A Talk to an Official of the Cinematic Art Section of the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea
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The newly produced film We Have Our Homeland is fairly good. The film is good as a whole, but the narration seems too long. Little attention was paid to the narration when this film was made, so a mistake was made. If the narration of a film is too long, it will weary the audience and waste film. There is no point in it.
The songs in the film We Have Our Homeland are good. The song Brilliant Fatherland from this film should be used in the performance of film artists to be held in celebration of the 57th birthday of the great leader.
This song emphasizes the theme of the film. It makes people feel a warm gratitude to the great leader who liberated the country, marching through thousands of miles of snowstorms and bloody battles against Japanese imperialism and has now established the brilliant fatherland, of which we are all proud.
Songs and other music play an important part in the film. Films with good songs have a greater appeal for the audience. Music excites or calms or intoxicates people’s minds. We can say that music is what carries along people’s emotion on its melodies and tunes. Music has the power to express the various detailed emotions of people which cannot be seen or described in words. Those who understand music in depth have a better understanding of the changes in people’s emotional inner world. In order to develop a psychologically sensitive understanding of people’s feelings it is necessary for Party officials to learn music. If officials are well-informed about music and sensitive to it, it will help them to discover what the masses think, to catch the pulse of the time and skilfully enlist the political enthusiasm of the masses earlier than others.
Film actors and actresses should also be able to sing songs.
In the film We Have Our Homeland the song of the heroine is sung by a singer, just as in other films. It would have been better if this song had been sung by the actress who plays the part of the heroine. A recent performance of film artists showed that there are few good singers among them. It is a shame if a film actor or actress cannot sing a song in the theatre. They must train themselves to become good singers.
If the song Brilliant Fatherland in the film We Have Our Homeland were sung by the heroine’s voice, not by a singer, it would demonstrate more vividly the emotion of the heroine who is proud of being a citizen of the socialist homeland and make the audience feel
in their bones a profound gratitude to the leader who established the motherly homeland, by fighting along the thorny path through the snowstorm of Mt. Paektu to regain the lost country and the revolutionary spirit born in the crucible of the anti-Japanese revolution.

When we enjoy a film or sing a song about the fatherland, we should not forget the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu, the revolutionary spirit created during the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. Because we live in the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu, our country has made a brilliant entrance into the world as a dignified socialist country. The revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu is the revolutionary spirit of our fatherland. We produce films about the fatherland, in the final analysis, in order to implant patriotism and the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu in the hearts of the people.

The song Socialist Paradise in the film A Red Agitator should be listed in the programme for the film artists’ performance. This is a famous song. While concentrating deeply on this song, people will feel more deeply their pride in our socialist fatherland liberated by the great leader as well as appreciating the distinguished service which he has rendered in the revolutionary struggle, overcoming all difficulties to take back the country.

The revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu is the onward-rushing spirit which breaks through any difficulties, the indomitable fighting spirit which rises again though one may fall ten thousand times, the independent spirit which can restore the country and build a socialist paradise by one’s own effort.

It is very important at present to equip the rising generation who have not lived through the revolutionary trial with the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu. Without this spirit they cannot understand how far beyond price the fatherland is, nor will they be able to build our country successfully in the future.

The greatest and most valuable gift that the Korean revolutionaries must hand over to the coming generation is a reunified socialist country. In order to get the rising generation to maintain the glory of the fatherland, it is imperative to implant the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu in their hearts. We can say that this spirit, indeed, is the most priceless and valuable riches that the revolutionary elders must bequeath to the rising generation. Only when we have armed ourselvess with the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu, can we achieve the reunification of the country and prosperity for all generations to come.

Educating the rising generation in a revolutionary fashion is more important today because the ideological and cultural poisons spread by the imperialists may permeate our society through different channels. The US imperialists, the ringleaders of the world reactionaries, are spreading Yankee culture and the American way of life everywhere in order to blunt the revolutionary consciousness of the younger generation and other people. They are craftily manoeuvring to effect an ideological and cultural infiltration and make economic and
military invasion easy.
In south Korea, a part of our territory, the prevalent decadent
Yankee culture and American way of life paralyse the fighting spirit
of the youth and children and degrade them. The US imperialists are
trying by hook or by crook to poison the minds of the south Korean
people and prevent them from awakening to revolutionary
consciousness. In particular, the American gang films which have
flooded south Korea are degrading young people and children and
turning them to immorality and depravity.
The art and literature of south Korea have also been lamentably
influenced by corrupt Yankee culture. A little while ago I read a serial
novel printed in Tong-A Ilbo and found it shocking. The reactionary
writers of south Korea are rotten to core. In a complete collection of
documents and historical stories published in south Korea, most of the
stories were treacherous and lascivious.
Recently the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets have been
intensifying vicious anti-communist education and propaganda
among the youth and children more powerfully than ever. In such a
situation we cannot assume that the decadent bourgeois ideological
and cultural virus spread by the imperialists will never infiltrate into
our communities. We must therefore sharpen our revolutionary
vigilance and continuously strengthen the education effort among
the younger generation.
We should not be content with the success gained in the education of
youth and children, but buckle down to ideological education in real
earnest, following a careful plan. When the Pueblo incident took
place, many south Korean intellectuals said that north Korea would
suffer a bitter experience, but when they heard that the US
imperialists who had threatened to retaliate against us eventually
begged our pardon on their knees, their eyes opened wide in
astonishment and they said that north Korea was very powerful, that
they had not known the north was so strong. We should not think that
the US imperialists failed to retaliate against us and knelt down
before our people for the lack of soldiers or weapons. What
frightened the Americans was the power of our people who are rallied
rock-firm behind the great leader and the revolutionary spirit of Mt.
Paektu. The younger generation must be clearly aware of this fact.
The revolutionary spirit that blazed forth in the forest of Mt. Paek-tu
is a most priceless treasure which will shine forever on this land
throughout the generations, the indomitable banner which guarantees
the eternal prosperity of our nation.
It is our Party workers who must cultivate the revolutionary spirit of
Mt. Paektu among the younger generation. It is no exaggeration to
say that the future of our revolution depends on how well the Party
workers carry out this noble mission.
In order to equip the younger generation with the revolutionary spirit
of Mt. Paektu, it is important to conduct education in revolutionary
traditions in real earnest. The glorious revolutionary traditions of our
Party include the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu created by the
great leader—a firm faith in the revolution, an indomitable fighting
spirit, revolutionary optimism and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

We should ensure that the young people are tempered in the practice of the revolution and construction work and totally imbued with the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu. We summon young people to take up difficult and labour-intensive work, not only in order to step up socialist economic construction, but more particularly for purposes of training them in the thrilling reality of production and construction sites. As early training is worth more than gold, young people must experience the hardships of difficult and labour-consuming work and temper their soul and body by breaking through difficulties and overcoming trials; only then will they grow up into stout revolutionaries who will succeed the generations of the revolution without wavering in the slightest in any wind.

We should make the young people clearly aware, through the thrilling reality of struggle, that every precious revolutionary gain is soaked in the priceless blood of their revolutionary forerunners. In other words, they must know clearly for what the anti-Japanese revolutionary veterans fought and shed their blood, for what it was that our people advanced, fought and advanced again following the leader overcoming arduous trials in the period of the building of the fatherland after liberation, during the Fatherland Liberation War and during the hard times of postwar reconstruction, for what a People’s Army soldier crushed the enemy by pressing the trigger of his heavy machine-gun with his jaw after losing his both arms during the Fatherland Liberation War, for what the people in the homefront during this period never stopped running their lathes even though they had to turn their belt by hand when the power was off, and for what our people had striven tirelessly tightening their belts, taking ten steps or a hundred steps when others were taking only one. If the rising generation are to be clearly aware of the high degree of class consciousness and revolutionary spirit of their revolutionary seniors, reading books or learning in the class is not enough. Only when they sweat away at a job in the thrilling reality of the revolution and construction work can they feel such spirit from the bottom of their hearts, experience the pride and happiness of their life as young individuals in the revolutionary era, and determine, in strong faith, to fight for the revolution even at the cost of their lives and to fight for the future of the fatherland just as their revolutionary forerunners did. We must draw a lesson from the film We Have Our Homeland in order to produce many films based on socialist patriotism and the revolutionary traditions, and thus firmly arm the rising generation with the ardent patriotism and the revolutionary spirit of Mt. Paektu.