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[LIBERATION DAILY editorial: "Cadres Will Find Themselves in the Fore If They Give Up Factionalism"]

[Text] "To turn everything red before spring plowing" is a pressing militant task faced by the proletarian revolutionaries in the Shanghai suburbs. (?After a fight of many months), the busy spring plowing season will soon begin again. Only when we set up revolutionary committees in all counties and communes can we provide still better leadership for the masses in waging a (?good), tough, and victorious war in class and production struggles.

In turning everything red, the first thing we should do is become red ideologically. In other words, we should use Mao Tse-tung's thought to guide us ideologically. Only an all-red ideology can bring about an all-red revolutionary three-way alliance. Otherwise, bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism will be on the rampage and the founding of revolutionary committees will encounter all kinds of obstructions. Moreover, even after a revolutionary committee has been set up, the intrusion of factionalism and self-interest many cause this newborn provisional organ of power to lose or even change its political color.

At present, one of the serious obstructions to our "turning everything red before spring plowing" is that in the suburbs some leaders of revolutionary mass organizations have allowed malignant factionalism free rein in dealing with the cadre question. This has developed to such an extent that we can no longer regard it as a minor matter.

After both factions have agreed that some cadres are revolutionaries and can be united, an attempt by one faction to crush the other causes a change in attitude and results in an attack on these cadres, who are now regarded as capitalist-roaders, or at least a refusal to unite with them simply because they have made some impartial remarks. These cadres are attacked without let-up even though no evidence or reason can be produced to justify such attacks. Is this not the evil outcome of factionalism?

In some counties, there are a large number of cadres from the middle level or above who cannot even find a single group that will unite with them, the other faction insists on striking them down. When one faction wants to unite with them, the other faction says they are bad people. Is this not the evil outcome of factionalism?

Some units ignore cadres who have revolutionary vigor, are willing to rectify their mistakes, and are basically good or relatively good. On the other hand, they choose as partners for the three-way alliance cadres who have never shown any revolutionary vigor, who have acted without principle in seeking favors from all sides, who are good-for-nothings, and who have stayed aloof from the great cultural revolution. Is this not the evil outcome of factionalism?

Is it because they do not understand the party's cadre policies? No! These people give lip service to the idea that those who should be resolutely ferreted out and totally overthrown are the diehard capitalist roaders and [words indistinct] secret agents and that one should enthusiastically help the good or relatively good cadres to step forward and make revolution. These people also say that most of the cadres are good or relatively good and that one should have confidence in the majority of the cadres. These people also say that the criterion for selecting cadres is whether they hold high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, give prominence to proletarian politics, and show revolutionary vigor.

They are more adept than anyone in giving speeches and singing beautiful songs, but they do not believe what they say. They hope others will believe what they say. Factionalism in these people has already developed to the same serious stage as individual liberalism.

The public interest must be (?put first) and be allowed to guide everything. But these people select and remold the cadres according to factionalism, and want the cadres to serve their own interest. They hail the cadres who respect them, and denounce and attack those who resist them. They ignore the party's policies and people's interests.

We want to shout to these people: "Comrades, wake up" and "The revolutionary cadres are the cadres of Chairman Mao, of the Communist Party, and of the people, and are by no means the private property of any faction."

The revolutionary cadres should be boundlessly loyal to Chairman Mao, resolutely implement his revolutionary line, and wholeheartedly serve the poor and lower-middle peasants and the revolutionary masses, and should by no means serve the private interest of any faction.

The revolutionary cadres' function in the provisional organ of power of the revolutionary three-way alliance is to respond to Chairman Mao's latest instructions and the revolutionary people's wishes, and is by no means to represent the interest of any one faction.

If these people continue to stubbornly practice factionalism in the realization of the revolutionary three-way alliance, particularly in the solution of the cadre question, there is a danger that the success of the great proletarian cultural revolution in their area will not materialize and that they themselves will be reviled by the revolutionary masses. We hope that these comrades will think this over.

Following the further development of the struggle between the two classes, two roads, and two lines, the struggle between factionalism and proletarian party spirit and between self-interest and public interest has become a struggle between the proletarian revolutionary line and the bourgeois reactionary line.

Factionalism, which is like a poisonous snake capable of sneaking into any field, represents the interests of the landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements, rightists, secret agents, and renegades, and runs counter to the interest of the proletarian revolutionaries.

If one stubbornly practices factionalism and puts (?self-interest) first in handling the cadre question, this means in essence that he stands on the side of the bourgeois reactionary line, and consequently the good cadres are unwilling to step forward and the bad elements emerge, thus helping the enemy.

All comrades must swiftly build up revolutionary committees at county and commune levels and turn all the suburbs red before the spring plowing. This is the revolutionary will of the 3 million poor and lower-middle peasants in the suburbs, and it corresponds to the revolutionary interest.

The proletarian revolutionaries must do whatever is beneficial to the revolution and to the poor and lower-middle peasants, resolutely rid themselves of factionalism, strengthen the proletarian party spirit, and (?encourage) cadres to step forward and make revolution.

Correctly treating cadres is the key to realization of the revolutionary three-way alliance, consolidation of the revolutionary great alliance, and fulfillment of the struggle-criticism-transformation tasks, and it must be properly handled. We must implement Chairman Mao's instructions completely, thoroughly, resolutely, and swiftly.