

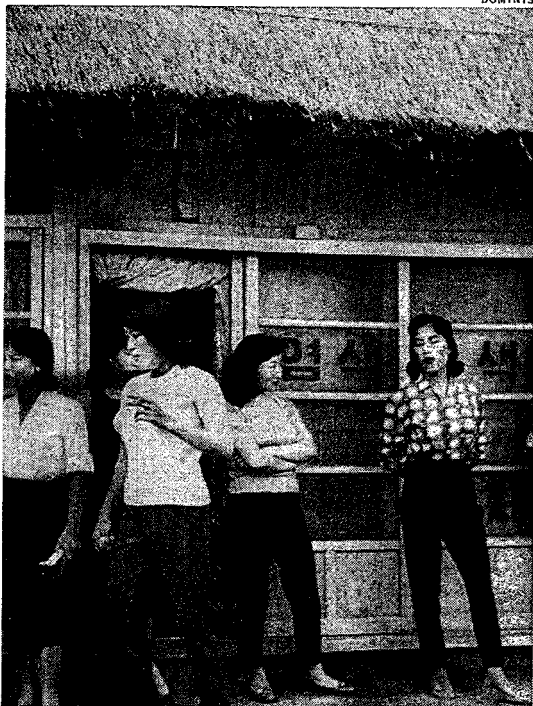
Wrote another: "I am haunted by ghosts of corruption, high prices, high rents, adulteration in everything. There's no fresh bread to eat, no safe water to drink, no sugar to remove the unsavory taste from my mouth. The whole city is floating in a sea of sewage."

There was at least one consolation: the coffee at the Coffeehouse was once again selling for 45 paise a cup.

SOUTH KOREA

A Hooch Is Not a Home

Every evening in Seoul they gather under the street lights for the shape-up: smartly dressed girls in spike heels and hopeful smiles. In the fading light, American soldiers cruise by to inspect



MOOSES AWAITING INSPECTION
Anyone for character guidance?

the merchandise, pinching buttocks and tilting faces toward the light. The girls, who are known scornfully as "mooses," giggle timidly and plead: "Come on to my hooch."* But a hooch, as every G.I. in Korea knows, is not a home. More often than not, it is a roach-ridden room in a crumbling old house.

Last week, not for the first time since U.S. servicemen arrived in Korea 19 years ago, the Korean mooses came under fire. In a letter distributed to 12,000 Lutheran pastors throughout the U.S., the director of an American service center in Seoul denounced "the age-old dangers of women and liquor" and concluded that "our young men aren't spiritually and morally ready for Korea." The Rev. Ernst W. Karsten, a mild-mannered Iowan of 59, charged that about 90% of the G.I.s in Korea consort with prostitutes regularly. "Many

* Moose is a corruption of the Japanese *musume* (girl), while hooch derives from *uchi* (house).

men have their steadies," Karsten reported. "Some of them 'own' their girls, complete with hooch and furniture. Before leaving Korea they sell the package to a man who is just coming in."

Pillow Fees. Pastor Karsten had his facts entirely straight. Every major U.S. military installation in South Korea is ringed by villages occupied by camp followers who make their living on G.I. largesse. As one inhabitant of a "G.I. town" put it: "We benefit much from the G.I.s stationed here, but thank God they are not Christians. If they were, we would starve."

Korean mistresses—some of them pretty, college-educated girls between 17 and 25 who can find no other jobs—can be established in a hooch for about \$150 a month, not counting food. Though this is more than a private's monthly pay, an enterprising G.I. can make up the difference by playing the black market. In some small towns, girls have organized to establish minimum rates. Groups like the Rose Association and the Reconstruction Association have instituted "pillow fees" ranging from \$100 to \$200 a month. But cash is not as important as PX privileges. Simply by reporting a readiness to get married, a G.I. can provide his moose with cigarettes, radios and cameras, all of which are resalable on the black market for several times their original cost.

Key Money. Under an arrangement known as *chunse* (deposit), a G.I. can occupy an entire house off base merely by depositing "key money." No rent is necessary because the Korean owner is delighted to get the working capital, which he then invests in the black market. He can double or even treble his investment in six months. The G.I. gets his "key money" back at the end of his tour by selling the hooch, complete with furniture and moose, to an incoming soldier. Prices currently range from \$200 to \$300.

Pastor Karsten himself admits that it is difficult for military commanders to correct the situation. General Hamilton H. Howze, commander of U.S. and United Nations forces in Korea, has pledged not to tolerate "improper conduct." He hopes to "dispel the notion that a tour in Korea represents an undesirable lost year, which can be made palatable only by hard drinking and promiscuity." Still, by U.S. Army standards, Korea is a hardship post, and it would hardly be possible to restrict all troops to barracks or declare whole cities off limits.

General Howze has launched a partially successful "Character Guidance" program since he assumed the post last year (compulsory attendance: one hour a month), and the Armed Forces Radio carries a daily half-hour program, called *Date with Diana*, aimed at soothing homesick G.I. hearts with music and messages from the States. More soldiers are taking out their excess energy on such projects as building orphanages for Korean waifs, teaching English in local schools and playing softball.

RED CHINA

Toughening the Next Generation

For thousands of years Chinese society has honored age above all else, and the ruling role of the elder is one of the few ancient attitudes that Peking's modern masters have left unassailed—if only in self-defense. Party Boss Mao Tse-tung is 70 and beginning to show it. Premier Chou En-lai, 66, is ailing, as is Defense Minister Lin Piao, at 56 a mere bean sprout in the Peking Politburo, whose average age is 65. Often mentioned as Mao's successor, Party Secretary-General Teng Hsiao-ping is over 60. Beset by intimations of mortality, the Red leadership has launched a campaign to "cultivate millions of successors to carry on the cause."

China watchers, who have ironically dubbed it "the campaign to train a million Maos," deem it the most important political drive in Chinese Communism's brief history. Mao is not only racing time but also Khrushchev's version of consumer Communism. As Peking sees it, the Chinese younger generation must be saved from the dangerous heresy that it is better to be fed than Red.

Permanent Revolution. People's Daily warned last spring that China's enemies were pinning their hopes on the "deterioration of the younger generation," and that concern for "seniority" in promoting officials was "backward, clannish, feudal thinking." When the Communist Youth League met a few weeks later, its first secretary, Hu Yao-pang, 51, was re-elected, but 144 of its 178 committee members were replaced.

Last month *Red Flag* took 7,000 words to spell out the leadership's worries in full: "The class enemies have cast a horoscope for China, claiming poverty leads to change, change leads to wealth, wealth leads to revisionism." Only by training a new generation of Communists to be as tough as the old ones will it be possible "to ensure permanent revolution and prevent repetition of Khrushchev's revisionism in China."

Nuclear Toys. To that end, Peking has begun a massive new "socialist education" program. All young party members will henceforth have to take part in "collective productive labor"; high-school and college graduates have already been transferred to rural areas. High-school curriculums are being revamped to comprise 60% academic work and 40% manual labor, and universities are tightening their admissions to funnel more high-school graduates onto the farm or factory assembly line.

Peking last week in effect confirmed a U.S. prediction that China would soon explode a nuclear device, hinted that early November might be testing-time. But having nuclear toys to play with will not necessarily toughen the future China. In conversation, Mao as much as admitted his worry that the next Chinese generation may not retain the hard-line fervor of the original revolutionaries. "They must learn to struggle," he says. "They will learn—perhaps."