



YUNNAN MEMORY

Tengchong: Martyrs will be forever remembered



The National Martyrs Cemetery in Tengchong were established in 1945. It is the resting place for those martyrs and heroes who lost their lives in the recovery of Tengchong. In this photo, a girl is paying floral tribute to the martyrs in the cemetery. Photo by Xu Yan

and sensed the indomitable fighting spirit of Chinese people in the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression.

It was a rainy day and Tengchong was verdant and vigorous with the plentiful precipitation. However, in the rainy season 71 years ago, over 40,000 troops of the 20th Army Group of Chinese Expeditionary Force crossed the torrential Nujiang River and attacked the enemies stationed in the Gaoligong Mountain from the lower point, starting the west Yunnan counterattack.

Zhang Tiliu, born in Meishan of Sichuan in 1925, used to be leader of the 3rd Squad, the 1st Platoon, the 1st Company, the 1st battalion, the 6th Regiment, the 2nd Reserved Division, the 54th Army, the 20th Army Group of Chinese Expeditionary Force His unit was part of the battle to regain Tengchong. After so many years, he can still remember how many of his comrades

lost their lives under the insurmountable walls of Tengchong city.

In their two years' occupation of Tengchong, the Japanese troops built more than 30 strongholds and interconnected trenches inside the city, turning the whole city into a huge fortress. Even with the heavy shelling of the Chinese Expeditionary Force and the aerial bombardment of the allied forces, the city walls remained firm. After several days in a stalemate, the 14th Air Force of the United States flew at a low altitude and threw a bomb wrapped with steel bars into the wall at a 45-degree angle, which tore it open. On August 2, 1944, the Chinese Expeditionary Force broke into the city.

"The street fighting was even fiercer. Within a radius of one square kilometre in the small city, the officers and soldiers of the Chinese Expeditionary Force elimi-

nated enemies street by street and house by house" said Bo Shaohai, deputy curator of Western Yunnan Anti-Japanese War Memorial Hall. In the street fighting, every metre of Tengchong was recovered at the cost of seven Chinese soldiers. By 10:00, September 14, 1944, after a few gunshots in Lijiaxiang Lane, Tengchong City was already in the hands of the Chinese Expeditionary Force. The 148th Wing of the Japanese force was almost annihilated; some remnants of the enemy fled into the mountains and were soon captured by the local people. After the battle, Tengchong was almost flattened, leaving only rubbles and dilapidated walls; not a single house could provide shelter from wind and rain; and even the trees had been shot through by bullets and scorched by fire.

Today, the commanding height of the Laifeng Hill that was once used by the Japanese

troops as a stronghold are still criss-crossed with trenches; the stone walls of the then British Consulate outside the city are covered with bullet holes; and the shrapnel deeply embedded in the sturdy wooden pillars of the Confucius Temple is a silent evidence of the fierce battle 71 years ago.

Ge Shuya, a Yunnan-based expert on World War II history, described the significance of the recovery of Tengchong as follows: "Of the 500 counties across the country occupied by the Japanese force, Tengchong was the first recovered through a bloody battle, which greatly enhanced the anti-Japanese morale; following the recovery of Tengchong, the Chinese Expeditionary Force successively took Longling, Mangshi and Wanding from the Japanese troops, echoing with the northern Myanmar counterattack and facilitating the resumption of road transport between China and India."

ONE BELT AND ONE ROAD

DIPE up to international standard

BY ZHUANG JUNHUA

From South Asia to Southeast Asia of modern times, from the former Soviet Union to China of the last century, from the natural and cultural landscapes of America, Europe and Latin America to the social status and lifestyles of Korea and Northern Ireland... the variously themed photographs deeply touched people's hearts.

On August 6, 2015, the Sixth Dali International Photograph Exhibition (DIPE) kicked off. This year, in addition to Photograph Exhibition and Gallery Exposition, the Photographic Equipment Exhibition and DIPE Roundtable (DIPE Forum Between Photography Festival Chairmen and Artistic Institutes from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe and the US) were also introduced, and this innovative model was referred to as the "3+1" model.

This year, the number of photographic exhibitions was increased from 150 last year to 300. Among them, there were 150 international exhibitions, such as "Super-Dimensional Photographic Works" by Jean-Francois

Rauzier (a French photographer), Contemporary Latin American Photograph Exhibition, selected works from South and Southeast Asian Photography Festival, photographic works by the famous French photographer Yan Morvan.

Jeffrey Moorfoot, director of the Australia Ballarat International Foto Biennale (BIFB), said that photographic exhibitions help to motivate more people to learn about and appreciate photography, and since photography has different characteristics in different countries, photographers should learn from each other.

Gwen Lee, president of the Singapore International Photography Festival, said at the DIPE Roundtable: "I hope the DIPE Roundtable will promote the photographic culture in China as well as South and Southeast Asian countries, facilitate the photographic interconnectivity in the Asia and deepen photographic exchanges and cooperation between Asia and other areas. At the same time, I hope this platform can promote photography and get more young people to understand and love photography."



Foreign photographers and their exhibitions are spotlights of this year's Dali International Photograph Exhibition. Photo by Zhuang Junhua

By LI JUJUAN

In the arduous eight-year Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, 53 days were but a brief span of time. However, Yunnan people will never forget the 53 days and nights from the first general offensive on Tengchong City occupied by the Japanese troops on July 23, 1944 to the recovery of the city on September 14. These tragic and glorious moments marked an important page in the world's anti-fascist history.

On July 7, the all-media interviewing group of Yunnan Daily Press Group came to Tengchong in west Yunnan. The reporters visited old battlefields, interviewed veterans

TRAVEL

3 Yunnan cities recognised as China's top summer resorts



Lincang scenery along the Langcang-Mekong River. Photo by Yang Zhaolin

By ZHANG YANPING

Recently, 2015 Chinese and International Summer Resort List was announced, with Kunming, Lijiang and Lincang of Yunnan ranked 1st, 6th and 10th respectively among Top 100 Summer Resort Cities.

Reportedly, the 2015 Summer Resort List consists of five sub-lists, including Top 100 International Summer Resort Cities, Top 65 Chinese Summer Resort Cities, Top 100 Chinese Summer Resort Counties, Top 100 Chinese Summer Resort Mountains and Top 100 Chi-

nese Summer Resort Towns. The lists were based on eight summer resort evaluation indicators, including unique cultural and ecological tourism resources, weather analyses, air quality and reputations among tourists.

Accordingly, Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan province, is recognised as "Spring City" because of its mild climate all the year round. Lijiang, located in northwest Yunnan, is a well-known tourist destination and famous for its beautiful sceneries and rich cultural resources. And Lincang, a city established on the Langcang-Mekong River, is attracting more and more tourists with its unique ethnic cultures and amazing landscapes.

FOREIGNERS IN YUNNAN

BY SHU WEN

In the midsummer of 2015, when Xu Tianxiang, a student with a Chinese origin from Indonesia, was returning home after completing his study at Yunnan Normal University, he was full of melancholy. With a deep love of Yunnan, Xu Tianxiang told me that he would come back some day.

Recalling his study here, Xu Tianxiang clearly remembered the 2012 Spring Festival when he spent his first Chinese New Year in China with families of one of his classmates. Starting the early morning of the Spring Festival's Eve, Xu and his classmate were busy putting on their traditional Chinese garments, putting up Spring Festival couplets, buying fire-

crackers and preparing the eight-dish dinner. Xu was born and brought up in Indonesia, and all these celebrations were both exciting and familiar. Amid the sound of firecrackers, he and his classmate's family sat around a large square table and began to enjoy the Spring Festival's Eve dinner. In the process, Xu Tianxiang received a red packet with best wishes for the next year from his classmate's mother.

"In addition to the Spring Festival, I experienced many other interesting festivals in Yunnan," Xu Tianxiang said happily. Since he began his study at Yunnan Normal University in 2011, this kind-hearted and enthusiastic young man made a lot of friends in Yunnan. They invited him to

celebrate all sorts of festivals. In the past four years, he has tasted moon cakes stuffed with flower petals for the Mid-Autumn Festival and Zongzi stuffed with red bean paste for the Dragon Boat Festival, experienced the coolness of the Water-Sprinkling Festival and the passion of the Torch Festival.

For Xu Tianxiang, tasting Yunnan food helped him better understand Yunnan. However, when he first came to Yunnan, Xu Tianxiang found the big servings of various delicacies hard to accept, for, in Indonesia, he had long been accustomed to small but frequent meals. He was shocked at the "big appetite" of Yunnan people, but soon after, he eventually succumbed to the tempta-

tion of delicacies and adapted himself to the Yunnan eating habit.

In his spare time, Xu Tianxiang took part in a lot of outdoor sports to exercise his body and practice his Mandarin. He found his own way of life in Kunming, an open and inclusive city, which became his second hometown. "When in Indonesia, my grandfather told me that Yunnan has poetic and picturesque scenery, and I had naively thought that he was referring to stunning sea views," Xu Tianxiang said with a smile. In many places of Yunnan, Xu Tianxiang has really seen various "sea" views—the sea of fragrant flowers, the sea of verdant trees and the sea of people on the streets during holidays.