ensured a stabilized life after entrance into or graduation from the school. The Korean citizens who have been illegally held in Japanese camps and forced to lead for a long time a life unfit for human beings are being forcibly sent to South Korea contrary to their will and are being continuously used for unjust political purposes.

Such deterioration of the situation of the Korean citizens residing in Japan results from the fact that the Japanese Government does not accept our just proposal nor take practical measures for protecting their life and rights, and accordingly, the full responsibility for this rests with the Japanese Government.

The Korean people cannot be indifferent to the unfortunate situation in which the Korean citizens in Japan, our brothers and sisters, are placed owing to the persecution of the Japanese Government, and ardently desire an early realization of their aspiration for returning to the fatherland.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is ready to receive at any time the Korean citizens in Japan who want to return to the Republic in search of means of subsistence and it will fully ensure a stabilized life to them and education to their children after their return home.

The Korean citizens in Japan who have lost the means of subsistence have due right to return to their fatherland—the Democratic People's Republic of Korea—and to enjoy a

happy life, and no one can encroach upon this just right.

For an early realization of the return home of the Korean citizens in Japan the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea demands the Japanese Government to

take relevant measures immediately for handing over to our side the Korean citizens who are desirous of returning to the Republic.

We expect due cooperation from the Japanese Government in this.

September 16, 1958

NAM IL
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Democratic People's Republic of Korea