

BEHIND-THE-SCENES STORY OF THE YIELDING OF POWER IN THE SEVENTH MINISTRY
OF MACHINE BUILDING

Fei Ming Ti, 17 February 1967

√ Full text of an article by the "Chieh Lao-ti" (2263 5071 1646) Combat Corps in the newspaper Fei Ming Ti (Flying Whistling Arrowhead), published by the Propaganda Department of the New 915 Revolutionary Rebel Headquarters of the Seventh Ministry of Machine Building. Place of publication is not given.√

Under the guidance of our great leader Chairman Mao, the revolutionary rebel groups of the proletariat have united to create a revolutionary storm in a power struggle. With the force to topple mountains and upturn seas, with the power of thunder and lightning from the heavens, this has enveloped all China and shaken the world. The storm of the "January revolution" is very good; long live the victory of the "January revolution."

The impact of this revolutionary storm has also hit the Seventh Ministry of Machine Building. It has confused and upset the days of those persons in power in the Ministry who are following the capitalist path, of those stubborn elements who are clinging to the reactionary bourgeois line, such as Wang Ping-chang (3769 4426 3864), Liu Yu-kuang (0491 2589 0342), Liu Ping-yen (0491 4426 1750), etc. Thereupon they linked up with the handful of leaders in the 916th monarchist corps, banded together for seditious purposes, and formed "suicide squads" and "sorrowful ghosts" and such thug groups. On January 23rd, they acted out the farce of a phoney seizing of power which was actually a preserving of power. It would be better to say it was a yielding than a seizing. It allowed us to see through the swindle of "seizing power."

On January 16th Wang Ping-chang, Liu Ping-yen, Ts'ao Kuang-lin (2580 0342 3829), and other members of the standing committee of the Ministry party committee held a meeting at the home of Wang Ping-chang. It discussed the question of turning over power; thinking was unified at the meeting and power was turned over to the 916 monarchist corps.

In the afternoon of that day, under the instructions of the head of the political department, Li Chien-hou (2621 0256 0230), and the chief of the cadre department, Tu Yen-ch'eng (2659 2052 1484), the 916 monarchist corps took charge of the materials in the great cultural revolution within the Seventh Ministry of Machine Building. At the same time the propaganda department chief, P'an Hao (3382 3185) took his own unsealed work notebooks and turned them over to the 916th.

In the afternoon of 17 January, the 916 monarchist corps took charge of the news station of the Seventh Ministry, using armed force to drive from their position those 14 revolutionary persons whose viewpoints did not coincide with theirs. They seized the right to "spur production."

In the morning of January 18th, Wang Ping-chang made a great show of conveying the design for handing over power to the 916th black advisors — the bad elements of the "closely follow, closely pursue" combat team — formed from the department chief and high level cadres who were stubbornly clinging to a reactionary bourgeois line.

During the morning of that day, after calling together the rotten elements of this team and Liu Shu (0491 2885), deputy director of the office which was protecting monarchist elements, Liu Ping-yen met with Wang Hsing (3769 5281), Lei Chih-ch'iang (7191 1807 1730), and other delegates of the 916th Chih Hung Ch'i combat corps and of the middle level cadres' revolutionary rebel companies. He secretly conveyed the decision to yield power on the part of the Ministry's standing committee. At that time the 916th delegates felt that this was sudden and said: "We are not ideologically prepared; now is not a good time." To handle this, Liu presented them with a plan; they secretly plotted a farce of "seizing power." Thereupon they carried out unmentionable black transactions, fearing that they might be out unmentionable black transactions, fearing that they might be revealed. They could not but change destinations in the middle.

On January 20th, the security department chief, Li Chien-hou, took the security case of Liu Yun-jo (0491 0336 5387), the scoundrel with foreign connections, the creator of the 916th monarchist corps, the material of which had been obtained through espionage means, and personally turned it over to the 916th monarchist corps.

At 7:30 P.M. on January 22nd, Liu Ping-yen, deputy Ministry chief, called a meeting of leadership cadres at the department level. They formally turned over the decision of the Ministry standing committee to hand over power, and they asked for support.

At 1:00 A.M. on January 23rd, the farce of seizing power on the part of the 916th was officially put on. They held a ceremony for yielding power, and the Ministry standing committee with one voice yielding power; cadres at the department level and above were unanimous in their praise. In an atmosphere of complete harmony the authority within the Seventh Ministry of Machine Building was "seized" from the hands of the persons in power and put into the hands of the 916th monarchist corps.

The seal of the Seventh Ministry was handled by comrade Miao Chen-fu (5379 2182 4395) of the printing room, and Miao saw through the swindle of "seizing" power on the part of the few leaders of the 916th. He refused to turn it over and declared vigorously: "You are not revolutionary rebels; I don't trust you and I cannot turn over the seal." The 916th thugs used force on him and compelled him to turn it over. Liu Shu, deputy director of the office, also shamelessly added his two bits: "Little Miao, this is the way things are headed." This was met with a cry of anger from Little Miao. The "Suicide squad" thugs rolled up their sleeves and began to pummel and kick him, but Little Miao wouldn't be cowed. Finally

they used an acetylene torch to burn through the security cabinet; they stole the seal of the Seventh Ministry and Liu Shu turned this over to the 916th. Hsiao K'ang (3194 1660), deputy director of the office of the political department, also led the 916th in smashing open the security cabinet and obtaining the political department seal.

Now just what did the 916th monarchist corps do after seizing power? We can easily see by looking at the following information.

On January 23rd, P'an Kuo-liang (3382 0948 5328), head of the administrative section, his deputy Chang Wei-nai (1728 4850 0035), Ch'ou Kuo-ting (0092 0948 1353), a political coordinator, from whom power had just been "seized" were carrying out their duties just as usual; they were issuing joint notifications and recalled Ch'en Hui-ching (7115 2585 2529) from his duties as time-keeper for the vehicle team.

Starting in the afternoon of the same day, the 916th three times on three successive days called "meetings on exposing the crimes of Wang Ping-chang and Liu Kuang-mei." The central slogan of the meetings was: "Down with old boss Wang Ping-chang who is behind the 915th." Important and unimportant persons in authority strove to be first, and it was a case of dog eat dog. Without any foundation in fact, Wang Ping-chang, who stubbornly supports the reactionary bourgeois line, was pushed towards the new 915th revolutionary rebel group. As for Liu Ping-yen, the person within the party who is following the capitalist path, who clings to the reactionary bourgeois line, who is pushing counterrevolutionary economism, they had only applause and praise.

In the morning of January 24th, Liu Shu, deputy director of the office from which power had been taken and Ma P'ing-chang (7456 1627 4545), deputy chief of the planning office, openly came out and held meetings of all of their personnel.

On January 24th, the 916th monarchist corps destroyed and stole from the Ministry's printing room nine typewriters, one hand driven mimeograph and the one manual mimeograph, 30 kilograms of ink, 30 boxes of typewriter paper, 10 rolls of white paper, and other equipment. They seized the right of the printers to "emphasize the revolution and spur production."

In the morning of January 26th, Ch'en Yu-chi (7115 3768 0679), a leader of the 916th (the one in charge of the secretariat), openly withdrew the position of comrade Chang Ch'i-feng (1728 0796 7364), communications clerk of the department (26th administrative level).

In the morning of January 26th, the cadre department's security room was locked without reason. Worker Chang Shu-sung (1728 2885 2646), responding to the great summons by Chairman Mao to "stress revolution and spur production" went into the office and was badly beaten by the "suicide squad."

On January 28th, more than 100 members of the "suicide squad" of the 916th monarchist corps surrounded the outpatient clinic of the Ministry, used the pretext of collecting black materials, opened the drawers, illegally struggled against druggist Liu Yung-ts'ai (0491 3057 6299), doctor Chou Ch'un-fang (0719 2504 5364), forcefully hung signs on them, made them wear dunce hats, and paraded them before the people. In the afternoon of the same day, they again took advantage of the meeting of the revolutionary rebel corps which was to do away with the private and aid the public; some of the rotten elements of the 916th had the "suicide squads" steal broadcasting equipment, propaganda instruments, as well as the dormitories for workers and their families.

On January 29th, the 916th had its "suicide squads" seize and bind X-ray technician Chu Cheng-chi (2612 2973 4764), and beat up many revolutionary comrades of the 916th. They also smashed up the offices organized by the revolutionary masses and the 915th. The "suicide squads" announced publicly: "If you want to seize Liu Ping-yan, we will demonstrate for him on the streets."

On January 31th, the 916th monarchist corps again took advantage of the "P'o-ssu Li-kung" comrades going to Nan-yuan for a meeting to seize the liason station, to steal a vehicle, and to take some private possessions.

To sum up the above, the seizure of power in the Seventh Ministry of Machine Building was the work of a handful of leaders in the 916th monarchist corps, which was plotted out by the small number of persons in power within the party who were following the capitalist path. They used "seizure" as a pretext, while in actuality they were preserving their power. It's a black business and no cure at all for power within the Ministry and Institute to fall from the hands of persons within the party following the capitalist path into the hands of the bourgeois monarchist group.

Revolutionary comrades, at present there is within the Seventh Ministry a great life-and-death class struggle between a frightening phoney seizure of power and a true seizure of power, between a restoration and a counter-restoration. We must see through surface phenomena and understand the essence. "We must become determined, fear no sacrifice, overcome all obstacles, and strive for victory." Our new 915th revolutionary rebel group will unite together with all other revolutionary masses, with the great Chinese People's Liberation Army, with all revolutionary authorities, so as to form a fist which will wrench power from the hands of the persons who are following the capitalist path. We must seize power from the hands of the monsters and demons in the 916th monarchist corps! Power must be firmly grasped in the hands of the proletarian revolutionary rebel groups. We must smash the old Seventh Ministry of Machine Building and create a new one. It must be a new red one in which the steel of the proletariat will never change color.

Long live the unity and seizure of power by the proletarian revolutionary groups!

Long live our great leader Chairman Mao!