

New Upsurge in Campaign to "Support The Army, Cherish the People"

THROUGHOUT the country during the Spring Festival, the revolutionary masses and commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army devoted themselves, with great warmth of feeling and in thoroughgoing fashion, to carrying out that great teaching of Chairman Mao's — **"Support the Army, Cherish the People."**

Everywhere in cities and countryside, in factories, shops, offices, schools and in areas where the P.L.A. units were stationed, there were heart-warming scenes at get-together parties where army-men and people exchanged greetings and sat side by side to creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's works and fight self and repudiate revisionism.

In Kansu, Honan, Hunan, Shantung, Heilungkiang, Liaoning and Yunnan Provinces, in the Inner Mongolian and Kwangsi Chung Autonomous Regions, and in Tientsin, meetings to support the army and cherish the people and army-people get-togethers were held. At a meeting called by the newly established Kansu Provincial Revolutionary Committee, Comrade Hu Chi-tung, its Vice-Chairman, pointed out that no achievement gained in the great proletarian cultural revolution in the province could be separated from the hard work done by the P.L.A. He expressed the general determination to turn the whole province of Kansu into a big red school of Mao Tse-tung's thought. A leading comrade in charge of the P.L.A. units stationed in Lanchow, the provincial capital, also speaking at the rally, called on the army-men to learn modestly from the revolutionary masses, strengthen the unity between the army and the people and do a better job of helping the Left, helping industry and agriculture, exercising military control, and giving military and political training.

At a similar meeting, Comrade Liu Chien-hsun, Chairman of the Honan Provincial Revolutionary Committee, called on the people of that province to emulate the P.L.A., implement Chairman Mao's latest series of instructions and consolidate and develop the revolutionary great alliances and "three-in-one" combinations.

The proletarian revolutionaries and others of the revolutionary masses in all parts of the country stressed that the Chinese People's Liberation Army was a heroic army unrivalled in the world. Supporting the army meant firmly trusting, relying on and supporting the P.L.A. at all times, learning from its members their boundless loyalty to Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought and his revolutionary line, doing everything possible to defend the high prestige of the P.L.A. and heightening revolutionary vigilance so as to smash all the plots of the class enemy to disrupt unity between the army and the people.

During the festival days, meetings to support the army and forums to learn from the P.L.A. were organized in many factories, villages and schools in Peking and Shanghai. Their participants all sang the praises of the great contributions made by the P.L.A.

The more than 80 Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda teams organized in the Kweiyang area were active in the areas where the P.L.A. units were stationed and in the streets, singing the praises of the outstanding contributions made by the P.L.A. and of the deep love and friendship between the army and the people. Poor and lower-middle peasants in the rural people's communes on the outskirts of the city asked local P.L.A. units to help them set up Mao Tse-tung's thought study classes. In Kwangchow, revolutionary mass organizations delivered "Support the Army" pledges to the P.L.A., expressing their resolve to cherish the unity between the army and the people as they would the apple of their eye. Over the Spring Festival days the revolutionary masses in many cities organized activities to learn from the P.L.A. Groups visited local P.L.A. units and the families of revolutionary martyrs and soldiers; they gave portraits of Chairman Mao and Chairman Mao badges to their P.L.A. comrades, made sewing kits for them and helped them wash and sew their clothing and bedding.

Over the Spring Festival, commanders and fighters of the various general departments, arms and services of the P.L.A. and local P.L.A. units drew up new "Cherish the People" pledges. Spreading Mao Tse-tung's thought among the revolutionary masses and implementing together with the masses the latest instructions of Chairman Mao was, they all said, the highest expression of care for the people. The P.L.A. sent out tens of thousands of Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda teams to do propaganda work in the factories, mining enterprises, villages, schools and streets.

Throughout the Spring Festival, Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda teams sent out by the P.L.A. were active in the homes of emancipated serfs on the Tibetan Plateau, in the coalmines where work went on throughout the holidays, in the lumber camps of the snow-bound Greater Khingan Mountains, in the mountain villages of the Miao nationality in Kweichow, in remote fishing villages on Hainan Island. . . .

Many P.L.A. commanders and fighters sat down together with workers and poor and lower-middle peasants for a meal of remembrance at which they again ate the food of the poor before liberation and together recalled the bitterness and misery of the past. This gave new strength to their mutual class feelings

and tightened the bonds of unity between the army and the people. Elderly poor peasants said with tear-filled eyes: Spring Festivals in the old society were a time when the landlords and the rich came banging at our doors, demanding payment of debts, and driving the poor into beggary and death. On Spring Festivals in the new society Chairman Mao sends fighting men of our own kith and kin to bring Chairman Mao's thought to us, right into our hearts. We will certainly grasp revolution vigorously and resolutely promote produc-

tion, and follow Chairman Mao in carrying the revolution through to the end!

Wherever they were engaged in the work of helping the Left, helping industry and agriculture, exercising military control, and giving military and political training, P.L.A. commanders and fighters went deep among the masses to solicit their opinions and hear their criticisms. They were determined to do their work better and win all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

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Warmly Hail Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between China and Southern Yemen

THE Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen issued a press communique on February 2 announcing the decision of the two countries to establish formal diplomatic relations and exchange diplomatic representatives of ambassadorial rank. This is a milestone in the friendship between the Chinese and Southern Yemeni peoples and a new development in the history of relations of friendship and co-operation between China and the Arab countries.

At present, the Arab peoples' anti-imperialist struggle is developing in depth. The Palestinian people are waging a heroic armed struggle for the liberation of their homeland and have dealt successive blows at the Israeli aggressor, a tool of U.S. imperialism. Those Arab countries which have already won independence are engaged in an unyielding fight against old and new colonialism headed by the United States and its running dogs for safeguarding their national independence and state sovereignty. The national-liberation movement in the Arab region is growing with tremendous vitality. In their struggle against imperialism, the Arab peoples are advancing steadily and becoming stronger and stronger in the course of fighting. The independence of Southern Yemen is an important landmark in the deepening Arab national-liberation struggle.

The Chinese and Arab peoples are bound by a profound traditional friendship. Although they are separated by mountains and seas, they are closely united by the common struggle against imperialism. The Chinese people resolutely support the Arab peoples' revolutionary anti-imperialist struggle and rejoice over every victory they win. The Arab peoples, on their part, also enthusiastically support China's socialist revolution and socialist construction and are inspired by the splendid achievements won by the Chinese people under the guidance of our great leader Chairman Mao. The militant friendship forged between the Chinese and Arab peoples in the course of their common struggle against imperialism has stood the test of time and

developed continuously. The relations of friendship and co-operation between China and the Arab countries are also growing with each passing day. The establishment of formal diplomatic relations between China and Southern Yemen is a new and positive contribution to the friendship and solidarity between China and the Arab countries and to the cause of Afro-Asian solidarity against imperialism.

The relations of friendship and co-operation between China and Southern Yemen have a solid basis, that is, the common struggle of the two peoples against imperialism and colonialism and the common criteria guiding the relations between our two countries — the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The press communique of the two countries clearly pointed out: "The two Governments have agreed to develop relations of friendship and co-operation between the two countries in conformity with the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence." We are deeply convinced that our two countries will abide by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and strengthen our unity and co-operation in the struggle against imperialism. Extremely bright prospects have been opened for the development of the relations of friendship and co-operation between our two countries.

Our great leader Chairman Mao said: "The just struggles of the peoples of various countries in the world support each other." The Chinese and Southern Yemeni peoples and the Chinese and Arab peoples have always supported and inspired each other in combating their common enemy, imperialism. In our common struggle in the future, the peoples of our two countries will unite with each other still more closely, and strengthen our mutual support and assistance. This is the common desire of the peoples of China and Southern Yemen as well as the common desire of the peoples of China and the Arab countries.