

# NEW CHINA'S FIRST QUARTER-CENTURY

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## *First Quarter-Century*

A quarter of a century has elapsed since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Under the wise leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese people have succeeded brilliantly in many fields, changing the old, poor and backward China into an entirely prosperous country, new China. How have they accomplished changes so efficiently? What about the future? How does the Chinese people stand in achieving their goal? What extent will China's ability to develop in the future?

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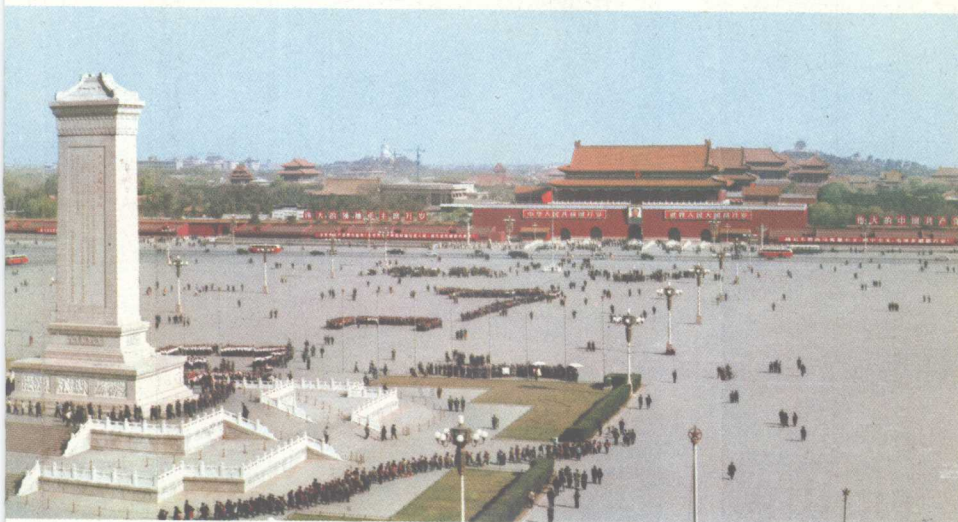
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## *Editor's Note*

A quarter of a century has already passed since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Under the wise leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tsetung the Chinese people have succeeded brilliantly in every field, changing the old, poor and backward China into an initially prosperous socialist new China. How have these earth-shaking changes been effected? What effort have the industrious and brave Chinese people exerted in achieving their goals? To what extent have China's industry and agriculture advanced?

These are some of the questions about new China which are answered in this selection of reportage articles issued by the Hsinhua News Agency and from Chinese newspapers. We hope *New China's First Quarter-Century* will be of interest and use to our foreign friends.



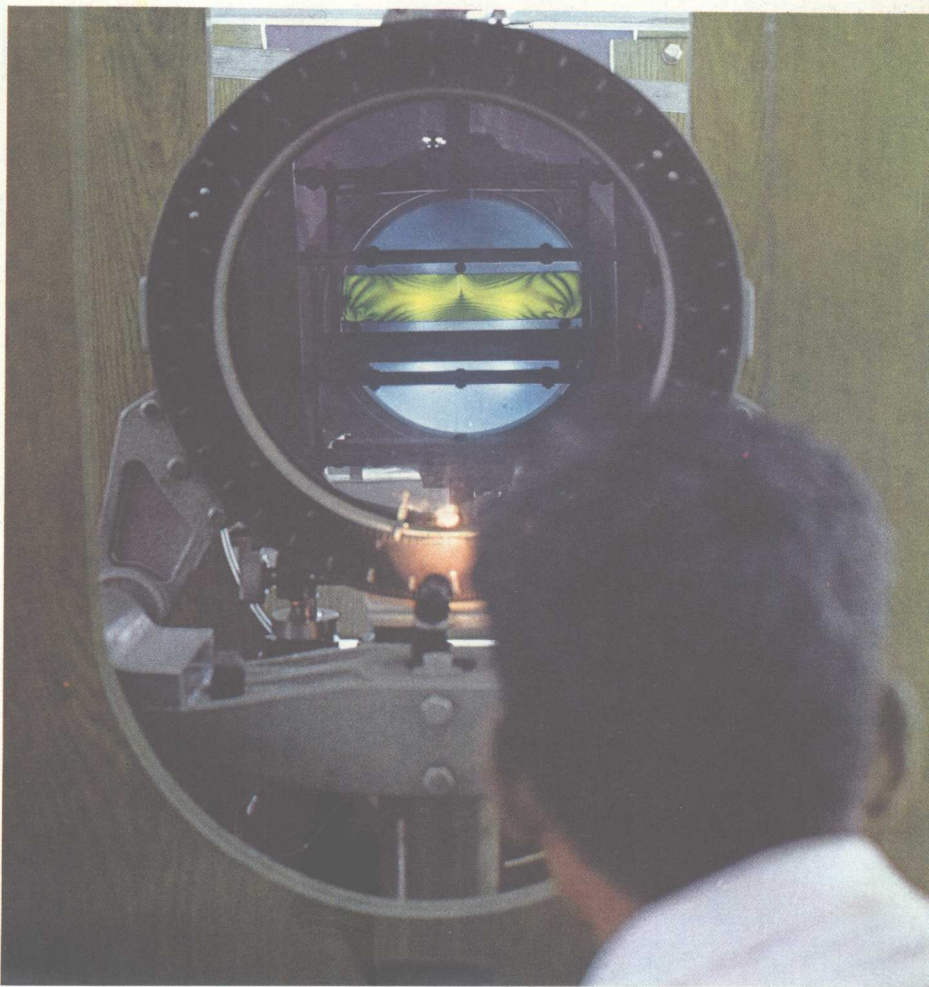


Tien An Men Square.



Ten young women of a Kwangsi production team rebuilt land so that its per-hectare yield increased from 2,250 to 16,500 kgs.

Researchers in geomechanics analysing torsional stress.





Medical workers successfully use Chinese herb medicine to produce general anaesthesia.

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# *Forward Along the Great Road Of Socialism*

Editorial by "Renmin Ribao,"  
"Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao,"

October 1, 1974

TWENTY-FIVE years have elapsed since the founding of the great People's Republic of China. These have been years in which the people of all nationalities in our country have fought in unity under the leadership of our great leader Chairman Mao, years in which our country has forged ahead along the road of socialism.

In celebrating this glorious festival, we extend our warm greetings to the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals fighting on all fronts of socialist revolution and socialist construction, to patriotic personages, compatriots in Hong Kong and Macao and patriotic overseas Chinese and to the people of all nationalities throughout the country. We express our heartfelt thanks to the people all over the world and to friends in various countries for their support to our country's revolutionary cause and just struggle.

On the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China 25 years ago, Chairman Mao solemnly proclaimed to the world: **The Chinese people comprising one quarter of humanity have now stood up!** This proclamation

expressed the firm confidence with which, as masters of their own destiny, the proletariat and the people of all nationalities of China looked forward to the future of their motherland. Earth-shaking changes have taken place in China in the past 25 years. Old China, poor and backward, has changed into socialist new China with the beginnings of prosperity. Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, we have in the main completed the socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production and have carried out successive socialist revolutions, each time more deeply, on the political and ideological fronts. We have won big victories in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in which the bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and of Lin Biao have been smashed, Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought has permeated people's thinking, socialist new things have bloomed everywhere, and the dictatorship of the proletariat has been further consolidated. As we persevere in the principle of **maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts**, our socialist construction is briskly advancing and an independent and fairly complete system of industry and of national economy as a whole based on socialist agriculture is taking shape. Imperialist and social-imperialist encirclement, blockade, aggression and subversion have all ended in ignominious defeat.

Chairman Mao points out: **Only socialism can save China.** The course we have traversed proves that the socialist system enjoys matchless superiority and immense vitality as compared with the capitalist system and

that, to build up, consolidate and develop the socialist system, it is imperative to unite the people of the whole country and persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat over a long period of time.

To stick to the road of socialism or to restore capitalism — this is a struggle between the two classes, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, and between the two lines, the Marxist and the revisionist. The four major inner-Party struggles between the two lines since the founding of the People's Republic of China all centred on the question of which road to take. The Party's basic line tells us that such struggles will continue for a long time to come. In the economic sphere, our basic victory in the transformation of the system of ownership has not ended the struggle between socialism and capitalism. In the political and ideological spheres, it will take a very long time to decide the issue in the struggle between socialism and capitalism. Chairman Mao points out: **Before a brand-new social system can be built on the site of the old, the site must be swept clean. Invariably, remnants of old ideas reflecting the old system remain in people's minds for a long time, and they do not easily give way.** We must continue to criticize the old system and old ideas, struggle against sabotage by class enemies at home and abroad and make constant efforts to perfect the socialist system in the course of practice.

The aim of the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius initiated and led by Chairman Mao is precisely to occupy all spheres of the superstructure with Marxism, to consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat, to prevent the restoration of capitalism and thus to make

certain that our socialist state will never change its political colour. We must continue to broaden and deepen the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius for a long time. Organizations where mass investigations have been more or less completed should direct their main attention to study and criticism. We must read and study conscientiously and exert ourselves to digest works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and by Chairman Mao, for this is the key to deepening the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius. We must continue to criticize Lin Piao's counter-revolutionary revisionist line and, especially for the present, study Chairman Mao's military writings and criticize Lin Piao's bourgeois military line. By adhering to the principle of **making the past serve the present** and by applying the Marxist stand, viewpoint and method, we must criticize the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius and sum up the historical experience of the struggle between the Confucian and Legalist schools and of class struggle as a whole in order to serve the current class struggle and the struggle to oppose and prevent revisionism and to help consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat. Attention should also be paid to training Marxist theoretical workers and enlarging their ranks in the course of struggle. In the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, we must further heighten our consciousness of the struggle between the two lines, push forward struggle-criticism-transformation on all fronts and further strengthen our adherence to the socialist orientation.

The socialist system under the dictatorship of the proletariat opens up broad avenues for developing production with greater, faster, better and more economical results. We must adhere to the principles, **dig tunnels deep, store**

**grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony and grasp revolution, promote production and other work and preparedness against war, conscientiously sum up and spread the experience of the advanced units which have done well in revolution and production, and work hard to fulfil or overfulfil this year's national economic plan and the Fourth Five-Year Plan. We must rely wholeheartedly on the working class, consolidate the worker-peasant alliance, give full play to the socialist enthusiasm of the people in their hundreds of millions which has been generated in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, and accelerate socialist construction. The working class, poor and lower-middle peasants and labouring people of all nationalities of our country have high aspirations, they have ability, and they will undoubtedly build our great motherland into a modern socialist country. The People's Liberation Army should thoroughly implement Chairman Mao's military line, carry forward our army's glorious tradition and make new contributions in defending our great socialist motherland.**

**The unification of our country, the unity of our people and the unity of our various nationalities — these are the basic guarantees of the sure triumph of our cause. Class enemies at home and abroad always try to undermine such unification and unity by every possible means, and we must sharpen our vigilance. It is imperative to strengthen the Party's centralized leadership and the great revolutionary unity of the whole Party, the whole army and the people of the whole country under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line. We must learn to handle all problems from the dialectical approach of one dividing into two and earnestly**

carry out the proletarian policies laid down by Chairman Mao, strictly distinguish between the two different types of contradictions and handle them correctly, unite over 95 per cent of the cadres and masses, **bring all positive factors into play, unite with everyone that can be united with, and do everything possible to turn negative factors into positive ones so as to serve the great cause of building a socialist society.**

As we celebrate National Day, we express deep solicitude for our compatriots in Taiwan Province, who are our kith and kin. We are determined to liberate Taiwan!

The international situation characterized by great disorder under heaven is developing in a direction favourable to the people of all countries. Beset with troubles internally and externally, the two hegemonic powers — the United States and the Soviet Union — find the going tougher and tougher. The struggles of the third world and the people of all countries are pushing the wheel of world history forward. In this excellent international situation, we should continue to carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line on foreign affairs, redouble our efforts to run China's affairs well and strive to make a greater contribution to mankind.

Under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao, let us further enhance the excellent situation prevailing in our country and **unite to win still greater victories!**

## *A Stable Socialist Economy*

OVER the past 25 years the Chinese people, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Communist Party of China, have turned the poor and backward old China into a socialist new China with initial prosperity.

As a result of the fulfilment of three five-year plans and the construction for the first three and a half years of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, China has established a solid socialist economic base. With improved farming conditions, she has strengthened her ability to resist natural disasters. She is now able to increase agricultural production considerably in the face of minor natural disasters and keep the loss at a minimum in the face of major ones. Good harvests have been reaped for the last 12 consecutive years. The output of grain and industrial crops is enough to satisfy both the people's basic needs and those of developing industry. Industry is beginning to provide agriculture and other branches of the national economy with essential raw materials, fuel and technical equipment, satisfy the domestic market and expand its exports. The economy is now equitably distributed. A number of large key projects have been