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[LIBERATION DAILY 16 March editorial: "Peel Off the Enemy's Tiger Skin"]

[Text] At present there are people who appear to be very revolutionary, but, in the name of opposing the bourgeois reactionary line, they actually oppose the proletarian revolutionary line.

As Lenin pointed out, the theoretical victory of Marxism compels the enemy to disguise himself as a Marxist. At a time when the proletarian cultural revolution is winning a decisive victory and the revolutionary line of Chairman Mao is penetrating deeper and deeper into the people's hearts, the enemy are compelled to resort to more insidious counterattacks. One of their tactics is making use of revolutionary slogans and "using the banner of a tiger's skin" so as to scare others.

When the mass organizations and ranks are streamlined, they jump up and shout: "You are attacking the masses and carrying out a new bourgeois reactionary line." During the party rectification movement, when the "two recollections and three check-ups" were carried out, they shouted: "Those who have been oppressed in the past 17 years are all victims of the bourgeois reactionary line. They should 'spit bitter water' [air personal or family grievances, usually before a public gathering]. All the popular people in the past were brought up by the bourgeoisie." Even our encouragement to the youths to go to the hilly regions and the countryside for supporting inland construction, and our support for the commercial workers to regulate their working hours in order to give better service to the masses were called "the products of the bourgeois reactionary line." They also shouted "We must rebel!" These people think that if they affix the big label of bourgeois reactionary line on us, they will keep our mouths shut, tie us hand and foot, and be free to do as they please. This is sheer daydreaming!

We proletarian revolutionaries have all along been the staunch opponents of the bourgeois reactionary line and the faithful defenders of the proletarian revolutionary line. We can never permit anyone to attack the proletarian revolutionary line in the name of opposing the bourgeois reactionary line. We must expose their conspiracy and peel off their tiger skin.

What is taking the bourgeois reactionary line? It means the taking of a reactionary bourgeois stand, exercising bourgeois dictatorship, suppressing the vigorous proletarian cultural revolution, confusing right with wrong, "encircling and suppressing" the revolutionaries, suppressing opinions different from their own, and imposing white terror. They praise themselves, enhance the arrogance of the bourgeoisie, and undermine the morale of the proletariat. How vicious they are!

You heroes who are disguising yourselves as opponents of the bourgeois reactionary line are vigorously attacking us for streamlining our class ranks. This only shows that in this struggle you are scared to death at the thought that you may be exposed.

You want the victims of oppression for the past 17 years, namely the ghosts and monsters who have been overthrown, to "spit bitter water." This shows your strong hatred for the party. You instigated the masses to oppose party principles and policies which shows that you only want to rebel against the proletariat. You are entirely on the side of the bourgeois reactionary line and are carrying out revenge against the proletariat.

Today, when we have time and again smashed the counterattacks of the bourgeois reactionary line, seized power from the handful of capitalist-roaders, set up revolutionary committees everywhere, and are gaining an all-round victory for the cultural revolution, you are jumping out to attack us, saying "This is a new bourgeois reactionary line," and "That is a new bourgeois reactionary line." This is an undisguised frenzied provocation against the cultural revolution and vicious attack on Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and a subversion of his great strategic plan. Against these subversive intrigues, we must enhance our vigilance a hundredfold and be sure not to be deceived.

At present, in our revolutionary ranks there are some people with serious factionalism and egoism who have been deceived by these scoundrels and have become their mouthpieces. These people had better be careful that they do not slide into the arms of the enemy.

There are also some revolutionary cadres who put fear above all things. As soon as they hear of the new bourgeois reactionary line, they become stupified. What are you afraid of? To rely on the revolutionary masses in attacking the class enemy is entirely consistent with Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. Then, what are you afraid of? The purpose of the proletarian cultural revolution is to strengthen proletarian dictatorship. If we do not suppress the class enemy, he will attack us. All proletarian revolutionaries, revolutionary people, and revolutionary cadres must boldly step forward and carry out incessant attacks on the class enemy in defense of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, proletarian dictatorship, and the proletarian cultural revolution.