



DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

2024 **12**





Pictorial Korea
founded in April 1956

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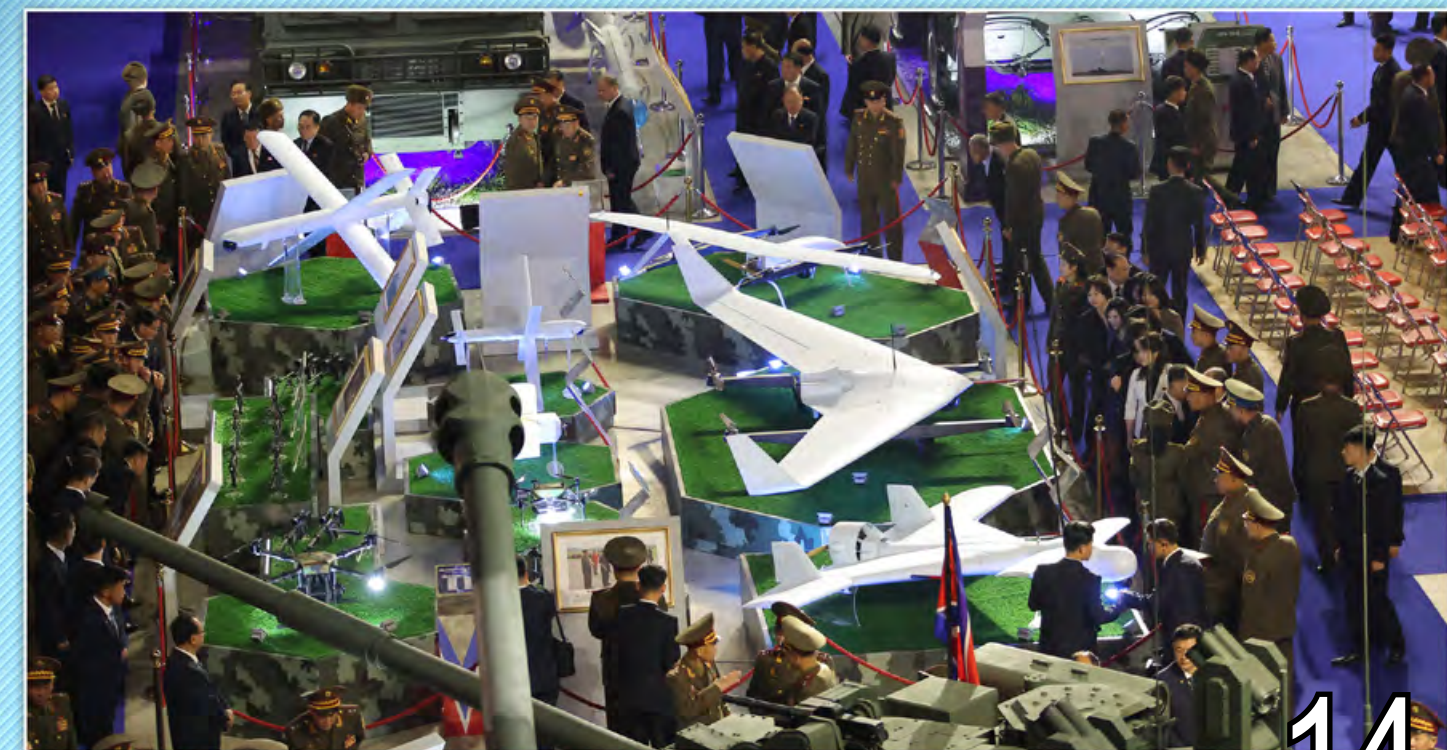
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ON THE PREVAILING SITUATION AND THE TASKS OF THE BATTALION COMMANDERS AND POLITICAL INSTRUCTORS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Makes Speech before Participants in Fourth Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of KPA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made a speech on November 15, titled, *On the Prevailing Situation and the Tasks of the Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the Armed Forces of the Republic*, before those attending the Fourth Conference of the Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the Korean People's Army.

All the battalion commanders and political instructors of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Commanders of the military and political organs at all levels of the armed forces of the Republic,

Comrades,

At the historic time, when the prestige and honour of our legendary army is being fully demonstrated in all the theatres of the revolution seething with struggles and transformations, the Fourth Conference of the Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the Korean People's Army has been convened.

First, on behalf of the Central Committee and the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, I extend warm congratulations to all the battalion commanders and political instructors of the Republic's armed forces attending this conference.

I also send my warm greetings to all the officers and men of the army, who are unsparingly devoting their ardent loyalty, patriotism and efforts at their honourable outposts for defending the sovereignty of our state and at the construction sites for bringing earlier the comprehensive prosperity of socialism.

In recent years many theoretical and practical tasks have been raised to strengthen the Party, achieve the rejuvenation of the state and promote the wellbeing of the people in addition to the enormous policy-oriented tasks set forth at the congress of our Party and the plenary meetings of its Central Committee. As all these tasks had to be tackled after finding out the correct ways and means through sincere and painstaking efforts, I have always been busy.

However, I have come here today without any regret to see you, who have gathered in Pyongyang, and I am very glad about it.

Why do we attach such importance and special concern to this gathering of the battalion commanders and political instructors?

It can be explained in various ways, but the main reason is that you are our Party's loyal revolutionary fighters, who are firmly and silently consolidating the cornerstone for increasing the military capability while experiencing more difficulties than any others at the grass-roots level of our armed forces.

Battalions are at the lowest level in the military organizational system and command system for realizing the Party's leadership over

the army, but the Party and the country have always regarded you as being in very important positions.

Battalions are not large, but the pure and ardent patriotism and loyalty of their commanders and political instructors, who are leading their men and treading the road of devotion unknown to others as they live in the large family of the Party, revolution, country and socialism, constitute the sustenance for the high honour and military feats of our armed forces.

Exactly ten years have passed since the Third Conference of the Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the Korean People's Army was held.

Looking back, over the past ten years our Party, country and people have wrought miracles and transformations in the face of every manner of trials and challenges that could not be described but as being unprecedented. All these are imprinted on the course of struggle of our army that has lived up to its precious appellation as the army of the Party by shouldering by itself the two fronts of national defence and creation, and each page of the chronicles of these heroic feats records your unknown devoted efforts.

All the current battalion commanders and political instructors, commanding personnel of the main combat units of our revolutionary armed forces, are a generation that has grown up in this arduous yet glorious decade, when the importance of presence and feats of our army has become conspicuous.

Because you have played the leading role, our revolutionary army has written another chapter of history of pioneering the road of advance and upswing not only at the borderline posts, where our service personnel and our enemy are levelling their guns directly at each other, but also on all other fronts, decisive of the future destiny of our state and people.

A precious success achieved in building up the army in these ten years is that its commanding officers, loyal and trustworthy, have been trained. They are leading the ranks of soldiers with an ennobling outlook on life that the army exists to translate the Party's plans and determination into reality and that even though they may fall on this road, it is their glory, and with high-minded examples of death-defyingly implementing them.





Seeing you numbering thousands, the core that can be said to be representing the army's commanding personnel grown up in our era, I am fully convinced that our armed forces' history of loyalty and tradition of patriotism are being stoutly carried forward. I feel most pleased and satisfied with this.

As for the mightiness and promising future of the ever-victorious Korean People's Army, the army of the Workers' Party of Korea, there would be no clearer explanation than this.

True to the sacred mission and genuine conscience of commanding personnel of the revolutionary army, who made an oath before the state, you have overcome manifold difficulties and mental suffering to turn your battalions into elite combat units, thoroughgoing, brave and immaculate in carrying out any orders. Through this courageous struggle, you have added great strength and support to our Party. I extend gratitude to you once again for this.

Kim Jong Un stressed that our armed forces are occupying a position, for which no other forces can substitute in the present and future stages of the revolution as in the past decade, and that immutable and invariable is our Party's stand to propel the revolution steadily and bring about an upsurge in socialist construction with the support of these reliable armed forces, adding:

Availing myself of this opportunity of meeting you, I am going to remind all the service personnel of our armed forces of their natural mission and tasks they must never forget whatever they do at any place, and brief you on how important it is to prepare your battalions well for fulfilling them and what are the tasks facing you.

Our revolutionary armed forces are now in charge of not a few fronts, every one of which is decisive of the future of our country and people and the advance of the revolution.

Among them, however, the most important is the anti-imperialist class front, and making full preparations for war is the most crucial task facing our armed forces.

This is their main front and their basic duty, for which no other forces can take their place.

The armed forces of our Republic should be prepared so thoroughly that they can foil all manner of aggressive manoeuvres by the enemy through powerful military actions wherever our national sovereignty is exercised, and that they can accomplish their tasks with credit in times of emergency.

They must never forget that the enemy will joyously take advantage of any laxity in their combat readiness to launch an attack, and the price for it will be the dear blood shed by their beloved parents, wives and children.

The more fully they are prepared for war, the more durable peace will prevail on this land, and the closer we will come to our goal of building a powerful and prosperous state.

The moment when our armed forces become fully prepared for war, our state's sovereignty and peace will become permanent.

I would like to reiterate that preparing for war is the most important and vital of all the tasks facing our armed forces.

This is just the revolutionary armed forces' inherent mission and duty.



Noting that the gravity of the recent developments in different parts of the world, the Korean peninsula in particular, demands that all the service personnel of the Republic's armed forces be better prepared for war with a correct understanding of the prevailing situation, Kim Jong Un pointed to the danger of the military provocations by the United States and its vassal forces that are ratcheting up tension to an unprecedented level in pursuit of their adventurist military policy for supremacy in the peninsula, the hottest spot in the world. He went on:

As a key factor threatening peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and other regions of the Asia-Pacific, the tripartite military bloc of the United States, Japan and the ROK is more clearly revealing its menacing nature.

The United States has already converted its alliance with the ROK into a nuclear-based one and created an "Asian NATO" in haste by cementing its military ties with Japan and the ROK. And almost every day it has brought strategic military hardware and the troops of its allies, including those of NATO member states, into and around the ROK, staging intensive drills of all hues to get these forces familiarized with a war of aggression.

The strengthening of the exclusive military bloc and successive military drills simulating a real war are gradually undermining the strategic environment in the Korean peninsula. These dangerous moves by the United States, Japan and the ROK remind us of the criminal actions that NATO committed to create a security crisis in Europe by steadily expanding its military alliance system and

pursuing its unjustifiable eastward advance policy.

After all, the US-led military alliance is gaining in scope to include Europe and the Asia-Pacific, and the spearhead of its aggression is being directed at our country, which is the rival most hostile to the United States and the longest belligerent state against it.

The present situation is such that there will be nothing strange about the troops of the United States and its vassal countries, in times of emergency, showing themselves in the Korean peninsula under the signboard of such a military alliance as NATO, not the UN.

The US and ROK scum are approaching closer to the actions that will entail very dangerous consequences.

The United States, Japan and the ROK can never dodge the criminal responsibility for disturbing peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the region.

The United States has proven to be the ringleader of the disturbers of peace and stability, who are constantly driving the security environment in the peninsula to a labyrinth, and its evil identity as such reminds us repeatedly of what kind of strategic option we must choose to control our rivals.

The more frantic the United States' moves of confrontation against our Republic grow, the clearer it becomes that our efforts and actions in defence of our state's security and regional peace are justified.

Long ago, the line of building up our nuclear forces became an irreversible policy, so what remains to be done now is for these forces to get more fully ready for action so that they can carry out the mission of deterring war and the second mission at any moment.



Recently, I have clarified on several occasions the geopolitical change because of which our option can or should never be changed, and what we should do to cope with it.

We will build up our nation's self-defence forces, the pivot of which is its nuclear capability, limitlessly and endlessly without satisfaction.

War is by no means what concerns others alone, nor is it a thing of a distant future, stressed Kim Jong Un, adding:

As the United States and other Western countries are using Ukraine as a shock force in the war against Russia, we should view it as a manoeuvre to enrich their real-war experience and expand the scope of military intervention all over the world.

Currently, by sustaining their military assistance to Ukraine and Israel, the US warmongers are prolonging the wars there, in which an increasing number of countries are being involved. This aggravates the international security situation, stoking fears of a third world war.

The danger of war lurks in all parts of the planet, and no one is certain when and where it will break out.

Witnessing the use of force in Europe and the Middle East, the world recognizes that another armed conflict is most likely to erupt in the Korean peninsula.

All the levels of our armed forces should completely orient and subordinate their actions to making preparations for war, going all out to perfect them as soon as possible.

Each passing day now is very precious in stepping up preparations to cope with war.

The armed forces of the Republic should make the most effective

use of this precious time, regarding a day as a hundred or thousand days, and be fully ready to take the initiative and be active in any military developments.

“All efforts for completing war preparations!”—this is a requirement of the revolution and the present situation, as well as a military slogan to be held aloft by every level of our armed forces.

It is especially important to build up the battalion in maintaining the political and military superiority and accelerating the increase of the military strength for our regular and other armed forces of the Republic to cope with war.

Our Party regards the battalion as the main unit in fighting a revolutionary war, and attaches great significance to building it up.

The battalion is a combat unit that should accomplish a combat mission independently, given the organizational system of our armed forces and all the subjective and objective conditions of our country.

In case of emergency, the role of battalions is pivotal for our armed forces to move adroitly and exactly in accordance with the strategic intentions of the Party Central Committee and to firmly take hold of the initiative and good chance of winning in accordance with our own tactics whatever the circumstances.

As the wars going on now in several regions of the world give living proof, victory in modern warfare, characterized by colossal deployment of intelligent and informatized state-of-the-art military hardware and comprehensive and multi-dimensional phase of operations and battles, covering land, sea, air and outer and cyber spaces, is dependent on how the battalions, tactical sub-units, are strengthened and commanded.

If a war breaks out, we have to fight the enemy who possess state-of-the-art military technology. Given the situation, the optimum unit is the battalion which can cover up its military action plan from the enemy's various advanced reconnaissance and detection means, launch surprise attacks and preserve the manpower and combat equipment. It is also a group that can effectively manoeuvre in the combat areas in our country with complex topographical features.

Therefore, the battalion constitutes a basic combat unit, a major tactical unit, most important in combat group formation and operation, and a lead unit in demonstrating the powerful combat strength of our army.

I am going to make maximum use of the strength of battalions in possible war by assigning missions with battalions as the basic unit, giving independence to them and ensuring their active operation.

The position and role of the battalion are given such great importance that the Party took a measure for holding this meeting and a short course by summoning all the battalion commanders and political instructors of the army at the same time, even though this is a period pivotal in completing most important state-level projects and the security environment of the country is extremely unstable.

Kim Jong Un stressed once again our Party's steadfast policy on prioritizing battalions—that completion of their war preparations immediately means completion of the whole army's war preparations and their capabilities to fight a real war represent the war potentials of the revolutionary armed forces—and referred to the important tasks facing the battalion commanders and political instructors as follows:

The first basic task for battalion commanders and political instructors is to step up the turning of battalions into ideological and spiritual elite forces with the definite viewpoint that the political and ideological preparedness of revolutionary soldiers decides victory in war.

You should bear in mind that ideology is the most powerful weapon and the only guarantee of invincibility of the revolutionary armed forces.

It is our ever-invariable war method and philosophy of victory to prioritize overwhelming ideological and spiritual victory, no matter how the aspects of modern warfare evolve and what effects advanced military and technical means have on operations and battles.

Our Republic's armed forces should overwhelm the enemy, above all, in the ideological and spiritual aspects.

We, who advocate the Juche-oriented theory of ideology, ought to gain definite control of the enemy's vicious anti-communist consciousness of confrontation by dint of political and moral superiority before military and technical edge, and demonstrate the might of our powerful revolutionary army that always emerges victorious by dint of the communist ideology and morality.

The ideological and spiritual characteristics of the powerful revolutionary army that all the officers and men of the Republic's armed forces should possess are just the absolute loyalty to the Party and the revolution, ardent love for the country, the spirit of devoted service for the people, steadfast class awareness and the will to annihilate the enemy.

The Party has consistently identified the first generation of our



revolutionary armed forces and wartime heroes as the noble example in this regard.

We should hold fast, as the primary task in strengthening the battalion, to training all the service personnel to be men strong in ideas and spirit like the first generation of the revolutionary armed forces and wartime heroes.

The work of the battalion should definitely be oriented to this point, and its practical effects should be exhibited just in that.

It is needed to make service personnel burn with the heroic spirit that they would fight against the enemy, standing firmly and holding the red flag in their arms to the death, as the anti-Japanese guerrillas and the victorious wartime generation of the 1950s did.

At the present moment, it is important to deeply imbue service

personnel with the thoroughgoing viewpoint on the archenemy and the will to fight a decisive battle against the enemy.

The American and ROK scum we are confronting are whipping up extreme war hysteria as they advocate the heinous anti-communist ideas and the spirit of destroying communism.

We should not view anti-communism merely as the national policy of the United States and the ROK.

It is necessary to make all the service personnel clearly know and always remember that the enemy we should fight are the wicked beings steeped in anti-communism and trained in the spirit of destroying communism and the utter confrontation maniacs who whet swords till they die out of their class nature.

A bullet in the rifle of a soldier with an obscure viewpoint on the

archenemy is as good as a dud.

The security of the country and the people should be guaranteed by the staunch class awareness of service personnel, ahead of the force of their arms.

We should inspire all the service personnel to display matchless heroism in a sacred war, once it breaks out, to punish and annihilate the enemy who infringe upon the sovereignty of our beloved country and endanger the lives of our people.

I avail myself of this opportunity to emphasize that battalions should not try to conduct ideological education only on special occasions and under special circumstances.

It is essential to actively explore and apply original methods of education so that all the processes and occasions of performing daily service and carrying out military tasks, as well as the ideological offensive under the situation where the outbreak of war can be said to have become a fait accompli and the countdown to have begun, can be a course of spiritual arming of service personnel.

It is particularly important to make education for them begin with love and be run through with a tender feeling.

As each of children is precious to their parents, the true heart of warmly embracing and taking good care of every soldier constitutes speechless teaching and an inspiration with definite practical effects on service personnel.

Battalion commanders and political instructors should care for service personnel more deeply than anybody else and, by dint of affection and tender feeling, prevent them from becoming ideologically heterogeneous and inspire them to display their spiritual strength.

You should take this in your mind as my request to the commanding

officers, who should take care of service personnel as their blood brothers would do, rather than my order.

I hope you will pour more affection and tender feeling on service personnel who should go to battlefields at the risk of their lives, instil into them the approach to war and powerfully inspire them to a heroic struggle.

The second basic task for battalion commanders and political instructors is to concentrate all efforts on boosting their battalions' capability of fighting a war so as to surely guarantee victory in a revolutionary war militarily and technically.

In order to strengthen our armed forces qualitatively and provide for a revolutionary war, we should step up efforts for building them into an army strong both in the political and ideological aspects and in military and technical aspects.

Noting that modern warfare proves from hour to hour that an army which is technically superannuated cannot beat back the enemy which is armed to the teeth, Kim Jong Un underscored the necessity to step up more dynamically the technological revolution in the People's Army, too, and continued:

The battlefields require combatants, who are capable of overpowering the enemy not only in ideological and spiritual aspects but also in military techniques.

I stress once again: We should make a straight advance towards bolstering up the armed forces of the Republic in military techniques.

Battalion commanders and political instructors should have a clear understanding of the changing aspects of modern warfare and the main orientation of building a powerful army corresponding to the changes, and train all their men into brave fighters fully prepared not only spiritually but in military techniques, into versatile combatants



capable of skilfully handling sophisticated weapons and other combat equipment and accomplishing any combat missions with credit.

The actual war capabilities to secure victory in the battlefield can be consolidated through intensive training.

Pointing out some weak points and shortcomings revealed in the course of inspecting the combat readiness of battalions across the army, Kim Jong Un stressed that combat training for the army, which has to defend the country and the people with arms, is the primary revolutionary task that must not be neglected under any conditions and circumstances, and that there is no other revolutionary task more vital and important than that.

Noting that battalion commanders and political instructors should always visualize in their mind the circumstances of battlefields and effect a drastic turn in practical training with the main emphasis put on performing combat duty true to the Party's five-point policy of bringing about a revolution in training so as to ensure that all the officers and men acquire flawless combat capability to correctly carry out the Party's order of military operations, Kim Jong Un indicated the tasks for the commanding officers to improve their abilities to organize and command battles and steadily improve the manoeuvrability and fighting efficiency of battalions.

He clarified the demands of principle for both the operations units and the combat units across the army to maintain in training, including those of exploring and applying the training contents, forms and methods in an innovative way in keeping with the developing aspects and changing trend of modern war and constantly studying innovative tactics and combat plans of our own style to hold the initiative in battlefields.

Noting that enhancing the soldiers' abilities to fight an actual war and putting weapons and other combat equipment on a regular readiness means making war preparations, he stressed the need to thoroughly establish the spirit and culture of loving and handling weapons with care in battalions across the army.

Even at this moment the United States and ruffraff, including

the ROK puppets, hand in glove with one another, are resorting to provocative sabre-rattling around our country, he said, adding that this situation absolutely highlights the importance of combat guard duty, and continued:

If the sky becomes cloudy often, it will rain, and if dark clouds gather and cover the sky, there will be a flash of lightning. Likewise, it is clear that there will inevitably be a military conflict on this land over which the dark clouds of war hover and, accordingly, it is necessary to be always prepared to contain and frustrate any slight provocation by the enemy immediately and thoroughly by building up all the posts and positions into fortresses of no retreat and carrying on various combat guard duties with high vigilance.

The third basic task for battalion commanders and political instructors is to raise a strong wind of improving their qualifications, being conscious that their own politico-ideological, military and practical preparedness is decisive of their battalions' fighting efficiency and victory in battles, Kim Jong Un said, and went on:

They should become competent and action-oriented commanders of field-officer type, who stand readily in the vanguard before issuing an order and who are equipped with qualifications and organizing and commanding capabilities high enough to accomplish whatever mission the Party gives them in a perfect, thoroughgoing way.

Above all, they should become persons of faith and moral obligation, who follow the Party Central Committee without an inch of deviation, persons strong in ideological faith, who are dyed red with its revolutionary ideas.

They should also make painstaking efforts to enhance their practical abilities so that they can acquire as soon as possible the qualifications and capabilities needed for commanding and controlling their battalions as intended by the Party.

The commanding personnel of battalions should possess a revolutionary work method, militant way of life and ennobling traits, and turn their battalions, by means of their personal examples and effective education of their officers and men, into fighting groups that

have established strict ethos and assumed the appearance appropriate to a regular army, Kim Jong Un said, and clarified the ways to do so, before continuing:

Battalion commanders and political instructors, You are not only masters of your battalions who are responsible for the grass-roots level of our armed forces, but also reserve military and political cadres who will form the backbone of our armed forces in the future.

Most of those officers who attended the Third Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors have grown into cadres at higher commanding organs now, and you, present here, will surely be assigned to higher ranks than the battalion ones in a few years.

Yet, battalion commanders and political instructors gain experience and lessons and attain the traits and qualifications due for military and political officers while getting invaluable experiences in different spheres like military, political and supply service work. They will find that there is no more worthwhile period of their careers than this one in learning how to work.

This is why we keep it as an essential principle to form the ranks of army commanders with those who have been battalion commanders and political instructors; this will continue to be the consistent principle in dealing with military and political personnel administration, which is of core importance in following the line of building a powerful army.

Battalions are where army commanders grow up, and it is here that the future of our army is shaped to win victory after victory.

Considering that the key to the building of a powerful army in the new era and victory in war is how to prepare its core force, you have assumed important missions in truly important positions.

As befits the backbone shouldering the future of our revolutionary armed forces, you should make ceaseless efforts to improve your abilities, qualifications and personalities and put your heart and soul in whatever you are doing now, thus proving yourselves worthy of

the Party's great trust.

Comrades,

In the prevailing subjective and objective situations, it is a pressing task—which brooks not a day's delay—to make full preparations for war.

If we are to mount a counterattack to the enemy if they attempt to infringe upon the sovereignty and security of our state even in the slightest degree and to win decisive victory in war once it is unleashed, strengthening battalions is posed as an important and urgent task that requires sure progress.

You must not confine yourselves to shouting a slogan or taking an oath in regard to the defence of sovereignty and rights of our state, but must be fully prepared to carry out any combat missions in a perfect way at any time and in any circumstances.

To prepare the battalion into that capable of going into action and engaging in battle immediately after receiving an order, not merely making speeches and taking an oath, and into an all-purpose one that is capable of bringing any missions to brilliant perfection—this is the goal that all the battalions of our armed forces should attain without fail and the spirit of this conference.

Fully aware of the noble mission and duty entrusted by the Party and the revolution, let us all march forward to bring about a substantial and fundamental improvement in strengthening the battalions' capabilities for an actual war, and to defend the state and the people and bring earlier honourable victory in war with the powerful military deterrent that we have long built up.

My most beloved comrades-in-arms,

All the commanding officers of our armed forces,

Availing myself of this opportunity, I extend my warm encouragement to all the beloved officers and men of the army.

For the eternal prosperity and peace of our socialist country and for the safety and happiness of our beloved people, let us all equip ourselves fully with the revolutionary ideology of the Party and fight on dynamically.



Kim Jong Un Has Photo Session with Participants in Fourth Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of KPA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, had a photo session with the participants in the Fourth Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the Korean People's Army on November 21.

When Kim Jong Un arrived amid the playing of welcome music, stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" was raised.

Warmly acknowledging the enthusiastic cheers, he sent militant encouragement to the participants, who were full of great enthusiasm for bringing about a fresh dynamic turn in rounding off the war preparations under the militant slogan set forth by the WPK Central Committee, which regards the strengthening of the battalion as the key link in the whole chain of strengthening the whole army, at the conference, so as to firmly guarantee the mightiness and invincibility of the armed forces of the DPRK.

The battalion is a reliable base which the Party Central Committee consistently attaches importance to and relies on in the process of strengthening the KPA politically, ideologically and in military technique and its combat capability is the fighting power of our armed forces, he stressed again. The battalion commanding officers should bear in mind our Party's standard, goal and fundamental requirements in strengthening the battalion and thoroughly realize them, and thus creditably discharge their mission and duty as the advance force and vanguard in implementing the line of building a strong army in the new era, he said.

He affirmed that when every achievement, which is associated with the loyalty that has become the integral part of faith and special quality, firm will and indomitable efforts of the battalion commanders and political instructors, leading officers of the main combat units of our armed forces, is piled up as the cornerstone and strong pillar, innovations will surely be made in building up the battalion and our army's political and military superiority and combat power will be further augmented.

He expressed expectation and belief that the participants in the conference would fully embody in their future political and military activities the main spirit of the meeting which calls for preparing all the battalions of our armed forces as those capable of going into action and engaging in battle as soon as they have received an order of the Party Central Committee and as all-purpose battalions capable of perfectly performing any mission, and vigorously propel the perfection of war readiness through the proper combination of military and political work. Then, he posed for a photo session that would shine forever along with the history of army building.



Military Hardware Exhibition *Defence Development-2024* Opens with Splendour

The military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2024* opened in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, on November 21, demonstrating the increased power, which knows no limit, and the radical leap forward of the DPRK.

The great Workers' Party of Korea has vigorously led the second revolution in national defence industry aimed at making the Korean People's Army stronger in terms of military technique after declaring at its historic Eighth Congress a grand national defence development strategy on developing the KPA into an elite army equipped with ultra-modern weapons by highly developing national defence science and technology and researching and developing a larger number of ultra-modern weapons and combat equipment.

The WPK Central Committee headed by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un set it as the most important and priority task for defending the country, revolution and people to highly develop the country's war deterrent with nuclear forces as its pivot and has stubbornly propelled the struggle for its implementation. By doing so, it has uninterruptedly accelerated great quantitative, qualitative and technological changes in bolstering up the country's capabilities for self-defence and thus steadily increased the combat super power for defending national sovereignty and peace.

The military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2024* opened with splendour in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, on November 21, demonstrating the increased power, which knows no limit, and the radical leap forward of the DPRK.

The exhibition brought together the latest creations by the national defence scientific and technological group of the DPRK, mainly the strategic and tactical weapons which have been further updated and developed in the light of modern and advanced characters and precision and power of strike and have drawn the world's attention through continuous development of their new types.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, attended an opening ceremony of the exhibition.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived, the participants raised the stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" out of the absolute trust and respect of the DPRK's armed forces for him, the





Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition.

might of the powerful and matchless DPRK and the representative of its great dignity, who is leading to brilliant victory and glory the revolutionary struggle for achieving the great historic cause of building a rich country with a strong army, a long-cherished desire of the nation with a 5 000-year history, with his brilliant wisdom, extraordinary leadership ability and tireless devotion.

There was a demonstration of the flying corps of the KPA Air Force on the occasion of the opening ceremony.

Three-colour vapour trails were seen in the sky over Pyongyang.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition took place.

Enthusiastic applause burst out when Kim Jong Un took the platform together with senior officials in the defence and munitions sectors and commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence.

Present at the ceremony were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and other members of the Party central leadership body, major commanding officers of all military and political organs of the KPA and workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry sector.

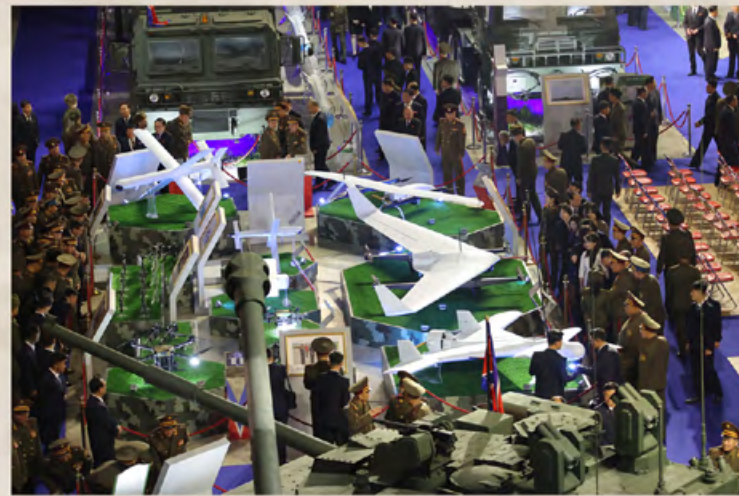




Kim Jong Un delivered a significant speech.

Noting that as long as the forces infringing upon our sovereignty exist, it is necessary to steadily update various weapons and equipment and develop them into ultra-modern ones as required by the security environment of our state, he affirmed our Party and government will defend the DPRK, our glorious country, by dint of great defence force by making all efforts to build up higher military and technical force and powerful military capabilities.





Jo Chun Ryong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, delivered an opening address.

At this moment when another milestone is to be set up in the course of building a rich country with a strong army, all of us are overwhelmed by the absolute trust and boundless reverence for the great Comrade Kim Jong Un who ushered in a new era of the development of the Juche-oriented defence industry and enabled our country and its people to possess high dignity and matchless might, and visitors here would realize his ardent patriotic spirit and world

of boundless creation reflected in the entities of great strength, he said, and declared the exhibition open.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played solemnly.

Kim Jong Un delivered a significant speech.

Pointing to the political and military significance of the exhibition, he said with pride that the brilliant successes in the field of national defence are enough to convince us that we have the capability and firm security guarantee for actively coping with not only various threats being posed by the enemies to us but also

the prospective security threats which we may face in the future, and our defence industry has been updated into an ultra-modern industry which supports the military activities most appropriately and thoroughly as required by each stage, each period and each circumstance of the revolution and has been further strengthened into a strategic fortress firmly defending the position of our state, the world's military power.

As long as the forces infringing upon our sovereignty exist, it is necessary to steadily update various weapons and equipment and develop them into ultra-modern ones as required by the security environment of our state, he noted, affirming that our Party and government will defend the DPRK, our glorious country, by dint of great defence force by making all efforts to build up higher military and technical force and powerful military capabilities.

When he concluded his speech, all the participants paid the highest glory and respect to the peerlessly brilliant commander who is constantly writing the history of power of justice for achieving the eternal prosperity of the country and defending the peace of the people and hardened their solemn resolution to go all out for the sacred cause of bolstering up the national defence capabilities with a single mind.

Kim Jong Un, together with the participants, looked round the

exhibition.

Going round the weapons and equipment on display, he highly appreciated the noble patriotism and loyalty of the WPK's red national defence soldiers who are devoting themselves to defending the dynamic breathing of the Korean revolution winning victory after victory and consolidating the invincibility and mightiness of our state.

He said that the inexhaustible military and technical edge of the armed forces of the Republic and the eye-opening progress of the self-supporting defence industry which firmly supports it are the pride and costly victory which can be won only by our great people who have unconditionally and absolutely supported the WPK's line of building a powerful army and its national defence policy, without the slightest deviation, while unyieldingly overcoming all hardships and trials.

The military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2024*, which opened with splendour, demonstrating the grandiose development and signal prospects of the national defence capabilities of the DPRK, will serve as a significant occasion in redoubling the pride of all the people across the country in the spirit, ideal and might of the DPRK outpacing the world and in encouraging them in their heroic advance toward comprehensive national rejuvenation.

Concert Given on Occasion of Military Hardware Exhibition *Defence Development-2024*

A concert was given on the night of November 21 to mark the opening ceremony of the military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2024* demonstrating once again the mightiness of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with great pride.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, saw the concert together with members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and other members of the Party central leadership body, major commanding officers of all military and political organs of the Korean People's Army, workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry and the participants in the Fourth Conference of Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the KPA.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared at the venue of the concert, all the participants raised stormy cheers with boundless reverence for the peerlessly illustrious commander who is writing the heroic story of bolstering up the national defence capability for realizing the cherished desire in the nation's history spanning five thousand years and who is ushering in a new period of great turn in building a powerful nation, while leaving sacred traces of great service and devoted efforts on a long historic journey for accomplishing the great cause of building a rich country with a strong army, shouldering the destiny of the country and people and their eternal future.

Put on the stage of the performance that started with a ceremony of a combined military band were colourful numbers including hymns to the leaders, revolutionary army songs and odes to the motherland.

The performers represented with stirring music the heroic combat spirit and noble patriotism of the KPA, which has written its proud history as the first death-defying corps defending the leader, the defender of the government of the Republic and the genuine army of the people, holding aloft the colours of honour embroidered with the sacred letters "For the eternal prosperity of the country and the people's wellbeing," while assuming the heavy historic responsibility for defending national sovereignty which could never be easily defended.

The audience gave a big hand to the numbers evoking the memories of the long and glorious history of victory the DPRK and its people won by relying on the vanguard role of the revolutionary armed forces which are ideologically elite and possessed of the most powerful arms.





The performance impressively showed that the security of the beloved country and people, independence, justice and genuine peace is firmly guaranteed only by matchless capability of self-defence and there is the dignity of the state that should be more firmly defended and the dream and ideal of prosperity that should be certainly realized

at any cost, thanks to the great service and feats which have been performed from one century to the next.

The concert reached the climax with monumental odes fully representing the firm will of the people across the country to eternally support with loyalty the socialist motherland, the benevolent embrace



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of the dear father who is translating the people’s long-cherished desire into brilliant reality, shaping the destiny of all the people.

It ended with the national anthem of the DPRK.

The venue for the performance was again rocked by the stormy cheers of “Hurrah!” raised by all the participants, filled with the

pledge to death-defyingly defend the absolute prestige of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and the invincibility of the cause of Juche by dint of the world’s strongest military muscle.

The concert brilliantly decorated the night of the opening of the significant exhibition.



Kim Jong Un Inspects Sites of Reconstruction of Flood-hit Areas in North Phyongan Province



Thanks to the dynamic patriotic efforts of all the builders who rose up as one in hearty response to the militant call of the WPK Central Committee to turn the flood-hit areas into ideal “cultured country town” by building dwelling houses as civilized and modern as those in cities, the flood-hit farm villages on islands in the northwestern part of the country that suffered disasters are revealing their new appearances day after day to fully demonstrate the beautiful reality of the advantageous socialist system of the Korean style and instil confidence and optimism about the future.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un went round the areas under reconstruction in Ojok-ri of Uiju County and Hadan-ri of the city of Sinuiju and learned in detail about the reconstruction project.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, inspected again sites of reconstruction of flood-hit areas in North Phyongan Province on November 4.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won and Ri Il Hwan, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, and relevant cadres of the Central Committee of the WPK.

He was greeted by Ri Hi Yong, chief secretary of the North

Phyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK, and commanding officers of the Korean People’s Army units and the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade involved in the reconstruction project.

Going round the areas under reconstruction in Ojok-ri of Uiju County and Hadan-ri of the city of Sinuiju, he learned in detail about the project.

He said that he always had a heavy heart for the memory of the heart-rending sight of the flooded villages he had seen during the

emergency rescue of the local people from flood risk just some months ago, but now he is really pleased to see sturdy banks and rural houses of various urban styles rising up competitively as they boast of their original form in the safe zone. We made a worthwhile and correct decision and have brought about a great change with our own efforts by believing in them, he said happily.

He highly praised the brilliant feats and innovations of the builders, expressing great satisfaction over the fact that the KPA, which has

successfully fulfilled its sacred mission as the army of the Party and the people, and the young people, who have always lived up to the honourable reputation as the reliable reserve and pathfinder of the Party, are making remarkable successes in building with their unique courage, true to the call of the country and the revolution, at the reconstruction sites of the flood-hit areas, the forefront for defending the people.

He said:



We have come to believe in our strength once again through the ongoing huge rehabilitation campaign and I regard it as mental wealth more important than any other results. We are deeply experiencing our own tremendous strength once again and have become fairly convinced that the spirit of self-development and self-determination and the single-hearted unity of our society, in which all the people help and lead one another forward through a sacred patriotic struggle, are getting stronger.

We should take due pride in the one and only spirit and force which are exclusive to our great state in the world and which no one else can stop, and uninterruptedly create a prouder and more fulfilling future through the demonstration of the inexhaustible spirit and strength. We should make fine achievements as we have intended by continuously waging an all-out, honourable and patriotic campaign for the people who suffered misfortune and for healing the wounds of the country that suffered a natural disaster.

A good start is important in any work, but a good ending is more important. The appraisal of the rehabilitation will be decided by how the remaining assignments are carried out.

He greatly encouraged the builders, calling on them to achieve greater innovative success in the concluding period by carrying

on the intensive struggle with a heightened sense of responsibility, strenuous efforts and great courage.

Noting that it is necessary to reinforce the construction forces with more skilled workers and take some state measures in order to qualitatively finish the projects, he told officials to take relevant measures. And he decided to complete the rehabilitation campaign at the highest level before the Party plenary meeting to be held in December and gave them detailed instructions on successfully accelerating the reconstruction project.

He continued to say: The season has changed so soon after our young people and service personnel left for the reconstruction sites in hot summer. In the meantime, a “cultured country town” has taken shape in the disaster-stricken areas which were covered with mud, and the change our young people brought about through their creative struggle is faster than the change of season.

Praising the young people and service personnel once again for having done a great deal of work to be honourable before the country and the times, he affirmed that a history of tremendous change would soon be written in the area thanks to the indomitable struggle of the dependable builders who dedicate their patriotic sweat to every structure.



Kim Jong Un Gives Field Guidance at Regional-industry Factories under Construction in Jaeryong County



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, gave field guidance on November 14 at the regional-industry factories under construction in Jaeryong County, South Hwanghae Province.

Thanks to the dynamic struggle of the service personnel, who are out with confidence in the drive to successfully carry out the grandiose historic task of implementing the regional development policy in the new era set forth by the Party Central Committee, regional-industry factories are taking their clear shapes in 20 cities and counties across

the country day after day as they spring up like mushrooms after rain, symbolizing the Korean-style civilization and prosperity.

Officers and men engaged in the construction of the regional-industry factories in Jaeryong County, too, are achieving successes by dynamically pushing ahead with the project, while directing all efforts to raising the quality of the final process of construction in order to thoroughly implement the important instructions of the Party Central Committee on ensuring the highest quality in the construction of regional-industry factories.

Going round the construction sites of the foodstuff and daily



Special Report

necessities factories, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un learned in detail about their construction and the manufacture and assembling of equipment for them.

He highly appreciated and expressed his heartfelt thanks to the soldier-builders, who are creating precious and perfect entities to be handed down to posterity as the people's wealth by fully displaying their strength, wisdom and enthusiasm in the worthwhile construction project to bring about a great epochal change, true to their great sense of responsibility that they have turned out in the first year's struggle for the proud regional development revolution.

As the year is drawing to a close and the completion of the factories is at the final stage, it is important for all the builders to enhance their sense of responsibility and role more than ever before, he said, stressing repeatedly that they should not grow impatient but push ahead more meticulously with building work to perfectly ensure the quality of construction to the last.

After acquainting himself with the manufacture and assembling of equipment, he said that the work should not be a mere review of the results. He stressed the need to manufacture all the pieces of equipment at the highest quality and conduct their installation and test run in a responsible manner so that they can be operated at full capacity from the first stage of the running of the factories.

He learned in detail about the preparations for operating regional-industry factories, including training of technicians and skilled workers, farming in raw materials bases and securing of raw materials for normal production, and indicated scientific ways and means of

solving knotty problems.

He said: The factories should go into production as soon as they are completed and prove their worth from the beginning. All preparations should be made persistently and steadily to ensure full operation of the factories, so as to bring about a substantial change in the living of the regional people with successful fruition from the first year of the 10-year revolution for regional development.

He said that construction of the regional-industry factories is a far-reaching policy of the Party and a historic task for realizing the centuries-old desire of the regional people, not merely construction work. He noted that it is more precious to devote clear conscience before discussing only the result figures in the construction of the factories, adding that if we devote patriotic sweat and sincere efforts every day, an eye-opening era of regional transformation will surely come.

He expressed expectation and belief that the soldier-builders, full of ardent patriotism and loyalty and the spirit of death-defyingly implementing Party policy, will brilliantly adorn the first year of implementing the Regional Development 20×10 Policy by waging a dynamic and courageous struggle.

Officers and men of the unit made a firm pledge to fully display the spiritual temperament of the KPA which is always boundlessly loyal to the leadership of Kim Jong Un and the great Party at all construction sites and thus leave patriotic footprints in the sacred revolutionary struggle for the prosperity of the country and the happiness of posterity.



As the year is drawing to a close and the completion of the factories is at the final stage, it is important for all the builders to enhance their sense of responsibility and role more than ever before, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said, stressing repeatedly that they should not grow impatient but push ahead more meticulously with building work to perfectly ensure the quality of construction to the last.

Kim Jong Un Inspects Regional-industry Factories under Construction in Songchon County

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, gave field guidance at the regional-industry factories under construction in Songchon County of South Phyongan Province on November 19.

He was accompanied by leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK.

He was greeted by senior officials of the Party, administrative and economic organs in the region and commanding officers of the unit of the Korean People's Army involved in the construction.

Going round the construction site, he expressed great satisfaction over the fact that tangible successes in carrying out the Party's decisions have already been made in twenty cities and counties this year when a new policy of the WPK to open up a new era of regional development was adopted and the first year's campaign for implementing it started and the validity and prospect of the Party's line and policy to achieve simultaneous, balanced and rapid development across the country have been proved in practice.

He acquainted himself with the level of machinery and equipment produced at home, their assembling, building construction, preparation of raw and other materials, training of skilled workers, etc. and gave important instructions on the operation and management of regional-industry factories and the orientation of their long-term development.

He stressed that the plenary meeting of the WPK Central Committee to be held in December 2024 should accurately review the first year's work for implementing the Regional Development 20×10 Policy of special significance in the history of comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism and conduct in a responsible manner the work for expanding the experience and successes at an accelerating pace.

Referring to the requirements of the era in which the continuous construction revolution aspiring to and creating a new civilization of socialism goes on and to the priority tasks for dynamically launching and pushing forward any huge construction projects, he set forth an important task for studying measures for implementing them and discussing and deciding on the steps to be taken by the state at the plenary meeting of the WPK Central Committee.

Saying that we have not much time left until the end of this year, he gave important instructions on the issues to be solved without fail in perfectly concluding the construction of regional-industry factories in twenty cities and counties which has been pushed forward this year and on drawing up the plan for regional construction in 2025.





Kim Jong Un Inspects Sinpho City Offshore Farm in South Hamgyong Province under Construction



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Sinpho City Offshore Farm under construction in the Phungo-dong area in the city of Sinpho, South Hamgyong Province, to acquaint himself with the progress made in its construction, creation of its culture grounds and preparations for their management and operation.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, chairing a historic consultative meeting on regional economic development on July 15, set forth a revolutionary policy of putting the material and cultural life of the regional people on a track of radical development by working out a proper plan for exploiting and utilizing the economic resources and overall potentialities of each region in keeping with its actual conditions and by taking practical measures to decisively

boost the regional economy with strong national support. To confirm its feasibility, he gave a task for building a new model of offshore farming on a trial basis. According to his instructions, the construction of the Sinpho City Offshore Farm has been propelled for several months as a major target of the regional construction policy.

Thanks to the direct care and solicitude of the Party Central Committee, the farm is being furnished with essential production means, equipment and implements, including various fish farming materials, plastic boats and aquaculture mother ships, and the manufacturing and securing of sets of equipment to be installed at the processing grounds is proceeding at the final stage.

Saying that to secure the motive force of regional economic development by fully exploiting various resources and natural and geographical environments of regions, in addition to the main

construction projects in each region specified by the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, also takes an important share in the Party's regional economic development policy, Kim Jong Un repeatedly stressed the need to help all regions lay the foundations for developing independently by effectively exploiting and using their own natural and economic resources. To this end, it is important to first map out correct long-term development orientation and plan for each city and county to make the most of their conditions and environments for their own economic development, he added.

Through the designing of this farm, the industrial facility design sector has grasped and put into practice new concepts of design based on the proactive application of various space-using methods, focusing on functions and management convenience, by eliminating such a previous mode as planning the plane uniformly without considering

scientific accuracy and practicability, he said, appreciating this trend as a positive change that has resolved stagnation in designing industrial facilities.

He instructed the relevant national agencies to establish a well-regulated system for disseminating the latest sci-tech data of advanced shallow-sea culture and push ahead with improving the technical skills of the relevant units' employees.

After learning about the progress made in construction, he concluded that it is necessary to send more skilled workers in order to successfully complete the project, which is being pushed ahead as a major policy-oriented project this year, before the forthcoming December Plenary Meeting of the WPK Central Committee, and gave relevant instructions.

Calling for properly building and managing the Sinpho City



Calling for properly building and managing the Sinpho City Offshore Farm to turn it into a model of offshore farming and propagate its experience across the country, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un noted that the state should responsibly provide coastal cities and counties with conditions for revitalizing aquaculture. He stressed repeatedly that in order to implement the Party's regional development policy, it is necessary to create maximum possibilities for the regions to achieve their development, after making scientific calculations on the basis of a comprehensive survey of all resources across the country.




Offshore Farm to turn it into a model of offshore farming and propagate its experience across the country, he noted that the state should responsibly provide coastal cities and counties with conditions for revitalizing aquaculture. He stressed repeatedly that in order to implement the Party's regional development policy, it is necessary to create maximum possibilities for the regions to achieve their development, after making scientific calculations on the basis of a comprehensive survey of all resources across the country.

His field guidance at the offshore farm under construction serves as an important occasion that provided a firm practical guarantee for all regions to work out a clear development strategy and set long-term goals for radically improving the scientific character and efficiency of their development and to actively push ahead with their implementation from an innovative and creative standpoint in the drive for carrying out the historic cause of regional rejuvenation, which is being dramatically expanded and intensified.



***Crucial Test Demonstrating
DPRK's Definite Will to Counteract
and Absolute Superiority of
Strategic Strike Capability***

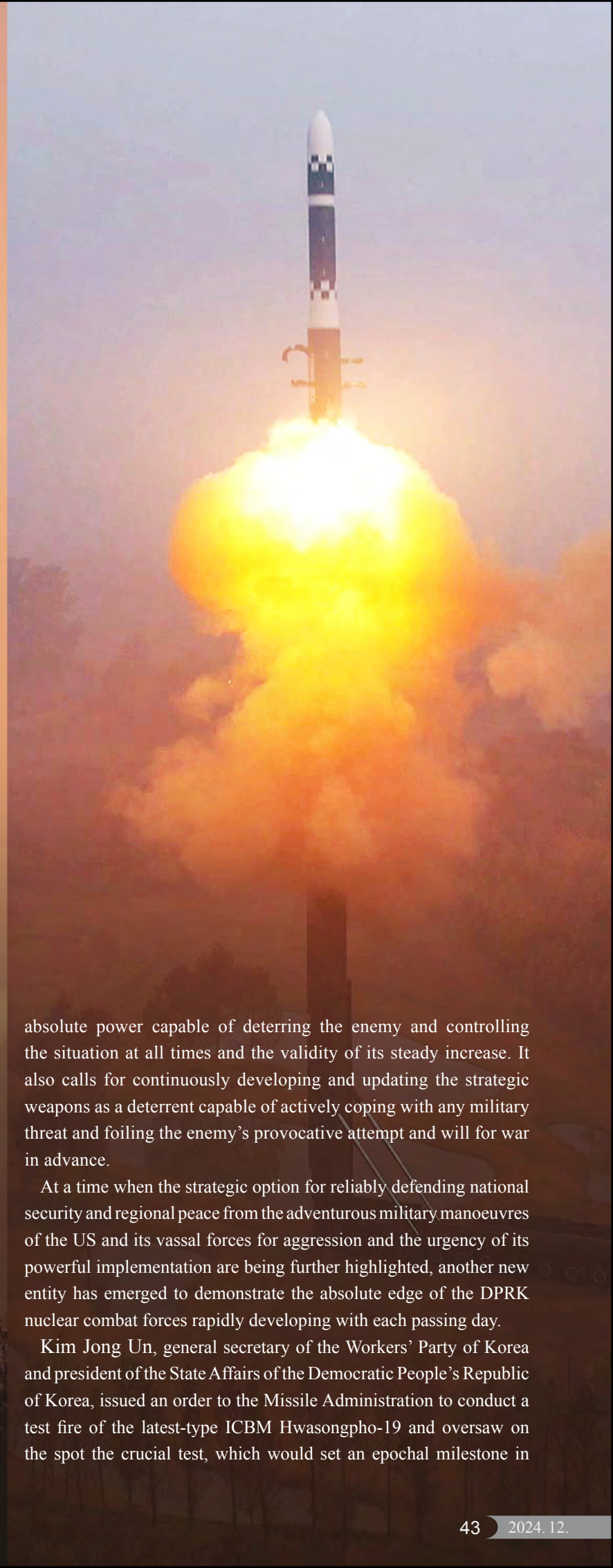
The missile travelled up to the maximum altitude of 7 687.5km and flew a distance of 1 001.2km for 5 156 seconds before landing on the preset target area in the open waters of the East Sea of Korea.



The cause of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea reliably defending the regional and global peace and security as a responsible nuclear weapons state and achieving the comprehensive rejuvenation of the country and promoting the wellbeing of its people is accompanied with vicious challenges of the most hostile and threatening rival states and an ever-growing war crisis.

The most hostile enemies of the DPRK have evolved into a nuclear alliance and the US imperialists and the ROK puppets have recently intensified the frantic arms buildup and provocative attempts at the most serious level in history while often letting loose reckless, threatening remarks against the DPRK government. All these are posing a grave danger to the DPRK's sovereignty and security environment and provoking the surging anger and retaliatory will of its army and people.

The present grave reality, seriously reminding people of the instructive law of history that the disrupted balance of forces just leads to a war, more clearly emphasizes the necessity of the



absolute power capable of deterring the enemy and controlling the situation at all times and the validity of its steady increase. It also calls for continuously developing and updating the strategic weapons as a deterrent capable of actively coping with any military threat and foiling the enemy's provocative attempt and will for war in advance.

At a time when the strategic option for reliably defending national security and regional peace from the adventurous military manoeuvres of the US and its vassal forces for aggression and the urgency of its powerful implementation are being further highlighted, another new entity has emerged to demonstrate the absolute edge of the DPRK nuclear combat forces rapidly developing with each passing day.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, issued an order to the Missile Administration to conduct a test fire of the latest-type ICBM Hwasongpho-19 and oversaw on the spot the crucial test, which would set an epochal milestone in

Test Fire of DPRK's Latest-type ICBM Hwasongpho-19 Successfully Conducted under Guidance of Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un

perpetuating the absolute superiority of the strategic armed forces of the DPRK, on the morning of October 31.

The tremendously powerful absolute weapon, a product of the DPRK's might and spirit which have been steadily augmented for the great dignity and honour of the country and people, for the duty of defending peace and the right to existence that should never be conceded, and for a new world of justice where war, hegemony and

injustice are not allowed, advanced to the launching position at dawn, showing signs of new strength the world has never experienced.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, assuming the noblest and heavy mission of firmly safeguarding the sovereignty of the DPRK and its absolute security and right to development, went to the launch site to learn about the preparations and plan for the test fire and then to the central command and observation post.





The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un stressed once again that only the peace that can be defended by the strength great enough to control and deter the enemy is the reliable, secure and durable peace and herein lies a sure guarantee for the peace and future of the DPRK and its people. And he clarified important tasks to be constantly tackled by the defence science field in implementing the line of bolstering up the state nuclear forces.

The launch site, prior to the historic moment when the DPRK's new updated ultra-powerful offensive means, an ICBM of ultimate version, would reveal its appearance, was seething with the will of all the defence scientists and strategic missile soldiers to strike terror into the most ferocious enemies keen on nuclear confrontation with the DPRK by demonstrating its war deterrent which has reached the highest level in the world.

The moment came to display the awesome force of the world's most powerful strategic missile.

When Kim Jong Un approved the test fire, General Jang Chang Ha, director general of the Missile Administration, gave an order to the Honoured 2nd Red Flag Company.

The moment, the entity with absolute power lifted off revealing its imposing figure, loaded with the DPRK people's bitter enmity and

strong will to punish all evils and injustice on earth and annihilate the enemy.

The missile travelled up to the maximum altitude of 7 687.5km and flew a distance of 1 001.2km for 5 156 seconds before landing on the preset target area in the open waters of the East Sea of Korea.

The test fire had no negative effect on the security of neighbouring countries.

On the spot, Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction, saying that the successful test fire of the new-type ICBM has come to prove before the world that the dominant position the DPRK has secured in the development and manufacture of nuclear delivery means of the same kind is absolutely irreversible.

The perfected weapon system of ICBM Hwasongpho-19, to be used by the strategic forces of the DPRK along with Hwasongpho-18,



pursuant to the long-term plan for building the state nuclear forces set forth by the Party Congress, will perform the mission and duty as the primary core means in defending the DPRK, thoroughly deterring the enemies' acts of aggression and reliably protecting national security.

Kim Jong Un said that the test fire is an appropriate military action that fully meets the purpose of declaring the DPRK's counteraction will to the rivals who have recently aggravated the regional situation deliberately and posed a threat to its security, and also constitutes an indispensable process in the course of constantly developing its strategic strike forces.

He went on to say:

As we have witnessed these days, the rivals' dangerous moves to strengthen their nuclear alliance and various adventurist military activities further highlight the importance of the buildup of our nuclear forces. We should never allow any threat to approach the sphere of influence of our national security.

The security situation of our state and the ever-growing prospective threats and challenges require us to continue to bolster up our modern strategic strike forces and more perfectly round off our nuclear response posture.

He clearly reaffirmed that the DPRK would never change its line of bolstering up its nuclear forces under any circumstances.

On behalf of the Party, the government and all the Korean people, he gave the highest thanks to the defence scientists and the munitions workers for their distinguished contribution to fully demonstrating the DPRK's matchless strategic nuclear strike capability to the world.

He once again stressed that only the peace that can be defended by the strength great enough to control and deter the enemy is the reliable, secure and durable peace and herein lies a sure guarantee for the peace and future of the DPRK and its people. And he clarified important tasks to be constantly tackled by the defence science field in implementing the line of bolstering up the state nuclear forces.

Expressing expectation and belief that the defence science and technology group, always faithful and absolute in fulfilling the demand of the revolution, would achieve better defence development successes and thus always remain faithful to the sacred obligation and duty, he had a photo session with the masters of this great event at the historic site where the absolute prestige of the state was lifted once again.



Kim Jong Un Guides Performance Test of Suicide Attack Drones of Various Types Produced by UATC

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided on the spot on November 14 the performance test of suicide attack drones of various types, produced by an institute and enterprises under the Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Complex.

He was accompanied by Ri Pyong Chol and Jo Yong Won, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other senior officials of the Central Committee of the WPK and the general manager of the UATC.

He acquainted himself with the attack drones under development and oversaw their test.

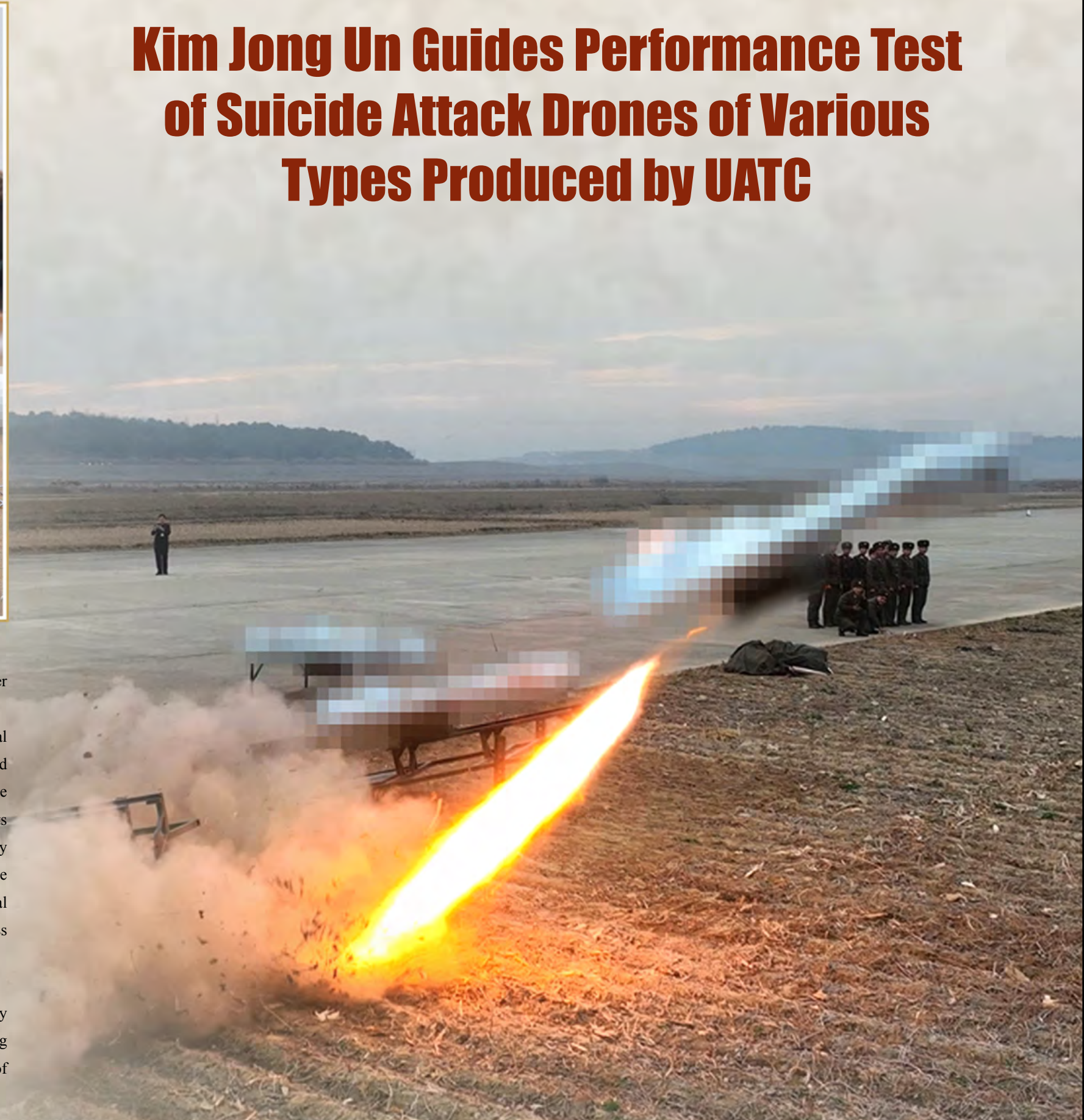
The suicide attack drones, designed to be used within different striking ranges on the ground and the sea, are to perform a precision attack mission against any enemy targets.

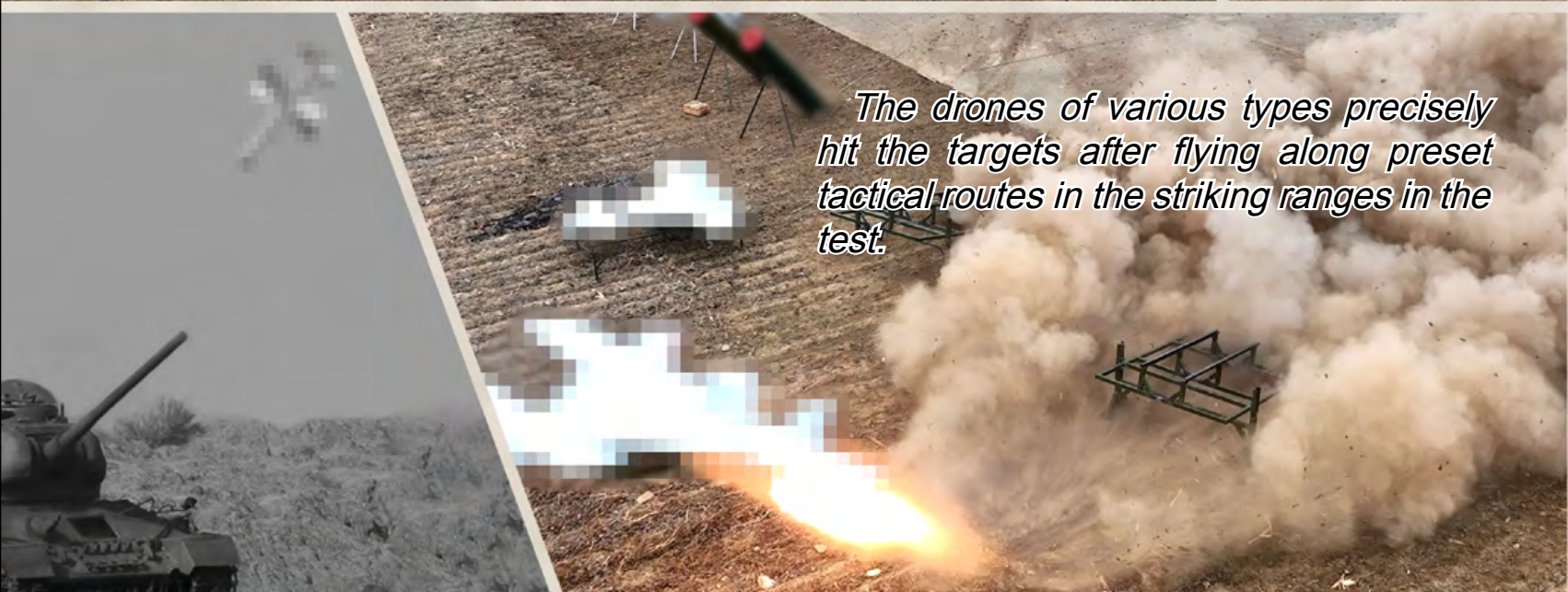
In the test, the drones of various types precisely hit the targets after flying along preset tactical routes in the striking ranges.

Expressing satisfaction with the tactical and technical characteristics and specifications of the newly developed unmanned aerial vehicles, Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the fact that the UATC has achieved remarkable successes in promoting the projects the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee and the Party Central Military Commission decided and gave instructions to the defence industry. Then he underscored the need to build a serial production system as early as possible and go into full-scale mass production.

He said:

The competition for using UAVs as the main means of military capabilities by introducing innovative technology is being accelerated in the world. It is easy to use them as a component of





The drones of various types precisely hit the targets after flying along preset tactical routes in the striking ranges in the test.

striking power in a new domain for their ever-expanding range of use in military activities, low production cost and simple production lines. The military authorities in the world might have recognized that the UAVs are achieving clear successes in big and small conflicts. This is a current trend that has emerged as an essential requirement in military aspects. Such an objective change poses a pressing need to update many parts of military theory, practice and education and keenly calls upon the fields of defence science and education of the country to take prompt practical actions and redouble their efforts.

He affirmed that the DPRK has full possibility and potentiality to produce and introduce various types of UAVs and it would open a prospect of combining and applying new and promising tactical methods also in the aspect of art of war as required by modern warfare.

He said that recently the WPK has attached importance to and steadily supplemented the line of perfectly combining unmanned military hardware systems with operational plans and war principles in its military policy. He referred to the plan of the Party Central Committee on developing unmanned military hardware and set forth a crucial strategic policy for implementing it.

His on-site guidance on the work of the UATC serves as a landmark occasion that gave fresh vitality to the struggle for firmly defending the sovereignty and security of the Republic by dynamically promoting the qualitative development of the unmanned military hardware systems that are practical and essential in bolstering up the national defence capabilities and actively deterring and controlling potential challenges and threats in all defence areas with their absolute superiority.



Expressing satisfaction with the tactical and technical characteristics and specifications of the newly developed unmanned aerial vehicles, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the fact that the UATC has achieved remarkable successes in promoting the projects the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee and the Party Central Military Commission decided and gave instructions to the defence industry. Then he underscored the need to build a serial production system as early as possible and go into full-scale mass production.



Kim Jong Un Receives Russian Minister of Defence



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, meets Minister of Defence Andrei Belousov, who is on a visit to the DPRK leading a military delegation of the Russian Federation.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met on November 29 Minister of Defence Andrei Belousov, who is on a visit to the DPRK leading a military delegation of the Russian Federation.

Kim Jong Un gladly greeted Belousov, who visited Pyongyang again after five months, and had friendly and trustworthy talks with him.

Belousov courteously conveyed the friendly greetings from Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin to Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un expressed deep thanks for this, and asked him to convey his warm comradely greetings to the respected Vladimir Putin.

He said that the visit to the DPRK by Belousov would greatly contribute to bolstering up the defence capabilities of the two countries and ensuring their security and serve as a useful occasion in promoting friendship, mutual cooperation and relations between the two armies.

Showing great concern over the ever-escalating developments of the Ukrainian situation, Kim Jong Un expressed the stand that the recent anti-Russia measures taken by the US deserve condemnation by the international community as they are irresponsible acts that foment prolonged conflict and threaten all mankind.

Noting that the US and the West instigated the Kiev authorities to attack Russia's territory with their long-range strike weapons, he said that it means their direct military intervention in the conflict and

that it is an exercise of the right to legitimate self-defence for Russia to take resolute action so as to make the hostile forces pay due price as they have emerged as an aggressive entity in the anti-Russia war. And he stressed the need to take clear action in order to give a signal that the provocative forces led by the US will not benefit from their disregard for the warnings of Russia.

The recent counterattack against Ukraine by the Russian government and army is a timely and effective measure that informed the US, the West and Ukraine, which are resorting to reckless military adventurism, of the gravity of the situation and the will of Russia to take hard-line counteraction, he said, affirming that the DPRK government, army and people will invariably support the policy of the Russian Federation to defend

its sovereignty and territorial integrity from the imperialists' moves for hegemony.

The strong DPRK-Russia relations serve as a powerful security device for promoting the wellbeing of the two peoples, easing the regional tension and guaranteeing international strategic stability, he said, expressing his will to more vigorously expand and develop the relations between the two countries in the political, economic, military and all other fields true to the agreement reached at the DPRK-Russia Pyongyang summit in June last.

Kim Jong Un asked Belousov to convey his best wishes to the respected Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and the Russian government, army and people, and reaffirmed that Pyongyang will always be on the side of Moscow.

Artistic Performance Given to Welcome Russian Military Delegation



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, watches the performance together with Minister of Defence and members of military delegation of Russia.

The close ties between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, which have developed into invincible relations of alliance and strategic partnership with the realization of independence and justice as a common ideal, are getting stronger day by day, ushering in an era of overall efflorescence thanks to the special comradely friendship and trust between the heads of state of the two countries.

An artistic performance was given at the April 25 House of Culture on November 29 to welcome Russian Minister of Defence Andrei Belousov and the military delegation led by him on a visit to the DPRK with friendly feelings.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, saw the performance with the Russian friends.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared at the auditorium together with Russian Minister of Defence Andrei Belousov, all the audience welcomed them with warm applause.

Among the audience were Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the

Central Committee of the WPK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission, No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, officials concerned, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, teachers and students of military academies at different levels and other service personnel of the People's Army, creators and artists in the field of culture and art.

Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, and his embassy staff were invited to the performance.

Put on the stage of the performance, which began with male chorus and ceremonial military music, were famous songs portraying the noble patriotic spirit and indomitable mettle of the armies and peoples of the two countries, who have displayed matchless bravery and heroism for the dignity and glory of their sacred countries and

for great victory.

The audience was deeply impressed by "The Sacred War," "My Russia," "Motherland" and other songs that reflect the valiant spirit of the Russian army and people who are resolutely defending the sovereignty, security and development interests of their country while smashing the imperialists' high-handed practices and moves for war of aggression.



DPRK Ministry of National Defence Hosts Reception for Russian Military Delegation



Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, is present at the reception.

The DPRK Ministry of National Defence gave a reception at the April 25 House of Culture on the evening of November 29 in welcome of the visit to the DPRK by a military delegation of the Russian Federation.

Present there at invitation were members of the military delegation of the Russian Federation led by Minister of Defence Andrei Belousov, Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK,

and staff members of the Russian embassy.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was present at the reception.

Present there were No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, and Pak Jong Chon and Jo Chun Ryong, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, and major senior officials of the

WPK Central Committee, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, commanders of the KPA services and officials concerned.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared at the reception hall together with Belousov amid the playing of welcome music, the participants warmly applauded them.

No Kwang Chol made a speech at the reception.

Andrei Belousov made a reply speech.

The participants toasted the health of Comrade Kim Jong Un and President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of the Russian Federation and the further expansion and strengthening of the relations of cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries.

The reception proceeded in an amicable atmosphere full of comradely feelings.



Kim Jong Un Meets Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of Russian Federation

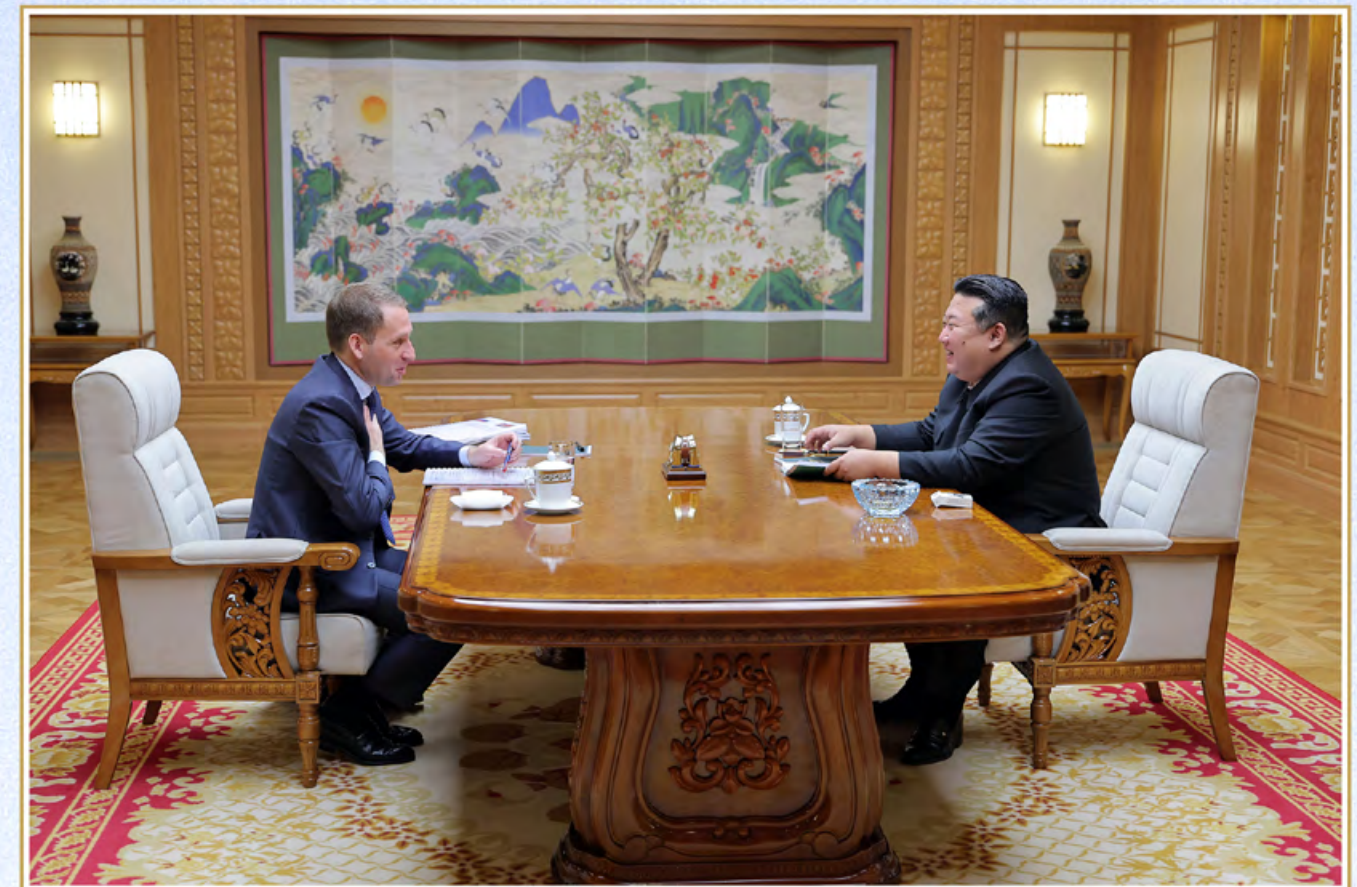
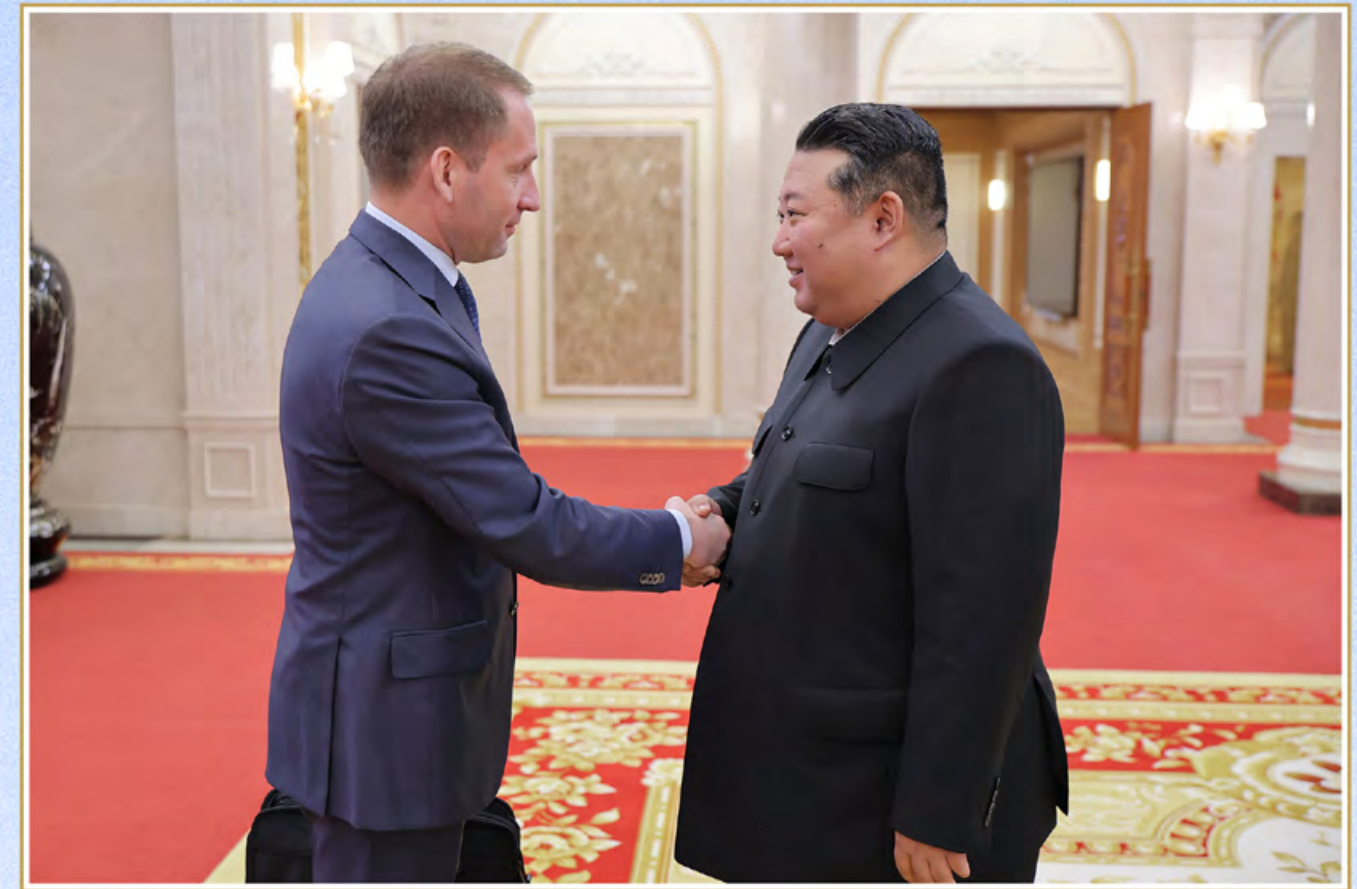
On November 18, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met Alexandr Kozlov, minister of Natural Resources and Ecology who was heading the government delegation of the Russian Federation on a visit to the DPRK to take part in the 11th meeting of the DPRK-Russia Intergovernmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology.

Kim Jong Un gladly met Alexandr Kozlov at the headquarters building of the WPK Central Committee and had a talk with him.

He appreciated the fact that the bilateral solidarity and cooperation has been growing closer and more intense in different fields since the conclusion of a new treaty between the two countries.

He said that it is necessary to mutually and powerfully propel the co-prosperity and development of the two countries by further promoting the inter-governmental trade, economic, scientific and technological exchanges and cooperation in a more extensive and diversified way as the DPRK-Russia friendly and cooperative relations have reached a new strategic level.

The talk proceeded in a friendly and sincere atmosphere.





Chairman Kim Jong Il directing the agricultural work in September 2004

For People's Wellbeing

The whole career of Chairman Kim Jong Il was run through with warm affection for the Korean people.

If there is an omnipotent entity in the world, it is none other than the masses of the people, and the country exists because the people exist—this was the creed Kim Jong Il had adhered to all his life.

Chairman Kim Jong Il would say that patriotism stems from tender feeling for the people, which provides an underlying motive for conducting the revolution.

True to the basic aim of his life—devoting his career to the wellbeing of his people—he established it as the supreme principle of the Workers' Party of Korea in its activities to steadily improve the people's standard of living.

In a nutshell, the word *people* represents his whole career.



Kim Jong Il giving field guidance at Kwail County, South Hwanghae Province in September 2001



Kim Jong Il acquainting himself with potato farming in Taehongdan County in October 2002



Kim Jong Il at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex in June 2010

Trusting and loving the people, and working with devotion for their benefit, were his inborn quality and political creed.

He said that the masses' demands and interests, when incorporated and systematized, would become the WPK's lines and policies.

In dealing with the matters regarding the people's living, he used to ask if people liked them and what their opinions were.

As he believed in them as in heaven and regarded them as his mentor, he shared weal and woe with the people throughout his life.

He always mingled with them, holding the grease-stained hands of workers at factories and showing parental care for their living conditions, and unreservedly discussing farming methods with the locals in the fields.

The following episode illustrates his kindred ties with the people.

It happened when he visited the house of a farmer, one of the discharged soldiers who had volunteered to work in the northern highlands of the country in order to implement the WPK's policy of



Kim Jong Il at the new house of the newly-married discharged soldiers in January 2009

bringing about a radical improvement in potato farming. The farmer's wife whispered to the leader, asking him to name her coming child. He smiled with pleasure, willingly accepting the request.

Having dedicated himself to the prosperity of his country and the wellbeing of his people, he was as busy as ever in the last month of his life, December in 2011.

On the first Sunday of this month he inspected the Amusement Park of Kaeson Youth Park in the capital city of Pyongyang.

While being shown around it, he inquired in detail about how the

amusement park was being maintained and operated.

When one of the employees asked why he had to come on such a freezing cold day, he replied, smilingly, that the people would come on fine days instead.

Included in his schedule for this month was a day's tour of the February 8 Vinalon Complex, the Hungnam Leather Shoes Factory and several other units in South Hamgyong Province.

In 2011 alone, he gave on-site guidance at more than a hundred units across the country, leading the all-out efforts to build a socialist



Kim Jong Il visiting a farmer's family at Poman Cooperative Farm in Sohung County in July 2001



Kim Jong Il looking at vinalon cotton at the February 8 Vinalon Complex in January 2011



Kim Jong Il visiting the Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory in January 2001



Kim Jong Il at the Kwangbok Area Supermarket in December 2011

power.

After years of excessive stress, both mental and physical, he even had a great difficulty standing long by this month.

To the teary-eyed medical workers, who were recommending a sufficient rest to relieve his fatigue from long-running inspection trips, he said: I am very sorry that I cannot follow your advice. My request is that you do what I ask you to do.

He literally burned himself out for his country and people.

On the 15th, two days before his demise, he spent long hours

making the rounds of a music information centre and the Kwangbok Area Supermarket.

The following night he stayed in his office dealing with the affairs concerning the people's living, before setting out on another on-site guidance trip.

His heart stopped beating on a running train.

For the Korean people, he was indeed the benevolent father before being the leader of the country.

Text: Pak Kyong Chol



DPRK WOMEN CREATE ANOTHER SENSATION IN WORLD SPORTS CIRCLES

The 2024 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup took place in Dominica from October 16 to November 3.

The DPRK team belonged to Group C with Mexican, Kenyan and English teams in the group league.

In the first group league match, DPRK football players beat the Mexicans 4-1, the Kenyans 3-0 and the English 4-0.

They beat the Polish rival 1-0 in the quarterfinal match, and the US 1-0 in the semifinal.

Amid the attention of football experts,

fans and spectators across the world, the final match between the DPRK and Spanish teams took place on November 3 (local time).

From the outset the DPRK footballers played the game dynamically, displaying well-knit combinations between players and putting pressure on the opponent by active tackles. Although they lost a point first in the second half, they mounted persistent attacks while intensifying mutual cooperation, without slowing down in the least.

In the 66th minute, No. 7 Jon Il Chong

scored a goal.

As no more goals were scored, the two teams had to go through a penalty shoot-out.

In the thrilling shoot-out, the DPRK team beat the Spanish 4-3.

The DPRK team won six matches from the group league matches to the final, scoring 14 goals in total.

In the awarding ceremony, the DPRK women were awarded the trophy and gold medals, and Jon Il Chong the Golden Ball for the most valuable player.

By lifting the World Cup this time, the

DPRK players won all the six matches from the group league matches to the final, scoring 14 goals in total.



DPRK women footballers take the first place in the 2024 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

DPRK became the first to win three times in the history of women's World Cup, creating a great sensation in the world sports circles.

Foreign media commented that the women's football team of the DPRK, which had won three times in the U-20 Women's World Cup,

emerged as the strongest team in the women's soccer circles, turning upside down the deep-seated concept of the soccer fans, the concept of superiority of Europe and America in the soccer world.

Text: Pak Ui Chol



Winner's Trophy Lifted

Son Su Rim won a gold medal in the women's 60kg category event of the 2024 IBA World Youth Boxing Championships.

The 2024 IBA World Youth Boxing Championships took place in Montenegro between October 23 and November 3, bringing together more than 590 men and women boxers from over 70 countries and regions, including the DPRK, China, Kazakhstan and France.

DPRK player Son Su Rim in the women's 60kg category event beat Turkish and Greek rivals 5-0 respectively in preliminaries, and

a Mexican 5-0 in the quarterfinal.

She defeated her Tunisian rival by technical superiority in the semifinal and advanced to the final match.

In the final she defeated a Chinese player 3-2 and won the trophy and gold medal.

IBA Secretary General and CEO congratulated Son on her victory and greatly admired high boxing techniques of the DPRK boxers, adding: Son Su Rim

who played in the event of 60kg category possesses incredibly great mental strength as well as high techniques. I can see that the DPRK pays close attention to developing women's boxing.

Son began to train boxing since primary school days. She made her international debut in the current championships and lifted her first trophy.

Text: Kang Su Jong



Communist Mother Honour Prize Awarded



The Communist Mother Honour Prize was awarded to women who have made a contribution to faithfully passing on the baton of the revolution and succession, invariably following the road of devotion for their families and posterity and for the prosperity of the country.

The ceremony of conferring the prize was held at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on November 14.

Present there were Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Jong Sun, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, Jon Hyang Sun, chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, and officials and exemplary members of the women's union.

Ri Il Hwan delivered an address.

He said that the Communist Mother Honour Prize is a precious commendation given by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to the mothers who have set an example to be followed by women of the present era by fulfilling the duty they have assumed for their families and society.

The sincere efforts of the mothers who have devoted themselves to the future of their beloved children and a powerful country for decades are shining beautifully under the respect of the people as they are led by the great leader, he noted.

Saying that the country is strong and its future is firmly guaranteed as such revolutionary and patriotic mothers are steadily increasing in number, he requested the mothers, who firmly link the lifeblood of the revolution always with resolute and upright characters, to lead the rising generations along the road of patriotism in good health in the future, too.

The certificates of the Communist Mother Honour Prize, certificates of gifts and gold rings were awarded to 21 mothers amid the warm applause of the participants in the meeting.

A congratulatory speech and pledge-making speeches were followed.

At the end of the ceremony, a performance was given by the artistic information squad of the SWUK Central Committee to congratulate the winners of the Communist Mother Honour Prize.





Kindergarten teachers are proactively introducing new teaching methods according to the children's aptitudes and interests to develop their talents.

Unha Kindergarten No. 1 in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang, was inaugurated in September 2013, together with Unha Scientists Street.

As the street was built for scientists, the kindergarten has an enrolment of their children.

Now it is counted in the capital city as one of the excellent units in bringing up and educating children.

Whenever they make a comment on the kindergarten, the local residents mention its teachers' qualifications rather than its teaching conditions and environment.

The kindergarten has produced a number of prodigies in the intellectual and art fields.

This is the fruition of the efforts of its teachers, who work with a high sense of responsibility and pride in educating the future pillars of the country.

During lessons, they do their best to identify who has a keen power of observation of natural phenomena, who tries to express in a depictive way what he or she has seen, listened and felt, who is very

receptive to arts and who sings a song correctly.

They never fail to find out the buds of talent, and give appropriate education to them.

Proactive introduction of new teaching methods according to the children's aptitudes and talents, teaching contests held in a regular way, and innovative opinions presented to the departmental seminars—these contribute greatly to the development of the children's intelligence and their education.

Last year children of this kindergarten distinguished themselves again at the 15th National Contest of Talented Kindergarteners.

Headmistress Kwak Ae Suk says: The respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, on his visit to my kindergarten, earnestly asked us to bring up children to be the future scientists and talents. His instruction serves as a guideline for all our work.

Photo: Hwang Jong Hyok
Text: Kim Son Gyong

Children's Happy Dreams Come True

- Unha Kindergarten No. 1 in Ryongsong District -





16th Pyongyang Autumn Int'l Trade Fair Held

Presented to the fair on the theme of “For independence and friendship, common development and prosperity” were electric and electronic appliances, machinery, building-materials, medicines, foodstuffs and other products with international competitiveness and based on advanced science and technology, which were produced by more than 160 businesses and companies from different countries, including the DPRK and Russia.



The 16th Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair was held in Pyongyang last November.

Presented to the fair on the theme of “For independence and friendship, common development and prosperity” were electric and electronic appliances, machinery, building-materials, medicines, foodstuffs and other products with international competitiveness and based on advanced science and technology, which were produced by more than 160 businesses and companies from different countries, including the DPRK and Russia.

During the fair, there were an explanation session on economic exchange and cooperation.

The int'l trade fair served as a significant occasion in promoting friendly relations and economic cooperation among countries.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin
Text: Kim Son Gyong





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