

## EDITORIAL: COMMITTEES MUST REPRESENT MASSES

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[LIBERATION DAILY 16 April editorial: "There must be representatives of the revolutionary masses--on earnestly studying and properly applying Chairman Mao's latest instruction for the fifth time"]

[Text] Born in the great storm of the great proletarian cultural revolution, one of the most important characteristics of the revolutionary committee is its capability to bring about closer ties with the masses and enabling our proletarian political power to take deeper root among them. Chairman Mao pointed out in his latest instruction: "The basic experience of revolutionary committees is-- they are three-fold: they have representatives of revolutionary cadres, representatives of the armed forces, and representatives of the revolutionary masses. This forms a revolutionary three-in-one combination."

By taking part in leading groups at all levels, the representatives of the revolutionary masses will be able to directly participate in the administration of the state on behalf of the masses of revolutionary people. This represents a fundamental experience in remolding the government organs of our country. By summing up the basic revolutionary experience with genius, Chairman Mao has further developed and enriched the Marxist-Leninist theory on the Marxist-Leninist concept of participation of the masses in state administration to a new, higher level.

The masses are the real heroes. Our great leader Chairman Mao has always attached importance to the participation by revolutionary masses in the running of the country.

As early as 40 years ago, when the red political power first emerged in China, Chairman Mao had already emphasized the importance of putting representative meetings of workers, peasants, and soldiers into full play. After liberation, and under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, large numbers of outstanding elements among the masses of workers and peasants were promoted to cadres, and group after group of representatives of workers, peasants, and soldiers took part in discussing many major political and economic matters. All this is a major hallmark of the participation of the masses in the running of the state.

Frantically opposing Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, the handful of top party capitalist-roaders, headed by China's Khrushchev, either assumed the manner of bourgeois lords to oppress and prevent the revolutionary masses from taking part in the running of the state and regarded the representatives of the people simply as decoration, or adopted all possible means to strike at the cadres promoted from the masses of workers and peasants, or to poison their minds in a vain attempt to degrade these cadres into nothing but government officials divorced from the masses of the people. Chairman Mao recently affirmed the participation of representatives of revolutionary masses in the revolutionary committees as one of the basic experiences in the better running of revolutionary committees. This conclusion marks a victory of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line over the reactionary line of China's Khrushchev in the aspect of establishing political power.

The representatives of the revolutionary masses who have emerged in the heat of the great proletarian cultural revolution, especially of workers and peasants, are proletarian revolutionary fighters tempered in the revolutionary flames. They represent a mighty force with boundless loyalty to Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought, and his revolutionary line. Aside from possessing abundant experience in practice and maintaining close ties with the broad masses of the people, they are also vigorous, brave, determined, and full of revolutionary zeal. Their participation in leading groups at all levels is tantamount to their direct participation in the running of the state. As a result they will be able to assume leadership on behalf of the masses and not be divorced from production.

They will not only be able to reflect the opinions of the masses expeditiously to higher authorities and exercise revolutionary supervision from below in an effective way, but will also be able to convey the calls of the proletarian headquarters headed by Chairman Mao and party policies to the masses without delay, and turn them into conscious acts by vast numbers of people. Therefore, direct participation in the revolutionary committees by representatives of the revolutionary masses will definitely provide an extensive "mass foundation" to the organs of proletarian political power, and create a reliable guarantee that leading groups at all levels will firmly adhere to the mass line, maintain closer ties with the masses, and wholeheartedly serve the masses.

Representatives of the revolutionary masses in the revolutionary committees must put their role into full play, and on no account should they become cadres divorced from production. A representative of the masses divorced from production is no longer a true representative of the masses. Therefore it is imperative for us to continuously create experience in our work, make strenuous efforts to combat self and repudiate revisionism, thoroughly criticize the theory of "joining the party to become an official" advocated by China's Khrushchev, and the other fallacious idea of "becoming officials through rebellion," and firmly establish the correct view of "remaining one of the common people while serving as an official," so that we may be able to better serve the people with one mind and one heart.

While working in the revolutionary committees, representatives of the revolutionary masses must always represent the interests of the broad masses of working people, conquer bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalist tendencies, strengthen the proletarian party spirit and establish the concept of controlling the political power for the proletariat; under no circumstances should the representatives work for the interest of one particular group or control the political power for one small group

The representatives must study, work, and fight together with the masses so they will be able to link their hearts with the masses, to understand and be concerned with their sufferings, maintain the working people's fine tradition of painstaking struggle, and at all times exercise vigilance against the bourgeois ideological influence and against conceit and recklessness, as well as attacks by sugar-coated bullets.

While working in the revolutionary committees, representatives of the revolutionary masses must continue to carry forward the revolutionary spirit of daring to think, to speak, to break through, and to act, and lead the people to fight and win victory resolutely, so as to render better service to the proletarian revolutionaries. Meanwhile, they must also make greater endeavors to study and grasp party policies and constantly raise the skill of struggle to a higher level. On no account should a representative of the revolutionary masses diminish his fighting spirit as a result of a change in his position.

While working in the revolutionary committees, representatives of the revolutionary masses must learn from the representatives of the PLA and revolutionary cadres in the spirit of humility, and strengthen unity with them on the basis of Mao Tse-tung's thought. Moreover, the representatives of revolutionary cadres must make strenuous efforts to put the role of representatives of the revolutionary masses into full play and under no circumstances should they be regarded simply as decoration.

"Sailing the sea depends on the helmsman; making revolution depends on Mao Tse-tung's thought." Representatives of revolutionary cadres, of the armed forces, and of the revolutionary masses working in revolutionary committees must make still greater efforts to study, implement, propagate, and depend Mao Tse-tung's thought and combine the three forces into one with unified thinking, and march in step so the three-way revolutionary committees can truly become an efficient fighting command, giving prominence to proletarian politics, replete with revolutionary vigor and capable of taking prompt decisions and actions.