

From an article entitled "The Appalling July Mutiny."

The vicious Ch'en Tsai-tao on July 20 engineered the counterrevolutionary coup he had long planned. Early in the morning fully armed army men (mainly the "8201" unit), the "One Million Heroic Troops", "Special Action elements" and the right wing of the Third Headquarters, totalling tens of thousands strong, suddenly moved to seize control of military and civilian airfields, railway stations, the piers along the Yangtze River as well as major thoroughfares and principal buildings. One battalion of these men surrounded the Tunghu Guest House, attacking Vice Premier Hsieh Fu-chih from all sides and kidnapping, beating up and unlawfully struggling against Comrade Wang Li. In the main streets proletarian revolutionary fighters were frenziedly beaten up and wantonly massacred. Amid frenzied shouts of "Chairman Mao has been hoodwinked into sending Wang Li, a big rotten egg, to Wuhan," "Down with Hsieh Fu-chih" and "Hang Wang Li," they turned the spearhead against our much respected great leader Chairman Mao, the Party center and the Central Cultural Revolution Group. How reactionary and blatant these men were!

According to incomplete figures, on July 20 alone nearly a thousand military and civilian trucks, three armored vehicles, 37 fire engines, more than 40 army staff cars, jeeps and motor vehicles, 33 machineguns as well as countless rifles, Tommy guns, big knives, spears and daggers were employed.

Under the direction of the anti-Party and anti-Army clique of Wang Jen-chung and Ch'en Tsai-tao, elements who took part in the mutiny committed acts of violence everywhere, beating and arresting people and turning the Wuhan Iron and Steel Complex, the New Hupeh University and many secondary schools into a shambles. They even opened fire on the young revolutionary fighters, killing and injuring some of them. In addition, they arrested and interrogated large numbers of the revolutionary masses. Participants in the mutiny looted State and private property, reducing many schools into rubble after the mutiny...

One, preparing public opinion.

Chairman Mao teaches: In order to overthrow a political power, it is always necessary to prepare public opinion, first of all to do work in the ideological sphere. This is so with revolutionary as well as counter-revolutionary classes.

Just as a mountain storm is always preceded by gusts of wind, all counterrevolutionary actions are touched off by public opinion. Therefore, public opinion serves as the barometer and tracer bullet of all counter-revolutionary coups.

Ch'en Tsai-tao and the like are the mortal enemies of proletarian revolutionaries. Bitterly hating us, they always take advantage of the temporary power held in their hands to impose a bourgeois dictatorship on the revolutionaries. This is inherent in all class enemies.

In order to legalize his suppression of the worker and student movements and to hoodwink the misled masses, Ch'en Tsai-tao fabricated rumors and confused black with white and right with wrong in every possible way. For instance, counterrevolutionary slogans such as "The leaders of Workers' General Command are revisionists," "The leaders of the Second Red Guard H.Q. are revisionists," "Dissolve the black Workers' General Command and suppress counterrevolution" and "Smash the black Second Red Guard H.Q." were pasted all over the main and side streets.

The small band of bad leaders of the "One Million Heroic Troops" and the "8201" unit tried in every possible way to whitewash Ch'en Tsai-tao, making him look like "a member of the proletarian headquarters" and "personification of the Chinese People's Liberation Army." As a matter of fact, Ch'en was nothing but a viper who assumed the form of a beautiful woman.

In the name of the Party center these bad leaders fabricated rumors against Chairman Mao. In addition, they bombarded Chairman Mao and the Party center with fake "telegrams from the central authorities" and "Chairman Mao's latest instructions." How utterly blatant and despicable they were in claiming that the "One Million Heroic Troops" was a "fine, big and pure organization" "discovered and affirmed by Chairman Mao." Upon the arrival of Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang Li in Wuhan, they again spread the rumor saying that both Wang and Hsieh came to Wuhan to size up the situation and not to tackle problems. Thus, they defiantly turned the spearhead against the proletarian headquarters headed by Chairman Mao.

These bad leaders undermined the call to support the Army and cherish the people so as to impair the army's ties with the people. Using gross fabrications and seizing on half truths, they laid the blame for beating PLA men and bombarding the PLA headquarters on the revolutionaries. In this way they alienated the commanders of the Wuhan armed forces from the proletarian revolutionaries and obstructed the People's Liberation Army from carrying out the task of supporting the Left.

These bad leaders also undermined the revolutionary workers' ties with young revolutionary fighters, declaring, for instance: "Young revolutionary fighters should lead the working class." Actually they should have responded to our great leader Chairman Mao's call to go to villages and

and factories, going deep among the workers and peasants and uniting with them while taking the road of revolutionization.

These bad leaders undermined the workers' ties with the peasants, saying, for instance: "You peasants have toiled to produce crops only to get little over 20 catties of grain a month while the workers are given more than 40 catties of rice a month plus several catties of edible oil for each. They have consumed more food at your expense. Yet what is called the Workers' General command and 'September 13' shout 'Down with Ch'en Tsai-tao' and 'Down with the People's Liberation Army!'"

These bad leaders employed these mean tricks to sway public opinion:

Dashing out of the door and going into close combat.

Early in March, for instance, Ch'en Tsai-tao blatantly charged that "rightist organizations are falling apart."

Preparing documents and issuing of instructions.

Without authorization Ch'en Tsai-tao released a number of big poisonous weeds against the thought of Mao Tse-tung in the name of the Wuhan Military District Command of the People's Liberation Army. These included the February 18 statement, the March 21 circular, the June 4 notice, etc. These poisonous weeds were detrimental because they stubbornly carried out the Liu-Teng line, branded thousands upon thousands of young revolutionary fighters and the revolutionary masses as "counterrevolutionary" and "monsters and demons," and frenziedly suppressed the cultural revolution, turning it into a "campaign to suppress counterrevolutionaries relationships to spread Ch'en Tsai-tai's black instructions.

For example, the odious wives of Wang Jen-chung and Ch'en Tsai-tao had been busy for several months relaying their husbands' instructions.

Hawking the black merchandise of capitalism while carrying the impressive signboard of the military command which supported the Left.

What they did in the main was to assign a large number of PLA commanders to the first line to make reports here and there, apart from sending out large numbers of loudspeaker vans and installing a great many loudspeakers to boost the cause of renegades Wang and Ch'en.

Taking advantage of the successful measure of "pretending to arrest [people] to be dealt with" to conduct counterrevolutionary propaganda and distributing black newspapers which peddle black merchandise throughout the province.

Making use of conservative organizations such as "K'ang San Ssu" and others.

Two, organizing preparations.

1. Regular troops -- "8201" unit.

The "8201" unit is a column of the Public Security Force formed by Ch'en Tsai-tao for the purpose of staging the "February mutiny" engineered by Lo Jui-ch'ing and Ho Lung -- the advance guard for supporting the conservatives and eliminating the Left. Its leaders are those capitalist roaders who have wormed their way into the Army. The "8201" unit maintains direct ties with branch military commands of administrative districts and is therefore able to control the whole province.

As a municipal defense force, the "8201" unit possesses the military potential of controlling the entire city of Wuhan. Because of its frequent contact with Wang and Ch'en it has long been under their poisonous influence.

2. Mercenary troops -- "One Million Heroic Troops."

This reactionary organization is a product of capitalist restoration an "army" of soldiers without uniforms with which the anti-Party clique of Wang and Ch'en used to suppress the revolutionaries. Comprising a small band of conservative organizations, the "One Million Heroic Troops" mainly embraced "Hung Wu Ping," "San Tsu Ping" and "Hung-ch'i Joint Committee" and served as the social basis for Ch'en Tsai-tao to foment armed rebellion with audacity. During the period from the end of May to early June this year Ch'en Tsai-tao put some of the misled masses recruited by the "One Million Heroic Troops" under intensive training for the purpose of giving them counterrevolutionary education and fostering the fascist spirit of turning to armed might.

Wang Jen-chung and Ch'en Tsai-tao took advantage of their authority and power to provide the "One Million Heroic Troops" with an enormous quantity of wooden clubs, big knives, spears, rifles and ammunition for slaughtering the revolutionary rebels and innocent people. In addition, Wang and Ch'en supplied vehicles and propaganda media as well as a large amount of money and materials for carrying out counterrevolutionary acts of massacre. They even turned over the control of industrial plants and other commercial enterprises to the "One Million Heroic Troops," thus enabling the latter to control the armed departments of various work units and the supply of firearms and ammunition. This is how the reactionary scheme -- with Wang and Ch'en providing money and firearms and the "One Million Heroic Troops" contributing manpower -- was conceived and carried out with the object of slaughtering the revolutionaries.

Moreover, Wang and Ch'en openly or secretly assigned military advisers to the "One Million Heroic Troops" to boost their morale and give advice.

On the other hand, the "One Million Heroic Troops" made contact with all the conservative organizations in every administrative district in the

province. In some cases, some conservative organizations became part of the "One Million Heroic Troops," such as the "Iron and Steel Heroic Troops" formed in Huang-shih. This was intended, in the wild dreams of the plotters, to coordinate attacks and provide reinforcements once the first shot was fired and to cover retreat if the initial assault was unsuccessful.

3. Hired writers — the rightist group of "K'ang San Ssu."

The rightist group of "K'ang San Ssu" — comprising people comparable to Liang Shih-ch'iu and Tai Chi-tao — was notorious for viciously attacking "San Kang" "San Hsin" and "San Lien" and for stubbornly shielding Ch'en Tsai-tao. Frenziedly and blatantly advocating the coup of the Wang-ch'en clique, they were given credit by Ch'en Tsai-tao and the like. Because they carried the signboard of the old "San Ssu" and donned the cloak of the rebels, doing everything possible to attack the revolution, they succeeded in a way in hoodwinking some of the misled masses — exerting a bad influence beyond the reach of the "One Million Heroic Troops." In addition, they acted as the vanguard of the "February 8 statement" — a proclamation attacking the revolution — and the black capable fighters in the suppression of the "Kang Kung Chung" and "Kang Erh Ssu". Thus, the rightist group of "K'ang San Ssu" was speedily given high recognition by Wang and Ch'en and became the reserve force of the "One Million Heroic Troops."

4. Making energetic efforts to form a puppet government.

Since early this year the Wang-Ch'en clique secretly planned to form a puppet regime for the purpose of restoring capitalism. Pirating the revolutionary slogan and making it sound like "three-in-one seizure of power," they legalized the counterrevolutionary act of seizing power from the proletariat. For instance Ch'en Tsai-tao personally recruited big renegades such as Chang Wang-wu and Chiang I and urged their followers to sign their names and declare their stand while eliminating those genuine revolutionary cadres who came forward to declare their stand. Consequently, underlinings of renegades rallied around the Wang-Ch'en clique, blatantly shouting: "Down with Meng Fu-t'ang," "Down with Liu Chen," "Down with Jen Ai-sheng." In addition, Ch'en Tsai-tao urged the rightist group of "K'ang San Ssu" — disciples of T'ai Chi-tao — to form so-called "workers' representative congresses" and "peasants' representative congresses" in factories and villages. He did so in an attempt to bring about a counterrevolutionary seizure of power and restoration of capitalism throughout the country and impose a bourgeois dictatorship.

Three. military preparations.

(a) Since May this year the Wang-ch'en clique was in control of all the armed departments in the province and the supply depots of firearms and ammunition, apart from assisting the "One Million Heroic Troops" in the manufacture of weapons such as big knives, spears, bombs, incendiary bombs,

armored cars, firearms and native guns. In addition, they confiscated the firearms and ammunition held by the revolutionary rebels (such as Wuhan University and "Hung Shui Yuan" and secretly turned them over to the "One Million Heroic Troops." Moreover, the Wuhan Military District Command commandeered a large number of military vehicles, fire engines and motor vehicles and turned them over to the "One Million Heroic Troops." Instead the military command put the vehicles of the rebels under military control. In this way, they were able to concentrate a large number of motor vehicles for both offensive and defensive purposes -- attacking with concentrated blows or retreating with speed.

(b) Occupying strategic strongholds.

In order to control the city of Wuhan and the province of Hupeh as speedily as possible after the coup, the Wang-Ch'en clique had since May placed all main communications lines, railway stations and piers in both Wuhan and Hupeh under control. In addition, they instructed the "One Million Heroic Troops" to seize vital strongholds and control all tall buildings in Wuhan. In order to control Wuhan militarily and ideologically, they on numerous occasions attacked from all sides those strongholds held by the revolutionary rebels. In a number of bloody clashes and through military take-overs, they used counterrevolutionary violence to expel the revolutionary rebels from radio stations and liaison centers. The next step they took was to impose a blackout on the pronouncements of the Party center and Chairman Mao and information concerning the revolutionary rebels in an attempt to leave the masses in the dark. By cutting off supply and aid channels linking the rebels with the revolutionary masses, they left nothing undone in isolating the revolutionaries so they could be wiped out with one stroke.

Before the first part of July, the followers of the Wang-Ch'en clique resorted to ruthless means to occupy several big buildings, including the People's Culture Hall, the Industrial and Technological Building and the New Navigation Building.

When everything was ready -- with the exception of an excuse -- an unprecedented counterrevolutionary uprising loomed large over the Central China city of Wuhan...

The Events of the "July 20" Counterrevolutionary
Military Coup

On July 14, our much respected great leader Chairman Mao sent Vice Premier Hsieh Fu-chih and Comrade Wang Li to Wuhan to deal with the question of the cultural revolution in that area. This was the greatest solicitude shown and the greatest support given by the Party center and Chairman Mao to the proletarian revolutionaries in Wuhan. It was a heavy blow to the anti-Party clique of Wang and Ch'en, indicating that their doom was approaching. However, these enemies would not be reconciled to their defeat; they

continued to put up a last-ditch struggle before their doom. Thus, a counter-revolutionary military coup long planned by the anti-Party clique of Wang and Ch'en eventually erupted.

One, the prelude to the counterrevolutionary military coup.

"A mountain storm is always preceded by gusts of wind." Upon the arrival of Vice Premier Hsieh Fu-chih and Comrade Wang Li in Wuhan, they were unequivocal in declaring their stand and firm support for the proletarian revolutionaries in Wuhan represented by "San Kang," "San Hsin" and "San Lien." They clearly pointed out that the case of the Workers' General Command of Wuhan would be reopened. On learning this, Ch'en Tsai-t'ao was so furious that he promptly spread the word, declaring: "While the case of the Workers' General Command may be reopened, the 'One Million Heroic Troops' will not permit this thing to happen. Since the 'One Million Heroic Troops' is in control of Wuhan's economic lifelines such as communications, water supplies and electricity, any attempt at reopening the case of the Workers' General Command may result in the cutting off of power and water supplies."

On the night of July 19 Comrade Wang Li on behalf of the Central Cultural Revolution Group conveyed a four-point directive of the Cultural Revolution Group to military cadres at or above the division level at the Wuhan Military District Command. He pointed out that the case of the Workers' General Command would be reopened, the "February 8 statement" was on the whole correct in its general orientation and good in its main current, "San Kang," "San Hsin" and "San Lien" were organizations of the revolutionary rebels, the "One Million Heroic Troops" was a conservative organization and the task of the supporting the Left undertaken in the Military district committed the error of line and orientation.

Ch'en Tsai-tao looked pale on hearing the instructions conveyed by Comrade Wang Li. This so enraged Miu Hai-lung, divisional commander of the "8201" unit and capable fighter of the Wang-Ch'en clique, that he promptly stood up to say something against the central directive. However, he was stopped by Comrade Wang Li. In the tense atmosphere which prevailed in the headquarters of the military district, the political commissar of the "8201" unit was the first to withdraw from the conference hall while Miu Hai-lung followed suit. Returning to the "8201" unit, Miu raved at his subordinates, banging the table and pushing the chairs in a hysterical manner. He shouted: "Let's have it!" The coup was touch-and-go, the situation was extremely critical.

Meanwhile, Ch'en Tsai-tao and the like lost no time in spreading rumors among the broad masses and PLA fighters, saying: "The general orientation of 'San Ssu' and 'Erh Ssu' is wrong!" "Hsieh Fu-chih has been expelled." "What is the rank of Wang Li and can he represent the Party Central Committee?" The loudspeaker system controlled by the "One Million Heroic Troops" even had the nerve to order the central leaders to open negotiations

"honestly," otherwise "revolutionary action" would be taken against them. Reactionary slogans saying "Both Wang Li and Hsieh Fu-chih are personae non grata." "Get out of Wuhan, Wang Li and Hsieh Fu-chih" were pasted up all over the streets. The situation was charged with tension and uninhibited wrath, indicating that Ch'en Tsai-tao would take drastic measures.

Two, unreasonably kidnapping central leaders.

In this explosive situation, Ch'en Tsai-tao and the small band of counterrevolutionaries of the "8201" unit tore off their masks and revealed their vicious selves. On the one hand, they worked in collusion with Yang Shu-sheng, secretary of the Tunghu Party committee, and Yin K'ou-ch'ing, acting department chief, in rallying members of the "One Million Heroic Troops" gathered in the Tunghu area and the heavy tool machines plant under the pretext of presenting an opera for their entertainment, telling them where the central leaders were staying -- Tunghu Guest House, Pahuatsun. On the other hand, they instructed the small band of rotten eggs of the "8201" unit to coordinate their moves with the "One Million Heroic Troops."

At 9:00 p.m. on July 19 the area surrounding Tunghu, including Tunghu Hospital which was five li away, was under the control of the "One Million Heroic Troops" while the approaches to the Tunghu Guest House were also closed by the bandits of the "One Million Heroic Troops." Everyone appeared concerned for the safety of the central leaders.

In the stifling heat which engulfed Wuhan in July, a counterrevolutionary act of abducting central leaders began. In the wee hours of July 20 Lei Jung-hua, the number one leader of the Tunghu detachment of the "One Million Heroic Troops" led other bandits to kidnap the central leaders. When the truckload of bandits stopped at the entrance to the Tunghu Guest House, the guards of the "8201" unit at first pretended not to let the bandits in. However, these bandits simply surged forward and got through without any difficulty. But both Vice Premier Hsieh Fu-chih and Comrade Wang Li were not caught unawares; they faced the pack of "wolves and jackals" firmly. In a firm voice, Vice Premier Hsieh said to them: "I am Hsieh Fu-chih. Kidnap or kill me as you please." At this juncture the bandits were taken back, screaming and gesticulating wildly and viciously, before turning their wrath on Comrade Wang Li. The latter angrily scolded the bandits, telling them in an authoritative voice: "Have you people anything to do here? If not, get out!" Liu Hsien-shih, one of the bandits, shouted: "We are not leaving!" He then brazenly took a seat. A moment later, three trucks carrying the bandits of the "One Million Heroic Troops" from the "Hung Lien" of the heavy tool machines plant stopped at the guest house. Shortly afterward, the entire building was surrounded.

Comrade Wang Li's guards promptly drew their revolvers and angrily pointed at the bandits in an effort to protect the safety of the central leaders.

At this moment Ch'en Tsai-tao who was directing behind the scene went into close combat. Arriving hurriedly at the scene of commotion, he told Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang: "Now all depends on how you two work things out; I don't know what to do!" Grinning jubilantly and maliciously, he was at the height of his arrogance.

A moment later trucks carrying fully-armed soldiers of the "8201" unit stopped at the guest house. This was followed by more trucks. Directing the mutiny were army officers carrying revolvers. After entering the guest house, they pointed machineguns and pistols at the central leaders. To avert bloodshed and loss of lives in the event of an armed clash, the guards of Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang had to put away their revolvers. Seizing the opportunity, the screaming bandits surged forward and began to take away Comrade Wang Li, Comrade Mao's emissary, a member of the Central Cultural Revolution Group and assistant chief editor of Hung-ch'i journal.

Three, moving swiftly and clamping down on Wuhan by armed force.

After Comrade Wang Li was seized, the "One Million Heroic Troops" and other detachments trained by the Wang-Ch'en clique for special operations — together with the small bunch of rotten eggs of the "8201" unit — moved swiftly, mounting machineguns on the trucks and some tall buildings, loading their rifles or unsheathing their swords. Brandishing pistols before the unarmed masses, the killers went on a rampage throwing spears and other lethal weapons all over the river city. The whistle of sirens of fire engines was mingled with the rumble of nearly a thousand vehicles carrying members of the "One Million Heroic Troops" and the detachments of "San Ssu." The loud-speaker vans of the "One Million Heroic Troops" blared reactionary slogans, plunging the entire city of Wuhan into the horrors of war.

After the sentry posts of the military district command were automatically withdrawn, they were seized by coup participants. Thus, all the streets in the vicinity of the military district command were under the control of the mutineers.

As reactionary slogans and reactionary big-character posters put up by the "One Million Heroic Troops," "San Ssu" and the "8201" unit covered all the streets of Wuhan, the arrogant reactionaries were extremely blatant. Both the Yangtze River Bridge and Chiang Han Bridge were closed, navigation along the Yangtze River was stopped, communications routes, main thoroughfares, major buildings occupied, the airfield surrounded and railway stations were seized, thus gravely threatening the security of the liberated area — universities and secondary schools where the rebels were numerically superior to the mutineers.

Running amuck in Wuhan, members of the "One Million Heroic Troops" and the small bunch of rotten eggs of the "8201" unit did things as they pleased, attacking, kidnapping and brutally beating people and even killing young revolutionary fighters and the revolutionary masses.

As Wuhan was then under the complete control of coup participants, a White Terror reigned in the entire city.

Four, proclaiming a counterrevolutionary military coup.

In order to further aggravate the coup and boost the counterrevolutionary cause of the "One Million Heroic Troops" and "San Ssu", apart from inciting more people to take part in counterrevolutionary activities and more blatantly opposing Chairman Mao, Vice Chairman Lin and the Central Cultural Revolution Group, the Wang-Ch'en clique hurriedly issued on July 20 an "urgent appeal" in the name of all the commanders of the "8201" unit. In that appeal, they frenziedly shouted: "The black Workers' General Command is an organization completely manipulated by counterrevolutionary elements." They spread the word that they would "raze the premises of the Workers' General Command to the ground so as to root out an evil for the people." They also claimed that "One Million Heroic Troops" was a "genuine, mighty, tough revolutionary organization of the Left."

This so-called "urgent appeal" was in fact a counterrevolutionary proclamation. It all the more abetted the blatant arrogance of the counterrevolutionaries. After members of the "8201" unit and "diehard conservatives" of military academies overran the streets, members of the "One Million Heroic Troops" became even more outrageous, shouting and pasting up everywhere reactionary slogans such as "Down with Wang Li" and "Down with Hsieh Fu-chih." Shortly afterward, the "One Million Heroic Troops" and "San Ssu" successively issued statements and "Notice of Rebellion" opposing Chairman Mao and Vice Chairman Lin and bombarding the Central Cultural Revolution Group. How utterly reactionary they were!

Five, subjecting Comrade Wang Li to struggle and bombarding the proletarian headquarters.

Under the scorching sun there was great confusion in the compound of the military command, with mobs pushing Comrade Wang Li to the balcony of a building in the compound. Below the balcony there was a large crowd of men of the "One Million Heroic Troops," the "8201" unit as well as members of "San Ssu." Comrade Wang Li was surrounded by ranting and raving holligans of both sexes, hurling abuses at their captive. One of the bandits wearing an army cap seized Comrade Wang Li's cap and threw it to the ground. There was commotion below, some clapping their hands and others applauding. A moment later, Comrade Wang Li's uniform and collar were also torn apart, and once again there was confusion below.

In a firm and solemn tone, Comrade Wang Li said: "Comrades, we have been sent here by Chairman Mao and the Party center!" Before Comrade Wang finished, the crowd of people below shouted abuse: "Down with Wang Li!" "Wang Li in no way can represent the Party center!" "Get out of the Central Cultural Revolution Group, Wang Li!"

Unperturbed, Comrade Wang Li told PLA fighters who took part in the disturbances: "We believe you are Chairman Mao's fighters and you know that. We experienced such a situation in Szechwan before..."

Another outburst of abuse broke out from the crowd gathered below the balcony. There was clapping of hands to prevent Comrade Wang Li from speaking to the gathering. Furiously pointing their fingers at Comrade Wang Li, several bandits wearing military uniforms shouted at him: "Tell us what kind of organization the 'One Million Heroic Troops' is!"

Undaunted, Comrade Wang Li said in a firm tone: "If anyone brands your organization counterrevolutionary, we won't concur." Comrade Wang Li's words exploded like a bomb among the bandits. Some of them ranted, others jumped about. "Hell, he didn't even address us as revolutionary comrades!" Another shout was raised: "Down with Wang Li!" "Hang Wang Li!" How utterly reactionary these bandits were in shouting such reactionary slogans!

At this juncture, one of the bandits furiously came up to Comrade Wang Li, seized his hair, pulled it hard and tore off a handful of the hair. But our Comrade Wang remained erect without moving an inch! A moment later, his left eye was hit by another bandit and blood began to drip from it. Comrade Wang shed blood in order to protect Chairman Mao and uphold his revolutionary line. Comrade Wang was then soaked with sweat. Several hooligans grabbed Comrade Wang's hands and pulled them backward, subjecting him to a form of torture known as "sitting in an airplane." Another outburst of screams and abuses rose from below the balcony. At this moment, one of the hooligans stepped forward and said: "Let's calm down a little. I have just consulted Division Commander Niu who has suggested giving Wang Li a little rest so he may answer our demands at eight o'clock tomorrow morning."

"Nothing doing. Let him give an answer right now." "No, Division Commander Niu is not our representative." "Down with Wang Li!" "Hang Wang Li!" How utterly blatant these reactionaries were! They spread the word that they would take Comrade Wang Li to the stadium on Hsin Hua Road where he would be subjected to struggle, and from there to Hanyang where he would be paraded in the street. However, neither fists nor abuses could shake Comrade Wang Li's revolutionary will.

The surging waters of the Yangtze River stopped flowing while age-old turtles and pylons raised their angry heads! The brave people of Wuhan would not stop for a moment struggling against Ch'en Tsai-tao; they would see to it that the blood debt would be paid in blood! They would drag out Ch'en Tsai-tao, pull him down and trample him under foot. Like sturdy pines, evergreen bamboo trees and sunflowers always facing the sun, our Comrade Wang Li would pass the test like a fully tested proletarian revolutionary.

Six, resorting to sanguinary suppression and encroaching on the liberated area.

Whipped by gusts of ill wind, the gathering cloud hang ominously over the city of Wuhan. Hundreds of trucks carrying mutineers and coup participants dashed along here and there in the streets. Judging from their busy movements, the inhabitants had the impression that the coup instigators would swoop on them soon!

As things turned out at noon on July 21, hundreds of trucks were massed in the vicinity of New Hupeh University, the troops on the vehicles shouting and agitating for trouble. These military vehicles surrounded all the schools in the neighborhood of the university campus and heavy guard was mounted on all strategic approaches to the area.

Look, the convoys of the "8201" unit and the "One Million Heroic Troops" rattled along from Tachiao!

Look, more than 30 trucks carrying peasants with weapons to kill people forced their way into New Hupeh University!

Look, mutineers carrying Tommy guns, rifles, revolvers, spears and choppers alighted from the vehicles and forced their way into New Hupeh University!

Look, the mutineers, shouting "Hang Wang Li" and "Raze the premises of the Workers' General Command to the ground and eliminate this evil for the people," battled against the revolutionary masses in the area!

Look, young revolutionary fighters and the revolutionary masses, shouting "Long Live Chairman Mao," fell to the ground in puddles of blood!

New Hupeh University was in grave danger! New Hupeh University was in grave danger! At this juncture, three other schools, namely New No. 1 Middle School, New No. 29 Middle School and New No. 20 Middle School, were also encircled by mutineers who began attacking. A moment later, the gathering cloud hanged ominously over the city as Wuhan was plunged into the horrors of war.

After New Hupeh University fell to the attackers, other secondary schools were also taken by the mutineers who forced their way into the liberated area to occupy buildings by force. Large numbers of young revolutionary fighters and the revolutionary masses were arrested and so was Comrade Chang Wei-jung and other responsible members of the New Hupeh University's provisional committee. Some young revolutionary fighters were paraded in the street. After forcing their way into the liberated area, the mutineers perpetrated every sort of misdeed, smashing racks displaying big-character posters, breaking open doors and shattering windows. In addition, they

grabbed classified documents of the State, looted and destroyed State property and personal effects.

As darkness descended on the otherwise bright liberated area, what was built and acquired by the revolutionary rebels with blood and their lives turned into ruins...

Seven, looting the steel complex.

On July 20 the devil's claws of the Wang-Ch'en clique reached the Wuhan Iron and Steel Complex — an important base of the Wuhan workers movement. In the wee hours of the morning, the mutineers armed to the teeth, appeared in more than a hundred trucks and over ten fire engines, pointing their butcher knives at the brave members of "September 13" and "Hsin I Yeh." Closing all approaches to the steel complex, the mutineers surrounded the buildings of "Hsin I Yeh" and the Workers' Village, forcing their way into the workers' dormitories and the offices of revolutionary rebels, binding the occupants with rope, grabbing things, beating and abusing people and behaving like bandits inside the premises. Shortly afterward, they surrounded another middle school in the steel complex. More than a hundred revolutionary path-breakers and all the responsible members of "Hsin I Yeh" were arrested.

In the course of ransacking the steel complex, the looters grabbed everything they could lay their hands on, things such as wrist watches, bicycles, radios, cash and food supplies, before they fled. The vital base of the fatherland's iron steel industry was in grave danger of a complete breakdown of operations.

Eight, a counterrevolutionary coup spread all over Hupeh Province.

Since the Wang-Ch'en clique had long planned to foment widespread disturbances throughout Hupeh Province, counterrevolutionary coups erupted in many administrative districts of the province at the time the mutiny occurred in Wuhan.

For instance, reactionary slogans such as "Bombard Premier Chou, down with Hsieh Fu-chih and hang Wang Li" and "Wang Li is guilty and should be condemned to ten thousand deaths" were plastered up in Hsingyang by the "May 4 Red Rebel Detachment" fostered by the Wang-Ch'en clique. Similarly, reactionary slogans such as "Ch'en Tsai-tao is our red commander" and "Long live Ch'en Tsai-tao" were blatantly shouted. On July 22 more than 300 members of "Kung Chien Fa," wearing the armband of "San Tzu Ping," held a counterrevolutionary procession, shouting "Down with Wang Li" and other counterrevolutionary slogans in response to the "July 20" counterrevolutionary coup.

The People's Armed Forces Department of Shashih incited more than 50 thousand misled peasants to hold a counterrevolutionary procession. In the Chinchow area reactionary slogans such as "Get out of Wuhan, Hsieh Fu-chih" were put up in the streets.

Similar counterrevolutionary incidents occurred at Ichang.

The counterrevolutionary coup was spreading throughout Hupeh Province.

Deputy Supreme Commander Lin teaches us: "Dare to make sacrifice whenever sacrifice is called for, including giving oneself up. To be finished off means just that. At the sound of the gun in the battlefield, I am determined to die right there today."

Protecting Chairman Mao with Blood and Our Lives

One, fighting bravely and with blood dripping.

The news that central leaders like Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang Li had been kidnapped, denounced and beaten up shook the river city of Wuhan like a thunderbolt. Many people were so concerned with the safety of Chairman Mao's emissaries that they wept bitterly while many were rightly furious at the outrageous acts committed by the "rebellious bandits."

Rush forward and rescue our respected central leaders! Rush to the rescue of Chairman Mao's closest emissaries!

On the afternoon of July 20 an urgent telephone message from Vice Premier Hsieh's liaison officer insisted that under no circumstances should armed clashes be allowed to occur.

Swallow your tears and repress your burning hate. Listen to the central leaders and don't try to upset Chairman Mao's wise plans.

As the coup was stepped up, White Terror reigned. However, the proletarian revolutionaries who had unbounded devotion to Chairman Mao and who were represented by "San Kang" were not cowed into submission. Instead, they risked their lives to wage a blow-for-blow struggle against the Wang-Ch'en clique!

At the most appalling moment, the proletarian revolutionaries never ceased reporting the situation to Chairman Mao, the Party center and the Central Cultural Revolution Group. In spite of the fact that tele-communications and radio station facilities were completely under the enemy's control, they tried every possible means to tell the proletarian revolutionaries throughout the country the towering crimes of the Wang-Ch'en clique!

At the risk of losing their lives, these proletarian revolutionaries managed to enter the compound of the military district command in the hope of rescuing the detained central leaders. After finding their way into the lair of the bandits, they lost no time in sizing up the enemy situation and bringing to light the enemy's plot to stage a counterrevolutionary coup!

At the risk of losing their lives, these proletarian revolutionaries spread word among the masses, exposing and denouncing the heinous crimes of the Wang Ch'en clique of bombarding the proletarian headquarters and staging a counterrevolutionary coup! In addition, they told the masses of the support for the proletarian revolutionaries of Wuhan by Chairman Mao, the Party center, the Central Cultural Revolution Group and all the people of the country. They did so to mobilize the masses, awaken the misled ones, fight a people's war and smash the counterrevolutionary coup!

At the risk of losing their lives, these proletarian revolutionaries tried in every possible way to rescue their comrades-in-arms. On the other hand, those comrades who had been seized by the bandits remained calm before blood-dripping spears and before vicious interrogators using torture, staring at them fierce-browed and displaying the undaunted spirit of revolutionary heroes!

Encircled by their enemies, these proletarian revolutionaries kept their composure. They persisted in fighting the foe, unafraid of fatigue and sacrifice. In a lofty manner, they made speeches to roundly denounce the counterrevolutionary disturbances.

In order to protect Chairman Mao and uphold his revolutionary line, these proletarian revolutionaries contributed significantly to a long list of stirring and heroic deeds!

Two, the People's Liberation Army resolutely came forward.

At the height of the counterrevolutionary coup engineered by the Wang-Ch'en clique and at the crucial moment of the life-and-death struggle between the two classes and the two lines, the People's Liberation Army pledging unbounded devotion to Chairman Mao resolutely stepped out. They shouted: "We firmly support the revolutionary Left of 'San Hsin' and 'San Lien'" "Down with Ch'en Tsai-tao and smash the counterrevolutionary coup!"

At 4:00 p.m. on July 20, the commanders of the PLA's East Sea Fleet issued a solemn statement exposing the counterrevolutionary plot of the Wang-Ch'en clique and pledging to stand by and to crush any counterrevolutionary violence.

The situation became so critical that not a minute should be allowed to slip. On July 22 the Party committee of the "8199" unit bravely decided to wage a life-and-death struggle against Ch'en Tsai-tao and resolutely safeguard the safety of the central leaders. They pledged their lives to defend Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and support the proletarian revolutionaries represented by "San Kang." Declaring that they would always be loyal to our great leader Chairman Mao, they vowed to uphold the thought of Mao Tse-tung at the risk of shedding blood and losing their lives. They pledged to carry on the struggle to the last man and until their last breath.

The Wuhan Air Force Command also stepped out to pledge their resolute support of the proletarian revolutionaries represented by "San Kang" and to defend Chairman Mao's revolutionary line with their lives!

Meanwhile, the commanders of the Wuhan Armed Forces who had pledged their firm support of "San Kang," "San Hsin" and "San Lien" proceeded to the first line in a determined effort to support and defend the revolutionary Left. They moved into Hupeh University and other colleges and schools to protect the liberated area and defend red political power.

The People's Liberation Army's firm support of the revolutionary Left dealt a telling blow to the Wang-Ch'en clique but greatly enhanced the revolutionary fighting spirit of the proletarian revolutionaries represented by "San Kang."

Three, rescuing Comrade Wang Li.

The brave and highly intelligent scouts of the "8199" unit were so furious at the outrageous acts committed by the mutineers against Comrade Wang Li, such as kidnapping and brutally beating him, that they left nothing undone in trying to rescue Comrade Wang.

At this juncture, Political Commissar Chang of the "8199" unit bravely stepped out. On July 20 he contacted the small bunch of rotten eggs of the "August 20" group of No. 1 Middle School to negotiate for the release of Comrade Wang Li so he could take a rest. This bunch of rotten eggs would not concur until Political Commissar Chang provided them with complete assurance.

Only then were the commanders of the "8199" unit permitted to escort Comrade Wang Li to their divisional headquarters at the foot of Hungshan.

However, on the night of July 20 the small bunch of rotten eggs of the "8201" unit informed the bandits of the "One Million Heroic Troops" who promptly set about encircling the divisional headquarters of the "8199" unit. Many men of "K'ang San Ssu" also followed suit.

The situation then was so critical that any leaking out of information would endanger the lives of the central leaders. At this crucial moment, the commanding officer of the "8199" unit ordered a "political mobilization" of the commanders of one of the PLA companies. The fighters firmly pledged to protect the lives of the central leaders.

The bandits of the "One Million Heroic Troops" forced their way into the divisional headquarters of the "8199" unit!

At this juncture, members of the anti-aircraft artillery of the "8201" unit stationed at Hungshan declared: "We shall bring down even helicopters if they are used for transporting [the central leaders?]"

What was to be done, then?

At this very critical moment, Political Commissar Chang, the commanding officer of the "8199" unit, personally escorted Comrade Wang Li to a place of shelter deep in the valley of the mountain. Both suffered extensive bruises after wading through uncharted paths ridden with thorny outgrowths. At this juncture, Comrade Wang's blood pressure rose to more than 180!

Eventually Comrade Wang Li was escorted to a waiting motor vehicle. The driver quickly removed the license plate and drove in the direction of Hsiaok'an at full speed. In order to enable Comrade Wang to escape danger the sooner the better, fighters of the "8199" unit led the pursuers to the wrong track. For example, they kept shouting: "Down with Wang Li!" "Raze the Workers' General Command to the ground and suppress the counterrevolution!" The bandits of the "One Million Heroic Troops" clapped their hands to cheer the speeding vehicle carrying Comrade Wang Li. They even cleared the way for the vehicle to pass through, thus enabling the car to head for the military airfield at full speed!

Once the vehicle reached the airfield, the waiting plane started its engine. Comrade Wang Li then boarded the plane which quickly took off!

Hardly had the fighters of the "8199" unit breathed sighs of relief than the mutineers arrived at the airfield. But the plane was already gone...

Comrade Wang Li succeeded in escaping from danger!

Our respected Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang Li, we hope you will be beside Chairman Mao soon!

Four, since Chairman Mao has backed us, we should fight for his cause.

On the morning of July 23, the Central People's Broadcasting Station announced the cheering news that Vice Premier Hsieh and Comrade Wang Li had triumphantly returned to the side of Chairman Mao!...