

## *THE BASIC TASKS FACING THE KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY*

---

A Talk to the Officials of the Korean Central News Agency  
June 12, 1964

It is a very good thing that many of you have more than ten years of service at the Central News Agency. For an institution such as this news agency it is desirable that the staff should settle down and work at their posts for ten or twenty years. This will enable them to accumulate rich experience and become highly skilful, dealing with great efficiency with the complex work of providing a news service. The phototelegraphic apparatus is very good. The Central News Agency transmits photographs to all parts of the world and receives photographs from other countries within a day.

The mechanism of the phototelegraphic apparatus is very simple. The apparatus lights the original photograph and changes the reflections into electric impulses. When the cylinder of the transmitter in which the photograph is placed revolves, the lighter surface of the picture reflects more light and causes more electric current to flow than the darker surface, which reflects less light and causes less electric current to flow. Then the light which is reflected from the picture is changed, according to its strength, into the corresponding volume of electric impulses, which in turn are divided into unit elements and transmitted.

A phototelegraphic receiver converts the electric impulses received into light which acts on photographic paper or film in sequence to produce pictures. Because phototelegraphs are transmitted and received on this principle, the pictures are made up of dots, but even so they look like originals at an appropriate distance. The way in which a man's eyes work is very convenient. They see clearly only those objects which he wants to see from among the things that come within his field of vision. When he sees something on the right side, for instance, he does not see the things on the left side clearly, and vice versa. This is due to the eyes' action to bring an object into focus.

Unlike the human eye, the camera takes pictures of all the objects that come into its field of vision. It would be excellent if a camera were made to work like the human eye.

The transmitting department is very important. Its work is noble and very honourable in that it disseminates the leader's revolutionary thoughts all over the world and keeps the world public informed of our Party's position.

Giving wide publicity abroad to the great leader's revolutionary thoughts is the most important task of the Korean Central News Agency. By carrying out this task the Central News Agency will give strength and inspiration to the peoples of the embattled, revolutionary countries and deal a heavy blow to our enemy.

The Korean Central News Agency is a powerful mouthpiece of our Party and Government. It must announce promptly to the world public the attitude of our Party and Government towards the major events taking place in the international arena. In particular, it must lose no time in striking back at those who slander us. The enemy is now resorting to every manner of slander in order to fling mud at our socialist system which is being consolidated and developed with every passing day. We must retaliate strongly against the enemy's wicked manoeuvres and so deny him time to speak. So far we have slapped the enemy in the face. From now onwards we must strike at it with a heavy club. We must defeat the enemy also in the battle of the radio waves.

In order to become a powerful ideological weapon of our Party, the Korean Central News Agency must provide a news service in accordance with the idea and intention of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, establish Juche firmly in its work and fully embody the Party spirit, the working-class spirit and the spirit of serving the people. It must pay serious attention to each word, to each dot of the writings it releases because they express the standpoint of our Party and the Government of our Republic.

The monitoring department is also important. It receives major news items from other countries and sends them to the leader.

The Central News Agency plays the role of the eyes, mouth and ears of our Party and Government.

It is only by receiving information on world events and submitting it to the great leader promptly that it can help him in formulating lines and policies.

Today the manoeuvres of the US imperialists and their south Korean stooges to provoke another war are becoming more blatant. This situation makes it all the more important to report developments in the situation promptly to the leader.

The Central News Agency must send news to the great leader promptly even when he is on a provincial tour. Up until now news has been dispatched to him via the telephone when he has been on a provincial tour, and then written information has been sent to him by car. This is not a good way of sending him information. A telephone message requires that a fresh copy be made, which takes time and is likely to be inaccurate.

When he was in the provinces last night, the great leader asked me whether news could not be made available quickly. Afterwards I was unable to sleep for some time. For a long time I have been giving thought to the matter of making news available to the leader more quickly, but I have as yet been unable to solve this problem.

Since we are revolutionary fighters who assist the great leader in his work, we must use every possible means to solve any problems which weigh on his mind. Every means and all the forces at the disposal of the Central News Agency must serve the leader. If it provides no service for the leader, the Central News Agency is totally pointless. If news is to be sent to the great leader promptly, it must be dispatched by facsimile telegraph. Facsimile telegraphy can ensure a

prompt, neat and accurate news service. Use of facsimile telegraphy is also advisable in view of the features of the Korean alphabet. Facsimile telegraphy can also make clerical work easier. In many countries it is now used not only in news services but also in clerical work.

It is better to send facsimiles by wire than by radio. Sending them by wire can ensure secrecy and accuracy without any radio interference. Dispatching news to the leader by facsimile must be done through the wire.

Ordinary paper, not chemically coated paper, should be used for facsimile information to be sent to the great leader.

Facsimile telegraphic information for him should be well edited and well copied by designated, highly responsible calligraphers.

Calligraphers must write each word with the utmost loyalty and care, bearing in mind that their handwriting is read by the leader. They should write clearly with a fountain pen in thick strokes.

Since wire facsimile telegraphy is a new development, the Central News Agency must study the matter carefully.

You must take good care of your wireless operators. The great leader has said that the wireless operators of the Central News Agency are treasures and he bestows every possible kindness on them. You must take good care of their health. I am not sure whether chemically coated paper for receiving information is not harmful to people's health.

The workers at the Central News Agency work hard at night monitoring foreign news.

The workers who receive news from south Korea will be very tired physically and mentally. They must be looked after well. They are obliged to work very hard, displaying a fighting spirit, until the country is reunified.

The facsimile telegraph is bulky. It needs to be made handier. The one advertised in the catalogue is good. It can both transmit and receive photographs, and it uses ordinary paper.

The page-form transceiver can also use ordinary paper. It is good because it can transmit information faster than other transmitters.

You have compiled a lot of technical information. The Central News Agency should collect a wide range of technical data on communications equipment and study it. It will thus come to know world trends in communications technology and will be able to develop ours.

Some countries are now switching over to high speed transmission and reception. The Central News Agency must continue to renew and modernize its communications equipment in keeping with world trends in communications technology. Only then will it be able to receive foreign news without letup, even when other countries change their mode of communication.

In order to modernize communications equipment, it is necessary to display to a high degree the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

As the great leader has taught us, one must be economically self-sufficient if one is to maintain independence in politics. Our country

is mechanizing agriculture successfully because we have constructed, in the spirit of self-reliance, the Kiyang Tractor Factory and many other modern farm machinery factories.

If you display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance to a high degree, you, the officials and technicians of the Central News Agency, will be perfectly able to modernize communications equipment yourselves. There is nothing mysterious about communications technology.

You have done a lot of work by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance to a high degree. You produced a device to prevent misprinting in printing telegraphs. This was a very good thing. You must modernize your communications equipment further by your own efforts, until you reach the world standard.

You must make the parts for your communications equipment yourselves. If you make them yourselves, you can repair the equipment as soon as it breaks down and provide a news service without interruption. You say that you are meeting more than half of your needs for parts by making them yourselves. That is good. You are displaying ingenuity. With your skill you can make extremely sophisticated communications equipment. From now onwards you should make for yourselves all the parts you have previously imported.

You should also make your own paper for facsimile telegraphy. Since you can produce facsimile telegraphs, you will be able to make the paper yourselves.

The scenery of the River Taedong is very beautiful, viewed from this office of the Central News Agency. The building is in an excellent location.

Under the unremitting care of the great leader the Korean Central News Agency has become an excellent news agency which is renowned throughout the world. It should equip itself better in the future and develop its news service in every possible way so that the revolutionary people of the world can listen to the voice of our Party.

---

*Korean Friendship Association (K.F.A)*

<http://www.korea-dpr.com>