

MASS CRITICISM AND REPUDIATION IN SHANGHAI
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[Full text]

Shanghai's mass movement of revolutionary criticism and repudiation of China's Khrushchev and his agents is growing. It has been developing in step with the unfolding of Chairman Mao's great strategic plan and is now mounting in both scope and intensity as deals politically, ideologically and theoretically with the crimes committed by the handful of top Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road.

Countless hoardings have been erected along the streets all over the city. They serve as wall newspapers carrying special articles, commentaries, caricatures, poems and other items exposing, condemning, refuting and discrediting China's Khrushchev and company.

Meetings are being held in factories, people's communes, People's Liberation Army units, schools, colleges, offices and residential quarters. All sections of the revolutionary people, from school children to people in their seventies, are taking part in the movement.

Workers and peasants form the main forces in this people's war of criticism and repudiation. The million-strong Shanghai working class is in the van.

The level of revolutionary consciousness in this mass drive is high, springing as it does from the people's understanding of the tremendous significance of the movement.

The revolutionary people of Shanghai gained experience of the vital importance of political power in the course of their "January revolution." Following this seizure of power from the local capitalist roaders the Shanghai proletarian revolutionaries made up their minds that they must seize power not only organizationally but must break the revisionist line of China's Khrushchev politically, ideologically and theoretically, and establish the absolute authority of Mao Tse-tung's thought.

They see the current mass movement of criticism and repudiation as vital for the effective retention and exercise of power, which could otherwise be taken from them again.

A veteran worker put the point this way. He said: "Revisionism is likely to re-appear wherever this mass drive is not carried out effectively. Whoever fails to join in the mass criticism and repudiation in good earnest is in danger of succumbing to revisionist ideas."

The current movement in Shanghai is both vigorous and down-to-earth.

Criticism is detailed and penetrating and a variety of methods are used convenient for everyone to take part in discussion.

Solid research material contributed in the form of articles and speeches by people in a particular, specialized field is helping to enrich the mass criticism.

Leaders of the Municipal Revolutionary Committee and revolutionary mass organizations are setting the pace in the mass drive and are taking part in the meetings at the grass-roots level.

The mass movement is becoming a big school for the living study and application of Chairman Mao's works and for the popularizing of Mao Tse-tung's thought on an unparalleled scale.

The "May 16, 1966, Circular" of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Chairman Mao's big-character poster "Bombard the Headquarters" and a series of his other brilliant works are being used by the revolutionary masses as powerful weapons in the current mass drive.

Special groups have been set up almost in every organization for studying Chairman Mao's works in relation to the current problems in the cultural revolution.

Even people with a limited vocabulary are diligently learning quotations from Chairman Mao by rote and using them in criticizing and repudiating the counter-revolutionary revisionists.

Only by studying Chairman Mao's works well, local revolutionaries say, is it possible for them to distinguish between what is really the socialist road and what is really the capitalist road; between Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-tung's thought and revisionism; between Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and the bourgeois reactionary line of China's Khrushchev.

The mass drive has also lent fresh impetus to people's ideological revolutionization. The revolutionary people are assiduously studying "Serve the People," "The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains" and "In Memory of Norman Bethune," the "three constantly read articles" which contain Chairman Mao's basic teachings on the fostering of a communist world outlook.

Chairman Mao says: "We must be good at guiding people with petty bourgeois thinking in our ranks onto the path of the proletarian revolution.

This is a key to the success of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Through the mass criticism, people have come to see still more clearly that China's Khrushchev not only set up a bourgeois headquarters politically but corrupted people with bourgeois selfishness.

It is essential, they stress, to eliminate selfishness and so resist the bourgeoisie's sugar-coated bullets, as well as to crush the attempt of China's Khrushchev to bring about a peaceful evolution.

Shanghai's proletarian revolutionaries have summed up their experience in the mass drive in the following points:

The key issue must be firmly grasped, namely the attempt of China's Khrushchev and his local agents to usurp Party and government leadership. There must be thoroughgoing investigation of their criminal activities among the workers and former poor and lower-middle peasants in order to expose and repudiate the counter-revolutionary revisionists' crime of trying to restore capitalism.

The mass drive must be combined with the criticism-struggle-transformation in each unit. The repudiation of the capitalist road has already brought great successes in both the revolution and production and in fostering a new style of work in many factories and trading enterprises.

The mass drive is pushing forward the work of forging the great alliance of proletarian revolutionaries and establishing the "three-way alliance" leadership. In increasing numbers of units, the different revolutionary mass organizations are uniting and forming revolutionary committees.

Shanghai's proletarian revolutionaries pledge themselves to guard against conceit and complacency, to continue their victorious advance and to win complete victory in the revolutionary movement of mass criticism and repudiation.