

## OPEN FIERCE FIRE ON THE CHIEF ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

[Following is a translation of an editorial in the Chinese-language periodical Hung-ch'i (Red Flag), Peking, No. 12, 1 August 1967, pp. 48-49.)

The Yangtze River is roaring, the Han River is surging, and the three towns of Wuhan are seething.

In the Wuhan area, a small handful of people in authority taking the capitalist road within the Party and the army and a tiny band of wicked leaders persisting in the bourgeois reactionary line in organizations which call themselves "pai-wan-hsiung-shih" [a million powerful troops] and "kung-chien-fa" [public security, procurators and justice] and which are controlled by the former, have overtly resisted Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, directing the spearhead at Chairman Mao's proletarian command headquarters.

This grave political incident has aroused the greatest indignation of the broad revolutionary masses and the vast sections of commanders and fighters in the Wuhan area. It has met with stern condemnation by the people of the whole country and strong opposition from land, sea, and air forces. From the coast of the East Sea to the foot of the T'ianshan Mountain, from the Hainan Island to the Ch'angpai Mountain, along both banks of the Yangtze, outside and inside of the Great Wall, the broad revolutionary masses and the large sections of commanders and fighters have taken to the street holding demonstrations. Numerous protests are directed at the small group of bad people in the Wuhan area. Large numbers of telegrams of greetings have flown to the proletarian revolutionaries in the Wuhan area. The chief culprits who created this grave incident have sunken into the vast ocean of wrathful denunciations by hundreds of millions of army men and civilians.

As they are approaching death, the class enemies will all the more make a desperate struggle with ten times the frenzy and a hundred times the hatred. The tiny band of people in power taking the capitalist road within the Party and the army in the Wuhan area are the agents in Wuhan of the

handful of top Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road. The serious political incident that has occurred in the Wuhan area is decidedly not an isolated and accidental phenomenon, but an outstanding expression of their moribund struggle.

All class enemies invariably overestimate their strength and under-rate the strength of the people. It may be recalled how they had acted arrogantly and arbitrarily, held the world in contempt, and vainly attempted to gobble up the proletarian revolutionaries. They might be compared with a mantis trying to stop a chariot with its arms or a flying ant trying to eat up a big tree. They did not take account of their own strength. Today, they have become utterly isolated and are rats running across the street with people shouting "Kill them." All class enemies appear to be very powerful outwardly, but in reality they are merely paper tigers, men with clay feet.

In our era, no matter who you are, how high the position you hold, how senior you are, and how powerful your backstage boss is, as long as you oppose the thought of Mao Tse-tung and oppose Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, you will be utterly crushed by the wheels of history and will be a heap of dog's dung spurned by mankind.

The struggle has not come to an end. The class enemies are playing new tricks, sowing dissention creating splits among the proletarian revolutionaries in a vain bid to launch a new counter-attack against the proletarian revolutionaries. We must doubly raise our vigilance, strengthen our unity, and expose and crush all schemes and intrigues of the enemies.

The bad people are only a handful. This grave political incident in the Wuhan area has amply demonstrated this. We must strictly separate a small band of bad people from the broad masses who have been hoodwinked by them. The chief culprits who created this serious incident in the Wuhan area must be thoroughly exposed, resolutely overthrown, and seriously investigated and severely punished according to law. As to the broad masses who have been hoodwinked, we must do well to enlighten them, patiently help, support and encourage them to come forward, turn around and attack those who had originally deceived them. We must warmly welcome them to return to Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line. We must unite with them, fight shoulder to shoulder with them, deal with the enemies together, and organize a mighty great revolutionary army to open fierce fire on the chief enemies of the people.

Those who have made mistakes should by practical action rectify their mistakes in real earnest and obtain the understanding of the revolutionary masses. Those who do so are good comrades.

Recently, the leadership organ of the Wuhan armed forces made a public criticism of its erroneous orientations and line in its work of supporting the Left. This is a good beginning which is welcomed by the broad revolutionary

masses. We fervently hope, and believe, that they will be able to continue their march in this correct direction.

The vast sections of commanders and fighters of the Wuhan garrison must continue to hold high the great red banner of the thought of Mao Tse-tung, resolutely support and protect the broad masses of the Leftists, share the same breath and the same destiny with them, as well as unite, fight and win together with them.

A bad thing has been turned into a good thing. The plot cooked up by the handful of people in authority taking the capitalist road within the Party and army in the Wuhan area has been foiled. A handful of people in authority taking the capitalist road hiding in the Party and the army have been dragged out. The proletarian revolutionaries in the Wuhan area have been tempered and grown stronger and more courageous. Their ranks have swollen. The broad revolutionary masses in the Wuhan area have gone through a serious test and greatly raised their consciousness. The present grave political incident in the Wuhan area provides the revolutionary masses of the whole country with a most vivid lesson of class struggle, the most impressive lesson of the struggle between the proletarian and bourgeois lines. It will extensively arouse the activism of the people of the whole country to carry this great proletarian cultural revolution, which has no parallel in history, through to the end.

History is going forward by leaps and bounds. The revolution is progressing.

The great proletarian cultural revolution in the Wuhan area has entered a new stage of victory.

The triumph in the three towns of Wuhan is inspiring the people of the whole country. A new upsurge has begun in the great proletarian cultural revolution all over the country.

Let us stretch our hands to welcome a new and heavy storm of class struggle!

Victory will surely belong to the proletarian revolutionaries who are armed with the thought of Mao Tse-tung!