

## **Witness of History**

On August 15 1945, Korea was liberated from the military occupation by Japan spanning scores of years. This historic cause was accomplished by Kim Il Sung, founding father of socialist Korea and eternal President of the DPRK.

Here carries the witness of history.

### **“Kim Il Sung’s Guerrilla Army”**

“Korea continued the struggle against the oppressors by its own efforts. Until August 1945 guerrilla units were active in Korea.”

R. Malinovsky, former Soviet army Marshal

“As we approached the city we could hear the crackle of machine-guns and the roar of artillery fire. The small plazas and narrow streets of Rajin (a coastal city in northeastern Korea, now Rason City) were crowded with the enemy’s military trucks and loaded carts. Korean guerrillas had cut off the retreat of the Japanese soldiers so that they could not escape from the city. Pinned down by the guerrillas and us, the Japanese samurais threw down their arms and began to surrender. We saw about 100 armed men rushing towards us from the outskirts of the city. ‘We are soldiers of Kim Il Sung’s guerrilla army,’ said their commander.”

I. Urzhmelashuwili, former Soviet army officer

### **“Kim Il Sung, Commander of Korea’s Independence”**

“I still remember the fact that the Japanese officials were alarmed by the letters ‘Kim Il Sung, Commander of Korea’s Independence,’ written on the ceiling of the bedroom of a ferry plying between Korea and Japan, about a year before the defeat of Japan. General Kim Il Sung was, indeed, the one who commanded the Korean people’s struggle for independence. Since his schooldays in his teenage he was engaged in the underground activities. And he was already on the blacklist of those who would threaten the Asian policy of Japan when it stepped up its preparations for the invasion of Manchuria. The reasons were as follows; first, he was leading student movement with extraordinary organizational ability; second, he had already won the support from the people of broad sections for his young age; and last, he had gathered numerous young people under his command and was stiffening his resolution to liberate Korea by fighting against Japan with arms. His organizational power and the plan of anti-Japanese armed struggle succeeded and he founded the anti-Japanese guerrilla army in early 1930s.”

Kagami Miyuki, officer in the border-guard police force of Manchukuo

### **Battle of Pochonbo**

“The battle of Pochonbo which was fought on June 4, 1937 by anti-Japanese guerrilla army led by General Kim Il Sung is well known to the whole world. I am an eyewitness of this battle. At that time I was a police sergeant in Hyesan (a city in the border area in the northern tip of Korea) police station. The battle did not take long time. People in Pochonbo, regardless of their age and sex, turned out into the street, listened to the speech Kim Il Sung delivered stressing the idea of Korea’s independence and shouted hurrah. Actually, the Japanese Government-General in Korea and army had never imagined that Kim Il Sung’s guerrilla army would attack Pochonbo so boldly, breaking through the tightly guarded border. The battle of Pochonbo inflicted on Japanese imperialism a severe political and military blow but instilled in the Korean people a hope of the liberation.”

Yabuki Sanae, police sergeant in Hyesan Police Station

### **“Punitive Force” Annihilated**

“General Kim Il Sung perplexed Japanese army and police by dint of his protean tactics. Both Japanese and Manchukuo army and police were always overpowered by the Korean guerrilla army in terms of strategy and tactics. The end of the Maeda unit is a good example.”

Kato Toyotaka, student at the central police school of Manchukuo

“I felt dizzy at the shocking news that the Maeda unit was destroyed. The next day I was surprised once again while commanding the work of collecting dead bodies on the spot. I could not help admiring at General Kim Il Sung’s tactics, as he lured Maeda into a valley and poured bullets from three directions. It was really a perfect operation. Looking round the valley where Maeda, so-called a man of grit and a tiger, was annihilated without any resistance, all of us trembled with fear.”

Unami Hikojiro, battalion commander of police force of Manchukuo

### **“Long Live General Kim Il Sung!”**

“Pyongyang has a long history of 4 000 years and a large population of 400 000. Has it ever had such a large meeting as this? Has it ever held such an important meeting? What gave historic significance to this meeting and turned it into a storm of emotion, was that General Kim Il Sung, the great patriot of Korea and a hero whom Pyongyang produced, was present in person there, and extended joyful and warm greetings and words of encouragement to the people. As soon as General Kim Il Sung appeared on the platform, the hero whom the Korean people hold in respect and have been looking forward to seeing, a storm of enthusiastic cheers arose, and most of the audience were deeply moved to silent tears.”

*Pyongyang Minbo*

“After Korea’s liberation, all the Koreans, regardless of sex and age, turned out in welcome of General Kim Il Sung, giving cheers ‘Long live General Kim Il Sung, the hero of our nation!’”

Feng Zhong Yun, commanding officer of the Northeast Anti-Japanese Allied Army