

Hofei Anhwei Provincial Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 20 Feb 68 B

[NEW ANHWEI DAILY editorial for cadres who have made mistakes: "Correctly Treat the Masses and Catch Up With the Revolutionary Situation"]

[Text] Chairman Mao's latest instructions on the question of cadres represent the most comprehensive and penetrating summarization of the "cadre policy" that has been consistently carried out by the party. These instructions show the great concern which Chairman Mao has for the masses of cadres, and give them a profound education and the greatest stimulus.

Guided by Chairman Mao's latest instructions, the broad masses of proletarian revolutionaries and revolutionary people in Anhwei have further strengthened work on educating and examining cadres, and wholeheartedly helped the revolutionary cadres to step forward in an effort to speed up the realization of the revolutionary three-way alliance and to consolidate as well as develop the great revolutionary alliance.

All revolutionary cadres must make efforts to study Chairman Mao's latest instructions, establish a correct attitude toward the masses and mass movements, immediately catch up with the revolutionary situation, take a firm stand on the side of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, and unite with the masses of revolutionary people to take part courageously in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Our great leader Chairman Mao has the strongest faith in the masses. He pays the greatest attention to them. He gives the strongest support to the initiative of the masses and the revolutionary movement of the masses. Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line is actually a most comprehensive mass line. The bourgeois and the exploiting class [words indistinct] neither have faith in nor rely on the masses. The bourgeois reactionary line put forward and promoted by the handful of persons in authority taking the capitalist road within the party, headed by China's Khrushchev, is nothing but a counterrevolutionary revisionist line for opposing and suppressing the revolutionary masses. Therefore, how to treat the masses is actually a question of one's fundamental stand and attitude; in a word, it is a question of one's world outlook.

In the unprecedented great proletarian cultural revolution, all cadres have received profound education and undergone a severe test on the question of how to treat the masses and mass movement. Although some leading cadres have made mistakes in work, even serious mistakes, they are not antiparty and antisocialist elements. Acting on Chairman Mao's instructions, they have gone to the masses and taken the initiative to be criticized and examined by the masses for their mistakes; they have drawn a clear line of demarcation between themselves and the handful of capitalist-roaders within the party, and won the confidence and understanding of the masses. They have stepped forward courageously to make revolution.

However, due to insufficient understanding of the importance of the masses and mass movement, there are still certain numbers of leading cadres who are afraid to go to the masses. Afraid of the young revolutionary fighters, some of them prefer to ponder their own errors behind closed doors, waiting passively and fearing to step forward to make revolution. Afraid to once again shoulder any important responsibility if they step forward, some could not make up their minds. Afraid that they may not

be understood by the masses and thus be labeled a "sinister hand," there are others who are very cautious about their own decision to step forward.

Moreover, afraid of being pushed to the level of principle by the masses, some leading cadres dare not go to the masses to undergo a thorough self-examination of their own errors. Afraid of getting involved in disputes between organizations belonging to two opposing sides, some leading cadres refuse to take part in the mass movement, while others use all kinds of excuses to get away from the mass movement as a result of their fear of being criticized by the masses.

In a word, they have all kinds of fear. It must be pointed out that the main reason behind their fear is "self-interest" and lack of faith in the masses.

Chairman Mao has taught us that "there is no reason for the Marxists and Leninists to be afraid of the masses of the people." On the correct attitude toward shortcomings and faults, Chairman Mao has pointed out that "what we should do is to firmly adhere to truth and correct our mistakes at all times."

Precisely because they feared the masses, some cadres began to commit errors from the very beginning of the great proletarian cultural revolution. This is a lesson worthy of our attention. Afraid of the masses, some cadres who had made mistakes did not go to the masses for a long time and were unwilling to temper themselves in the stormy mass struggle. As a result, they drifted further and further away from the masses and Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, thus lagging behind the revolutionary situation. It is extremely dangerous for them to continue such a practice!

Due to insufficient understanding of the "extensive democracy" under proletarian dictatorship, some cadres have failed to establish a correct attitude toward the masses and mass movement. Imbued with old methods and regulations, they have failed to notice the essence and mainstream of the revolutionary mass movement. What they see are the shortcomings and mistakes among some of the revolutionary masses. Some of these cadres even complained about being targets of criticism and struggle.

We must realize that "extensive democracy" under the proletarian dictatorship is "extensive democracy" under the guidance of Mao Tse-tung's thought--a new contribution by Chairman Mao to the Marxist-Leninist theory on proletarian revolution and proletarian dictatorship. This "extensive democracy" represents a new situation in which the great thought of Mao Tse-tung integrates with the masses of the people.

The actual struggle of the great proletarian cultural revolution over the past year and more is a vivid proof that it is precisely due to such "extensive democracy" of ours that the revolutionary vigor of millions upon millions of the masses has been fully mobilized. The struggle also indicates that by relying on the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, we have defeated the bourgeois reactionary line, dragged out a handful of capitalist-roaders within the party headed by China's Khrushchev, seized the party, government, financial, and cultural powers from them, and trained large numbers of dependable successors loyal to Chairman Mao and the proletarian revolutionary cause. Meanwhile we have also educated and assisted large numbers of cadres who have made mistakes.

In a word, it is through this "extensive democracy" that the great proletarian cultural revolution has been carried out in our country, that we can achieve such decisive victory today, and that we can make revolution in the depths of our own minds, eliminate revisionism once and for all, consolidate the political power of the proletariat, prevent the capitalist restoration, and carry the revolution through to the end.

All cadres who are willing to return to the side of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line must take the interests of the revolutionary situation as a starting point by first taking into consideration the immortal exploits performed by the proletarian revolutionaries and revolutionary masses in the current great cultural revolution. This is the mainstream of the revolution. Meanwhile, they must also take note of the necessity to exercise "extensive democracy" under the proletarian dictatorship, and understand the far-reaching significance of exercising such "extensive democracy."

Some comrades among the masses might have made over-statements or been overzealous in expressing their loyalty to Chairman Mao and his great thought, but under no circumstances should the cadres regard these as offenses or insults, and counterposition themselves to the masses. Should any cadre, imbued with such wrong thoughts, not realize his error immediately, he may not only fail to correct his own mistakes, but may also be utilized by a handful of bad elements.

In the early stages of the great cultural revolution, Chairman Mao had issued an instruction to the cadres at all levels. He said: "You must put politics in command, go deeply to the masses, and work together with the masses to better carry out the great proletarian cultural revolution." This represents a fundamental attitude toward the great cultural revolution which must be established by all revolutionary cadres. Only by going to the masses can cadres understand the significance of the great cultural revolution and the revolutionary actions taken by the masses, can cadres share weal and woe with the masses physically and mentally, and can cadres remold their subjective and objective world outlook.

With regard to the cadres who have made mistakes, they must get rid of unnecessary worries and selfish ideas, and go to the masses in accordance with Chairman Mao's instruction. They must also go to places where the masses have more opinions about them, listen and accept the people's criticism in the spirit of humility, earnestly examine their own mistakes, and fight together with the masses to expose and struggle against the handful of capitalist-roaders within the party. By so doing, they will definitely be understood by the masses. Moreover, we must believe that the masses of the people are reasonable.

In order to establish a correct attitude toward the masses, cadres must first establish a correct attitude toward themselves. In other words, they must combat self-interest, win merits for the masses, and establish a proletarian world outlook. That some cadres have established a wrong attitude toward the masses is due to the fact that their bourgeois world outlook has not yet been thoroughly remolded and that they are still under the influence of self-interest. Therefore, they must make up their minds to use the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung as a weapon to combat self-interest and repudiate revisionism.

All cadres, whether they have made mistakes or not and whether they are new hands or veteran, must act on Chairman Mao's teachings and substitute a daring spirit for fear, substitute complete devotion to public interest for self-interest, and substitute faith in the masses for self-trust, and bravely step forward with the assistance of the proletarian revolutionaries to march forward together with the masses of revolutionary people along the revolutionary course as indicated by Chairman Mao, so as to win fresh merit for the people.