

RESOLUTELY TRUST AND RELY UPON THE GREAT MAJORITY OF CADRES

[Following is a translation of an article by Chou Hung-sheng in the Chinese-language periodical, Hung-ch'i (Red Flag), Peking, No 14, 17 Sep 67, pp 28-29.]

To unite the great majority of cadres and make bold use of the revolutionary cadres is an urgent need in accord with the development of the current revolutionary situation.

Without the participation of revolutionary cadres, there is no revolutionary "threeway alliance," and it is not possible to implement and carry out very well the general and specific policies of the Party and fulfill the task of grasping the revolution and stimulating production.

"Cadres are a decisive factor, once the political line is determined." The experience of the great proletarian cultural revolution has once again demonstrated this scientific dictum of Chairman Mao's.

Have faith in and rely upon the great majority of the cadres -- this is the consistent thought of our great leader Chairman Mao. The "Twenty-Three Articles" point out: "The overwhelming majority of our cadres want to follow the socialist road." Under ordinary circumstances, those who are good or comparatively good make up the majority. In the whole movement, it is necessary gradually to "rely upon the great majority of cadres." The "Sixteen Articles" have also emphasized this thought.

We must make a complete analysis of the army of cadres with the method of dividing one into two according to Chairman Mao's teaching, so that we may have some idea in mind. The great majority of our cadres are good or comparatively good, and there is but a handful of persons in authority taking the capitalist road. The merits and demerits of the great majority of cadres must be properly evaluated.

Chairman Mao has taught us: "We must make a basic estimation of whether the work of a person is after all comprised of three parts of achievements and seven parts of mistakes, or seven parts of achievements and three parts of mistakes. If his work is made up of seven parts of achievements and three parts of mistakes, we should basically affirm it. It is entirely wrong to lay emphasis on mistakes instead of on achievements."

Although China's Khrushchev has for a long time made every effort to promote the revisionist cadres line, yet when seen as a whole, the overwhelming majority of our Party cadres have been brought up with the thought of Mao Tse-tung, and they have made important contributions in the protracted revolutionary struggle. Despite their shortcomings or mistakes, their achievements are of primary importance, and they can be trusted and relied upon. This belief cannot be shaken.

We must trust and rely upon the great majority of the cadres, including those who have made this or that kind of mistakes but have agreed to make self-criticism and are willing to correct same. The mistakes of cadres must be analyzed. Some of their mistakes are of a principled character, but some are of a non-principled character. We must "firstly look over and secondly help" those cadres who have committed mistakes. We must have faith in that the great majority are willing to correct and are capable of correcting their mistakes. We must permit other people to make revolution. Chief attention must be paid to the present and future of a cadre. So long as he is not a power holder taking the capitalist road but has inadvertently made some mistakes, and so long as he has known and corrected his mistakes, then he is all right, and we must boldly make use of him. Those leading cadres who have made mistakes but are willing to correct same must stand forth to carry out work whenever they can do so.

Some comrades do not make a class analysis of cadres; they regard whether such cadres are supporting "their faction" as the criterion to appraise whether they are good or bad and whether or not they can be employed. The mischief makes in this connection is "self-interest" and petty-bourgeois factionalism. This method of placing the interests of the individual and a small group above the revolutionary interests is entirely wrong. It is extremely unfavorable to uniting the great majority of cadres, and it is easy for bad elements to make use of it.

Among the cadres, there is really a handful of bad persons who ought to be exposed and toppled. They are those counterrevolutionaries and traitors who have wormed their way into the revolutionary ranks, and those in authority taking the capitalist road who would rather die than change their course. It is entirely wrong not to notice this. However, they form but a very small minority when the whole army of cadres is taken into consideration.

Now a handful of class enemies have assumed the looks of the extremely "Left." They make use of the presence of some anarchism and petty-bourgeois factionalism among the revolutionary ranks to whip up the evil wind of "suspecting everything" and "overthrowing everything." We must heighten our vigilance a hundredfold and should never be fooled by them. We must thoroughly repulse this evil wind.

All proletarian revolutionaries must edge out the disturbance of various kinds of erroneous ideas and the provocations of bad persons, and act exemplarily in implementing Chairman Mao's cadres policy.

All cadres desirous to make revolution must get rid of their misgivings, go amidst the masses, creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's writings in the stormy class struggle, learn from the young revolutionary fighters, accept the criticism and assistance of the masses, earnestly correct their mistakes and transform their world outlook, bravely carry the heavy load, and perform new deeds of merit for the people.

CSO: 3530-D

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