

CIRCULAR OF THE
CCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
THE STATE COUNCIL,
THE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION
AND THE CENTRAL
CULTURAL REVOLUTION GROUP
CONCERNING THE CORRECT HANDLING
OF OLD REBELS
WHO HAVE COMMITTED MISTAKES

Chung-fa No. 367 (67)

All provincial, municipal and autonomous region revolutionary committees (preparatory groups), military control committees, all military regions and provincial military districts:

Chairman Mao recently laid down an important directive concerning how Chekiang correctly handled the question of the Red Mob Faction.

Chairman Mao said: "The Red Mob of Chekiang, quite different from the Million Heroic Troops of Hupei, is an old rebel faction which has committed mistakes, and it has a lot of mass support. It seems that the principle to be adopted towards it should be one of assisting, criticizing and uniting." This most important directive of Chairman Mao has a significance of general guidance for our work in various places. At the present there exist in many places old rebel factions which differ from the Million Heroic Troops but have committed some mistakes. A correct policy should be adopted towards them, that is, the policy proposed by Chairman Mao, a policy of assisting, criticizing and uniting. It is not proper to adopt a policy of exerting pressure and imposing absolute exclusion against the masses of such organizations. This is the only way to promote the revolutionary great alliance and the revolutionary three-in-one combination. We should organize Mao Tse-tung's Thought Study Classes with the participation of all factions, which will take "combat self-interest and repudiate revisionism" as the theme and effectively help them to study Mao Tse-tung's thought. We should criticize their mis-

takes, and urge them to correct their own mistakes voluntarily. Meantime, we should forcefully push them to carry on, together with other proletarian revolutionaries, revolutionary great criticism, to realize revolutionary great alliance, while a certain quota may be reserved for them in the leading organ of the revolutionary three-in-one combination. The adoption of such a policy will be beneficial for the rallying of the majority, so that places where there has not yet established a revolutionary leadership might realize sooner the revolutionary great alliance and the three-in-one combination, so that the revolutionary regime in places where there are already established provisional power organs might be further consolidated. Chairman Mao teaches us: "Contradictions of different natures can only be solved by methods of different natures." (On Contradiction) It is only by the application of the method of assisting, criticizing and uniting, as proposed by Chairman Mao, that the kind of contradiction such as old rebel factions committing mistakes can be correctly solved. And the use of methods such as high pressure, exclusion, power-seizure by one faction alone, etc. cannot solve this kind of contradictions. Towards the small handful of persons in authority in the Party taking the capitalist road, and towards special agents, traitors and other bad people who use various means to sabotage the revolutionary great alliance and instigate armed struggle, it is necessary to maintain our alertness. It is hoped that comrades will carefully comprehend and firmly implement this latest directive of Chairman Mao.

The CCP Central Committee
The State Council
The Central Military Commission
The Central Cultural Revolution Group

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(To be issued to the county and regimental levels.)