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SOURCE Ch'un-chung Jih-pao.

SURVEY OF 1950 ACTIVITIES IN SINKIANG,
AIMS AND TASKS FOR 1951

(Report of Chairman Burhar at the Third Session of the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee meeting, 26 March 1951)

During 1950 in Sinkiang, campaigns to suppress counterrevolutionaries, the Resist America, Aid Korea movement, etc., were launched in earnest. One of the greatest achievements in Sinkiang was the rounding up of Osman and his band. People's governments on all levels were reorganized and reformed; autonomy was granted to many minority nationality areas; 1,328 political cadres were trained; and 1,233 youths received vocational and technical training. Steps were taken to centralize and unify the financial and economic system in Sinkiang and to increase Sinkiang-Soviet trade. Some 766 new commercial and industrial enterprises were established in Urumchi and 430 in Kuldja.

In the water conservancy field, PLA units helped reclaim 850,000 mou of wasteland, construct 32 new canals making possible an increase of irrigable acreage by 1,277,000 mou. Some 824,000 animals were given vaccinations or inoculations. Considerable progress was made in educational, cultural, and public health work during 1950.

During 1951, besides stepping up various administrative, political, and economic campaigns started in 1950, plans call for enlarging the arable acreage to 16,374,112 mou, increasing cotton acreage to 863,194 mou, producing 2.2 million cattles of hemp, increasing oil-producing crop acreage to 928,069 mou, planting 7,423,600 trees, increasing the number of horses by 2 percent, cattle by 4 percent, and sheep by 6 percent over that of 1950.

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Under the leadership of the Central People's Government and the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee, the Provincial People's Government of Sinkiang accomplished the following tasks in 1950:

1. Counterrevolutionary Activity

In the campaign to eliminate bandits and special agents, the people's police, together with the public security units and other public security organs at all levels, broke up six large spy rings, one spy hideout, and seven spy cells or undercover groups. They arrested 369 special agents and counterrevolutionaries, and exposed 66 cases of secret and counterrevolutionary plots. Of these, the people's judicial authorities tried, in accordance with law, 31 different cases involving a total of 212 persons.

In the various areas, a total of over 500 professional special agents, over 3,000 intelligence personnel, and 879 persons in charge of training special agents and counterrevolutionaries registered with the local authorities. With the exception of a very small number, most of these persons confessed their sins and were allowed to reform themselves through labor.

In addition, many Kuomintang organizations, the San-min Chu-i Youth Corps, and other counterrevolutionary organizations were broken up and several thousand persons belonging to the enemy party were reeducated. Weapons and equipment captured from or surrendered by bandit agents include 4 light machine guns, 531 rifles and pistols, 7 boxes of explosives, and 80 radios and other equipment.

Altogether, the various departments of the provincial people's government reformed 7,759 thieves, exposed and tried 1,545 burglary cases, 120 robbery cases, 227 criminal cases, and 49 cases of wilful interference and obstruction of the currency and financial systems. At important rural and urban centers a total of 1,730 cells were established for the purpose of eliminating bandits and spies and for protecting the work of production.

Recently, the Public Security Bureau sponsored an "Antitraitor and Special Agent Liquidation Exhibition" which drew a daily average of more than 5,000 visitors. As a result, it has not only given a serious warning as well as a deadly blow to the special agents who were still in hiding and continuing their activities, but it has also immensely promoted the political consciousness of the people of all races and nationalities in Sinkiang.

2. Political Reorganization

Since the establishment of the provincial people's government, reorganization has been made step by step in all levels of the old political structures throughout the province. By February or March 1950, with the exception of the 23 hsien governments in the three special ch'u of I-li, T'a-ch'eng, and A-shan, preliminary work had been done on the reform and establishment of one municipal government, seven special ch'u governments, 53 hsien governments and the Ch'i-chiao-ching Central Ch'u.

Subsequently, conferences of people's representatives of all circles and all nationalities were called in the various hsien and shih. Each of the 78 hsien throughout Sinkiang held their first conference; the 12 hsien in Ti-hua Special Ch'u, the six hsien in I-li Special Ch'u, and most of the hsien in the six special ch'u of Ha-mi, K'o-shih, Ho-t'ien, A-k'o-au, So-ch'e, and Yen-ch'i held their second conference; Urumchi held its third conference.

In all the Sinkiang h'ien work had also been done in the reform and establishment of a total of 958 kung-she, 1,275 hsiang governments, 149 hsiang kung-she (So-ch'e not included), and 7,166 ts'un. Further, in each hsien of the Ti-hua

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and Ha-mi special ch'u and parts of the nomadic stock-farming areas in Yen-ch'i and Ho-ching special ch'u, ch'u chiefs were appointed, hsiang chiefs were elected by the people, and the old pao-chia system of classifying territory was abolished.

With respect to setting forth the policies and tasks for liquidating bandits and special agents, for increasing production and developing cultural affairs, for strengthening the unity of the people and the government, and for consolidating and enlarging the people's united front, consultative committees were established and people's representatives conferences were held: the Kazakh people's representatives conferences held in the Ti-hua Special Ch'u were followed by similar conferences in Ha-mi Special Ch'u and by Kazakh people's consultative committee meetings at Chen-hsi, Ch'i-t'ai, F'u-yuan, and Mu-lei-ho. These conferences strengthened the unity of the people of the Kazakh nationality, organized militia, isolated the bandit group under Bandit Chief Osman, and set the aims and tasks for developing economic and cultural constructions in the nomadic stock-farming areas.

In addition, the provincial people's government called a joint conference of all special ch'u and hsien chiefs in Sinkiang in August 1950 for the purpose of strengthening the cooperation of provincial government and the special ch'u and hsien governments. In that conference, bureaucratic practices, the manner of giving orders, and all disorderly and disorganized conditions were criticized and attacked. In addition, a summary of the activities of the provincial government during the first 8 months of 1950 was made, policies for levying farm taxes were set forth, the amount of grain to be set aside as the public share was discussed, and many urgent problems of the various special ch'u and hsien were solved.

After reform had been carried out in the various levels of the governmental structure, revolutionary and progressive elements, as well as representatives of all circles and all nationalities within Sinkiang, were selected to fill important positions in the various levels of the governments.

In February 1950, study centers for political and government workers were established with branches and sub-branches extending to all local governments, for the purpose of strengthening the political education of all government workers. In addition, a campaign was launched to oppose corruption and bureaucratic practices. As a result, corrupt and bureaucratic elements were severely criticized. Furthermore, model workers were selected to set good examples. Great efforts were made to enable those who had worked for the old regime, and were permitted to continue their work, to distinguish right from wrong, to overcome bad habits, to reform old concepts, and to form the attitude of serving the people as their highest personal aim. In doing this, the government workers were sent to cadre training classes for reform and the first group of them, totaling 1,328 persons, were graduated in September 1950 and were assigned to work. As a result, the enthusiasm as well as the efficiency of these workers has been greatly increased.

For the purpose of giving vocational and technical training to Sinkiang youth, 1,233 persons were recruited from different nationalities for training in commerce, animal husbandry, law, interpretation, and translation. Other government agencies, such as the Finance Office, the Public Security Office, the Transportation Office, and the Agriculture and Forestry Office, also sponsored separate training classes, and more than 5,000 persons were trained to do special work with their respective agencies in 1950.

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3. Economic Development

Although the territory of Sinkiang is vast, its economic foundation is very weak and there is a lack of the means of transportation and communications. In April 1950, in responding to the call of the Central People's Government for financial and economic unification and centralization, work was begun to determine the levying of taxes and to set up a system of financial budgeting and examination. Currencies in the third and the seventh ch'u were standardized and investigations were made to ascertain the amounts of materials in storage. As a result, the provincial government alone discovered supplies and equipments worth 7,100,820,000 yuan.

Steps were also taken to facilitate trade with the Soviet Union for the purpose of raising commodity prices and the people of Sinkiang obtained considerable benefits. For example, in December 1949, a bolt of cloth could be exchanged for 2,113 catties of barley in Urumchi, whereas in November 1950 it could be exchanged for only 287.42 catties, indicating a sixfold increase in agricultural products. Again, in December 1949, a bolt of cloth could be exchanged for 201.42 catties of wool, whereas in November 1950 it could be exchanged for only 30 catties, indicating a fivefold increase in woolen products. With the assistance given by the Central People's Government, the assistance rendered by the People's Liberation Army stationed in Sinkiang, and with the support of the people of Sinkiang, the provincial government was able to pull itself through its economic and financial difficulties.

With respect to commerce and industry, a Labor Bureau was established and commercial and industrial enterprises organized to improve the relation between employers and employees and to adjust the relationship between private and state-owned enterprises. According to investigations made, 766 new commercial and industrial establishments made their appearance in Urumchi and 430 in Kulджа. Increases in commercial and industrial establishments were also registered in other centers. At present, great efforts are being made to develop and expand cooperative enterprises by establishing cooperative supply, distribution, and retail stations to eliminate exploitation by middlemen and to fulfill the objective of "strengthening rural-urban cooperation and facilitating rural-urban commerce." The textile industries have begun work; the electric power plants are being built and equipped; the petroleum company and the metallurgical company, under joint Sino-Soviet ownership and operation, have been established.

In responding to Chairman Mao's appeal of 1950 to increase production, great efforts were made by the provincial government to boost the labor and production enthusiasm of the people by carrying on extensive propaganda activities among the farmers during their spring plowing. In addition, policies were formulated with respect to the renting of public land, totaling 341,333 mou. The provincial government also made available 62,725 piculs of seeds, 7,446 head of draft animals, 41,446 sets of farm implements, 5,783 carts, and 2,251 bags. Further, the provincial government made available a 1,092,264 yuan agricultural loan to the people, 13,360,000 piculs of grains for the use of the farmers, a 180,892,000 yuan loan for handicraft business, and a 11,484,941,400 yuan loan for irrigation projects.

The work to ensure a bumper crop included: digging wells, repairing and clearing canals and waterways, and building reservoirs. In addition, a water conservancy committee was established to regulate the use and distribution of water, thus enabling the farmers, especially the poor and the middle-class farmers, to obtain an adequate supply of water. In general, increase in production and output was made in most of the special ch'u with the exception of A-shan, where production was lowered by 20 percent due to drought (however, livestock was increased by 20 percent), e-li, where production was also lowered due to lack of organization for springtime work, as well as bad weather, and in Tihua Special Ch'u where the fields were not planted in time due to disturbances caused by bandits.

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What is to be especially mentioned is that the members of the People's Liberation Army stationed in Sinkiang also took part in the production drive. During 1950, they reclaimed 850,000 mou of wasteland, harvested 250,000 piculs of grain, and planted vegetables enough to supply them for the entire year. Further, the army built 32 small canals having a total length of 1,300,000 meters, which are capable of irrigating 1,277,000 mou of land.

For the purpose of reducing the burdens of the people of Sinkiang and boosting their enthusiasm to produce, methods of farming used in the interior of China were introduced, which raised their knowledge of agricultural techniques and gave the Sinkiang people great benefits.

In Sinkiang, animal husbandry is still second to agriculture. After the establishment of the provincial people's government, steps were taken to establish veterinary hospitals and epizootic disease-prevention stations, and mobile medical teams were organized to inoculate and treat animals. According to incomplete data, 418,109 animals were treated for noninfectious diseases, 317,678 for infectious diseases, and 98,190 were given preventive inoculations.

4. Cultural Activities

Basic and effective work was done in establishing newspapers, bookstores, broadcasting stations, and movie theaters for the purposes of promoting the political consciousness of the people. In Sinkiang newspapers are now being printed in the Chinese, Mongolian, Uighur, and Kazakh languages and being circulated to the masses. Each day at I-li, Chuguchak, A-shan, K'o-shih, So-ch'e, Khotan, and A-k'o-su, the newspapers and the radio stations transmit news and scientific knowledge to the people. In addition, radio monitoring stations have been established at Su-lo, A-k'o-su, Khotan, So-ch'e, Karashahr, and Ha-mi.

With respect to the work of translation, over 30 different works of Chairman Mao (totaling over 40,000 words and 15 different works of Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-ch'i totaling over 1,010,000 words) have been translated into the Kazakh language. Naturally, this has great importance in introducing and spreading the ideas of Mao Tse-tung and the experiences of the Chinese people in their Revolution to the people of Sinkiang. Further, the branch offices of the Hsin-hua Bookstore at K'o-shih, Ha-mi, I-li, Chuguchak, So-ch'e, and Khotan have published 71 different kinds of books, totaling 305,400 copies, concerning government policies, documents, and theories, in the Chinese, Uighur, and Kazakh languages. Under the guidance of the Culture and Education Committee, theater groups of the Uighur and Kazakh peoples have also been organized. They have given performances in Sian and Peiping which were well received by the audiences.

With respect to education, the reactionary educational system of the Kuomintang was abolished and the reactionary courses of instructions were replaced with courses along the lines of internationalism and patriotism. In Sinkiang, there are now 1,934 schools with over 6,000 teachers and a total of 265,012 students.

Central Hospital of the Kuomintang has also been taken over, and a thorough reorganization of both the hospital and its workers has been made. The medical school at Kuldja is training doctor's aides, nurses, and pharmacists totaling 213 persons; the X-ray training school at Urumchi is training 18 persons. In addition, 72 public health stations were established and a total of 46,631 persons were given preventive vaccinations and inoculations.

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Accomplishments and Defects

The above accomplishments were made largely through the correct leadership of Chairman Mao, the Central People's Government, the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee, the assistance given by the People's Liberation Army in Sinkiang, the warm support of the people of Sinkiang, and the efforts of the government workers in Sinkiang. However, the work in Sinkiang is not without defects and these defects are largely due to the fact that Sinkiang has been only recently liberated, that the people there are many and complex, that there are difficulties of language, that the territory of Sinkiang is vast and the conditions there complex, that there is a lack of available government cadres, and those who are there lack the experience for carrying out such heavy responsibilities and solving the complex problems.

The first defect is the lack of complete understanding of the conditions and the characteristics of Sinkiang, resulting in the lack of complete coordination between the various branches of the government. In certain cases, the government was more or less passive, and many things were left undone. Secondly, there was the lack of periodic investigation and examination by the various bureaus and departments of the work of lower echelons, and the lack of assistance and guidance which should have been given by those bureaus and departments to the lower echelons, resulting in a somewhat unbalanced progress of work. Thirdly, there was a lack of training of government cadres by the various departments, resulting in the lack of a sufficient number of capable government workers.

Although the groundwork has been laid in 1950, there is still much work left to be done in filling in the details and in strengthening the foundation.

Aims and Tasks 1951

The aims and tasks of the Provincial People's Government of Sinkiang for the year 1951 are outlined in the following eight points:

1. Further patriotic education, tighten the unity and the democratic united front of all peoples in Sinkiang, strengthen Sino-Soviet friendship and cooperation, thus striving to win the victory in the Resist America, Aid Korea Movement. In 1951, it is our aim to extend to people in the urban centers, as well as in rural areas, the benefits of patriotic education in opposing American imperialism and American aggression, leading them to recognize the enemies confronting us, to manifest their spirit of internationalism and patriotism, to follow resolutely the leadership and guidance of Chairman Mao, to give moral and material aid to the Chinese Volunteer Army in Korea and to the Korean People's Army, and to cooperate with the people of the whole country and the peace-loving people of the world to strive for peace in the Far East and peace in the world.
2. Rally and mobilize people of all races and nationalities in Sinkiang to the support of the People's Liberation Army in its task of liberating Tibet, restoring and establishing local peace and order, and strengthening national defense.
3. Strengthen the leadership of the people's police, the public security units, and all other authorities in charge of public security as they join with the people and the People's Liberation Army in a united effort to liquidate all remnants of bandits and special agents, and to suppress with determination all counterrevolutionary activities. Further, strengthen the people's democratic dictatorship; safeguard the interest of the people and to strengthen the peace of the society; strengthen the political and class education of the people's police and the public security units, thus helping them to form the attitude and habit of hard working frugality and of serving the people.

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4. Strengthen and improve the political work of all branches and all levels of the government; permit regional autonomy among the various nationalities; and strengthen the people's democratic political power. To accomplish such tasks, it is necessary that all circles and all nationalities people's representatives conferences continue to be convened to establish the system of people's democracy in the rural areas; it is further necessary to reform the political power of the Sinkiang governments and to begin democratic construction in the nomadic stock-farming areas, double the efforts in the training of political workers, purge undesirable elements, raise the efficiency of work of all branches and all strata of the government, and improve the operation of the judicial department and the system of its periodic examination.

5. Sinkiang is the rear guard of the national defense structure of the People's Republic of China; therefore, we must make the people of Sinkiang understand clearly that national construction and national defense are the most important tasks confronting the nation. To carry out such tasks it is necessary that we strive to increase production and to establish and develop state-owned industries; establish a system of economic and financial unification and centralization; stabilize commodity prices; facilitate rural-urban commerce; strive for a balanced budget by reducing expenditures and raising government income; and eliminate corruption by prohibiting all manner of waste and extravagance in contradiction to adopted policies and methods.

In agriculture, we must strive to increase the output of foodstuffs, cotton, and hemp by utilizing all beneficial conditions and by boosting the enthusiasm of the people to produce. In addition, subsidiary occupations must be established at important and strategic centers. The goals for production increases are as follows:

Foodstuffs: The amount of arable land must be enlarged to 16,374,112 mou, and the output should be increased 10.41 percent over that of 1950. Cotton: The area for cotton growing must be enlarged to 863,194 mou. Hemp: We must strive for the production of 2.2 million catties of hemp. Oil-producing crops: The planted area must be increased to 928,068 mou, striving for the production of 123,470,115 catties of oil. To accomplish the above goals, it is necessary to strengthen the leadership of production and to improve the methods of farming.

Mobilize the people for the construction of irrigation projects. With the exception of such large irrigation projects as the reservoir at H'ung-yien Ts'eh near Urumchi and the dikes at Ho-p'ing, Ha-mi, Karashahr, and A-k'o-su which are to be built by the army, other small irrigation projects should be constructed by the people. In addition, adequate measures should be taken to insure the proper use and distribution of water.

Forestry: The chief aim is the protection of forests, and afforestation is, at the present stage, secondary and complementary to this; in addition, plans should be made to insure the proper and appropriate use of lumber. When the opportunity presents itself, a campaign of afforestation must be launched -- a campaign to plant 7,423,600 trees and 100 hectares of state-sponsored forests, and to turn 720 mou of wasteland into arable land. This is of great importance to Sinkiang, where much of the land is very barren. With respect to the use of lumber, 95,000 cubic meters of lumber must be cut for construction purposes.

Animal Husbandry: The number of horses must be increased 2 percent over that of 1950, cattle 4 percent, and sheep 6 percent. In addition, enlargement must be made of the present animal farms, veterinary hospitals for the purpose of improving the stock and preventing and curing of epizootic diseases. Emphasis is placed on the prevention of diseases; treatment of diseases is secondary.

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Scientific methods of raising animals must be introduced and adopted to improve the stock. Measures must be taken to settle disputes on animal farms and to develop agricultural pursuits as a supplementary vocation in the nomadic stock-farming areas.

Industry: Continue to improve and expand provincially-owned industries and to establish other basic industries at important centers. Continue aid to Sino-Soviet owned companies and assist in the development of handicrafts.

Finance: Strive for balance of budget and free flow of currencies by implementing currency control, by encouraging the circulation of currencies in the rural areas, by promoting savings, by strengthening the work of loans and insurance, and by facilitating the transfer and turnover of money.

Commerce: Facilitate Sino-Soviet trade, develop and expand privately-owned business, establish market control, and facilitate rural-urban commerce. In addition, fulfill the decisions of the people's government to establish cooperatives on an extensive scale by establishing 70 additional cooperatives, besides enlarging the present 30-odd. Furthermore, steps must be taken to plan transportation and marketing in the attempt to bring about rural-urban commerce.

Labor policies: Labor organizations must be established and strengthened at important centers. The relations between labor and management must be adjusted, aiming to fulfill the objective of "consideration and circumspection to both state-owned and private enterprises, interests and benefits to both labor and management." Steps must be taken to improve the safety of mines by promoting workers' insurance and by strict observance of labor-union policies.

Transportation and Communications: Continue to repair highways with the assistance of the People's Liberation Army; improve the work of the post office, wire and wireless communications, and other means of communications and transportation.

6. In accordance with the desires and demands of the people, we are required to implement the policy of reduction of land rentals and to lessen the feudal exploitation of the rural areas, thus making rudimentary improvement in the people's standard of living and laying the groundwork for the implementation of land reform. To achieve these objectives, it is necessary that the various branches of the government take steps to train the cadres needed for carrying on the work, to study and examine experiences obtained in other areas with respect to the execution of the policy of reduction of land rentals, to make studies and investigations of the conditions in the rural areas, and to make complete and timely plans for accomplishing the work.

7. Carry out tasks given by the 1950 Cultural and Educational Conference. In 1951, large numbers of cadres are to be provided by recruiting youth from among the local people and by giving them thorough education in theories, policies, and other necessary knowledge and techniques. Other tasks include: reform the old educational system and establish normal educational centers at important cities; develop technical and vocational education and strengthen the mass education of the people; strengthen the work of public health and sanitation by improving the hospitals and by launching various campaigns for public health and sanitation; further develop newspapers, broadcasting, culture, art, translation, publication, and other similar work of the people.

8. Under the leadership and guidance of the Central People's Government and the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee, organize and mobilize the people and strive for the complete and satisfactory fulfillment of the above aims and tasks.

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To carry out the above eight points satisfactorily, it is necessary to mobilize all government cadres to study the orders and directives of the Central People's Government, of the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee, and of the Provincial People's Government of Sinkiang in order to form correct convictions, to carry out the work entrusted to them, and to lead the people. Furthermore, it is necessary to give sound leadership to the lower echelons by periodic checkups and by constant discussions and criticisms of experiences. Those who have made outstanding accomplishments should be given proper recognition and encouragement while those who disobey the rules and regulations of the government should be given education, criticism, or even punishment. Finally, it is necessary to adopt the system of periodic report by the workers to eliminate all disorderly and anarchic conditions, thus enabling our work to progress systematically and smoothly.

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