

# Hail the Big-Character Poster by the Young Dongfanghong Fighters

by the Shanghai *Tiyu Zhanbao* Commentator

**B**RIMMING with proletarian revolutionary spirit, this big-character poster is a well-written article resulting from the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works in the practice of struggle.

It is a well-written big-character poster because these young path-breakers, far from being conceited in the face of successive victories, have set themselves to examine and penetrate into existing problems in their own ranks and make revolution against themselves.

The Dongfanghong Fighting Group is composed of athletes and sportsmen in their sixteens and seventeens. Together with other fighters of the Lu Hsun Corps, these young fighters have followed Chairman Mao's teachings, defied the threats of those in authority taking the capitalist road, and, holding high the big banner "to rebel is justified," they have risen in revolt and performed distinguished service for the cultural revolution in Shanghai's sports world. These revolutionary young fighters are not in the least content with the brilliant achievements and fruitful results of their struggle; they promptly put forward the slogan "Let's start everything afresh for what has been achieved in the past is past." Using Mao Tse-tung's thought as a microscope, they began a penetrating examination and criticism of all kinds of non-proletarian thoughts in their own ranks and made revolution against themselves. This is a fine thoroughgoing revolutionary spirit!

Comrade Lin Piao has said: "We must regard ourselves as a part of the revolutionary force and, at the same time, constantly regard ourselves as a target of the revolution. In making revolution, we must likewise make revolution against ourselves. Failure to make revolution against ourselves means that this revolution cannot succeed." In the course of the cultural revolution, we must make revolution against the handful of persons in the Party who are in authority and taking the capitalist road, we must seize power from them and totally refute, discredit and overthrow them; but at the same time, we must make revolution against the bourgeois ideas in our own minds. The young fighters of the Dongfanghong Fighting Group have begun to do so and the broad masses of us proletarian revolutionary comrades-in-arms should also act in the same way. At present, there are still some comrades among us who do not sufficiently realize the significance of this question. They are not interested in making revolution against themselves, they have no strong desire for this, and there are even people who call themselves veteran revolutionaries, who consider themselves as firm, revolutionary Leftists and who neither intend to make revolu-

tion against themselves nor listen to any degree of criticism. This is not in accord with Mao Tse-tung's thought and to go on like this is very dangerous.

It is a well-written big-character poster also because the young fighters have not only made a timely examination of the problems in their own ranks in the face of the victories won, but are also bold enough to keep the door open, to make a sharp, pungent analysis of the problems and write them down on a big-character poster and have it posted for the public to read so as to subject themselves to the supervision and criticism of the broad masses.

This is also a fine point. **Our great leader Chairman Mao teaches us: "Communists must listen attentively to the views of people outside the Party."** If one is ready to make sharp and penetrating self-criticism when a problem crops up and dares to disclose it before the public for the broad masses to criticize and supervise, this will be very helpful to the remoulding of the subjective world of us proletarian, revolutionary comrades. Only in this way can we steadily win the confidence of the masses and remain invincible for ever.

However, some of our comrades now still have misgivings about this. They are afraid to exhibit the family skeleton; they fear that once the door is open and the problems are made known, the prestige of the revolutionaries will be affected. This kind of thinking is wrong too; it is a manifestation of their distrust of the masses. The practice of the Dongfanghong Fighting Group shows that after they posted the big-character poster criticizing their own ranks, not only have they not lost the confidence of the masses, but, on the contrary, they have won still greater confidence from the masses. Quite a few comrades, including those who in the past had their own way of looking at the young fighters, cried out from the bottom of their hearts that they wanted to learn well from the young fighters, whose prestige is thus even greater than before.

In short, we are of the opinion that under certain conditions, the remoulding of the subjective world of the revolutionary ranks is of decisive significance. At this moment when proletarian revolutionaries are winning initial victories in the struggle to seize power on the basis of a great alliance, we must first of all be daring and mercilessly open fire on the "self-interest" in our minds and in our own ranks and boldly make revolution against ourselves.

(An abridged translation)