

A Great Ideological Revolution That Destroys the Old and Establishes The New

THE hearts of all the comrades in our People's Liberation Army are beating in unison with the hearts of revolutionary masses in Peking and throughout the country. They are turned to Tien An Men, to our most respected and beloved leader Chairman Mao, and to his close comrade-in-arms Comrade Lin Piao and other leading comrades of the Party's Central Committee. Together they exult over the great proletarian cultural revolution; together they greet the new upsurge in the great cultural revolution!

Chairman Mao very highly appraises the current great proletarian cultural revolution which is vigorously developing. Reviewing the mighty, million-strong army of the great proletarian cultural revolution, he said with gratification to Comrade Lin Piao: "This is a movement of a momentous scale. It has indeed mobilized the masses. It is of very great significance to the revolutionization of the thinking of the people throughout the country."

The great proletarian cultural revolution initiated by Chairman Mao is a great ideological revolution that is destroying the old and establishing the new. It is aimed at eliminating bourgeois ideology, establishing proletarian ideology, remoulding the people to the depth of their souls, revolutionizing their thinking, digging out the roots of revisionism, and consolidating and developing the socialist system.

In line with Comrade Lin Piao's call, we must, under the command of our great supreme commander Chairman Mao, launch a general offensive against the ideas of the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes, and carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end!

In building socialism, we must attack and push forward on two fronts — the material and the spiritual. We must give prominence to proletarian politics, and take firm hold of the spiritual front so as to fight successfully the battle to foster proletarian ideology and eliminate bourgeois ideology. Only when victory is won in the ideological battle can victory be won in the material battle. We must never concentrate, like the revisionist countries, on material things alone. If we should do so, it would inevitably lead to retrogression and to the restoration of capitalism.

We are thoroughgoing dialectical materialists and historical materialists. We always hold that the masses are the creators of history. Therefore, we attach extreme importance to political and ideological work and to bringing the strength and wisdom of the masses into full play. When the masses are armed and mobilized ideologically, whatever methods are necessary can be found and everything can be done well. This is our Party's basic method in transforming our country from a weak to a strong and a backward to an advanced one.

Comrades working in the P.L.A. must resolutely oppose the tendency to engage solely in military affairs, in specialized work and techniques, while neglecting politics and ideology. How can we do specialized work well? How can we raise the level of work? The only way is to change the mental outlook of people.

The formation of an idea proceeds from the objective to the subjective, from practice to idea, whereas the process of doing a thing goes from the subjective to the objective, from idea to practice. To do revolutionary work well, it is essential to start with the ideological revolution, that is, the revolution in the subjective world. We must take a firm grip on the ideological revolution in order to solve problems ideologically. The revolutionization of people's ideology can get every kind of work moving. This will ensure that the work of building our army will develop by leaps and bounds and that its combat ability will be enormously enhanced.

We are out to uproot all old ideology and replace it with the new. This new ideology is Mao Tse-tung's thought.

Mao Tse-tung's thought marks a completely new stage in the development of Marxism-Leninism. It is Marxism-Leninism of the present era at its highest level. It is present-day Marxism-Leninism for remoulding the people to the depth of their souls. It is the most powerful ideological weapon of the proletariat. People armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought are the most noble-minded, the purest, the wisest and the bravest of people.

In the final analysis, the great proletarian cultural revolution aims at establishing the complete ascendancy

of Mao Tse-tung's thought. It is to enable hundreds of millions of people to master Mao Tse-tung's thought and ensure that Mao Tse-tung's thought occupies all ideological positions. It also aims at using Mao Tse-tung's thought to change the mental outlook of the whole society and at turning the great spiritual force of Mao Tse-tung's thought into a great material force.

In the great proletarian cultural revolution, we must resolutely follow Comrade Lin Piao's instructions to creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's works even better and make a great effort to apply them. All comrades in our P.L.A., first and foremost the leading

cadres at all levels, must temper and steel themselves and pass the test in this unprecedentedly great mass movement. We must utterly destroy the old ideas, culture, customs and habits of the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes, and energetically establish the new ideas, culture, customs and habits of the proletariat in order to carry forward the revolutionization of people's ideology and successfully fulfil all the tasks entrusted to us by the Party and the people.

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