

Strengthen the Unity of the Army and People On the Basis of Mao Tse-tung's Thought

CHAIRMAN MAO teaches us: "The army and the people are the foundation of victory."

To fulfil the tasks of revolutionary struggle by relying on the masses, on the people's army and on the rock-firm unity of the army and people has always been Chairman Mao's great strategic concept.

In the new year, additional tasks of greater importance have been placed on our army. We must trust and rely on the revolutionary masses all the more, carry out in an exemplary way Chairman Mao's great call to "support the army and cherish the people," do a better job in cherishing the people and vigorously strengthen army-civilian unity. This is an important guarantee for all-round implementation of Chairman Mao's latest instructions and for winning all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution ideologically, politically, economically and organizationally.

The ideological foundation for strengthening army-civilian unity is the great, invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, Chairman Mao's theory, line, principles and policies on continuing to make revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the series of his latest instructions. Only on this basis can we unite closely with the broadest revolutionary masses and make it possible for the great proletarian cultural revolution to develop uninterruptedly and smoothly along the course indicated by Chairman Mao.

All commanders and fighters of our army must study Chairman Mao's latest instructions seriously, carry them out faithfully, propagate them enthusiastically and defend them courageously. We must use Mao Tse-tung's thought to support the masses of the Left. In our work of helping the Left, helping industry and agriculture, exercising military control, giving military and political training and of cherishing the people, we must make helping the revolutionary masses to implement Chairman Mao's latest instructions the task of primary importance.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "We must combat individualism and sectarianism so as to enable our whole Party to march in step and fight for one common goal." Bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism is a big obstacle both to carrying out Chairman Mao's latest instructions and to strengthening army-civilian unity. We must resolutely overcome it and get rid of it.

Keeping firmly to the stand of proletarian Party spirit, we must use the thought of Mao Tse-tung to achieve a unified understanding of things, use it as the highest criterion for judging and dealing with everything, and adhere resolutely to the principle of "helping the Left, but not any particular faction." As

for any revolutionary mass organization, we support all its statements and encourage all its actions which are in line with the thought of Mao Tse-tung, and criticize those which are not. And we help it by doing thoroughgoing, conscientious and painstaking ideological-political work.

We must widely organize Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda teams to propagate Chairman Mao's latest instructions among the revolutionary masses. We must make special efforts in running Mao Tse-tung's thought study classes well to help the revolutionary mass organizations study and apply Chairman Mao's works in a creative way, and fight self-interest and repudiate revisionism.

We should enthusiastically welcome criticism from the people, modestly accept criticism and opinions that conform to the thought of Mao Tse-tung and "openly admit mistakes for what they are before the masses and correct them immediately." As for incorrect opinions that are expressed, we should give patient explanations and education with the help of Mao Tse-tung's thought. We must guard against arrogance and impetuosity, be modest and prudent, and always be the pupils of the masses.

As the class enemy comes nearer to its doom, its last-ditch struggle becomes more desperate. It will try in a hundred and one ways to undermine the close unity between the People's Liberation Army and the revolutionary masses and disrupt the great proletarian cultural revolution. We must be on the look-out and be vigilant against all its schemes and never allow them to succeed!

In the new year, the commanders and fighters of our army must learn from the fine qualities and advanced experience of the heroic 4th Platoon, Comrade Li Wen-chung, and members of Unit 8341 who are helping the Left in the General Knitware Mill of Peking. Taking them as shining examples, we should hold still higher the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, do a good job in helping the Left and cherishing the people, strive to do more good things for the people and win new merits in serving them during the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Let our great people and army unite even closer on the basis of the great thought of Mao Tse-tung! We will achieve the great strategic objective of winning all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution!

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