

ENGLAND WORLD CUP 1966: Quarter-finals Liverpool,
Goodison Park, 23 July 1966

PORTUGAL - NORTH KOREA

5-3

SUPER EUSEBIO EXTINGUISHES THE KOREAN DREAM

Italy's resounding elimination had propelled North Korea, to the general astonishment, into the quarter-finals of the English World Cup, the first Asian team to get past the first round (it would not be repeated until 1994). In another group, Pelé's Brazil (albeit at half service for a injury) had also been eliminated in the first round by Eusebio's strong Portugal and Ferenc Bene's Hungary. Having beaten favourite and defending champion Brazil 3-1 made Portugal a surprising candidate for the final victory and the North Korea hurdle in the quarter-finals seemed nothing more than a formality. But no one in the world could have imagined that Korea, with nothing to lose, could approach the match in such a swagger, with a totally opposite attitude to the wait-and-see game played against Italy. After only 50 seconds, Ha Bong-Jin escaped Vicente on the left, entered the box and then passed backwards to Pak Seung-Zin, who fired a formidable left-footed shot that slotted perfectly into the top corner with Costa Pereira motionless and incredulous. The Portuguese were unperturbed, bad luck could happen; on a corner by José Augusto there was a beautiful shot by Torres but the ball ended up on the post, a pity, it could have been 1-1 straight away. Korea kept up the pace and Portugal struggled to make themselves dangerous. José Augusto succeeded in the 19th minute with a deadly right-footer from 30 yards out, but goalkeeper Li Chan-Myong seemed to be in the mood for miracles as against Italy and deflected in a corner, on which Eusebio's header was headed in but the Korean ant was again deflected away. Instead, in the 22nd minute there is another beautiful play by Ha Bong-Jin on the right, the cross is long and Costa Pereira comes out for butterflies, on the other side is alert Yang Sung-Kook volleyed the ball over the goal line and put it back towards the centre where centre-forward Li Dong-Woon only had to put it into the net for 2-0. The Portuguese suffered the blow this time and collapsed three minutes later: the skilful Yang Sung-Kook took off from midfield in a thrilling serpentine movement, overcame two opponents and then passed to the now famous Pak Doo-Ik who charged with his right, but his shot was rebounded by a defender right into the feet of Yang Sung-Kook who wedged himself into the area, past Pereira and scored an incredible 3-0. The few Koreans in the stands are jumping and screaming mad with joy: is this a real game or are we all hallucinating? With his teammates totally lost, it is the great Eusebio who gives the charge for the redemption, in the 28th minute he is thrown centrally by José Augusto and passes between two defenders at twice the speed to then burn Li Chan- Myong's exit in time and inscribe the 3-1. The team reacted and Portugal's best men began to converse with Eusebio, who played plenty of balls across the field. In the 40th minute, Eusebio shot sensationally high at an empty goal on a cross from the right by Simoes that had gone past the Korean goalkeeper. But two minutes later he redeemed himself by serving an assist to Torres, who skilfully jumped over two defenders, entered the area and was mown down: a sacrosanct penalty. Eusebio himself was awarded the penalty, and he coolly scored: 3-2 and now, with a whole half still to play, Portugal believed. In the 56th minute, Eusebio was flicked on by Simoes and darted into the box, unleashing a spectacular running right-footer that slotted into the far corner: a fantastic 3-3 draw. Korea were not as dead as one might think, and went on the attack again: in two minutes they created a couple of good chances. But it was Eusebio who broke it up: in the 59th minute, he took the ball from his own area and galloped down the left flank, dragging three Koreans who tried to catch him and, in order to stop him, finally mowed him down a few metres from goal.

a few metres from the goal: it's still a penalty! A sweeping action that goes down in football history, a 70-metre gallop with the ball at the foot as if there were no opponents. Despite being lame from the blow he received, Eusebio gets up, takes the ball and shoots the penalty, obviously scoring. 4-3 for Eusebio, oops... for Portugal. The Koreans couldn't get forward again this time and Eusebio seemed to be from another planet, continuing to set off on furious sprints with the ball at the foot that could only be stopped with rugby tackles: a wrath of God. In the 79th minute, after a trick play by Coluna in the middle of the pitch, the ball went to Simoes who triangulated well with Torres and then crossed for Eusebio, again him, whose header was deflected by the always commendable Li Chan-Myong. But on the corner, Torres' header served the very free José Augusto who only had to put it into the net for the final 5-3, which did not detract from the merits of the excellent Koreans, who were able to make a match that on paper was a foregone conclusion unforgettable. It took the best Eusebio ever, assisted by a great Portugal, to knock them out.

PORTUGAL: Costa Pereira 5, Morais 5.5, Hilario 5.5, Baptista 5.5, Vicente 5.5, Graca 6, José Augusto 7.5, Coluna 6.5, Torres 7, Eusebio 9, Simoes 7. Coach Otto Gloria.

NORTH KOREA: Li Chan-Myong 6, Lim Zoong-Sun 5.5, Oh Yoon-Kyung 5, Shin Yung-Kyoo 5.5, Ha Yung-Won 6, Im Seung-Hwi 6, Ha Bong-Jin 7, Pak Seung-Zin 7, Li Dong-Woon 6.5, Pak Doo-Ik 6.5, Yang Sung-Kook 7.5 All. Re Hyun-Myung.

Referee: Ashkenazi (ISR) 7

1' Pak Seung-Zin 0-1; 22' Li Dong-Woon 0-2; 25' Yang Sung-Kook 0-3; 27' Eusebio 1-3; on 43' Eusebio (Rig.) 2-3.

On 56' Eusebio 3-3; on 59' Eusebio (Rig.) 4-3; on 80' Jose Augusto 5-3.



Eusebio is brought down in the air after a legendary gallop across the pitch: it's a penalty!