

Asia Aids Africa

Chinese Physicians and Surgeons Aid in Developing new Somalia Medical Program

MOGADISHU, Somalia — China, the first non-African nation to publicly proclaim full support and sympathy with the black revolution in America, has sent a team of physicians and surgeons to this developing nation to help combat colonialism's legacy of medical deprivation.

"OUR PEOPLE have shown great faith in the sincerity and skill of the Chinese doctors," states an editorial in the National Broadcasting Service of Somalia over Radio Mogadishu recently.

At the invitation of the So-

mal Government, a Chinese medical team came here in July 1965. They have successfully treated many serious cases and, with the cooperation of Somali colleagues, have cured countless sicknesses. But it is not only their professional skill which has won the hearts of the Somali people

When they arrived in the "Horn of Africa," the Chinese doctors and nurses faced many difficulties, such as the language barrier, different medical systems and traditions and, of course, unfamiliar surroundings.

The Chinese physicians

and surgeons assert they overcame these difficulties by adhering to the teachings Mao Tse-Tung. He wrote an article about a Canadian surgeon who went to China in the thirties to help the people in their war of resistance against Japanese aggressors, and died of blood poisoning contracted while operating on a wounded soldier who was fighting to liberate China.

The article, titled "In Memory of Norman Bethune," states: "We must all learn the spirit of absolute selflessness from him. With this spirit everyone can be

very useful to the people. A man's ability may be great or small, but if he has this spirit, he is already noble-minded and pure, a man of moral integrity and above vulgar interests, a man who is of value to the people."

only as doctors treating patients, but have shown a heart- and - soul devotion in serving the struggling African people, newly emancipated from imperialist oppression.

Here are some examples of their dedication and devotion to the people of Somalia:

Mohamed Sufi Abukar, a 17-year-old secondary school student, had suffered a heart

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WOMAN DOCTOR, sent by China to Somali to aid in developing the African nation's health program, exchanges experiences with

Somali medical personnel during brief break from duties in Magadishu hospital.



CHINESE DOCTOR examines infant whose grateful mother named the child Hung You-Yi, after the doctor. The mother was saved from eclampsia by the brilliant Chinese woman physician and surgeon, who was sent by her country to aid the Somali government's health program.



SOMALI PATIENTS thank Chinese medical personnel who worked diligently in saving both mother and infant who were inflicted with eclampsia.

What Chinese Physicians Are Doing in Somaliland

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disease for some five years. In July of this year, his father brought him to the Chinese doctors. After careful examination, it was found that the patient was suffering from mitral stenosis, curable only by an intricate operation. Although the hospital lacked the necessary medical equipment and drugs for such an operation, the devoted surgeons, acting on Mao Tse-Tung's teachings, carefully studied all possible eventualities, thoroughly prepared themselves in every way and even practiced on an animal with their meager equipment before the operation.

They achieved the first successful heart operation in the history of Somalla. Afterwards, the entire Chinese team helped nurse the patient, maintaining a 24-hour watch beside the recovering patient's bed for a week.

"TO WATCH over a patient throughout the night is something doctors from Western countries have never done," a Somali friend said. After more than 20 days, the young patient left the hospital fully recovered.

A four-year-old named Ibrahim, who had an obstruction in his wind pipe, was in most critical condition, scarcely able to breathe and had not eaten for several days when the Chinese doctors examined him. Though lacking proper facilities, the doctors built up the child's strength with fluid transfusions, then performed a tracheotomy operation to temporarily relieve his difficulty in breathing.

Due to the lad's low resistance he contracted staphylococci pneumonia and repeatedly sank into suffocation. The Chinese doctors, working in coordination with Somali nurses, took turns caring for the boy who was at death's door. They injected Chinese-made ilotycin to fight off more serious infection.

In desperation, as a last effort, the Chinese surgeons

performed a high tracheotomy operation on little Ibrahim, using a broken trachoscope and without electric light. Carefully exploring his windpipe with a probe, they finally dislodged a plastic pearl from the patient's windpipe. Little Ibrahim was saved.

A pregnant Somali woman, who was saved from eclampsia by a Chinese doctor Hung Su-Ying, named her first son "Hung You-Yi," which means "friendship" in honor of the doctor.

By persisting in the study of the Somali language, the Chinese medical team can now converse with their patients, a great help in diagnosing ills.

HAGI HASHIR Ismail, Somali Minister of Health, told the Chinese doctors — expressing the sentiments of the entire nation — "Your service to the Somali people is wholehearted. Your success in Somalia is the pride of the Somali people."

Algerians Stage Anti-American Demonstration

ALGIERS — About 500 Algerians demonstrated outside the U.S. embassy here protesting against "U.S. criminal aggression in Viet Nam," and supporting the Vietnamese struggle.

Carrying flags of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the South Vietnamese Liberation Front, the demonstrators shouted "Johnson murderer" and other anti-U.S. slogans.

They also presented a letter of protest to the U.S. ambassador demanding immediate withdrawal of all American forces in Viet Nam and liquidation of all U.S. bases there.

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