

# PEKING REVIEW

51  
and  
52

December 26, 1969

## Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou Send Message to President Nguyen Huu Tho

— Most warmly greeting ninth anniversary of founding  
of South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

Modern Revolutionary Peking Opera

## Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy

(October 1969 script)

## A Dirty Deal

*Renmin Ribao* Commentator

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# **QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN MAO TSETUNG**

**Ideological work and political work are the guarantee for accomplishing economic and technical work and serve the economic base. Ideology and politics are the commander, the soul in everything. Economic and technical work are bound to go wrong if we in the least slacken our ideological and political work.**

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**All our literature and art are for the masses of the people, and in the first place for the workers, peasants and soldiers; they are created for the workers, peasants and soldiers and are for their use.**

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**The revolutionary friendship between the peoples of China and Albania has stood the test of fierce international class struggles. The power generated by this friendship is inexhaustible and truly invincible.**

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**The 700 million Chinese people are powerful backing of the Vietnamese people; the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area.**

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**Working hand in glove, Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism have done so many foul and evil things that the revolutionary people the world over will not let them go unpunished. The people of all countries are rising. A new historical period of struggle against U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism has begun.**

## Cultural Revolution Group Under Central Committee Of Chinese Communist Party Sponsors Soirees

— Entertaining leading comrades of fraternal Parties and Albanian comrades in Peking

The Cultural Revolution Group Under the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has sponsored soirees over the past few days to which leading comrades of fraternal Marxist-Leninist Parties in Peking and comrades of the Albanian People's Army Art Troupe on a performance tour in China were invited. They were entertained to performances of the revolutionary Peking operas on contemporary themes *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, *The Red Lantern* and *Shachiapang* and the revolutionary ballet on contemporary theme *The Red Detachment of Women*.

Present on the occasions were: Hoang Van Hoan, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam; E.F. Hill, Chairman of the Australian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist); Thakin Ba Thein Tin, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Burma; Jusuf Adjitorop, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Indonesia; the Delegation of Marxist-Leninist Communists of France led by Jacques Jurquet;

Xhorxhi Robo, Albanian Ambassador to China, and other members of the Albanian Embassy; Nane Kutra, Deputy Chief of the Political Department of the Albanian People's Army and all the comrades of the Albanian People's Army Art Troupe led by him.

Accompanying the guests at the performances were: Chou En-lai, Chen Po-ta and Kang Sheng, Members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party; (the following are listed

in the order of the number of strokes in their surnames) Chiang Ching, Li Hsien-nien, Li Tso-peng, Wu Fa-hsien, Chiu Hui-tso, Yao Wen-yuan, Huang Yung-sheng and Hsieh Fu-chih, Members of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee; and Chi Teng-kuei and Li Teh-sheng, Alternate Members of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee.

Under the close attention of the Party's Central Committee with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader, the model revolutionary theatrical productions have been raised to a new level through repeated improvements and conscientious rehearsals for perfection. They were warmly commended by the audience. The performances by the revolutionary stage artists repeatedly drew thunderous applause.

The hall was a scene of jubilation after the performances. Waving red-covered copies of *Quotations From*

*Chairman Mao Tsetung* and enthusiastically singing *Sailing the Seas Depends on the Helmsman* and the *Internationale*, all cheered: "Long live invincible Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought!" "Long live the great victory of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution!" "Long live the dictatorship of the proletariat!" and "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to Chairman Mao!"

In an extremely warm revolutionary atmosphere, the foreign guests, in the company of responsible comrades of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, went on stage to shake hands with the revolutionary artists and posed for photographs with them.

Also attending the performances were leading members of the departments concerned under the Party's Central Committee and the Chinese Government, the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and other organizations.

## Full-Length Colour Documentary "Celebration of 20th Anniversary of Founding of Great People's Republic of China" Showing

A full-length colour documentary *Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the Great People's Republic of China* has been on show in Peking and other parts of the country beginning from December 11.

The film vividly records the moving scenes in which our great leader Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Vice-Chairman Lin Piao joyously celebrated the anniversary with more than 400,000 army men and civilians of Peking and representatives of the workers, peasants and soldiers from all parts of the country.

In the film the audience can see that when Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Vice-Chairman Lin Piao walked on to the Tien An Men rostrum with firm steps amidst the strains of *The East Is Red*, the mammoth gathering burst into a jubilant ovation. Looking up at Chairman Mao, the revolutionary masses waved their red-covered copies of *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung* and cheered from the bottom of their hearts: "Long live Chairman Mao!" "We wish Chairman Mao a long, long life!" Beaming, full of vitality and in excellent health,

Chairman Mao cordially waved back to the people again and again in acknowledgement. These scenes fully show the boundless love of the people of all nationalities of our country for Chairman Mao and that Chairman Mao's heart is always closely linked with those of the people.

The film also records the scene in which Vice-Chairman Lin Piao made an important speech at the rally.

There are warm scenes in which Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin reviewed the parade from the Tien An Men rostrum, and also cordially shook hands and conversed with representatives from all parts of China attending the National Day celebrations, with leading comrades from various quarters and foreign friends from the five continents. As they paraded, workers, peasants, armymen, Red Guards, little red soldiers, revolutionary cadres, revolutionary intellectuals, revolutionary literary and art workers and athletes held high portraits of Chairman Mao, red banners and placards inscribed with slogans, cheering as they marched with vigorous strides to be reviewed by Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin. They jubilantly hailed the great victories our country had won in the past 20 years in socialist revolution and socialist construction, the tremendous victory of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, the great victory of the Ninth National Congress of the Communist Party of China and the great victory of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

The film also records the moving scenes of Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Piao watching a display of fireworks together with armymen and civilians of Peking and foreign friends on the evening of the National Day.

This film fully demonstrates that the Chinese people of various nationalities, who are armed with Mao Tsetung Thought, tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and inspired by the spirit of the Ninth Party Congress, have achieved unprecedented revolutionary unity and are filled with unprecedented vigour under the leadership of the

Party Central Committee with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader. It captures the Chinese people's determination to further consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat and to win new and still greater victories and reflects their iron will to carry, together with the people of the world, the struggle against imperialism, social-imperialism, modern revisionism and all reaction through to the end.

### **D.R.V.N. Military Attache in China Gives Army Day Reception**

Colonel Nguyen Dong, Military Attache of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in China, gave a reception in Peking on December 22 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnamese People's Army.

Present at the reception were Bui Tan Linh, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the D.R.V.N. Embassy, and Nguyen Van Quang, Ambassador to China of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

Also present were Huang Yung-sheng, Chief of the General Staff, and Wu Fa-hsien and Chiu Hui-tso, Deputy Chiefs of the General Staff, of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Military Attache Nguyen Dong and Deputy Chief of the General Staff Wu Fa-hsien spoke at the reception which was filled with the atmosphere of friendship and militant unity between the peoples and armies of China and Viet Nam.

Military Attache Nguyen Dong recalled the militant path traversed by the Vietnamese People's Army in the past 25 years and gave an account of the great victories scored by the Vietnamese people and the Vietnamese People's Army in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. He vehemently condemned the Nixon government for trying to keep at all costs the Saigon puppet regime and for stepping up the "Vietnamization" of the war in an attempt to perpetuate the division of Viet Nam.

Nguyen Dong said: In the testament left to the Viet Nam Workers'

Party and the entire Vietnamese people, President Ho Chi Minh said: **"The resistance war against U.S. aggression may drag on. Our compatriots may have to face new sacrifices in property and life. Whatever may happen, we must keep firm our resolve to fight the U.S. aggressors till total victory."** True to his great cause and lofty ideal, the Vietnamese people's armed forces pledge, along with the entire people, to hold aloft President Ho Chi Minh's banner of determination to fight and to win victory, to persevere in and intensify the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation till final victory.

Referring to the militant friendship between the peoples of Viet Nam and China, Nguyen Dong said: Abiding by the teachings of beloved and respected Chairman Mao who said that **"the 700 million Chinese people are powerful backing of the Vietnamese people; the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area,"** the people and the People's Liberation Army of China have extended and are extending to the people in both north and south Viet Nam great and many-sided support and assistance in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, as well as in the socialist construction in north Viet Nam. On behalf of the Vietnamese People's Army, he said, I expressed profound gratitude to beloved and respected Chairman Mao, the Chinese Communist Party, the Government of the Chinese People's Republic, the heroic Chinese People's Liberation Army and the great Chinese people.

Deputy Chief of the General Staff Wu Fa-hsien warmly praised the Vietnamese people and their army for the great victories they had won on all fronts under the leadership of the Vietnamese people's great leader President Ho Chi Minh, and pointed out that the Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation had made important contributions to the struggles of the people of the world against U.S. imperialism.

Wu Fa-hsien said: Our great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out that **"All reactionary forces on the**

*(Continued on p. 47.)*

# Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou Send Message to President Nguyen Huu Tho

—Most warmly greeting the ninth anniversary of the founding of South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation,

**President Nguyen Huu Tho:**

On the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the founding of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, we, on behalf of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese Government and people, extend the warmest congratulations to the heroic south Vietnamese people and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation who stand at the forefront of the struggle against U.S. imperialism.

Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the south Vietnamese people, united as one and defying brute force, have in the past nine years waged prolonged and most arduous struggles against U.S. imperialism, landing it in an isolated and difficult position. The great victories won by the south Vietnamese people have laid the foundation for the final defeat of U.S. imperialism and the accomplishment of the Vietnamese people's great cause of resistance to U.S. aggression and national salvation; these victories are important contributions to the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the oppressed nations and people of the whole world. The Chinese people pay high tribute to you.

Although U.S. imperialism has suffered disastrous defeats in its war of aggression against Viet Nam, it has not yet been finally defeated. After its assumption of office, the Nixon government has become even more flagrant in employing its counter-revolutionary dual tactics. While talking glibly about "peace" and making propaganda about a gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops from southern Viet Nam so as to deceive the American people, it is actually accelerating the intensification of its war of aggression against Viet Nam, in an attempt to save itself from its doomed defeat by the so-called "Vietnamization" of the Viet Nam war, i.e. by strengthening the puppet troops and the puppet regime. The facts prove that there is no difference between the Nixon government's policy of aggression against Viet Nam and that of its predecessor the

Johnson government and that the two run along the same line. No matter what tricks it plays, it will never give up its wild design, its vain attempt to perpetuate the forcible occupation of south Viet Nam and the division of Viet Nam.

We believe that, under the leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the long-tested south Vietnamese people, following President Ho Chi Minh's will and giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of "**firm resolve to fight and win,**" persevering in protracted war and in maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in their own hands, relying on their own efforts and aiming at victory through protracted struggle, will certainly smash the plots and schemes of U.S. imperialism and its accomplice, surmount all difficulties on their road of advance and win complete victory in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples are intimate brothers and comrades-in-arms. The 700 million Chinese people are powerful backing of the Vietnamese people. The Chinese people will always stand together with the Vietnamese people and give firm support to them in carrying through to the end the great war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

Final victory certainly belongs to the heroic Vietnamese people.

**Mao Tsetung**, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

**Lin Piao**, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

**Chou En-lai**, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China

Peking, December 19, 1969

# Comrades Hoxha, Lleshi and Shehu Send Message To Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou

— Expressing most heartfelt thanks for the warm greetings  
on the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Albania

Peking

**Comrade Mao Tsetung**, Chairman of the Central  
Committee of the Communist Party of China,

**Comrade Lin Piao**, Vice-Chairman of the Central  
Committee of the Communist Party of China,

**Comrade Chou En-lai**, Premier of the State  
Council of the People's Republic of China,

Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the Albanian people, the Albanian Party of Labour, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania, as well as in our own names, we express to you and through you to the great Chinese people, to the glorious Communist Party of China and to the Government of the People's Republic of China our most heartfelt thanks for the warm greetings, imbued with the feelings of unbreakable and fraternal friendship, that you extended to us on the occasion of the great holiday of the Albanian people, the 25th anniversary of the liberation of the homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution in Albania.

The tremendous victories scored by the fraternal Chinese people under the brilliant leadership of the glorious Communist Party of China headed by their great leader, the closest friend of the Albanian people, the great Marxist-Leninist, Comrade Mao Tsetung, both in socialist revolution and in socialist construction of the country, the triumph of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the historic decisions of the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of China have made the People's Republic of China stronger than ever and have raised unprecedentedly its international prestige and authority.

The Albanian people, their Party and Government, bound by the revolutionary friendship and

militant unity with the Chinese people, Party and Government immeasurably rejoice at these magnificent victories, consider them as their own victories and as victories of socialism and Marxism-Leninism and wholeheartedly wish that the 700 million Chinese people score new and still more brilliant victories in the future on their non-stop revolutionary march towards socialism and communism. The eyes of the peoples and genuine revolutionaries the world over are directed today towards the great China of Mao Tsetung which is holding aloft unbent the banner of Marxism-Leninism, resolutely supporting their struggle for national and social liberation, consistently defending the cause of socialism and revolution and is waging an irreconcilable struggle against U.S.-led imperialism, Soviet-led modern revisionism and world reaction.

We cordially wish that the unbreakable revolutionary friendship, the militant solidarity and the all-round fraternal co-operation between our two peoples, two Parties and two countries, which are based on the great principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will constantly develop and strengthen in their common interest and in the interest of the cause of socialism and revolution.

**Enver Hoxha**, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour

**Haxhi Lleshi**, President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania

**Mehmet Shehu**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania

December 12, 1969

Tirana

# Comrade Lin Piao Sends Message Warmly Greeting 25th Anniversary of Founding of Vietnamese People's Army

— China resolutely supports the Vietnamese people in carrying the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation through to the end

Comrade Lin Piao, Minister of National Defence of the People's Republic of China, sent a message on December 21 to Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, warmly greeting the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnamese People's Army. Following is the full text of the message:

Hanoi

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam:

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnamese People's Army, I, on behalf of the Chinese people and the Chinese People's Liberation Army, extend warm festival greetings to the heroic Vietnamese people and Vietnamese People's Army.

Under the leadership of the Vietnamese people's great leader, the late President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese People's Army which has a glorious history of fighting, has, displaying the heroic, staunch revolutionary spirit, put up a protracted and unyielding struggle against imperialism and colonialism and rendered immortal meritorious service to the cause of the Vietnamese people for national independence and liberation. In their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the Vietnamese people and their army, holding high President Ho Chi Minh's banner of "firm resolve to fight and win" and giving full play to the might of the people's war, have badly battered U.S. imperialism, the most vicious in the world, driving it to an awkward predicament, and won one victory after another. The great victory won by the Vietnamese people in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is an important contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle of the oppressed people and oppressed nations all over the world.

At present the revolutionary struggle of the people throughout the world has entered a great new period

and the situation is excellent. U.S. imperialism and social-imperialism are beset with internal and external difficulties and are in an impasse. In order to dominate the world, carve out spheres of influence and suppress the revolutionary struggles of the people of various countries, they contend and at the same time collude with each other and are stepping up employing their counter-revolutionary dual tactics. Recently U.S. imperialism has been going all out to "de-Americanize" the Viet Nam war, its purpose still being that of perpetuating its occupation of south Viet Nam and undermining the reunification of Viet Nam. We are deeply convinced that the heroic Vietnamese people and their army, so long as they persist in carrying out a protracted war and in maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in their own hands and relying on their own efforts, will certainly be able to overcome all difficulties in their advance, thoroughly defeat the U.S. aggressors, liberate the south and defend the north and proceed to reunify the fatherland.

The peoples and armies of China and Viet Nam have forged a profound, fraternal militant friendship in the course of protracted revolutionary struggle. "The 700 million Chinese people are powerful backing of the Vietnamese people; the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area." The Chinese people and the Chinese People's Liberation Army, in line with this teaching of our great leader Chairman Mao, resolutely support the fraternal Vietnamese people in carrying the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation through to the end!

Long live the militant friendship between the peoples and armies of China and Viet Nam!

Lin Piao

Minister of National Defence of the  
People's Republic of China

December 21, 1969

# It Is Essential to Grasp the "Four Goods" Firmly

by Editorial Department of *Jiefangjun Bao*

**T**HE great leader Chairman Mao has always attached great importance to the building of the basic unit of our army. As early as the initial period of the building of our army, Chairman Mao prescribed the principle: **"The Party branch is organized on a company basis."** In addition, Chairman Mao pointed out incisively: **"Soldiers are the foundation of an army."**

In accordance with Chairman Mao's proletarian line on army building and his consistent teachings, Vice-Chairman Lin creatively set forth the strategic measure of launching the "four-good" company movement throughout the army. Vice-Chairman Lin has instructed us that it is necessary to be well prepared to fight against aggressive war, and that preparatory work is extensive and varied, but the most widespread, the greatest amount of work and the most decisive work to be done lies in building the company well. Vice-Chairman Lin has also pointed out that it will not do for the army if it does not grasp the basic unit, or in the course of grasping the basic unit does not grasp the "four goods."

Since the launching of the "four-good" company movement in 1961, Chairman Mao's line on army building has taken deep root in the companies, giving great impetus to building the companies into revolutionized and militant units. This has enabled our army to stand the rigorous tests in the great struggles of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and in defending the socialist motherland, and to make new contributions to the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Illuminated by the spirit of the Ninth Party Congress, the "four-good" company movement in our army has made new progress and the army's fighting capacity has become much greater. Practice has proved that the "four-good" movement has played a tremendous role in the building of our army.

Today we are faced with the threat of a large-scale aggressive war unleashed against us by U.S. imperialism and social-imperialism. To carry out Chairman Mao's great strategic principle **"Be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people,"** and to be well prepared against the aggressive war, we must grasp the "four-good" movement firmly, raise it to a new level, and build the companies even better. The key to achieving this lies

in the correct handling of the relationship between the first "good" and the other three "goods," with Mao Tsetung Thought as the guide. We must solve this problem well both ideologically, in our understanding, and in practical work.

What problems should be paid attention to in correctly handling the relationship between the first "good" and the other three "goods"?

One. Grasp the "four goods" in an all-round way. The "four goods" embody the experience of building the company our army gained through protracted struggle. In the past decades we have done various things, the most important being that of doing a good job in political and ideological work, in ensuring a good working style, in military training and in arranging daily life. As a whole, the "four goods" are inter-related and none of them can be dispensed with. It is primary to be good in political and ideological work, but the other three "goods" are not to be discarded. We must give prominence to proletarian politics, must put politics in command, and we must be firm and steadfast about that. Nevertheless, we should not think that by putting politics in command, military affairs can be neglected. Things always have various aspects; of the various factors in the fighting strength of our army, that of prime importance is political and ideological work; the militant style, tactics and technique and the arrangement of daily life are also important factors, and we cannot do without any of them. All the four aspects of the "four goods" should be grasped and not just one at a time. We must not think that being good in political and ideological work is everything. To substitute the first "good" in political and ideological work for the three other "goods" would be tantamount to negating the "four-good" movement. In short, one "good" alone will not do, nor will two or three "goods"; it must be all four simultaneously. Only in this way is it possible to raise the fighting strength of the army in a comprehensive way and meet the requirements for strengthening preparedness against war.

Two. Good political and ideological work takes the lead. The relationship between the first "good" and the other three "goods" is that of what commands and what is commanded. To be good in political and ideological work means to put Mao Tsetung Thought



in command in promoting the revolutionization of people's thinking. That is the politics of politics, the soul of the soul and the core of the core. With this link firmly grasped, it is possible to lead the three other "goods" forward. Without being good in political and ideological work, the three other "goods" are simply out of the question. One view now current is that it seems that the question of the first "good" has been solved and the work of giving prominence to politics has been done sufficiently. This is not correct. Class struggle in the political and ideological field will never cease. The struggle between the proletarian world outlook and the bourgeois world outlook, and the struggle between proletarian ideology and bourgeois and petty-bourgeois ideology will continue for a long time. The revolutionization of thinking has no end. Political and ideological work cannot take effect once and for all. At all times, first place must be given to man, to political work, to ideological work and to living ideas. In opposing a war of aggression launched by imperialism and social-imperialism, especially a war of aggression in which atom bombs are used as weapons, we should pay even more attention to the factor of man and bring into play the superiority of the revolutionary people's revolutionary spirit. Putting the first "good" and the three other "goods" on a par or reversing the relationship between them is entirely wrong. We must firmly adhere to the path of giving prominence to proletarian politics. Whatever the circumstances, our first requirement must be good political and ideological work and we must first of all grasp this work well.

Three. The first "good" must lead the three other "goods" forward. Having grasped political and ideological work well does not mean having grasped the other aspects well. It is still necessary to use political and ideological work to promote the "three-eight" working style, military training and arrangement of everyday life. There must be an integration of viewing the situation as a whole with one's own work, and all work should be done well, guided by viewing the situation as a whole. It is essential to oppose the purely vocational viewpoint without regard to the whole and empty politics without concrete tasks. It is incorrect to believe that grasping professional work and technique is the "purely vocational view" and grasping the other three "goods" is "not putting politics to the fore." What is politics? Politics is bearing in mind the whole and doing one's own work well. There is no such thing as politics in the abstract; working for the state and for the people is politics, defending the socialist motherland and the dictatorship of the proletariat is politics. At present, starting from the whole of "be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people," using good political and ideological work to lead forward the three other "goods," raising the combat strength of the army in an all-round way—all this is politics. In speaking of the revolutionization of ideology we mean the unity of theory with practice, the unity of thought with action, in a word, acting in accordance with Mao Tsetung

Thought. We must start with our own work, keep the whole in mind and, guided by Mao Tsetung Thought, use the first "good" to lead the other three "goods" forward, have the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death, excel in skills and accomplish all tasks with greater, faster, better and more economical results.

Four. Bring into full play the function of political work as the commander and guarantee. Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Ideological work and political work are the guarantee for accomplishing economic and technical work and serve the economic base. Ideology and politics are the commander, the soul in everything. Economic and technical work are bound to go wrong if we in the least slacken our ideological and political work."** Having the first "good" lead the other three "goods" forward means to bring into full play at all times the function of political work as the commander and guarantee, to use Mao Tsetung Thought to command everything, transform it and lead it forward.

To act as the commander means to exercise firm and strong political and ideological leadership in fostering our working style, in giving military training and arranging everyday life, to study and apply Mao Tsetung Thought in a living way, to criticize revisionism in all spheres constantly and to criticize the bourgeois military line with the aim of eliminating its pernicious influence, so that all work will always advance in the direction indicated by Chairman Mao and his line on army building.

To act as the guarantee means to have political and ideological work run through the entire process of fostering our working style, of giving military training and arranging everyday life, to arouse revolutionary enthusiasm among the masses, to bring into play all positive factors, so as to ensure that all tasks are fulfilled with outstanding success under the guidance of Mao Tsetung Thought.

The functions of political work as commander and guarantee are a unity. Commander represents the orientation, while guarantee is aimed at ensuring the orientation. If the commanding role of political work is not stressed first and foremost, vocational work will have no correct political orientation and will go astray. If the role of political work as a guarantee is neglected, various kinds of vocational work will not be done well and the role of political work as commander will not be fulfilled.

Five. There is flexibility within fixity. Things of fundamental importance, such as giving prominence to proletarian politics, studying and applying Chairman Mao's works in a living way, the "four firsts," the "three-eight" working style, democracy in the three main fields and the "four-good" movement, are fixed. It is always necessary to grasp the "four goods" in an all-round way under the command of Mao Tsetung Thought, to put good political and ideological work in first place and to use this to lead the other three "goods"

forward; these, too, are fixed. However, certain concrete contents of the four aspects of the "four goods" are flexible and, no matter whether it is the first "good" or the other three "goods," new demands should be set forth in accordance with the change in the situation and tasks. Only in this way can the "four-good" movement continue to advance and develop.

At present, in observing, checking and doing everything in the light of preparedness against war, the demands set on the four aspects of the "four goods" are chiefly the following:

Further arm the cadres and fighters with Chairman Mao's great theory of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, study and apply his "three constantly read articles" in a living way, diligently study Chairman Mao's military works, strive to raise consciousness of continuing the revolution, foster the proletarian world outlook and the proletarian concept of war, strengthen the determination to carry China's revolution and the world revolution through to the end and bring into full play the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death. It is necessary to remain boundlessly loyal to our great leader Chairman Mao, to cherish an ever greater love for our socialist motherland, to hate, scorn and despise U.S. imperialism and social-imperialism, to strengthen the concept of war preparedness, to raise morale to the utmost and firmly to establish all-time war preparedness and foster courage in fighting and confidence in victory.

The working style should be adapted to the requirements of war. It is necessary to vigorously carry out the militant calls of the Party Central Committee with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader. It is necessary to strengthen revolutionary unity and foster the principle of concerning oneself with affairs of major importance and taking the interests of the whole into account. It is necessary to make harmonious and close the relations between higher and lower levels of command, between officers and men, the army and the government and the army and the people, so that they will be one, heart and soul, in waging the common struggle against the enemy. It is necessary to foster the fighting style required on the battlefield through practical tempering, especially alertness, fast action, bravery, boldness and tenacity. It is necessary to be able to bear hardships, to strengthen the sense of discipline and carry out and obey orders.

It is imperative to put Mao Tsetung Thought in command of military training, hereby heightening the fighting quality. It is necessary to be skilful in shooting and to master all basic tactics. We must train hard and master skills in close-range and night fighting tactics and fighting within 200 metres. It is necessary to shoot accurately, to be able to move freely and to make communication contacts well. Camping should be done well because it is concurrently an opportunity for training, mass work and fostering of the working style. It is necessary to be able to march, eat and sleep well and stand sentry well. There should be less but better

training, with a view to fighting big and fierce battles and fighting under the most difficult circumstances. It will not do to rely solely on lectures; more time must be given to training.

Arranging everyday life well. The fighters are our class brothers, the glorious traditions of respecting cadres and cherishing soldiers must be carried forward, the principle of integrating strict demands with patient persuasion must be persisted in and method of political work must be used to carry out guidance and education well. Wartime arrangements of everyday life must be mastered. It is precisely under the present conditions of getting prepared against war that more attention must be paid to the well-being of the masses, and that everyday life must be arranged well, so as to guarantee that our soldiers are always in fighting trim.

Six. Appropriate arrangements. Work, time and manpower should be arranged in accordance with what is needed in grasping the "four goods" in an all-round way. Arrange political and ideological work first and allow a certain proportion of time for military training. Study Chairman Mao's works every day. Training in military technique must be done daily as well. All the check-ups, summing-ups and evaluations must be carried out in line with the principle of grasping the "four goods" in an all-round way. It is imperative to learn to "play the piano," avoid devoting all attention to a single field, prevent one-sidedness, solve in a still better way the question of the first "good" leading forward the other three "goods" organizationally and in planning, so as to guarantee that the "four goods" are carried out in an all-round way.

Seven. Leadership must go to the grass roots and vigorously grasp implementation. It is imperative to improve methods of work and lead in a living way. The main leading comrades must go down to the front line to impart the fine tradition of our army to the cadres at the grass-roots level and effectively help the companies handle well the relationship between the first "good" and the other three "goods." Take hold of selected basic units well and produce models in the all-round carrying out of the "four goods." The leadership should grasp the advanced companies and at the same time grasp those that are falling behind. Work meticulously and put stress on real results.

Whether one takes firm hold of the "four goods" and whether one is able to handle correctly the relationship between the first and the three other "goods" is a question of one's awareness of the struggle between the two lines in military affairs and also a question of the method of thinking, a question of world outlook. The "four-good" movement emerged in the course of struggle. It is a product of the victory of Chairman Mao's line in army building over the bourgeois military line. And it has to advance in the course of struggle, too. It is imperative for us to study and re-study in a deep-going way Chairman Mao's teachings on building our army and Vice-Chairman Lin's policy and principles on building the army on a political basis, make further

criticism of the bourgeois military line and constantly enhance our consciousness of carrying out and defending Chairman Mao's line on army building. The struggle to eliminate self-interest and promote devotion to the public interest must be carried forward to eradicate selfishness and impure motives and strengthen the revolutionary sense of responsibility in building the companies in an all-round manner. It is imperative to study materialist dialectics and combat one-sidedness in thinking. It is imperative to grasp the "four-good" movement firmly, grasp it well and grasp it consistently, so that every company of our army will be built into a fighting collective infinitely loyal to Chairman Mao,

into a steel blade which can stand the sternest tests in battle and in defending the dictatorship of the proletariat. In this way our war preparedness will have the firmest basis and we will be able successfully to accomplish all the militant tasks given us by the Party Central Committee with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader. In case the U.S. imperialists and social-imperialists have the audacity to invade, they will certainly receive crushing blows, and none of the intruders will go back alive.

(Originally published in "Jiefangjun Bao,"  
December 9, 1969)

## FOR YOUR REFERENCE

1. **"Four-good" companies:** In accordance with Chairman Mao's line on army building and his consistent teachings, Vice-Chairman Lin Piao on January 1, 1961 issued a call to the Chinese People's Liberation Army for the launching of a movement to create "four-good" companies, which evoked a warm response from the masses of commanders and fighters. Since then, the "four-good" company movement has been developing vigorously throughout the army, and has greatly promoted the revolutionization of the People's Liberation Army and enhanced its militancy.

"Four-good" companies are companies which are good in political and ideological work, in the "three-eight" working style, in military training and in arranging their everyday life.

In designating the "four-good" companies, evaluations should be made twice a year: a preliminary appraisal in the middle of the year and a general one at the year's end. The title "four-good" company is then conferred upon those meriting such recognition.

2. **The "four-firsts":** In accordance with Chairman Mao's proletarian thinking and line on army building, Vice-Chairman Lin Piao creatively set forth the "four-firsts" at the enlarged meeting of the Military Commission of the Party Central Committee in October 1960. The "four-firsts" are: first place must be given to man in handling the relationship between man and weapons; to political work in handling the relationship between political and other work; to ideological work in relation to routine tasks in political work; and, in ideological work, to the living ideas in a person's mind, as distinguished from ideas in books. In brief, first place to man, first place to political work, first place to ideological work and first place to living ideas.

The "four-firsts" is the concrete embodiment of Chairman Mao's thinking on building the army on a political basis, the orientation of the political work of the Chinese People's Liberation Army as well as the orientation in building the whole army. Upholding the "four-firsts" makes it possible to give full play to the commanding role of ideology and politics, to constantly promoting the revolutionization of people's thinking and to enable our army always to

advance victoriously along Chairman Mao's line on army building.

3. **The "three-eight" working style:** The Chinese People's Liberation Army, founded and led personally by Chairman Mao, has fostered a fine working style during the protracted and arduous revolutionary struggle. Chairman Mao summed it up in three phrases and eight additional characters, meaning **"a firm and correct political orientation, an industrious and simple style of work, and flexible strategy and tactics";** and **"Be united, alert, earnest and lively."** These are briefly called the "three-eight" working style.

The "three-eight" working style is an important component part of Mao Tsetung thinking on military affairs. It is the concentrated expression of the nature of the people's army, the principle guiding our army's training, fighting and all other actions and an important factor in promoting our unity to defeat the enemy.

4. **Democracy in the three main fields** refers to the three aspects of democratic life in the People's Liberation Army, namely, democracy in the political, economic and military fields.

With regard to political democracy, fighters are politically on an equal footing with cadres and are free to criticize and voice their opinions of them and to put forward proposals regarding work in the army.

With regard to economic democracy, the economic committee elected by the armymen meeting at a grass-roots unit assists the administrative leadership in managing the mess and farm and side-occupation production. It supervises expenditures, checks up and makes public the accounts at regular intervals to guard against corruption and waste and any violation of policies.

With regard to military democracy, in periods of training there must be mutual instruction as between officers and soldiers and among the soldiers themselves, and there must be a review of the results of the instruction and learning. In periods of fighting, the rank and file should be aroused to discuss how to fulfil combat tasks and at the end of an engagement to review the fighting, the men's fighting will, their fighting tactics and technique and their sense of discipline.

Democracy in the three main fields is practised under centralized leadership for the purpose of achieving a high level of political unity, betterment of the armymen's life and improvement in their fighting technique and tactics.

**"HONGQI" EDITOR'S NOTE:** The modern revolutionary Peking opera *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, carefully revised, perfected and polished to the last detail with our great leader Chairman Mao's loving care, now glitters with surpassing splendour. Here we publish the script of the opera as was staged in Peking in October 1969 and recommend it to worker, peasant and soldier readers at all posts. All theatrical troupes should take this as the standard version when they present the opera.

# Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy\*

(October 1969 script)

Revised collectively by the "Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy" Group  
of the Peking Opera Troupe of Shanghai

## CAST

<b>Yang Tzu-jung</b>	scout platoon leader of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (P.L.A.)	<b>Chang Ta-shan</b>	railway worker
<b>Shao Chien-po</b>	P.L.A. regimental chief of staff	<b>Li Yung-chi's wife</b>	
<b>Li Yung-chi</b>	railway worker	<b>Other villagers</b>	
<b>Chang Pao</b>	hunter's daughter	<b>Vulture</b>	bandit chieftain of Tiger Mountain, leader of Kuo-mintang's "Fifth Peace Preservation Brigade of the Eastern Heilungkiang Region"
<b>Shen Teh-hua</b>	P.L.A. scout platoon deputy leader	<b>Luan Ping</b>	liaison adjutant under Horse Cudgel Hsu, bandit chieftain of Breast Mountain
<b>Medical Orderly</b>	P.L.A. girl medical orderly	<b>Bandit Chief of Staff</b>	
<b>Young Kuo</b>	P.L.A. guard	<b>Bandit Chief Adjutant</b>	
<b>Chung Chih-cheng</b>	P.L.A. soldier	<b>Bandit Captain</b>	
<b>Lu Hung-yeh</b>	P.L.A. soldier	<b>"Terribles" and other bandits</b>	
<b>Lo Chang-chiang</b>	P.L.A. soldier		
<b>Other soldiers</b>			
<b>Hunter Chang</b>	Chang Pao's father		
<b>Mother Li</b>	Li Yung-chi's mother		

\* Previously translated as *Taking the Bandits' Stronghold*.

## SCENE ONE

# Advancing in Victory

Winter, 1946. A snowy forest in northeast China.

(A P.L.A. pursuit detachment in battle array, a red flag at its head, enters swiftly. The fighters execute a dance depicting their march against the wind along a snow-covered mountain trail.)

**Lo:** Halt!

(The men form ranks.)

**Lo:** Report, Chief of Staff. We've come to a fork in the road.

**Shao:** We'll rest here.

**Lo:** Right. Lu Hung-yeh!

**Lu:** Here.

**Lo:** Stand guard!

**Lu:** Right. *(Exit.)*

**Lo:** We'll rest here.

**Other soldiers:** Right.

(Young Kuo hands Shao a map. Shao examines it and then looks at the terrain.)

**Lo:** Supply Chief! We'll rest here.

(A voice responds: "We'll rest here!" Horses neigh. The men stamp their feet to warm up and knock off the snow from their capes.)

**Shao:** You must be tired, comrades?

**Soldiers:** Not at all.

**Shao:** Good. Comrades Yang Tzu-jung and Shen Teh-hua are scouting up ahead. We've arranged to meet them here. The regiment Party committee sent us as a pursuit detachment into this snowy forest in accordance with Chairman Mao's directive "**Build stable base areas in the Northeast.**" Our job is to arouse the masses in the Mutanchiang area, wipe out the bandits, consolidate the rear, coordinate with our field army and smash the U.S.-backed Kuomintang attacks. It's a task of great strategic importance. That Vulture and his die-hards gang have hidden themselves deep in the mountains. We've been trudging through the snow for days, but there's still no sign of them. We must display our style of continuous fighting. *(Decisively.)* "**Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty —**

**Shao and soldiers:** **To win victory.**"

(Lu Hung-yeh enters.)

**Lu:** Report! Platoon Leader Yang and Comrade Shen are back.

(The two enter and salute.)

**Yang:** Report!

**Shao:** Comrade Tzu-jung, you have had a tiring job.

**Yang:** We went out in disguise, according to orders, and on our way we rescued a boy — a mute, in an isolated ravine. Thanks to his father's directions, we reached a little hamlet called Black Dragon



**Yang Tzu-jung, scout platoon leader of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.**

Valley. Our investigations there put us on the trail of the Vulture.

**Shao:** Excellent!

**Yang:**

(Sings "hsi pi yao pan"\*)

*This section is infested with bandits.*

*They call themselves "Third Regiment of the Fifth Peace Preservation Brigade."*

*Last night they pillaged Black Dragon Valley.*

(Changes to "kuai pan")

*Vulture, vicious and cruel, has committed monstrous crimes.*

*After their pillage they fled to Chiapi Valley, I think they have returned to Tiger Mountain.*

**Shao:** We're on the Vulture's trail, comrades. We must press on. Lo Chang-chiang!

**Lo:** Here.

**Shao:** We'll camp at Black Dragon Valley tonight.

**Lo:** Right.

**Shao:** Comrade Tzu-jung!

**Yang:** Here.

\* *Hsi pi yao pan* and other similar terms in the text such as *kuai pan*, *hsi pi hsiao tao pan*, *hsi pi san pan*, *fan erh huang tao pan*, *erh huang man pan*, *erh huang erh liu*, *liu shui* and *hui lung* are various styles of singing in Peking opera. Each has its own fixed tune, structure, mode, rhythm and tempo. Modern revolutionary Peking opera has critically assimilated various styles of singing from traditional Peking opera with many creative improvements to suit the portrayal of proletarian heroes.

**Shao:** We need more information on the enemy. Take Comrades Shen Teh-hua. . . .

**Shen:** Here.

**Shao:** Chung Chih-cheng!

**Chung:** Here.

**Shao:** And Lu Hung-yeh!

**Lu:** Here.

**Shao:** And do some more scouting.

**Yang:** Right.

**Shao:** Be off now.

(Dramatic pose.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE TWO

### Chiapi Valley Pillaged

**Dusk.** The edge of the village Chiapi Valley. A withered tree stands slanting by the side and crags lie in the gully.

(The routed bandit gang of the Kuomintang "Fifth Peace Preservation Brigade" is retreating to its lair. Passing by Chiapi Valley, Vulture, the bandit chieftain, peeps at the village.)

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** On our way back this time we've made off with quite a pile, Chief. This village is right on our doorstep. We ought to leave it alone.

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** That's right, as the saying goes, "A rabbit doesn't foul its own hole."

**Vulture:** Who cares? Chief of Staff, go and grab me some of those paupers. We'll put them to work building fortifications. Men and women — both of them.

**Bandit Chief of Staff (takes hint):** Yes, sir.

(He leaves with the bandit gang for the village. The adjutant starts to go too, but Vulture stops him.)

**Vulture:** I say, it must be nearly ten days since Howling Wolf went off to find Luan Ping, isn't it?

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** That's it, I'm getting worried about this too.

**Vulture:** The first thing we'll do when we get back to Tiger Mountain is expand our forces.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** Yes. If Howling Wolf can find Luan Ping and get his hands on Horse Cudgel Hsu's Contacts Map, the whole Mutanchiang area will belong to us.

**Vulture:** I hear Commissioner Hou is also looking all over for that map. We mustn't let him get it.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** Don't worry, Chief. Howling Wolf and Luan Ping are sworn brothers. That map won't fly away.

**Vulture:** You know, openly the Americans are pretending to be working for peace talks between the Kuomintang and the Communists, but actually they help Chiang Kai-shek on the sly, transporting

soldiers north for him. I hear Chiang Kai-shek has turned up in Shenyang, taking personal charge of the fighting. They want to wipe out all the Communist troops north and south of the Great Wall in three months. Our chance has come, it seems to me.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** Fine. When the Kuomintang army returns, you'll be made commander of all northern Manchuria. First it was Marshal Chang, then the Manchoukuo of the Japanese, and now the Kuomintang of Chiang Kai-shek. None of them could do without you. Ha! Ha! Ha!

**Vulture:** Ha! Ha! Ha!

(Dogs bark in the village. Vulture swaggers off with Bandit Chief Adjutant in the direction of the village. Flames leap up and shouting is heard.)

(Li Yung-chi enters hurriedly, carrying a hunting rifle and some game.)

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings "hsi pi hsiao tao pan")

*Flames leap to the sky and people shout,*

(Changes to "kuai pan")

*Mothers call to their sons, children cry for their mothers;*

*Again the bandits burn, kill and rob,*

*I'll have it out with them though I die.*

(Bandits enter dragging villagers, young men and women bound by ropes. Li Yung-chi fights with the bandits while the young people are beaten by the bandits and dragged off.)

(Yung-chi's wife is dragged on, followed by her mother-in-law holding her baby. Bandit Captain snatches the infant and throws it over the cliff. Yung-chi, furious, attacks bandits desperately. His left arm is hurt.)

(Vulture enters and shoots at Yung-chi.)

**Yung-chi's wife:** Yung-chi!

(Flings herself to cover him and falls dead.)

(Vulture and the other bandits go off.)

**Yung-chi (heart-broken and enraged, gazes at his wife):**  
Baby's ma . . . baby's ma . . .

**Mother Li (rushing over, overwhelmed by grief):**  
Daughter-in-law. . . .

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings "hsi pi kuai pan")

*Disaster comes like a bolt from the blue,*

*Fury burns in my breast;*

*I swear that I shall avenge —*

*You Vulture!*

*I'll hack you to pieces for this blood debt.*

(He starts to go for Vulture. Bandits swarm on, and tie him up. He struggles with all his might.)

**Mother Li:** Yung-chi!

**Yung-chi:** Mother!

(Yung-chi is taken away.)

**Yung-chi:** Mother! Mother!

**Mother Li (following in on her knees):** Yung-chi!

(Curtain)

## SCENE THREE

### Asking About Bitterness

Afternoon. A remote mountain valley. In a small log cabin bowls and chopsticks lie in disarray on a table.

(Chang Pao is clearing the table. Hunter Chang is looking outside.)

**Pao:** That man and woman were rough types, dad. They finished off the bit of venison we'd just got.

**Chang:** Do you know who they were?

**Pao:** He said he was from the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

**Chang:** Huh! Eight years ago, when the bandits dragged me away, I saw him in their lair on Tiger Mountain. People call him Howling Wolf. He's a bandit.

**Pao:** Oh!

**Chang:** We can't stay here any longer, Pao. Let's get our things together at once and go to your uncle Ta-shan's in Chiapi Valley.

**Pao:** Right. (Gets some belongings together.)

**Chang (to himself):** Those two fur traders who came through here a few days ago said the Communists were now in our old home village helping the poor to win emancipation. I wonder if it's true.

**Pao:** They're good men, those two. If they hadn't carried me home, I would have frozen to death in the ravine.

**Chang:** That's true. Hurry now.

**Pao:** Yes.

(Chang ties a bundle. Pao gets the pelts down from the wall, and sees figures moving outside the window.)

**Pao:** Somebody's coming again, dad.

(Chang covers Pao's mouth with his hand.)

**Chang:** Hush!

(They listen attentively. Yang, Shen, Chung and Lu enter, muffled in capes and hoods which hide the red star on their caps. Alertly they walk across the snow.)

**Yang:**

(Sings "hsi pi san pan")

*We've been closely following a suspicious pair,  
But here in the mountains we've lost the trail—*

**Shen:** Say Old Yang, isn't this where Hunter Chang lives?

**Yang:** Right.

(Sings)

*We'll call on the hunter again for help to solve our  
problem.*

Comrades Shen and Lu!

**Shen and Lu:** Here.

**Yang:** You two scout on ahead. Report back here if you have any information.

**Shen and Lu:** Right. (Go off.)

**Yang:** Young Chung! Stand guard.

**Chung:** Right. (Exit.)

**Yang (walks up to the cabin and knocks):** Hey there, neighbours!

(The hunter comes out with apprehension.)

**Chang (examines Yang):** You are. . . .

**Yang:** Don't you recognize me? I'm the fur trader who was here a few days ago.

**Chang:** Fur trader?

**Yang:** Yes.

(Pao runs out.)

**Yang (to Pao):** Your father doesn't remember me, little brother. Wasn't I the one who brought you home that day?

(Pao examines him closely, wants to speak but stops, nods.)

**Yang (has observed and guessed the truth but doesn't let on):** What a clever child!

**Chang (observes Yang carefully, recognizing him):** Ah, you're Yang the trader.

**Yang:** Yes.

**Chang:** That's right. And we discovered we're from the same province. Come in, come in.

(They all go in.)

**Yang (to Pao):** Are you feeling better now?

**Chang (quickly):** He's a mute.

**Yang:** Ah, I see.

**Chang:** You're a trader, but today you're in uniform. What's your job, after all?

**Yang:** I'm not a trader. (Throws back his hood to reveal the red star on his cap.) I'm a soldier of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

**Chang (sceptically):** You too from the People's Liberation Army?

**Yang:** Yes. Have you seen any P.L.A. men before?

**Chang (guardedly):** No . . . no, never.

**Yang (sitting down on a wooden block):** We didn't have a chance to talk much, last time. We came over from Shantung Province. We are battalions led by Chairman Mao and the Communist Party.

**Chang:** But what are you fellows doing all the way up here?

**Yang:** Fighting bandits. (Picks up an axe and slams it down on the wooden block.)

**Chang:** Fight bandits? Can you do that?

**Yang (standing up):** We've got a big force not far behind. Our P.L.A. has won several big victories in the northeast. The whole Mutanchiang area has been liberated. We've smashed most of the bandits. Only Vulture and his gang are left. They've buried themselves deep in this mountain forest, but we're going to wipe them out too, and soon.

**Chang (bitterly):** That Vulture! . . .

**Yang:** Old Chang, Vulture has devastated these parts. You two have hidden yourselves here in this forest, you must have been deeply wronged.

**Chang** (*sits down and passionately seizes the axe*): . . .

**Yang**: Go ahead, Old Chang, tell us about it.

**Chang** (*not wanting to mention the painful past*): It's eight years now, why talk about it? (*Puts down the axe.*)

**Pao** (*bursts out*): Dad! . . .

**Chang** (*startled and then bitterly*): Pao, how could you. . . .

**Yang** (*with deep feeling*): It's all right, child. The Communist Party and Chairman Mao will back us up. Speak.

**Pao**: I will, uncle, I will.

(Sings "fan erh huang tao pan")

*Disaster struck one snowing night eight years ago,*  
(Switches to "kuai san yen")

*Vulture killed my grandma and carried off my mum and dad;*

*Uncle Ta-shan in Chiapi Valley took me in,  
My dad escaped and came back,  
But my mum threw herself off a cliff and died.  
Oh, dear mum!*

*In the mountains we hide;  
Afraid I'd fall into those devils' hands,  
Dad dressed me as a boy and said I was mute.*

(Changes to "yuan pan")

*We hunted in the mountains during the day,  
At night we thought of grandma and mum;*

(Changes to "to pan")

*We looked at the stars and the moon  
And longed for the time  
When the sun would shine over these mountains,  
When I would be able to speak out freely,  
When I could dress like a girl again,  
When we could collect our debt of blood.  
If I only had wings I'd take my gun*

*And fly to the summit and kill all those wolves!*  
Oh, Dad! (*Flings herself into Chang's arms.*)

**Yang**:

(Furious, sings "hsi pi yuan pan")

*Pao's tales of the bandits' crimes*

*Brimming with blood and tears,*

*Rouse me to the utmost rage.*

*Oppressed people everywhere have blood accounts  
To settle with their oppressors.*

*They want vengeance,*

*An eye for an eye and blood for blood!*

(Switches to "liu shui")

*Destroy Vulture, and win liberation for the people,  
Rise as masters and greet the sun in these deep  
mountains.*

*Follow the saviour the Communist Party,*

*And bring the land a new life,*

*Like our old home in Shantung,*

*Good days will be here for ever.*

**Chang** (*with emotion*): Old Yang!

(Chang sits down with Yang. Pao fondly hands Yang a bowl of water which he drains.)

**Chang**: You've said what's in my heart, Old Yang. But beating Vulture won't be easy. His Tiger Mountain stronghold is protected by nine groups of twenty-seven forts. He can attack, he can defend, and he can slip away. Nobody can touch him.

**Yang**: I see. They say it's very hard to get to the top of the mountain.

**Chang**: Exactly. There's only one path up front, and it's very steep. Besides it's very carefully watched. How can anyone get up there?

**Yang**: Then how did you manage to make good your getaway that time?

**Yang Tzu-jung** (*second from right*) goes to see the poverty-stricken Hunter Chang (*right*) and his daughter (*third from right*) in the deep forest and helps them raise their class consciousness. Hunter Chang and daughter volunteer to act as guides for the pursuit detachment in rounding up the bandits.





**Chang:** There's a dangerous trail down the back of the mountain with steep cliffs and crags. No one dares to use that trail, so it's unguarded. Eight years ago, that's where I came down. If I hadn't been lucky enough to fall on a tree branch, I'd have been dashed to pieces.

**Yang:** You've given us some very useful information. As long as we all pull together, there's no mountain top we can't conquer.

**Chang:** Right. We're all looking forward to that day. Ha, ha, ha! You mustn't blame me for taking you as a stranger. A man and a woman were here a while ago. He obviously was a bandit, but he said he was from the P.L.A.

**Pao:** My dad saw him eight years ago on Tiger Mountain. He's called Howling Wolf.

**Yang:** Howling Wolf, eh? What else did he talk about?

**Chang:** He called the woman sister-in-law and said he was Luan Ping's sworn brother.

**Yang (bursts out):** Luan Ping? (*Leaves his seat.*)

**Chang (stands up):** The woman must be Luan Ping's wife. Howling Wolf had a big row with her over some map or other.

**Pao:** A Contacts Map.

**Chang:** That's right.

**Yang:** Contacts Map?

(Chung enters and comes into the cabin.)

**Chung:** Platoon leader, Old Shen and Lu are back.

(Shen and Lu enter. They go into the cabin.)

**Shen:** Old Yang, in the forest northeast of here we found the body of a woman with a blood-stained glove lying beside her. (*Gives glove to Yang.*)

**Lu:** There was a strong blizzard and the snow had already blotted out any footprints. We couldn't tell where the murderer had gone.

**Yang:** Have you seen this glove before, Old Chang?

**Chang (examines glove):** Yes. It belongs to Howling Wolf.

**Yang (coming to a conclusion):** He must have killed her and snatched the Contacts Map. This is a complicated business, comrades, and that Luan Ping we caught is mixed up in the case. Lu Hung-yeh!

**Lu:** Here.

**Yang:** We are going after the murderer. You report back to Chief of Staff and tell him I suggest we interrogate Luan Ping and dig out the story of the Contacts Map.

**Lu:** Right. (*Goes out at a run.*)

**Yang:** This is urgent, Old Chang, we've no time to chat now. Here's a bit of food for you and Pao.

(Yang unties his ration bag and hands it to Chang. Shen unties his and gives it to Pao.)

**Chang:** Old Yang!

**Shen:** Please accept it.

**Pao (moved):** Uncles. . . .

**Yang:** Goodbye for now. (*Turns to go.*)

**Chang:** Where are you going, Old Yang?

**Yang:** After Howling Wolf.

**Chang:** You can't get him. He's sure to be heading for Tiger Mountain. That trail has always been hard to follow, and a stranger could lose himself in this snowstorm. Come, Pao and I will show you the way.

**Yang (touched, goes to Chang):** Thank you, Old Chang.

**Chang:** Let's go.

(Dramatic pose.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE FOUR

### Drawing Up a Plan

Early morning. Black Dragon Valley. The detachment has spent the night. Inside the command post, a charcoal fire burns bright. Outside the wind roars and heavy snow falls. In the background, majestic mountains and deep forests.

**Shao:**

(With composure sings "erh huang tao pan")

*Icy wind howls through the woods,  
Rustling branches shake the deep gully.*

(A gust blows the door open. He goes to door and looks out.)

(Sings, changing to "hui lung")

*Snowflakes dance in a hazy mist,  
The mountains are mantled in silver;  
What a magnificent scene of the north!*

(He closes the door, changes to "erh huang man pan")

*Beautiful our land, majestic and grand,  
How can we let ravening beasts again lay it waste?*

(Changes to "yuan pan")

*The Party Central Committee points the way,  
Revolutionary flames cannot be quenched.  
Bearing the hopes of the people, the P.L.A. fight  
north and south*

*And plant the red flag all over our country.*

*Let the Yanks and Chiang gang up,  
Prating about peace while making attacks,  
Fighting openly and sniping in the dark.*

*Let them resort to a hundred tricks,  
With justice in our hands, class hatred in our hearts;  
One against ten, we'll still wipe them out.*

(Yang enters.)

**Yang:** Report!

**Shao (recognizes his voice):** Old Yang!

(Yang goes into room. Shao rushes to greet him.)

**Shao:** Did you catch the murderer?

**Yang:** We got him. We found this letter and this map concealed in his clothes. (*Hands them over.*)

**Shao:** Well done!

**Yang:** The trails in these parts are hard to find. Luckily, Hunter Chang acted as our guide. The murderer

passed himself off as one of our P.L.A. scouts, but the hunter exposed him. He admitted that he's a Tiger Mountain man named Li Chung-hao, better known as Howling Wolf.

**Shao:** Good. That hunter has been a great help. Long ago Chairman Mao told us: "The revolutionary war is a war of the masses; it can be waged only by mobilizing the masses and relying on them." Without the masses we can't move a step.

**Yang:** How true! Hunter Chang also told us of two trails up the mountain. I've sketched them, according to his description. (*Hands Shao a sketch map.*) Howling Wolf admits to the open trail going up the face of the mountain. He says there are no fortifications along it and that it's easy to climb.

**Shao:** Hm. Obviously a lie. Have you made arrangements for the hunter and his daughter?

**Yang:** We left them our grain rations. They're planning to move to Chiapi Valley.

**Shao:** Good. (*Looks at map and letter.*) I say, Old Yang, Luan Ping never said anything about this map.

**Yang:** No, he never. Howling Wolf says it shows the location of three hundred secret contact places of the Breast Mountain gang here in the northeast. It's something very important.

**Shao:** Luan Ping has been brought here. We'll question him right away and find out all about the Contacts Map.

**Yang:** I'll get Luan Ping. (*Turns to go.*)

**Shao:** He's your old adversary, Old Yang. You'd better do the questioning.

**Yang:** All right.

(Shao goes into inner room.)

**Yang (to the guard at the door):** Young Chang.

**Young Chang:** Here.

**Yang:** Bring Luan Ping.

**Young Chang:** Right.

(Young Kuo brings Luan Ping into the room. Luan Ping sees Yang and wants to come over to greet him. Yang waves him to a chair. Luan sits down.)

**Yang:** Luan Ping.

**Luan:** Yes, sir.

**Yang:** How are you getting on with your confession?

**Luan:** I want to come clean. I'm owning up to everything I know.

**Yang:** There's something you haven't mentioned yet.

**Luan:** Officer, I don't own a thing in the world except the clothes on my back.

**Yang (suddenly):** What about that map?

**Luan:** Map?

**Yang:** The Contacts Map.

**Luan (startled):** Oh! (*Pretending to be calm.*) Ah; let me think. . . (*Strikes a thoughtful pose.*) Ah, yes, yes, I remember now. They say Horse Cudgel Hsu had a map of secret contacts.

**Yang:** They say?

**Luan:** Don't misunderstand me, officer. Horse Cudgel Hsu considered that map precious. I never had a chance of setting my eyes on it.

**Yang:** Luan Ping, you ought to understand our policy.

**Luan:** I do, I do. Leniency to those who confess; severity to those who resist.

**Yang:** I'm asking you — what was your job on Breast Mountain?

**Luan:** You know that. I was a liaison adjutant.

**Yang:** A liaison adjutant who says he knows nothing about liaison stations and has never seen anything of the Contacts Map. Huh! It's plain you don't want to tell the truth.

(Luan pretends to be helpless.)

**Yang (with sudden fury):** Take him out!

**Kuo:** Get out!

**Luan (leaning against the chair, panic-stricken):** No, no. I . . . (*Slaps his own face.*) I deserve to die for trying to fool you, officer. I'll tell you the truth now. There is a map showing Horse Cudgel Hsu's secret contacts all over the northeast, three hundred in all. That map is now in my wife's hands. Let me out, and I'll find her and get the map and give it to you. I want to make amends and earn lenient treatment. (*Bows.*)

**Yang:** Besides those three hundred places, where else did you have contacts?

**Luan:** Where else? Tiger Mountain. But for a long time Vulture has been trying to get sole control of northern Manchuria by himself. He and Horse Cudgel Hsu were only friends on the surface, so I had very few dealings with him. Last year, Vulture invited me to a Hundred Chickens Feast to celebrate his birthday, but I didn't go.

**Yang (listens with attention to his confessions):** I want a detailed report on all your contact points. You'd better come clean.

**Luan:** Yes, yes.

**Yang:** Take him away.

**Kuo:** Now get out. (*Takes Luan out.*)

(Shao comes out from other room.)

**Yang:** He's a crafty one.

**Shao (humorously):** The craftiest fox can't escape the skilled hunter. Anyhow, his story about the Contacts Map is the same as Howling Wolf's.

**Yang:** And he also let slip a mention of the Hundred Chickens Feast.

**Shao:** Umm.

**Yang:** And in that letter, Vulture is again inviting him to the feast this year. There's something queer here.

**Shao:** I agree.

(Shen Teh-hua enters.)

**Shen:** Report!

**Shao:** Come in.

(Shen goes into room.)

**Shen:** Chief of Staff, the comrades are eager to attack Tiger Mountain. They have written requests for battle assignments.

**Shao:** You're behind this, I suppose?

**Shen:** I . . .

**Shao** (*laughs and sits down by the fire*): I can understand how the comrades feel. Our fraternal units have sealed off all the roads and ferry points in the Mutanchiang area. Vulture can't get away. But he's a wily bird, hard to deal with. Haven't we discussed it several times? If we sent a large force after him, it would be like trying to hit a flea with your fist. No good. Since the task is urgent, we haven't the time to lure the bandits down the mountain and destroy them one by one. Ours is a special mission. We must remember what Chairman Mao tells us — strategically we should despise our enemy, but tactically we should take him seriously. Comrade Teh-hua, please call another democratic meeting of the comrades and talk it over again, in the light of the latest developments.

**Shen:** Right. (*Exit.*)

(Yang starts to leave.)

**Shao:** Old Yang, what's your suggestion?

**Yang:** I want to question Howling Wolf again and find out more about that Hundred Chickens Feast.

**Shao:** Go ahead. I'll be waiting to hear your proposal.

**Yang:** Right. (*Exit.*)

**Shao:**

(Sings "hsi pi kuai san yen")

*We've had the enemy sized up in the last few days,  
We've analysed carefully and pondered over our plan.*

*Tiger Mountain has a system of bunkers and tunnels,*

*So the better course is to take it by strategy.*

*Select a capable comrade to disguise as one of their kind,*

*Then penetrate into the enemy's lair,*

*And strike from without and within.*

*Who should we choose for this critical task? —*  
(*Thinks.*)

(Changes to "yuan pan")

*Yang has all the qualifications to shoulder this load.*

*Born of a hired-hand peasant family,*

*From childhood he struggled on the brink of death;*

*Burning with hatred, he found his salvation*

*In the Communist Party and took the revolutionary road.*

(Switches to "erh liu")

*He joined the army, vowing to uproot exploitation,  
A veteran in battle, he's distinguished himself many times.*

*By wits, he blew up many an enemy fort,*

*He's entered enemy territory, killed traitors*

*And rescued many comrades and villagers,*

*He's fought many a battle with bandits here in the forest,*

*Caught Luan Ping and Hu Piao and took Howling Wolf as well.*

*If I send him on this dangerous mission alone,*

*I'm sure, with his heart red as fire,*

*A will strong as steel,*

*He'll surely overcome Vulture.*

(Shen Teh-hua enters. Goes into the room.)

**Shen:** Chief of Staff.

**Shao:** How did your meeting go, Comrade Teh-hua?

**Shen:** We analysed the situation and decided that taking it by strategy is the only answer. We shouldn't try a direct attack. The best way would be to get a comrade into the enemy stronghold. . . .

**Shao:** You're right. Come, let's talk it over.

(Yang enters and goes into the room. Shao scrutinizes him. Shen looks on in surprise.)

**Yang:** Hu Piao is here to present the map. (*Waves his hand in bandit greeting.*)

**Shao:** You Hu Piao? Old Yang, ha, ha, ha!

**Shen:** Old Yang!

**Yang:** Ha, ha, ha! (*Sits down.*)

**Shao:** Tell us quick, what's your idea?

**Yang:** It seems to me, Chief of Staff, the best way to take Tiger Mountain is by strategy.

**Shao:** Precisely.

**Yang:** The enemy's Hundred Chickens Feast is a good opportunity.

**Shao:** Have we found out all about it?

**Yang:** Yes. Vulture celebrates his birthday on the last day of the last month of every lunar year. He gives himself a feast of chickens extorted from a hundred different families. They call it the Hundred Chickens Feast. (*Rises.*) I suggest we send a comrade up there in disguise to find out how the tunnels and bunkers are laid out. Then, when all the bandits are in the main hall during the Hundred Chickens Feast, get them drunk. . . .

**Shao:** And the detachment will spring an attack and take it before they know what's happening!

**Yang:** Right. Chief of Staff, put me on this job.

**Shen:** The comrades also propose Old Yang for the mission.

**Shao:** Good. Comrade Teh-hua, (*giving him the Contacts Map*) make a copy of this. Also notify the others there will be a Party branch committee meeting later on.

**Shen:** Right. (*Exit.*)

**Shao:** Old Yang, you're going to disguise as a bandit and make your way into the enemy stronghold. Are you sure you can do it?

**Yang:** There're three things in my favour.

**Shao:** The first?

**Yang:** Horse Cudgel Hsu and his Breast Mountain gang have just been defeated. I can go there as

his adjutant Hu Piao who is in our hands and Vulture has never seen him. I've learnt the bandits' argot and won't be found out.

**Shao:** And the second?

**Yang:** If I present Vulture with the Contacts Map as gift at our first meeting, I'll win his trust.

**Shao:** Fine.

**Yang:** The third condition is the most important. . .

**Shao:** The loyal heart of a P.L.A. soldier dedicated to the Party and Chairman Mao!

**Yang (from the heart):** You understand me completely, Chief of Staff.

**Shao (with deep feeling):** Old Yang, this is no ordinary task!

**Yang:** Chief of Staff!

(Sings "hsi pi yuan pan" at a free tempo)

*A Communist always heeds the Party's call,  
He takes the heaviest burden on himself;  
I'm set on smashing the chains of a thousand years  
To open a freshet of endless happiness for the people.*

(Switches to "erh liu")

*Well I know that there's danger ahead,  
But I'm all the more set on driving forward;  
No matter how thickly troubled clouds may gather,  
Revolutionary wisdom is bound to win.*

(Changes to "kuai pan")

*Like the Foolish Old Man who removed the mountains,  
I shall break through every obstacle;  
The flames that blaze in my red heart  
Shall forge a sharp blade to kill the foe.*

**Shao:** Good. You can take Horse Cudgel Hsu's black-maned steed and ride northeast along the trail Hunter Chang has pointed out. . .

**Yang:** And wind my way up the mountain.

**Shao:** The detachment will go to Chiapi Valley, arouse the masses and prepare for battle. We'll wait for word from you.

**Yang:** I'll put a message for you in the pine grove southwest of Tiger Mountain. The tree will be marked in the agreed manner.

**Shao:** I'll send Shen Teh-hua on the 26th to pick it up.

**Yang:** I guarantee it will be there on time.

**Shao:** Good. The detachment will set out as soon as we've heard from you. We'll strike from within and without and destroy Vulture and his gang.

**Yang:** This is a well-thought-out plan, Chief of Staff. It's decided then.

**Shao (grips Yang's arms, very stirred. After a pause):** Be bold but cautious, Comrade Tzu-jung.

(Sings "hsi pi kuai pan")

*I'm confident you can fulfil this important mission,  
Everything depends on this all-important task.  
We'll call a Party branch committee meeting to approve the plan,*

*With collective wisdom we'll defeat the enemy.*

(Yang and Shao clasp hands tightly in a dramatic pose.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE FIVE

### Up the Mountain

A few days after the previous scene. In the foothills of Tiger Mountain. A deep snowy forest. Tall, straight pines reach to the sky. Sunshine filters down through the trees.

**Yang:**

(Sings offstage vigorously "erh huang tao pan")

*I press through the snowy forest, spirit soaring!*

(Yang enters in disguise. He spurs his horse onwards. He executes dances depicting his journey through the dense forest, leaping across a stream, mounting a ridge, dashing down a steep slope, galloping across a distance and then looking all around.)

(Sings "hui lung")

*To express my determination the mountains I  
staunchly face.*

(Switches to "man yuan pan")

*Let the red flag fly all over the world,  
Be there seas of fire and a forest of knives, I'll  
charge ahead.*

*How I wish I could order the snow to melt,*

(Changes to "san pan")

*And welcome in spring to change the world of men.*

(Switches to "hsi pi kuai pan")

*The Party gives me wisdom and courage,  
Risks and hardships are as naught;  
To wipe out the bandits I must dress as a bandit,  
And pierce into their stronghold like a dagger.  
I'll bury Vulture in these hills, I swear,  
Shake the heights with my will.*

*With my courage the valleys fill,*

*At the Hundred Chickens Feast my comrades and I  
Will make a shambles of the bandits' lair.*

(A tiger roars in the distance. The horse is startled, stumbles. Yang reins in, makes it rear, turns and halts it. Leaps from the horse.

The tiger's roar draws nearer. Yang quickly leads his horse off.

Re-enters, throws off his overcoat, pulls out pistol and fires at tiger.

The beast screams and falls dead. Other shots are heard in the distance.)

**Yang (immediately alerted):** Shooting! The bandits are coming down the mountain. (Calmly.) I've just killed one beast, and now a whole pack is here. I'll see that you go the same way.

(Bandit Chief of Staff shouts offstage: "Halt!" He enters with a gang of bandits. Yang puts on his overcoat, walks forward boldly and gives a bandit salute.)

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** What road do mushrooms travel? What's the price?\*

(Yang, head high, does not reply.)

\* Bandit argot.

**Bandit A** (*seeing the tiger Yang has killed cries in fear*):  
A tiger, tiger!

(The other bandits hastily draw back.)

**Yang** (*laughs*): Brave, aren't you? That tiger is dead.

**Bandit A** (*looks at the beast cautiously*): A beautiful shot. Right through the head.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: Did you kill it?

**Yang**: It got in the way of my bullet.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: Quite a man. Which mountain are you from? What are you doing here?

**Yang** (*taking the initiative*): I suppose you fellows are from Tiger Mountain?

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: That's obvious. (*Realizes he has made a slip.*) Where are you from?

**Yang**: That's not for you to ask. I want to see Brigadier Tsui in person. I've important business with him.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: How is it you don't know the rules of the mountains? You're not a *liutzu*. You're a *kungtzu*.\*

**Yang**: If I were a *kungtzu*, would I dare come barging into Tiger Mountain?

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (*threateningly*): *Moha? Moha?\**  
(Yang, his mind made up, does not reply.)

**Bandits**: Speak up.

**Yang** (*haughtily*): I'm not saying anything till I see Brigadier Tsui.

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (*helplessly*): All right, then, let's go. Where's your gun?

**Yang**: Don't be scared. (*Tosses his pistol to Bandit A. Points at the tiger and his horse.*)

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: Carry the tiger. Lead the horse.

**The Bandits**: Yes!

(Yang in a dramatic pose. Then resolutely, calmly and courageously he strides ahead.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE SIX

### Into the Bandits' Lair

Immediately after the previous scene. The interior of Tiger Hall. A gloomy cave lit by several lamps.

(Vulture sits on a chair, his lieutenants—the "Eight Terribles," stand on either side in a disorderly fashion. Other bandits stand on the left rear side of the hall. Vulture signals to Bandit Chief of Staff to summon the newcomer.)

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: Chief's order, bring *liutzu* in.

**Bandits**: Bring *liutzu* in!

(Yang enters, head high.)

**Yang**:

(Sings "hsi pi kuai pan")

*Though I've come alone to the tiger's den,  
Millions of class brothers are by my side;*

*Let Vulture spew flames ten thousand leagues high,  
For the people I'll fearlessly take this monster on.*

(Advances and gives a bandit salute.)

**Vulture** (*suddenly*): The god of heavens shields the earthly tiger.\*

**Yang**: Precious pagoda represses the river sprite.\*

**Terribles**: *Moha? Moha?\**

**Yang**: Speak exactly at the stroke of noon. No one has a home.\*

**Vulture**: Why is your face so red?\*

**Yang**: My spirits are flourishing.\*

**Vulture**: Why so yellow again?\*

(The bandits press closer, sword and gun in hand.)

**Yang** (*calmly*): I smeared it with wax to ward off the cold.\*

(Vulture shoots out an oil lamp with his automatic. Yang takes a pistol from Bandit Chief of Staff. With one shot he knocks out two oil lamps. The astonished bandits whisper among themselves and are stopped by the Terribles.)

**Vulture**: According to you, you're one of Brigadier Hsu's men?

**Yang**: I am his cavalry adjutant, Hu Piao.

**Vulture**: Hu Piao? Since you are Brigadier Hsu's man, let me ask you—when did you join his ranks?

**Yang**: When he was chief of police.

**Vulture**: I hear he has a few possessions he prizes the most.

**Yang**: There are two.

**Vulture**: What are they?

**Yang**: A fast horse and a sharp sword.

**Vulture**: What does his horse look like?

**Yang**: It has a curly coat and a black mane.

**Vulture**: What kind of sword has he?

**Yang**: A Japanese officer's sabre.

**Vulture**: Who gave it to him?

**Yang**: The Japanese Imperial Army.

**Vulture**: Where was it presented?

**Yang**: At Wuholou in the city of Mutanchiang.

**Vulture** (*pauses*): If you really are Brigadier Hsu's cavalry adjutant, why did I see only Adjutant Luan Ping and not you at the last meeting called by Commissioner Hou?

**Yang**: I didn't rate very high with Brigadier Hsu. How could I compare with someone like Luan Ping? He was the one who went to all the important functions.

**Vulture**: Why have you come to Tiger Mountain?

**Yang**: I want to join you, Brigadier, and rise in the world. This is the first time I've crossed your threshold, but none of you big brothers seem to trust me. You aren't playing the game of our brotherhood, are you?

**Vulture** (*laughs*): We have to think of our stronghold's safety.

\* Bandit argot.

**Terribles:** Ha, ha, ha, ha!

**Vulture:** When did the Breast Mountain stronghold fall, Hu Piao?

**Yang:** The third day of the twelfth lunar month.

**Vulture:** What took you so long to get here?

**Yang:** It hasn't been easy for me to get here, Brigadier. After Breast Mountain was taken, I was hiding out in White Pines Dale for a while.

**Vulture:** White Pines Dale?

**Yang:** In the home of Luan Ping's uncle.

**Vulture:** Did you see Luan Ping?

**Yang:** Yes.

**Vulture:** And Howling Wolf?

**Yang:** Howling Wolf?

**Vulture:** Uh.

**Yang:** I don't know about him.

**Vulture:** Hu Piao, you are here but why isn't Luan Ping with you?

**Yang:** Luan Ping?

**Vulture:** That's right.

**Yang:** Ah, say no more about him.

**Vulture:** What do you mean?

**Yang** (*looks meaningfully at other bandits*): Well. . . .

(Vulture signals and all the bandits except the Terribles leave.)

**Vulture:** Hu Piao, what's the matter with Luan Ping?

**Yang:** It's a long story.

(Sings "hsi pi hsiao tao pan")

*Just talking about him enrages me. . . .*

**Vulture:** What did he do?

**Yang:**

(Sings, changing to "hsi pi yuan pan")

*He cares nothing for the code of our brotherhood.*

**Vulture:** How did he go back on our code?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*We were lucky to get away when Breast Mountain fell,  
I urged him to come with me and join your brigade on Tiger Mountain.*

(The Terribles look at each other with satisfaction.)

**Vulture:** Is he coming?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*Every man is free to make his own choice,  
But he shouldn't have —  
He shouldn't have said such awful things about friends.*

**Vulture:** What did he say?

**Yang:** He said. . . .

**Vulture:** What?

**Yang:** Well. . . .

**Vulture** (*impatiently*): Out with it, Old Hu, be quick.

**Yang:** He said —

(Sings)

*Vulture has to take Commissioner Hou's —*

**Vulture:** What?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*Orders.*

**Vulture** (*leaps to his feet in anger*): Ah! What! I take orders from him!

**Terribles:** Rubbish, who does he think he is?

**Yang:** That wasn't all he said.

**Terribles:** What else?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*The Eight Terribles are a pack of worthless rats.*

**Terribles** (*enraged and shouting*): What! That son of a bitch.



Yang Tzu-jung "presents" the Contacts Map to the bandit chieftain to gain his confidence. Composed and collected and master of the situation in face of the bandits, he gives full expression to the great wisdom and courage and revolutionary heroic mettle of a Communist and people's fighter.

**Yang:**

(Sings, switching to "hsi pi liu shui")

*He said he's a phoenix who wants a high branch  
to perch on,  
That Commissioner Hou is a big tree and his roots  
are deep.*

**Terribles:** To hell with him!

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*As we were speaking he produced a map—*

**Vulture:** Map?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*A whole roll.*

(Vulture dances around Yang coveting the map.)

**Yang:**

(Switches to "hsi pi yao pan" as he continues singing)

*He was intending to take it to Commissioner Hou  
to earn a promotion.*

**Vulture:** Was it the Contacts Map?

**Yang:** Yes, the secret Contacts Map.

**Vulture (worried):** Then he's given it to Commissioner Hou?

**Yang:** Don't be impatient.

(Continues singing with a satirical smile on his face.)

*Pleased with himself, he grinned all over.*

**Vulture:** So!

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*And brought out from the inside room,*

(Switches to "hsi pi liu shui")

*A jar of wine.*

*I filled him eight bowls, one after the other,  
Luan Ping got so drunk he couldn't see.*

**Terribles:** Haha . . . he got drunk.

**Yang:** So taking my chance while he was dead drunk,  
I . . .

**Vulture:** Oh.

**Yang:** I . . .

**Vulture:** Killed the dog?

**Yang:** I couldn't do that. We've been pals for years.

**Vulture:** Oh, oh . . . (Changing his tone.) Of course,  
of course. Friendship is important! Friendship is  
important! Go on, Old Hu, go on.

**Yang:** He had his plans, but I had ideas of my own.

**Vulture:** What did you do?

**Yang:** I . . .

**Vulture:** Yes?

**Yang:**

(Sings)

*I changed tunics with him while he was drunk,  
Then jumped on the black-maned horse, and through  
The snowstorm galloped directly to Tiger Mountain.*

**Vulture:** You mean you've got the map, Old Hu?

**Yang:**

(Laughs lightly. Changing to "hsi pi kuai pan," sings)

*Look, oh Brigadier Tsui,  
This map here I present to you. (Holds up the map.)*

(Standing high and looking down at the bandits, Yang holds out the map as Vulture respectfully flips the dust off his sleeves and takes it. He examines it avidly while the Terribles crowd around.)

**Vulture:**

(Sings "hsi pi san pan")

*The map I've thought of day and night,  
Today is in my hands.*

(In wild joy) Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

**Terribles:** You're a marvel, Old Hu, quite a man.

**Yang (meaningfully):** With the map in our possession,  
Brigadier, the Mutanchiang area is ours.

**Vulture:** Right. Well said. When the Kuomintang  
army returns, I'll be a commanding general. And  
I'll make the rest of you brigadiers and division  
commanders.

**Terribles:** We rely on your beneficence, Chief.  
(Laugh wildly.)

(Yang laughs satirically.)

**Vulture:** Because of what you've done for Tiger Mountain,  
Old Hu, I proclaim you the Old Ninth.

**Yang:** Thank you, Chief.

**Vulture:** We belong to the Kuomintang army, you  
should have a proper rank. I appoint you full  
colonel and deputy regimental commander in the  
Fifth Peace Preservation Brigade of the Eastern  
Heilungkiang Region.

**Yang (going up the steps):** Thank you, Chief, for your  
promotion. (To Terribles.) I shall look to you  
brothers for guidance.

**Terribles:** You shouldn't be so modest.

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** Bring wine!

**Terribles:** Hey, bring wine!

(Bandits enter with wine for all.)

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** Drink, everyone. Drink to con-  
gratulate Old Ninth.

**Terribles:** Congratulations, Old Ninth.

**Vulture:** For delivering the Contacts Map and winning  
his spurs!

**Yang:**

(Sings with vigour "hsi pi kuai erh liu")

*To their congratulatory toast I drink my fill,  
I shall not rest until my mission is fulfilled.  
The day is yet to come for me to show my skill,  
To write history I'll willingly shed my blood.*

(With a triumphant smile, he drains his bowl.)

**Yang (boldly):** Ha . . . ha . . . ha . . . ha!

(Curtain)

## SCENE SEVEN

# Arousing the Masses

Chiapi Valley. Home of Li Yung-chi, both inside and out. Noon.  
A snowstorm is raging.

**Mother Li:**

(Sings "erh huang yao pan")  
*I'm ill and unwell, our grain is gone,  
I call my son, but there is no reply.  
Oh, the hatred of us poor, this debt of blood,  
When will it ever be redeemed?*

(Chang Ta-shan enters.)

**Ta-shan:** Aunt.

**Mother Li:** It's Ta-shan!

(Ta-shan comes into the house.)

**Ta-shan:** Are you feeling any better today, Aunt?

**Mother Li:** I was dizzyier than ever when I got up this morning.

**Ta-shan:** Aunt, here are some tubers. (Hands over the tubers.)

**Mother Li (stopping him):** Oh, Ta-shan you shouldn't . . . .

**Ta-shan:** Aunt, Yung-chi is away but you have us neighbours.

(Ta-shan sets water to boil on the stove. Mother Li takes tubers into the inner room. Yung-chi, his chin stubbly, and clothes torn, pushes open the door and comes into house.)

**Ta-shan (surprised):** Yung-chi!

**Yung-chi:** Ta-shan!

(Mother Li emerges from inner room.)

**Yung-chi:** Ma!

**Mother Li:** Yung-chi!

(Sings "erh huang san pan")  
*Can I be dreaming that you've returned?  
It pains me to see you so battered and bruised;  
How did you escape*  
(Switches to "erh huang erh liu")  
*From the tiger's den?*

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings)  
*I jumped down a cliff at the back of the mountain  
and got away.*

**Mother Li:**

(Sings)  
*I'm overjoyed to see you home but I grieve  
For my daughter-in-law and grandson.*

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings "erh huang to pan")  
*The many crimes to be avenged are all  
Engraved upon my heart,  
The fury in my breast bursts into flame,  
Some day I'll knife our foe to death.*

(Voices offstage cry: "Soldiers are entering the village!"  
P.L.A. fighters shouting: "Don't go away, neighbours, we are your own people!")

**Ta-shan:** Another raid by Vulture?

**Yung-chi:** Are they after me?

**Ta-shan:** Hide, quick, I'll go out and take a look. (Pulls out a dagger and goes off.)

**Mother Li:** You'd better hide yourself, son, do.

**Yung-chi:** Hide? Where can I hide, mother? It's better to fight it out. It's me or them now. I break even if I take one of them, and two better still.

**Mother Li:** Yung-chi, you. . . .

(Chung and Lu enter.)

**Lu (knocks at door):** Anybody home?

**Yung-chi:** Yes. We're not all dead yet!

**Lu:** Neighbours!

**Chung:** Aunt!

(Yung-chi wrenches the door open. Chung and Lu enter. Chung closes the door behind him. Mother Li is alarmed. She moves closer to Yung-chi protectingly.)

**Lu:** Don't be afraid, Aunt. We're. . . .

**Yung-chi:** Come to the point.

**Lu (to Yung-chi):** Neighbours, we're the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

**Yung-chi (looks them over):** This "army" and that "army," I've seen plenty. Who knows what you really are! Speak out, whatever you want. If it's money, we haven't got any. If it's grain, your gang has already robbed us clean. If it's our life. . . .

**Mother Li:** Yung-chi!

**Chung:** Neighbours, we are worker and peasant soldiers. We protect the people.

**Yung-chi:** That's what you say.

(Mother Li dizzy.)

**Yung-chi:** Ma!

**Lu (to Chung):** Aunt's not feeling well. We'll get our medic to come.

**Chung:** Right.

**Yung-chi:** Who are you trying to fool! (Supports his mother into inner room.)

(Chung signals to Lu. They go out together, closing the door.)  
(Shao and Young Kuo enter.)

**Chung:** Chief of Staff!

**Shao:** How are things going?

**Lu:** An old woman is sick inside.

**Shao:** Send for our medic. Tell her to bring some grain.

**Lu:** Right. (Exit.)

**Chung:** It's really tough to do mass work here.

**Shao:** The villagers here don't understand us. They've been fooled before. Don't you remember — Howling Wolf tried to pass himself off as one of our scouts?

**Chung:** I know that.

**Shao:** If we don't arouse the masses, Young Chung, we won't be able to get a firm foothold and wipe out Vulture. On the other hand, unless we destroy the bandits, the masses won't be really aroused.



**Chung** (*smiles*): I realize that.

**Shao**: Go and tell our men, we must be concerned about the welfare of the masses. We must explain our Party's policy patiently. We must carry out to the letter the Three Main Rules of Discipline and Eight Points for Attention.\* We've got to get things moving here by action.

**Chung**: Right. (*Turns to leave.*)

**Shao**: By the way, find out if Hunter Chang has arrived.

**Chung**: Right. (*Exit.*)

(Medical Orderly enters.)

**Medical Orderly**: Chief of Staff! (*Hands him a sack of grain.*) Where's the patient?

**Shao** (*points to house*): There.

**Medical Orderly** (*knocks at door*): Hello, neighbour.

**Shao**: Our medic is here, neighbour. Open the door.

(Yung-chi rushes into outer room, a dagger in his hand. His mother follows, trying to stop him.)

**Mother Li**: Yung-chi, you mustn't. . . .

**Yung-chi**: What do I fear? I can fight it out with them with this. (*Stabs dagger into table.*)

**Mother Li** (*very upset*): Yung-chi, I beg you. (*Faints.*)

**Yung-chi** (*supporting her hastily*): Ma! Ma!

(Shao forces open the door. Goes in with Medical Orderly and Kuo. Protecting his mother, Yung-chi glares at Shao.)

**Shao**: Give her first aid, quick!

**Medical Orderly**: Yes.

(Shao slips off his coat and wraps it around Mother Li. Medical Orderly helps her into inner room, followed by Kuo and Yung-chi. Shao pours some grain into pot and sets it to boil. Yung-chi comes out for some water. Shao goes into inner room.)

**Yung-chi** (*discovering pot of gruel, deeply moved, pensively*): The People's Liberation Army?

(Sings "erh huang san yen")

*These soldiers care for us folks and cure our ailments;*

*They're considerate, kind and helpful.*

*But soldiers and bandits were always of the same brood, always oppressing us.*

*What's happened today is certainly very strange.*

*Can the saviours we've longed for have really arrived?*

**Mother Li** (*offstage*): Water.

(Yung-chi fills a bowl with gruel. Kuo emerges and takes it in. Shao comes out.)

\* The Three Main Rules of Discipline are as follows:

- (1) Obey orders in all your actions.
- (2) Do not take a single needle or piece of thread from the masses.
- (3) Turn in everything captured.

The Eight Points for Attention are as follows:

- (1) Speak politely.
- (2) Pay fairly for what you buy.
- (3) Return everything you borrow.
- (4) Pay for anything you damage.
- (5) Do not hit or swear at people.
- (6) Do not damage crops.
- (7) Do not take liberties with women.
- (8) Do not ill-treat captives.

**Shao**: Your mother has come to, neighbour. Don't worry.

**Yung-chi**: . . . .

**Shao**: What's your name, neighbour?

**Yung-chi**: Li Yung-chi.

**Shao**: Were you born in these parts?

**Yung-chi**: No. My family used to live in Shantung Province. My father worked in Tsinan but after the April 12 coup, he was killed by Chiang Kai-shek in a strike. . . .

**Shao** (*angered and in sympathy*): Oh! . . . (*Warmly.*) But how did you people get here?

**Yung-chi**: After father died, mother brought me here to try our luck.

**Shao**: What do you do?

**Yung-chi**: I'm a railway worker.

**Shao** (*extremely excited*): Fine! So we're all one big family.

**Yung-chi** (*looks Shao over carefully*): Whose troops are you anyhow? What are you doing here in these mountain forests?

**Shao** (*fondly*): Neighbour!

(Sings "erh huang yuan pan")

*We're worker and peasant soldiers, come  
To destroy the reactionaries and change the world.  
We've fought for years north and south for the  
revolution,*

*With the Party and Chairman Mao leading the way,  
A red star on our army caps,  
Two red flags of the revolution on our collars.  
Where the red flag goes dark clouds disperse,  
Liberated people overthrow the landlords,  
The people's army shares the people's hardships,  
We've come to sweep clean Tiger Mountain.*

**Yung-chi**:

(His feelings bursting out like spring thunder, sings "erh huang peng pan")

*Our eyes are nearly worn out, looking for you day  
and night.*

*Who would have thought that here in the moun-  
tains today*

*You've come, fighting the bandits and saving the  
poor —*

*Here before us our own army!*

(With feeling, switching to "yuan pan")

*Our own army,  
I shouldn't have confounded right and wrong,  
I shouldn't have taken friend for foe.  
I am ashamed beyond words.*

(Pushes down the dagger stabbed into the table.)

*For thirty years I've been sweating like a slave.  
Feeling these lashes and bruises I can hardly sup-  
press my rage,*

*I struggle in a bottomless pit.*

*We have untold misery and wrath to pour out,  
Those bandits we all hate to the core.*

*Some said our suffering would go on and on.*

*Who would have believed an iron tree could blossom,*

*That we would at last live to see this day.*

(Changes to "to pan")

*I'll go with the Party to drive out those beasts,  
Whatever the sacrifice and danger, be it fire or water,*

*When Tiger Mountain is being swept clean and free,  
I, Yung-chi, in the front ranks will be.*

(Shao grasps Yung-chi's hand. Lu calls offstage: "Chief of Staff!" Enters.)

**Lu:** These villagers have come to see you, Chief of Staff.

(Villagers swarm in, together with some soldiers. Mother Li comes out, supported by Medical Orderly.)

**Villager A:** Superior officer. . . .

**A Soldier:** Grandpa, we don't use such terms, call him commander.

**Shao:** Call me comrade.

**Chung:** Chief of Staff, this is Old Chang.

**Shao** (*comes forward and shakes the hunter's hand*):  
So you're Old Chang, have you come from the forest?

**Chang:** We couldn't stay up there in the forest. We've moved in with Pao's uncle Ta-shan, here.

**Shao** (*pats Pao on the shoulder*): Good girl.

**Yung-chi:** Old Brother Chang!

**Chang:** Ah, Yung-chi, our saviours are here at last.

**Ta-shan:** Commander, we're all burning with one desire — to attack Tiger Mountain.

**Shao:** Our P.L.A. is winning big victories at the front, neighbours. The Mutanchiang area has been liberated.

**Villagers:** Wonderful!

**Shao:** Vulture has no place to flee now.

**Ta-shan:** Let's destroy his nest.

**Yung-chi:** Give us guns, commander.

**Villagers:** Yes, give us guns, please.

**Yung-chi:** If we have guns, there isn't a man in Chiapi Valley who couldn't bring down two or three of those bandits.

**Shao:** You'll have your weapons. But none of you have any warm winter clothes and every family is short of grain. How can you go after the bandits in the deep mountain forests?

**Villagers:** What can we do then?

**Shao:** There are plenty of medicinal herbs in Chiapi Valley and lots of timber. If we get the narrow-gauge train running again, we can ship them out and buy clothing and grain in return.

**Villagers:** That's right.

**Shao:** You can also organize a militia. We'll get the train running again and you'll have food and clothing. When we fight Vulture, you'll be all the stronger.

**Yung-chi:** When can we start repairing the railway?

**Shao:** We can start right now. Let's all work together.

**Villager A:** It's heavy labour, commander.

**Chung:** Grandpa, we fighters are all from poor families. When we've guns in our hands, we fight; when we've tools in our hands, we work.

**Yung-chi** (*steps forward and grasps Shao's hand*):

We really are all one family, commander.

(Sings "erh huang to pan")

*We mountain folk mean what we say,  
Our words are straight, our hearts are true,  
To seize a dragon we'll go with you —*

**Villagers:**

(Join in chorus)

*Under the sea,*

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings)

*To catch a tiger —*

**Villagers:**

(In chorus)

*We'll follow you up the heights.*

**Yung-chi:**

(Sings)

*With the thunders of spring the earth will shake!  
Then Vulture —*

**Villagers and Soldiers:**

(Sing in chorus "erh huang san pan")

*Your days are numbered.*

(The armymen and civilians form a tableau of heroes, mighty and splendid.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE EIGHT

### Sending Out Information

**Dawn.** A clearing on top of Tiger Mountain. Craggs and forts are visible against undulating hills covered with snow in the distance. On right is a road leading to the foot of the mountain.

**Vulture:** Is this where Old Ninth usually does his exercises?

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** Yes.

**Vulture:** Where else has he been?

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** He's been around the forts on our five peaks.

**Vulture:** What! You even let him inspect our nine groups of twenty-seven forts?

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** He's one of us, isn't he? Why not show him how strong we are?

**Vulture:** I don't like the look of things. There's a lot of activity down below, and Howling Wolf still hasn't returned. None of us ever set eyes on Hu Piao before. Why did he show up at a time like this? We've got to be careful.

(Bandit Chief Adjutant enters from right.)

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** We've everything ready as you ordered, Chief.

**Vulture:** Good. Put him to the test, the way I told you last night.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** Yes, sir. *(Exit on right.)*

*(Vulture and Bandit Chief of Staff, seeing somebody approaching, leave quickly on left front.)*

**Yang:**

*(Offstage sings "erh huang tao pan")*

*Hacking through thorns and thistles,  
I battle in the heart of the enemy. (Enters.)*

*(Changes to "hui lung")*

*When I look into the distance and think of my  
Comrades-in-arms, the army and the people, awaiting  
the signal*

*To attack these wolves, my spirits soar.*

*(Changes to "erh huang man pan")*

*The Party places great hopes on me,  
Comrades at the Party branch committee meeting  
offer weighty advice,*

*Their many exhortations give me strength,  
Their flaming hearts warm my breast.*

*(Changes to "kuai san yen")*

*I must never forget to be bold yet cautious,  
And succeed through courage and wits.  
The Party's every word is victory's guarantee,  
Mao Tsetung Thought shines for ever.*

*(Changes to "yuan pan")*

*Tiger Mountain is indeed heavily fortified  
With forts above and tunnels below.  
The leadership's decision to use strategy is right,  
A direct attack would mean heavy losses.  
After seven days here I know the disposition well,  
I have the secret report concealed on my person.  
Now at daybreak, pretending to take a stroll, I'll  
send it out...*

*(Notices something.)*

*Why have the guards suddenly been increased?  
Something's up.*

*This message —*

*If I don't get this message out,  
I'll miss the opportunity and ruin our attack plan,  
And let the people and Party down.*

*(Changes to "to pan")*

*Lunar New Year's Eve is fast approaching.  
I mustn't hesitate, I must push on,  
Though the grass be knives and the trees swords,  
Down to the foot of the slope.*

*What though the mountain be tall?*

*Standing in the cold and melting*

*The ice and snow, I've the morning sun in my heart.*

*(The sun rises filling the sky with red clouds which tinge the sharp crags.)*

*(Offstage voices: "Hurry up." "I'm coming.")*

*(Alert, Yang removes his coat and pretends to do traditional exercises. Two bandit guards walk by pretending to be on patrol. They hail him.)*



Scout hero Yang Tzu-jung is infinitely loyal to the Party and people. With the military intelligence written up on the basis of the information about the enemy, he has it concealed on his person and resolves to overcome every difficulty to send it out to the pursuit detachment.

**Bandit Guards:** Good morning, Old Ninth!

**Yang:** Morning.

*(Bandit guards go off, Yang ends his exercises. Shots ring out.)*

**Yang:** Shooting!

*(Shouts in the distance: "Charge!" "Kill!" Nearer voices cry: "The Communists are coming!" The shooting increases.)*

**Yang:** What? Can the comrades be here? *(Thinks, comes to swift decision.)* No, not at this moment. The comrades wouldn't have come before Chief of Staff received my message.

*(The shooting becomes more intensive and shouts draw nearer.)*

**Yang:** That shooting sounds fishy, too. That's another test. I'll reply to their trick with one of my own and get this message off. *(Fires two shots in the air. Calls towards the left.)* Brothers!

*(Four bandits enter.)*

**Yang:** The Communists are here. Come with me and fight!

*(The bandits rush off. Vulture and Bandit Chief of Staff enter stealthily. Bandit Chief Adjutant comes forward.)*

**Vulture:** Just a minute, Old Ninth.

**Yang** *(shouts to bandits offstage):* Stay where you are!

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (*in same direction*): Stop shooting!

(Bandits shout acknowledgement of order.)

**Yang** (*to Vulture*): What's the matter?

**Vulture**: It's a manoeuvre I ordered.

**Yang**: I'd have fired this clip and got a few of them, if you hadn't stopped me.

(Vulture laughs uproariously.)

**Yang**: Why didn't you tell me you were arranging this manoeuvre, Chief? You. . .

**Vulture**: Don't let it bother you, Old Ninth. I didn't tell anybody about it. If you don't believe me, ask him. (*Points at Bandit Chief Adjutant.*)

**Bandit Chief Adjutant** (*pretentiously*): Why, I thought the Communists were coming myself.

**Yang** (*chuckles with implied meaning*): I wish they would. I'm just waiting for them.

**Vulture**: You're doing well, Old Ninth. (*Laughs.*)

(Bandit Captain, offstage: "Get a move on!" Enters, escorting another bandit who falls to the ground.)

**Bandit Captain**: This fellow bumped into the wall outside, Chief.

**Vulture**: What!

**Bandit A** (*trembling*): We went down, under orders. Far off, we saw the narrow-gauge train running again. But before we got to Chiapi Valley, we ran into some Communist soldiers.

**Vulture**: Chiapi Valley, eh? (*Suspiciously*) And you're the only one who got away?

**Bandit A**: Yes.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant**: Nine out of ten you were captured by the Communists and they let you go.

**Bandit A**: No, no.

**Vulture** (*draws his gun and points it at Bandit A*): You bastard!

**Yang** (*intervenes*): Why get excited, Chief? If he really had been a prisoner of the Communists he wouldn't dare come back.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: That's right. Everyone knows how the Chief hates any man who lets the Communists capture him.

**Vulture**: Humph.

**Yang** (*to Bandit A*): Get out of here. Can't you see you're making Chief angry?

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (*kicks Bandit A*): Beat it.

**Bandit A** (*softly, as he goes out*): Old Ninth is a good man. (*Exit.*)

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (*to Bandit Captain*): Give the order—tighten all defences.

**Bandit Captain**: Yes, sir. (*Exit.*)

**Vulture** (*dejectedly*): Eh!

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: I'll send some men down on a raid, Chief. That will be something to celebrate at the Hundred Chickens Feast.

**Vulture**: Not a bad idea, but you must be very careful this time.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: Very well. (*Exit.*)

**Yang**: We've nothing to worry about, with the defences we've got on Tiger Mountain. But we shouldn't just sit here and wait for them to come after us.

**Vulture**: What do you think we should do?

**Yang**: We ought to practise charging—

**Vulture**: Oho!

**Yang**: And get our soldiers into top shape.

**Vulture**: Well.

**Yang**: Then, after the Hundred Chickens Feast, we'll roll down into Chiapi Valley.

**Vulture** (*grabs Yang's hand*): You're smart. Take command, Old Ninth. Put the men through some charging drills.

**Yang**: Right.

(Vulture laughs and goes out with Bandit Chief Adjutant.)

**Yang** (*softly, contemptuously*): That dumb cluck.

(Sings "hsi pi kuai erh liu")

*A fool and cheat, Vulture plays another trick.  
It gives me my chance down the mountain.  
Comrade Teh-hua,  
To fetch the message, we count on you,  
When the time comes to rout the bandits  
At the feast, victory song we'll sing.*

(Throws open his coat in a dramatic pose.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE NINE

### Off to the Attack

Morning. The day before lunar New Year's Eve. The scene is the clearing outside Yung-chi's house. A couplet written on red paper is pasted on the palisade gate. The joy of emancipation is everywhere.

(As the curtain rises the whistle of the narrow-gauge train is heard.)

(Smiling villagers, with sacks of grain on their backs, watch as the train sets out again, then they are off. A villager puts down the sack of grain he carries for Yung-chi's mother.)

**Mother Li**:

(Sings "hsi pi liu shui")

*Soldiers and people are one family,  
Happiness fills our mountain village.  
A good snow falls, everyone smiles,  
Dividing food and clothing, we celebrate liberation.*

(Shao enters.)

**Shao**: Aunt!

**Mother Li**: Commander!

**Shao**: Have you got enough food and things for the New Year?

**Mother Li:** Plenty. Who would have dreamt that Chiapi Valley could have such a good New Year? If you P.L.A. boys hadn't come, I don't know what we'd have done.

**Shao:** The best is yet to come.

**Mother Li:** We owe it all to the Communist Party and Chairman Mao.

(Shao puts the sack of grain on his back, ready to carry it in for Yung-chi's mother. Offstage, Yung-chi is drilling the militia.)

**Yung-chi (offstage):** One, two, three, four!

**Militiamen (offstage):** One, two, three, four!

**Mother Li:** Those militiamen are full of pep. But the ones who will have to stay behind to guard the village are grumbling, especially Pao. She just won't hear of it.

**Shao:** Oh, that girl. . . .

(Offstage, the militiamen shout: "Charge, charge, charge!")

(Shao and Mother Li go off, talking.)

(Offstage, the drilling militiamen cry again: "Target straight ahead. Charge, charge, charge!")

(Pao backs in, with her eyes still on the drilling militia.)

**Pao:**

(Sings "erh huang hsiao tao pan")

*Listen to the lusty shouts over the drill ground*

(Changes to "hui lung")

*Where they are busy training,  
Full of fight to smash the enemy.  
I'm so anxious to join them  
That my heart's afire.*

(Changes to "yuan pan")

*How I long for the day  
When the bandits are slain and a blood debt repaid.  
With deep hatred, morning and evening  
I sharpen my sword and oil my gun.  
On the high cliff the blizzard may blow,  
Storm the tiger's den — that I dare.  
Why then pick on me to guard the village?*

(Changes to "to pan")

*I must see the Chief of Staff at once  
And tell him again what's on my mind.  
My resolve is to fight on the battlefield,  
For I've pledged to kill them all.*

(Medical Orderly enters.)

**Medical Orderly:** Pao!

**Pao:** Sister, put in a word for me. Let's go and see our Chief of Staff.

(Pao rushes Medical Orderly along. Shao comes out from Yung-chi's house.)

**Shao:** Hey, what are you two talking about?

(Yung-chi enters.)

**Pao:** Uncle, let me go.

**Shao:** Well, the militia has got to protect the village, too.

**Pao:** Humph, I hate that Vulture so much, I've got to kill him with my own hands. How could you keep me here? I must go.

**Shao:** But you're too young, Pao.

**Pao:** What, me too young?

**Medical Orderly:** Chief of Staff, Pao is class-conscious and skis well. She's a good shot, and she can help me look after the wounded. Do let her go.

**Yung-chi:** Commander, this girl has been through much bitterness and is thirsting for revenge. Let her come along with us.

**Shao:** Militia leader, you're feeling the same way, eh!

**Yung-chi:** Let it be so.

**Shao:** So you are all of one mind. All right, then. It's settled.

**Pao:** Hurray! (Exit, leaping for joy, followed by Medical Orderly.)

**Yung-chi:** Commander, the prisoners Luan Ping and Howling Wolf have been taken away. It looks like we're about to attack Tiger Mountain, eh?

**Shao:** Impatient, aren't you?

(Yung-chi grins.)

**Shao:** How long should it take us to reach the back path of the mountain at the rate we ski now?

**Yung-chi:** It's eighty li longer than the direct approach. I think we can do it in a day and a night at most.

**Shao:** Good. See that your militia is fully prepared.

**Yung-chi:** I'll see to that! (Exit.)

(Chung and Lu enter.)

**Lu:** Chief of Staff, why should we be marking time here? The comrades can all ski as fast as required

. . . .

**Chung:** And the militia has been organized. . . .

**Lu:** And we've been sent reinforcements. . . .

**Chung:** I think we ought to set out immediately. I'm sure we can win.

**Shao:** Comrades, we should guard against impetuosity at critical moments.

(Steadily, then sings "hsi pi san pan")

*Wait patiently for orders —*

**Chung:** Right.

(Goes off with Lu.)

**Shao:**

(Sings and changes to "hsi pi yuan pan")

*Although I've urged patience*

*I can't keep calm myself.*

*The day to close in on the enemy is nearing.*

*But there's no sign of Shen returning with the message.*

*If anything goes wrong. . . .*

(Changes to "kuai pan")

*I've another idea. We mustn't miss*

*Our chance at the Hundred Chickens Feast.*

Yung-chi says there's a dangerous  
Trail up the back of the mountain,  
Surprise and courage will carry us  
Charging into Tiger Hall.

(Lo shouts as he enters.)

**Lo:** Shen is back, Chief of Staff.

(Shen enters.)

**Shao** (*hurries forward*): Comrade Teh-hua.

**Shen** (*hands the message over, panting*): I'm not late, am I?

**Shao** (*takes it*): No, go and get some rest.

(Exit Shen supported by Lo.)

**Shao** (*eagerly reads message*): ". . . A steep trail up the back of the mountain leads directly to Tiger Hall . . . Burning pine torches will be the signal. . . ." (*Excitedly.*) Good Old Yang! Hero! Hero!

(Young Kuo shouts offstage: "Chief of Staff!" He enters running, followed by Ta-shan and Yung-chi.)

**Young Kuo:** Report, Chief of Staff. When the train reached West Branch River, the bridge had been wrecked. We got out to repair it and were attacked by bandits. We drove them off. . . .

**Shao:** What about those two prisoners?

**Young Kuo:** Howling Wolf was killed by a stray bullet.

**Shao:** And Luan Ping?

**Young Kuo:** He escaped while we were chasing the bandits.

**Shao:** Escaped? (*Aside.*) If he heads for Tiger Mountain, that'll be dangerous for Comrade Yang Tzu-jung, and it may ruin our plan. (*Turns to Young Kuo and Yung-chi.*) Assemble the detachment, quick.

**Young Kuo and Yung-chi:** Right. (*Go off.*)

(A rail is struck, the call to fall in.)

**Shao:** Comrade Ta-shan, you and Hunter Chang take over the defence of the village.

**Ta-shan:** Right.

(Soldiers, militia and villagers enter.)

**Shao:** Comrades!

(Sings "hsi pi san pan")

The situation has suddenly changed,

Our task is pressing,

Every second counts.

To arms, comrades,

Let's fly forward.

Forward march!

(Dark change.)

(A snowstorm. Soldiers and militia with Yung-chi as their guide set out quickly, braving wind and snow.)

(At the foot of a cliff, they remove their skis. One soldier starts climbing and slips; two others mount, carrying ropes. One of them slips and tries again. They lower the ropes when they reach the top. Shao and his men grasp the ropes and follow.)

(When the soldiers descend a slope, some roll down, others leap. They press onward quickly and boldly.)

(Curtain)

## SCENE TEN

# Converging on Hundred Chickens Feast

Lunar New Years' Eve. In Tiger Hall.

(The curtain rises amid shouting: "Bring *liutzu* in!")

(Two bandits shove Luan Ping in.)

**Luan:** Chief.

**Vulture:** Luan Ping!

**Luan:** Yes, sir.

**Vulture:** Adjutant Luan!

**Luan:** Chief.

**Vulture:** What brings you here?

**Luan:** I've come — to wish you a happy birthday. Ho, ho. . . .

**Vulture:** Where did you come from?

**Luan:** I. . . .

**Vulture:** Humph!

**Luan:** I. . . .

**Terribles:** Speak!

**Luan:** I. . . .

**Terribles:** Out with it!

**Luan:** I. . . I've come from Commissioner Hou.

**Vulture** (*sneers*): So you've been with Commissioner Hou.

**Luan:** Yes.

**Vulture:** Summon Old Ninth!

**Bandit:** Old Ninth, you are wanted.

(Yang enters, an Officer of the Day sash across his chest.)

**Yang:** Everything is ready for the feast, Chief.

**Vulture:** Look who's here, Old Ninth.

**Yang** (*startled at the sight of Luan Ping but controls himself instantly. Seizing the enemy's weaknesses, he decides on the course of action to take*): Oh, Brother Luan. Why have you come here? How are you getting along? What post did Commissioner Hou give you? I, Hu Piao, congratulate you on your promotion.

**Terribles** (*mockingly*): What are you now — a regimental commander? (*Laugh.*)

(Luan is bewildered.)

**Vulture:** What kind of post did Commissioner Hou give you?

**Luan** (*recognizes Yang and smiles wickedly*): Hu Piao, my eye! No . . . you're mistaken . . . .

**Yang** (*sternly*): Me mistaken or you the one who's mistaken? I, Hu Piao, was friend enough and was playing the game. Not at all like you, Luan Ping. I advised you to join Brigadier Tsui, but you tried to drag me off to Commissioner Hou. You can't say I wasn't playing fair. (*Presses on.*) Answer the Chief. What business brings you here?

**Luan** (*turns away from Yang*): Chief, listen to me. . . .

**Yang**: Cut it out. Today is Chief's fiftieth birthday. There's no time for your nonsense.

**Vulture**: Right. Come to the point. I want to know why you've come.

**Luan**: To join Chief's forces and make good.

**Vulture**: Oh!

**Yang**: Then why did you go seeking an appointment from Commissioner Hou?

(Luan gets confused, stumbles.)

**Yang**: Why has the commissioner sent you here? The truth, now!

**Terribles**: Out with it and quick! Why have you come?

**Luan**: I'm not from Commissioner Hou.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: But that's not what the bastard said a moment ago. He certainly changes his tune fast. Quite a bird.

(The bandits laugh uproariously.)

**Luan**: Stop laughing! You've been fooled. He is not Hu Piao. He's a Communist armyman!

(Terribles draw their guns and point them at Yang.)

**Yang** (*calmly*): Ha, ha, ha! Well, so I'm a Communist armyman, since you say so. Now tell Chief and the big brothers here more about this Communist armyman.

**Vulture**: That's right. You say he is not Hu Piao but a Communist armyman. How did you come to know him?

**Luan** (*stammers*): He . . . he . . . he . . .

**Bandits**: Heh.

**Luan**: He. . . .

**Yang**: All this fellow can do is stammer and contradict himself. He's up to some trick, Chief.

**Bandit Chief of Staff**: I bet he was caught by the Communists, and then released.

**Luan**: No . . . no. . . .

**Yang**: Did the Communists set you free? Or did they send you here?

**Terribles**: Speak!

**Luan**: I. . . .

**Bandit Chief Adjutant**: The Communists sent you, didn't they?

**Terribles**: Speak. Be quick!

(Luan stares, tongue-tied.)

**Yang**: Chief, our defences on Tiger Mountain are absolutely watertight, and the Communists can't get in. But now this fellow has come. There's something fishy about this.

**Luan** (*hastily*): There isn't. I swear!

**Yang**: Luan Ping!

(Sings "hsi pi kuai pan")

*Capricious, sinister fellow,  
Your evasiveness surely conceals tricks.  
To our fortress you came, leaving your tracks  
In the snow for the Communists to follow.*

(Walks to the steps and calls.)

Captain —

(Bandit Captain comes forward.)

**Bandit Captain**: Here.

**Yang**:

(Sings)

*Double the guard and keep a close watch,  
Let no one off duty without my order.*

**Yang Tzu-jung denounces bandit Luan Ping who has escaped to Tiger Mountain.**



**Vulture:** Right. Without Old Ninth's order, no one is to leave his post.

**Bandit Captain:** Yes, sir. (Exit.)

(Terribles nod approvingly.)

**Vulture** (comes down from his seat, grasps Luan and throws him to the ground): You treacherous dog. First you tried to get Old Ninth to go with you to Commissioner Hou. Now you come here to divide us and want to bring the Communists in. This is too much.

**Luan:** He's not Hu Piao, Chief. He's really a Communist armyman.

**Yang:** What a snake you are, Luan Ping! (Walks down the steps.) You're trying to do me in by Chief's hands. Too bad I didn't bump you off when we had drinks at White Pines Dale.

**Terribles:** That's right.

**Yang:** Chief, I've never let myself be pushed around by little men. For your sake, I've offended this mad dog. So he's attacking me viciously. If you believe that I'm a Communist armyman, then finish me off at once. If you believe that I'm Hu Piao, then permit me to leave this mountain. It's either him or me; keep him or keep me. You decide as you please, Chief.

(Removes his sash and tosses it on to the ground.)

(Vulture dumbfounded.)

**Bandits:** You mustn't leave, Old Ninth, you mustn't leave.

**Terribles:** Old Ninth mustn't leave, Chief.

**Bandit Chief of Staff** (picks up the sash and hands it to Vulture): Old Ninth mustn't leave, Chief.

**Bandits:** Old Ninth mustn't leave.

**Vulture:** Don't be childish, Old Ninth. Put it on, put it on. I will treat you right. (Laughs.)

(Bandit Chief of Staff takes the sash from Vulture and puts it on Yang.)

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** Put it on.

**Luan** (realizes the situation is going against him, pleads): Chief. . . .

**Vulture** (brushes him aside): Humph! (Returns to his seat.)

**Luan:** Chief!

(Prostrates himself before Yang.) Brother Hu Piao!  
(Yang ignores him.)

**Luan** (slaps his own face): I . . . I'm trash, I'm worthless, I ought to be hanged!

**Yang** (shouts to the assembled bandits): The hour has come. Let everyone congratulate the Chief on his birthday.

**Bandits:** Get ready, everybody. Congratulate the Chief on his birthday!

**Bandit Chief of Staff:** It's your fiftieth birthday today, Chief. You mustn't let this cur spoil everything.

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** It will be bad luck for Tiger Mountain if you don't blot out this evil star. . . .

**Bandits:** Yes. He must be killed, killed!

**Luan:** Big brothers, Brother Hu Piao, Chief. . . .

(Luan kneels down before Vulture.)

**Vulture** (laughs ominously): Ha! Ha! Ha! . . .

**Luan:** Chief, spare me! . . .

(Vulture waves his hand.)

**Terribles:** Kill him!

**Luan:** Chief, spare me! . . .

**Bandit Chief Adjutant:** Take him away!

**Yang:** I'll do it.

**Luan:** Old Ninth!

(Yang seizes Luan, who is paralysed with fright.)

**Yang:**

(Sings "hsi pi kuai pan")

You've robbed and killed for dozens of years,  
Your bloody hands have committed towering crimes.

To avenge the people, in the nation's name,  
I sentence you to death.

(Drags him out. Shots are heard. Yang re-enters.)

**Yang:** Everything is ready for the celebration. Allow us to offer our respects, Chief.

**Vulture:** You're Officer of the Day, Old Ninth. You take over.

**Yang:** Brothers!

**Terribles:** Here.

**Yang:** Light the lamps in the hall, burn pine torches outside. Let's offer our best wishes for Chief's birthday.

(Bandit Captain enters.)

**Bandit Captain:** Yes, sir. It's time for the celebration. (Exit.)

**Terribles:** Best wishes to you, Chief.

(Terribles and other bandits bow to Vulture.)

**Yang** (jumps on a stump): Brothers, let's eat and drink our fill. Get good and drunk.

**Bandits:** Right. We'll get good and drunk.

**Yang:** Please be seated at the table, Chief.

**Vulture:** After you, brothers.

**Yang:** It's your fiftieth birthday, Chief. You must be seated first.

**Terribles:** Yes, yes. You must be seated first, Chief.

**Vulture:** All right. Let's go. (Beside himself with elation.) Ha! Ha! Ha!

(Vulture leaves for adjoining cave room. Bandits file in after him and begin feasting. Bandit Captain enters.)

**Yang** (steps down the stump): Captain!

**Bandit Captain:** Here.

**Yang:** Call in the brothers on guard and let them drink their fill.

**Bandit Captain:** Yes, sir. (Exit.)

(Bandits can be heard playing rowdy drinking games in adjoining cave room.)

(Yang returns to the stump and looks around.)





Yang Tzu-jung joins forces with the P.L.A. pursuit detachment. Together they wipe out the whole bandit gang on Tiger Mountain.

**Yang:**

(Sings "hsi pi kuai erh liu")

*The mountain is a blaze of lights on New Year's Eve,*

(Walks down the stump.)

*This is the signal to our troops.*

*The Hundred Chickens Feast has started as planned, The bandits are drunk and befuddled.*

*I hope the comrades will come quickly*

*And smash this den of stubborn enemies.*

*How time drags, when I'm impatient,*

*Why haven't the comrades gone into action?*

*I long to go out and have a look.*

(Controls himself. Changes to "yao pan")

*But I must keep calm at this critical moment and block this secret tunnel.*

(Points at the spot below Vulture's armchair.)

(Vulture, Bandit Chief of Staff and others enter drunk, staggering.)

**Vulture:** Why don't you join the feast, Old Ninth? Everyone wants to drink to your health.

**Yang:** Today's your fiftieth birthday. It's your health we should be drinking to. Fill Chief's bowl.

(Everyone drinks.)

(Shots are heard. Bandits throw down their bowls. Terrible B, wounded, enters running.)

**Terrible B:** The Communists have sealed off the entrance to Tiger Hall with machine-guns.

**Vulture:** Let's get out, brothers. Hurry!

**Bandits:** Charge! Charge!

(P.L.A. men, offstage, yell: "Lay down your guns or die!")

**Vulture:** Into the tunnel with me, Old Ninth, quick!

(Pushes over the armchair, but Yang shoves him aside.)

**Yang:** You're not getting away!

(P.L.A. men charge in shouting: "Lay down your guns or die!")

**Vulture (to Yang):** What! You're. . .

**Yang:** A member of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

**Vulture:** Ah!

(Vulture draws his gun. Yang knocks it out of his hand. Vulture runs off. Bandits follow.)

**Shen:** Old Yang!

**Yang:** There's a secret tunnel here, comrades. Rescue the villagers and catch Vulture alive.

(Runs to pursue Vulture.)

**Shen:** Charge, comrades!

(P.L.A. men follow.)

(Shen fights with a Terrible. Bandit Chief of Staff enters and raises his pistol and fires at Shen, who dodges. Bullet hits the Terrible and kills him.)

(Lo rushes in after another Terrible. They fight. Pao pursues a bandit. They fight. She subdues him. She and Lo lead prisoners off.)

(Yung-chi, Medical Orderly, soldiers and militia, with villagers the bandits had been holding captive, walk across stage and are off.)

(Bandit Captain enters, running. Yung-chi shoots him dead. Another bandit runs in and is captured by Yung-chi.)

(Vulture enters, followed by two bandits, fleeing wildly. Yang pursues them and shoots the two bandits dead. He and Vulture lock in struggle.)

(Chung and soldiers chase on Bandit Chief Adjutant and bandits. They fight.)

(Yang grabs a gun and kills several bandits.)

(Shao, Shen, Yung-chi, Medical Orderly, Young Kuo and militia enter. They capture Vulture and all the bandits.)

(Pao, raging, wants to stab Vulture. Medical Orderly holds her back.)

**Shao (pumps Yang's hand, very moved):** Old Yang!

**Yang:** Chief of Staff!

(Shao introduces Yung-chi to Yang. The two warmly clasp hands. Dramatic pose.)

**(Final Curtain)**

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# Strive to Create the Brilliant Images Of Proletarian Heroes

—Appreciations in creating the heroic images of Yang Tzu-jung and others

by the "Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy" Group of the Peking  
Opera Troupe of Shanghai

**G**UIDED by the great red banner of Mao Tsetung Thought, the modern revolutionary Peking opera *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy* has again been revised and polished to reach a greater degree of perfection. It has made its appearance before the public in a new presentation of heightened grandeur and power.

Eleven years have passed since it was first adapted and performed. But it came to life only in the last seven years, seven glorious years from early 1963 to the present day marked by sharp class struggles at every turn, during which the revising of the script proceeded under Comrade Chiang Ching's direct leadership and with her personal participation.

In mid January 1963, Comrade Chiang Ching made an investigation and study of the sphere of literary and art work, and in Shanghai came across this opera. She saw that while there was much that was trashy in its content it provided, in a way, the possibility of presenting contemporary life through the medium of Peking opera. Therefore she decided to take it over and transform it thoroughly. From then on this theatrical piece and the Peking opera it represents have steadily embarked on the revolutionary road guided by Mao Tsetung Thought. It was also from that time that the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi and company started their flagrant attacks and wrecking activities of one kind or another against this opera and the revolution in Peking opera.

This struggle finds expression in many ways: the struggle between those who adhere to Chairman Mao's proletarian line on literature and art and those who oppose it; the struggle for winning over the literary and art workers between the proletarian headquarters headed by Chairman Mao and the bourgeois headquarters headed by Liu Shao-chi; and the struggle, as regards ideas on art, between those who adhere to the principles of "making the past serve the present and foreign things serve China" and "weeding through the old to bring forth the new" and to the method of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism and those who want to preserve the old order, prostrate before anything foreign and follow other erroneous tendencies. In creative work, the chief problem, the focus of acute struggles, is the characterization of the principal heroes.

The theme of an opera or play is reflected by the images of characters, and the plot is laid with the characters in mind, the leading character being the most important one. Who is to be the leading character means which class is to dominate the stage and the representative of that class to hold the centre of the stage.

Our great leader Chairman Mao points out: "If you are a bourgeois writer or artist, you will eulogize not the proletariat but the bourgeoisie, and if you are a proletarian writer or artist, you will eulogize not the bourgeoisie but the proletariat and working people: it must be one or the other." This profound Marxist-Leninist thesis of Chairman Mao's shows, from the nature of class and the nature of art, the fundamental difference between proletarian literature and art and bourgeois literature and art of all times. The renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi and counter-revolutionaries like his agent Chou Yang and company in literary and art circles spared no pains to eulogize and puff the kind of literature and art which sings the praises of the bourgeoisie. At the same time they opposed all efforts to create the heroic images of workers, peasants and soldiers and made it possible for ghosts and monsters to hold the proletariat and other working people in subjection on the stage. Proletarian literature and art cannot effectively set up and eulogize the heroic images of workers, peasants and soldiers on the stage without going through extremely acute and arduous struggles.

Guided by Chairman Mao's proletarian line on literature and art, we have smashed the various schemes of the class enemies, criticized their various fallacies and created the brilliant images of Yang Tzu-jung and other proletarian heroes by the method of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism. Not particular individuals in real life, these heroic images are the quintessence of thousands and thousands of heroes coming to the fore in revolutionary struggles. They are "on a higher plane, more intense, more concentrated, more typical, nearer the ideal, and therefore more universal than actual everyday life." The heroic image of Yang Tzu-jung in *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy* is a brilliant exam-

ple without parallel in the art history of mankind, the image of a communist fighter battling bravely for the complete liquidation of all exploiting classes and the system of exploitation itself, a powerful weapon for the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat and a mighty force to "help the masses to propel history forward."

Now we shall dwell at some length on some of our appreciations in creating the heroic image of Yang Tzu-jung.

### Depict From Different Aspects the Splendid Images Of Proletarian Heroes by Combining Revolutionary Realism With Revolutionary Romanticism and Highlighting the Inner Thoughts and Feelings Of the Characters

How to depict proletarian heroes in images that are lofty and mature and shining with brilliance is a political task of prime importance facing us today, a new subject in the proletarian revolution in literature and art. Here lies the fundamental difference between proletarian literature and art and the literature and art of all exploiting classes, including bourgeois literature and art during the "Renaissance" and the "Enlightenment Movement" and bourgeois literature and art belonging to the school of critical realism in the 19th century.

If we are to tackle this new subject successfully, we must follow Chairman Mao's teaching of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism to put our heroes in the typical background of revolutionary class struggle in a given historical period, reveal completely, penetratingly and from various aspects the class traits of the proletariat embodied in their world outlook, thinking, style of work and moral fibre, show their high political consciousness, and bring out the rays of communism in their hearts. Such is the proletarian method of art used in portraying Yang Tzu-jung, the proletarian hero in *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*.

Yang Tzu-jung is a scout hero of the Chinese People's Liberation Army who is armed with Mao Tsetung Thought and imbued with revolutionary wisdom and courage characteristic of the revolutionary proletariat. Seizing upon various parts of the plot and drawing on literature, music, dancing, acting, decor and other art media, we concentrated our efforts on depicting Yang Tzu-jung as a hero and made a point of projecting the following main aspects: While portraying his deep class feelings for the commander, the comrades and the working people, we also manifested his bitter class hatred for U.S. imperialism, Chiang Kai-shek, the bandits and all class enemies. While describing his firm revolutionary will to overthrow the Vulture bandit gang, lackeys of U.S.-Chiang reaction, we also showed his magnificent and high revolutionary ideals. While presenting his ideal of the Chinese revolution, we also referred to his ideal of the world revolution. While delineating his indomitable courage and soaring spirit, we also gave expression to the steadiness and poise,

the sagacity and alertness in his make-up. The description of these facets in his character rests firmly on one essential point, the soul of the hero Yang Tzu-jung, and that is "the morning sun in his heart" — a red heart that is infinitely loyal to Chairman Mao and Mao Tsetung Thought. Thus Yang Tzu-jung appears before us as a towering proletarian revolutionary hero, with largeness of mind and a thoroughgoing proletarian revolutionary spirit, one who in all circumstances gives prominence to proletarian politics. It is a brilliant image of a hero who is at once lofty and mature.

The road taken in the new presentation with regard to characterization is completely different from that taken in the original script.\* Pursuing their reactionary political aims, a handful of representatives of the bourgeoisie did everything they could to smear Yang Tzu-jung in the old script. Under the pretext of "truthful writing," they blatantly clamoured for prominence to be given to Yang Tzu-jung's "daredevilry and dashing roughness," to what they called his "bandit-like airs." They therefore made Yang Tzu-jung hum obscene ditties on his way up the mountain to the bandits' lair, flirt with Vulture's foster-daughter, Rose, and tell ribald stories in the bandits' stronghold. The result was that they turned Yang Tzu-jung into a filthy-mouthed desperado and a reckless muddle-headed adventurer reeking with bandit odour from top to toe. Such a character can only be a living sample advertising Liu Shao-chi's reactionary military line of putschism, adventurism and warlordism.

We criticized and repudiated this erroneous trend and made great efforts to achieve a typical portrayal of Yang Tzu-jung as a hero in the image of the proletariat. The following are some examples:

(1) The original script did not make the least mention of Yang Tzu-jung's contact with the masses, to say nothing of describing the flesh-and-blood ties and class feelings between him and the working people. Yet this is definitely indispensable to the creation of the images of proletarian fighters and to articulating the spirit underlying Chairman Mao's great directive "Build stable base areas in the Northeast." Following Comrade Chiang Ching's instruction, we resolutely cut out the two scenes about superstition and murder which were specially written to play up the negative roles. These were replaced by a new scene "Asking About Bitterness," designed to demonstrate the fish-and-water relationship between our army and the people and the flesh-and-blood relationship between the working people and Yang Tzu-jung who relies on the masses and conducts propaganda among them. It shows how with the help of the masses he pursues and captures Howling Wolf and secures more information about the Contacts Map and the Hundred Chickens Feast. Thus the two essential sides to his character — class love and class hatred — are clearly portrayed. Without describing these two aspects of his

\* The one used before 1963.

character, one could not see the class traits in the hero's inner world and Yang Tzu-jung would remain to all appearances a reckless adventurer divorced from the masses.

(2) Though the original script touched on how Yang Tzu-jung thrust his way into the bandits' stronghold, the mental groundwork preparing him for this action and for defeating the enemy was missing. This mental groundwork, however, is particularly important for an outstanding Communist and scout hero armed with Mao Tsetung Thought. As instructed by Comrade Chiang Ching, we therefore specially composed for Yang Tzu-jung in Scene Four, when he asks for the mission to go into the bandits' lair, a complete "song cycle," "A Communist"\* sung to the tune of *hsi pi yuan pan* at a free tempo and to the tunes of *erh liu — kuai pan*. This gives expression to Yang Tzu-jung's conscientiousness and determination in carrying out Chairman Mao's strategic and tactical thinking, to his high proletarian political consciousness and firm resolve and fighting will: "The flames that blaze in my red heart shall forge a sharp blade to kill the foe" and "Well I know that there's danger ahead, but I'm all the more set on driving forward." These characteristics of Yang Tzu-jung's are, to a certain extent, also brought out in the arias in Scenes Three and Five. As all this imparts to the character deeper ideological meaning, one can see that Yang Tzu-jung is the representative of millions of worker-peasant soldiers who, nurtured by Mao Tsetung Thought, have grown up and steeled themselves in revolutionary wars. Without stressing Yang Tzu-jung's high political consciousness due to his being armed with Mao Tsetung Thought, the audience would not know what ideological force propels him to go deep into the enemy's stronghold, and would feel worried about him or even doubt if he could succeed in his mission.

Needless to say, the original script did not portray Yang Tzu-jung as a fighter armed with Mao Tsetung Thought. Moreover, it did not even mention Mao Tsetung Thought for once, and yet invincible Mao Tsetung Thought is the soul of all the heroes of the Mao Tsetung era. Failing to set forth the hero's political consciousness, the essential aspect of his character, the creation of the image of a proletarian hero is but idle talk. We have therefore completely altered Scene Eight and composed for Yang Tzu-jung a principal aria, which is the centre of the whole scene. As Yang Tzu-jung sings "the morning sun in my heart," he is giving the reins to his loyalty to the Party and the people and showing that Mao Tsetung Thought is the fountainhead of all his wisdom and strength. Without Mao Tsetung Thought, Yang Tzu-jung would certainly be reduced to a nincompoop, a vulgar and miserable mountebank on the stage.

(3) In the original script, Yang Tzu-jung was cast as one who had no ideals of the Chinese revolution, not

\* Made up of *hsi pi yuan pan*, *erh liu* and *kuai pan*, which are various styles of singing in Peking opera.

to mention ideals of the world revolution. What is more, he was described as having little understanding of the importance of the battle of "taking Tiger Mountain by strategy" to the War of Liberation as a whole. He was engrossed in such nonsense as "In the endless sea of forest I have only my shadow as a companion," and "Besides skeletons and bloodstains, not a human being I see." That was what he was thinking all the time. For a proletarian hero the most essential political quality, however, is "to have the whole country at heart and the world revolution in mind," fight for the realization of communism—the "supreme ideal of the future, a future of incomparable brightness and splendour"—and resolutely fulfil every task assigned by the Party. Lacking this ideal, a hero on the stage would have no largeness of mind and his image would not be great and noble. Therefore we have thoroughly revised Scene Five and composed for Yang Tzu-jung a long aria set to the tune of *erh huang* followed by *hsi pi* to express his great and far-sighted ideal and lofty revolutionary aspirations — "Let the red flag fly all over the world," and "welcome in spring to change the world of men." This revolutionary ideal is articulated again in some arias in Scenes Three and Four too, as for instance, the aria "I'm set on smashing the chains of a thousand years to open a freshet of endless happiness for the people." We hold that a powerful portrayal of the noble communist ideal cherished at heart by a hero is an important content of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism. Without revealing this side of his character, Yang Tzu-jung would become a dwarf who cares nothing other than what is right under his nose.

To reveal the two aspects of Yang Tzu-jung's character—his dash and courage as distinct from his sagacity and alertness—is also a point that should not be neglected. In order to demonstrate his courage and great aspiration—"Shake the heights with my will" and "with my courage the valleys fill"—we added a new prelude to Scene Five, which begins with stirring music illustrative of the hero galloping on a fine horse through a blinding snowstorm, followed by a new-type *erh huang tao pan* of leisurely singing to the quick rhythm of percussion instruments to produce the effect of a valiant, singing Yang Tzu-jung entering at flying speed on his horseback. In this way, the audience will see with the mind's eye, even before the entry of the leading character, a dashing and dauntless hero approaching on horseback, whip in hand. We also designed for him a militant and sprightly horse-dance and tiger-killing dance after his entry to emphasize his courage and daring. On the other hand, in order to display his sagacity and alertness, we laid stress, in the key aria in Scene Eight, on his careful reasoning, his quick wit and his ability to take quick decisions, which enable him quickly to "know the disposition well." Besides we arranged for him three face-to-face battles of wits with Vulture and two with Luan Ping on different occasions. The two aspects mentioned above are further stressed in the fight in Scene Ten. Obviously, without depicting Yang Tzu-

jung's dash and courage his image would not appear lofty and radiant on the stage; and if his sagacity and alertness are not shown, his image would not give one the impression of firmness or maturity.

We followed the same principle in depicting the other heroic characters in *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*. Take Li Yung-chi for example. Typical of the labouring people, a victim of exploitation and oppression, Li Yung-chi has a revolutionary tradition behind him and feels a bitter class hatred for the Kuomintang reactionaries. Once his class hatred is aroused, enhanced and guided by the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Liberation Army, it generates inexhaustible revolutionary strength. In addition to depicting his searing class hatred for Vulture, as he sings "You Vulture! I'll hack you to pieces for this blood debt," we show his affection for his mother and profound comradeship for Chang Ta-shan and other class brothers. Apart from representing him in an engrossing soliloquy — "these soldiers care for us folks and cure our ailments," we show the torrent of his feelings when he learns "Here before us our own army!" For generations the Li's had suffered from crushing class oppression — "soldiers and bandits were of the same brood, always oppressing us" and "these lashes and bruises" — his is a family history written in blood and tears. When he knows that the saviour he yearns for has come at last, his pent-up anger at the enemy, together with his overflowing class feelings for the Party and the worker-peasant soldiers, bursts forth all at once. His iron will and resolve to kill the enemy are strengthened as he vows "I'll go with the Party to drive out those beasts, whatever the sacrifice and danger, be it fire or water." By the description of Li Yung-chi giving information on the trail to the bandits' stronghold and acting as a guide in the skiing in Scene Nine and the fight in Scene Ten, the above-mentioned two aspects of his character are further developed. Thus, nurtured by the Party, Li Yung-chi makes steady progress and finally becomes head of the militia, a leader of the masses, who, by uniting with the People's Liberation Army, fighting and winning victories together with them, distinguishes himself in the battle to annihilate the enemy.

In order to adhere to the method of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism, to reveal in a large measure the inner thoughts and feelings of the characters and to create, from different aspects and in a manner as complete as possible, the lofty and mature images of proletarian heroes, it is necessary to pay attention to combining breadth with depth in the layout. If attention is given exclusively to breadth to the neglect of probing the various facets, the outcome can only be glossiness without substance, a fleeting touch on many aspects but lacking in artistic power and ideological persuasiveness. Therefore, after laying out the plan for a thorough characterization of the hero, we must enthusiastically delineate his main thoughts and feelings and traits by making full and the best use of all positive artistic techniques; we must pene-

tratingly and carefully show the facets of his character and strive to probe and reveal his splendid inner world. This demands meticulous work; rough handling will not do. In the course of revising the opera, workers, peasants and soldiers have given us many good and well-thought-out suggestions, which were of great help to our work.

### **The Depiction of Negative Characters, Positive Characters Other Than the Principal Hero and Environment and Atmosphere Must Unswervingly Serve The Purpose of Giving Prominence to the Principal Hero**

A proletarian hero invariably shows his heroic mettle in fierce struggles against the counter-revolutionary forces, and in a revolutionary collective. Therefore, in the creation of proletarian literature and art, we must follow the principle of giving prominence to the principal hero by using negative characters as a foil, by setting off the principal hero with other positive characters, by a judicious use of environment and atmosphere. The handling of negative characters and secondary characters often affects to a great extent the image of the principal hero. In his *On Contradiction* Chairman Mao teaches us that the secondary aspects of a contradiction "in certain conditions. . . in turn manifest themselves in the principal and decisive role." So long as we consciously apply this principle, the image of the principal hero can be made to shine, like a "bright moon against the clouds," in certain circumstances. On the contrary, if we go against this principle, if, for instance, we paint the negative characters in glowing colours, fall into the pit of "writing about middle characters" or go in for "claptrap," we shall dim, spoil or even blot out the brilliant image of the principal hero.

In dealing with this question, our experience tells us to pay attention to "three first places": Of all characters, give first place to the positive characters; of the positive characters, give first place to heroes; and of the heroes, give first place to the principal hero. Hence the arrangement of the characters, including both the positive and the negative characters, and the handling of the environment must be subordinated to this prerequisite — give first place to the principal hero. Now let us discuss this question from three aspects:

(1) Use negative characters as a foil to the principal hero. As Chairman Mao says, we "too, . . . portray negative characters, but this only serves as a contrast to bring out the brightness of the whole picture." A foil is a subordinate. Who is to place whom under subordination is a question of who is to exercise dictatorship over whom on the stage, a question of which class is to dominate the stage. Proletarian heroes should dominate our socialist stage at all times, while negative characters can only serve as foils to them. That is to say, when dealing with negative characters, we should start from what is required for creating the

role of the principal hero. In other words, if negative characters are given the same weight as positive characters or if they are given blustering and domineering parts, the result will be a reversal of history with ghosts and monsters ruling over the stage. Scene Six in the original script is a case in point. Here Vulture planted himself above all the others and dominated them, whereas Yang Tzu-jung was in a passive position, running after Vulture as his subsidiary. We have now reversed this reversal of history. In the first place, we have cut out those scenes in the original script which tend to boost the enemy's arrogance. We have shifted Vulture's seat from the centre of the stage to the side and made Vulture serve as a foil to Yang Tzu-jung from beginning to end. When Yang Tzu-jung makes his entry he enters triumphantly to the accompaniment of militant music and occupies the centre of the stage all the time. With the help of singing and dancing, Yang Tzu-jung is shown to hold the initiative with him at every turn and lead Vulture by the nose round and round the stage. When he presents the Contacts Map, Yang Tzu-jung stands on a higher plane while Vulture, followed by the other bandits, comes forward flipping the dust off his sleeves obsequiously to receive it. This alteration of the original script has punctured the arrogance of the bourgeoisie and heightened the morale of the proletariat. It has had strong repercussions. The masses of the revolutionary people rejoice over it. They say: "It's fine!" "It has indeed given the opera a complete transformation!" "We like it!" But the modern revisionists hate it, fear it and smart under it. They hysterically accuse us of "having completely ignored the laws of life and the rules of the stage." Now what are the "laws of life"? What are the "rules of the stage"? In a word, by the "laws of life" they mean "laws" for restoring capitalism and by the "rules of the stage" they mean "rules" for imposing the counter-revolutionary dictatorship of the bourgeoisie on the stage! Indeed, we have "completely ignored" such "laws" and "rules," and frankly speaking, we're going to smash them root and branch. That we have demolished the "rules of the stage" on which the exploiting classes reigned supreme before is indeed a tremendous victory for the proletarian revolution in literature and art.

(2) Use other positive characters to set off the principal hero. The relationship between the principal hero and the other positive characters is one of dialectical unity too. While the principal hero is one of the class and one of the masses, he is at the same time the representative of his class and the masses. The masses are the basis from which the hero springs, and the hero sets an example for the masses. It is only from a heroic collective that a great hero emerges. Therefore, in portraying the principal hero, while we must not alienate him from the masses we must, however, make him stand head and shoulders above the masses. When we create a heroic image towering above the ordinary positive characters, we must also create a group of heroes who form the basis of the principal hero's existence and on whom the principal hero exerts his influence. However, the two must not be of one and

the same stature. When portraying the ordinary positive characters we must give the principal hero primary consideration. Such portrayals must set off the principal hero with ordinary positive characters, who are not allowed to steal his show. On the other hand, we should on no account belittle the masses in order to show off the principal hero as a "superman," "a crane among a brood of chickens." For instance, in the 1967 version of Scene One of *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, the curtain fell on Shao Chien-po instead of Yang Tzu-jung, who had made his exit and therefore left the audience with a rather hazy impression. Now in the revised version the curtain falls on a group pose with Yang Tzu-jung in the centre, a red flower set off by green leaves. Here, standing in bold relief among the heroes of the pursuit detachment, Yang Tzu-jung impresses the audience as a figure at once ordinary and lofty from the very beginning of the opera. Again, for instance, hero Yang Tzu-jung's influence among the masses is vividly and forcefully set off by Hunter Chang and Chang Pao in Scene Three. Scene Four is the most typical example in which Yang Tzu-jung is set off by other characters. Here the newly added Party branch committee meeting and the democratic meeting stress the fact that Yang Tzu-jung draws inexhaustible strength from the Party leadership and his comrades-in-arms. The relevant arias and dialogue by Shao Chien-po and Shen Teh-hua tell Yang Tzu-jung's life story and describe his class basis and political qualities as well as the complete confidence placed in him by the Party and the masses. Moreover, in the scene "Advancing in Victory," in "skiing" and "fighting," we have designed a completely new set of dances based on real life, while drawing on some traditional dance forms to portray the high-spirited and militant heroes of the pursuit detachment, the mass basis of Yang Tzu-jung's "firm determination and great strength." All this serves to show convincingly that although Yang Tzu-jung is by himself carrying on the fight in the enemy's lair, he feels that millions of class brothers are by his side, their flaming hearts warming him and fortifying him with boundless wisdom and courage. This is a very vivid embodiment of Chairman Mao's great thought on people's war.

(3) Make use of stage setting to bring the principal hero to the fore. The proper use of environment is an essential element in the portrayal of the principal hero. A successfully designed stage setting can do much good in revealing the innermost thoughts and feelings of the principal hero, while a poorly devised setting can weaken the effect or even do harm. Therefore, the presentation of environment, including decor, must serve the characters, the principal hero in particular. If we pass the characters by and concoct something out of thin air, if we pay attention to matter and not to man, we shall be taking the road of bourgeois aestheticism.

There has been a sharp struggle in this respect in *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*. For example, in the original script before Yang Tzu-jung went into the

mountains, all the scenes in which the commander and fighters of the pursuit detachment appeared had as background drooping branches and gnarled tree trunks, which created a bleak and melancholy atmosphere utterly out of tune with the vigour, heroic spirit and fighting mood of Yang Tzu-jung and his comrades-in-arms. The stage setting we see now is completely different. Sturdy, towering trees form the background for Scenes One, Three, Four, Five and Nine. Especially in Scene Five, a forest of giant cloud-touching pines pierced by shafts of sunlight and echoing with the "spirit soaring" singing expressively and vigorously heightens the dashing and firm, staunch and fearless, heroic personality of Yang Tzu-jung. The stage setting for Scene Eight is a still more typical example. In the original script Yang Tzu-jung was cooped up in a dark narrow cave, which gave one the feeling of frustration and helplessness. This of course was in full accord with the narrow-minded, humdrum and vulgar "ideal person" intended by the writers of the original script. It is obviously incompatible with the character of the hero we want to create, his largeness of mind and absolute fearlessness. Following Comrade Chiang Ching's instructions, we therefore criticized this erroneous tendency and have made a thorough change in the environment and atmosphere of Scene Eight. Yang Tzu-jung now stands firm like a green pine in the snow on a broad majestic mountain-top against a background of rugged peaks and a sky lighted up by the morning glow, and there rolls out that magnificent aria. When he reaches the line "standing in the cold and melting the ice and snow, I've the morning sun in my heart," the sun-rays burst through multi-coloured clouds like a thousand spears to crimson the towering peaks. The splendid picture, coupled with the melody of "The East is red, the sun rises," forcefully symbolizes the lofty spiritual world of Yang Tzu-jung who "has the morning sun in my heart."

### **Cherish and Defend Model Revolutionary Theatrical Works**

Chairman Mao teaches us: "The imperialists and domestic reactionaries will certainly not take their defeat lying down and they will struggle to the last ditch. After there is peace and order throughout the country, they will still engage in sabotage and create disturbances in various ways and will try every day and every minute to stage a come-back. This is inevitable and beyond all doubt, and under no circumstances must we relax our vigilance." In the course of creating *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, we have come to realize most profoundly that model revolutionary theatrical works were born and matured in the life-and-death struggle between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines and that the images of proletarian heroes were created in this struggle which bristled with difficulties and twists and turns. Since we set ourselves the task of creating model revolutionary theatrical works, the class enemies have carried on their attack and sabotage without let-up. In different situations, the struggle took

on different characteristics, and different tactics were used. When we began to create the images of heroes, they tried in vain to strangle the model revolutionary theatrical works at their birth. When these heroic images had established themselves on the stage, they adopted the tactic of "stealing the beams and pillars and replacing them with rotten timbers," trying in a thousand and one ways to distort and defame the proletarian heroes. When the heroic images we created became more mature, they fell back on a still more cunning tactic: pretending to "love model theatrical works" while viciously trying to wreck them behind the scenes. Some tried to undermine our morale with the sugar-coated bullets of "flattery," "coaxing," etc., hoping for some modification or transmutation of these heroic images without our knowing it. There were charlatans who had the audacity to associate the heroes in the model revolutionary theatrical works with themselves or identify them as their relatives or friends, claiming preposterously that he or someone else was actually this or that character in a certain opera. They blew their own trumpets and were trying to cash in politically, but their purpose was to undermine the prestige of the model revolutionary theatrical works. Recently a person by the name Sun claimed that he was Shen Teh-hua in *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*. He was in all places, boasting and bragging and trying his utmost to besmirch the heroic images of the People's Liberation Army. He slandered the heroic fighters who fear neither hardship nor death as faint-hearted cowards who want to lick the chicken bones left by the enemy, and caricatured the P.L.A. commanders and fighters with high proletarian political consciousness as rascal-like mercenaries. In trying to discredit the P.L.A. and undermine the model revolutionary theatrical works he has betrayed himself as a downright political pickpocket. We are extremely indignant at this. We would like to advise all well-intentioned comrades not to be hook-winked by such persons but denounce them and clear away the poison they spread. We should all cherish, defend and consolidate the model revolutionary theatrical works with a high sense of political responsibility and revolutionary vigilance. As to the modern revisionists who mouth abuses about our model revolutionary theatrical works, they can only expose their weak, panic-stricken paper-tiger nature and prove that the model theatrical works have hit them at the vital spot. Model revolutionary theatrical works are our powerful ideological weapon for fighting imperialism and revisionism.

Looking back, the months and years were crowded; looking forward, we are filled with pride. Let us hold higher still the great red banner of Mao Tsetung Thought and advance courageously. We must quicken our ideological remoulding so as to create more brilliant images of proletarian heroes and establish them for ever on our socialist stage and screen in the service of the people of our country and the world.

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# Powerful Ideological Weapon in the Hands Of People's Fighters in Southeast Asia

**M**ANY revolutionaries and people's fighters valiantly carrying on revolutionary armed struggle on the vast lands of Southeast Asia are earnestly studying and applying invincible Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in the light of the concrete conditions of their own countries. They have come to realize in actual struggles that Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought is a powerful weapon for vanquishing the enemy.

## Serve the People

In a number of countries and regions in Southeast Asia, many fighters of the people's armed forces apply themselves diligently to the study of Chairman Mao's brilliant "three constantly read articles" — *Serve the People, In Memory of Norman Bethune, The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains* — in the course of arduous struggle. Carrying forward the revolutionary spirit of serving the people wholeheartedly and entirely, they plunge themselves into the heat of revolutionary armed struggle and give a good account of themselves in the fighting.

A fighter of the Laotian People's Liberation Army tackled his own thoughts as he studied *Serve the People*. Comrade Chang Szu-teh, he said with feeling, served the people wholeheartedly and entirely and in the end gave his life for the liberation cause of the Chinese people. "Like Chang Szu-teh, I'm from a poor man's family," he said. "I'll never forget that the imperialists and reactionaries have murdered my parents and my younger brother. I'll never forget the millions and millions of labouring people in Laos and the rest of the world who have not yet been emancipated." He told his leaders with determination: "I'll do any work assigned to me so long as it is in the service of the people."

Chairman Mao's *Serve the People* was the first lesson given to a group of newly enlisted fighters by a cadre of the people's armed forces in the jungles of North Kalimantan. Word by word, these new recruits studied Chairman Mao's teaching: "These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work entirely in the people's interests." They made up their mind to master Mao Tsetung Thought and bring about, by sweat and blood, a new revolutionary situation in North Kalimantan.

## Fight Courageously and Fear No Sacrifices

Since the fighters of the people's armed forces have been steadily studying and mastering Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, they now readily take on

with increasing courage the reactionary troops who enjoy a temporary superiority over them in both number and equipment. Intrepid before the enemy's bayonets and guns, they fear no sacrifices.

In an engagement in Nan Province, Northern Thailand, a young fighter of the Thai people's armed forces found himself surrounded by enemy troops. At that crucial moment he recalled Chairman Mao's teaching: "This army has an indomitable spirit and is determined to vanquish all enemies and never to yield. No matter what the difficulties and hardships, so long as a single man remains, he will fight on." With redoubled courage and turning to account the familiar terrain, he fought on stubbornly, killing or wounding over ten enemy soldiers, and then safely broke through the enemy encirclement. He said afterwards: "The brilliant thought of Chairman Mao gave me tremendous strength to overcome the difficulties and defeat the enemy."

In India, a guerrilla detachment commanded by a leading member of the peasants' revolutionary armed forces in Andhra State sprang a surprise attack on the enemy in the heart of the enemy-held areas. One night as he and the detachment were moving to a new point they ran into a band of reactionary armed police and were surrounded. The detachment leader calmly faced the enemy's guns and, with confidence in the victory of the revolution, loudly denounced the reactionary police officer. He said: "You cannot stop the advance of the revolution by murdering us. No power on earth can suppress the armed revolution of our people. The system of exploitation and oppression is doomed!" He died a martyr's death, and as he laid down his life heroically he shouted at the top of his voice: "Long live Chairman Mao!" "Long live the Indian revolution!" The enemy was struck dumb with terror. This gives full expression to the revolutionary spirit of the Indian people.

## Mobilize the Masses, Rely on the Masses

"The richest source of power to wage war lies in the masses of the people." So has Chairman Mao pointed out. Revolutionaries in a number of countries and regions in Southeast Asia have come to realize through their revolutionary practice that only by mobilizing the masses and relying on them to wage a people's war can they overthrow the reactionary rule of imperialism and its stooges in their countries.

A revolutionary fighting unit made up of 12 people operating actively in the Pallia area of Uttar Pradesh,



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## Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought Widely Disseminated Among Revolutionary People in North Kalimantan

THE *News Bulletin* in North Kalimantan recently published an article warmly hailing the extensive dissemination of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in North Kalimantan.

The article says: "The radiant red book, *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung*, which the broad revolutionary masses and comrades have longed to get, began to be distributed widely in North Kalimantan in July and August 1967. When the people got their long-awaited copies of *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung*, all of them were overjoyed and shouted with emotion: 'Long live Chairman Mao!' 'Long live Chairman Mao!' With ardour, they sang *Sailing the Seas Depends on the Helmsman* and *The East Is Red*. . . ."

The article points out: Despite the enemy's fascist reign of white terror, countless North Kalimantan revolutionaries have continued to follow Chairman Mao's teachings, steadfastly studied, worked and struggled and heroically counter-attacked the counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression campaigns" of the Indonesian and Malayan reactionaries.

"Whether it is in the cities or the villages," says the article, "many workers, peasants, students and fighters have obtained *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung* and *Selected Readings*

*From the Works of Mao Tsetung* translated and published in North Kalimantan. Mao Tsetung Thought study classes have been organized one after another in various places. . . . In the study classes they have studied and discussed, in accordance with the basic theses of Chairman Mao Tsetung, the social conditions in North Kalimantan, and various fundamental questions such as the nature, motive force, target, objective, and the means and future of the revolution in North Kalimantan. In the light of many complicated problems in the North Kalimantan revolutionary struggle, they studied Mao Tsetung Thought and used it to examine and sum up the struggle, thus continually enriching and deepening their knowledge and understanding of Mao Tsetung Thought."

The article says: "To further meet the demands of the broad masses for studying Mao Tsetung Thought, those concerned have since the beginning of this year reprinted large numbers of *Selected Readings From the Works of Mao Tsetung (A)* and *Selected Readings From the Works of Mao Tsetung (B)*, 'the three constantly read articles' and the pocket-size edition of *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung* under extremely difficult conditions. This is an important event in the history of the North Kalimantan revolution and the happiest news for the North Kalimantan people!"

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India, went deep into the countryside. There, applying Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, it conducted propaganda work among the masses, organized and armed them. By the beginning of this year, the area in which it carried out the revolutionary struggle had spread from the original 11 villages to 30, and its ranks had expanded, too. Members of this fighting unit said with profound understanding: "Once Mao Tsetung Thought is grasped by the masses of the people, it becomes a material force propelling the revolution forward."

The People's Liberation Army of Thailand has sent many armed propaganda teams to remote villages to conduct revolutionary propaganda. The masses of the peasantry, grasping the truth "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun", sent their dear ones to join the People's Liberation Army. In a village in Northern

Thailand, a 60-year-old peasant, after learning that the People's Liberation Army is an army fighting for the labouring masses, braved the rigours of travel going in search of the people's forces with his son. When at last they found them the old man earnestly asked that his son be allowed to join the army and fight for the revolution. His wish was gratified. The old man was very happy to know later that his son had since distinguished himself as a brave fighter in the army.

The Malayan National Liberation Army, also active in conducting propaganda work among the masses and organizing the masses, has won the support of the population in the rural areas.

### Strike at the Enemy With Flexible Tactics

In quite a few countries and regions in Southeast Asia, the people's revolutionary armed forces conscien-

tiously study and apply Chairman Mao's strategy and tactics on people's war in the course of battle.

The people's armed forces in West Kalimantan, Indonesia, which diligently study Chairman Mao's works employ flexible strategy and tactics in striking at the enemy. In one battle, by making a feint to the east but attacking in the west, they frequently inflicted losses on the enemy in a mountain area. They pinned down and tired out part of the Siliwangi Division, a so-called crack unit of the Suharto fascist military clique, and cut the enemy to pieces. After five days of continuous fighting, the people's armed forces executed a skilful disengagement action.

The strategy and tactics of people's war have also been used by the Burmese People's Army and guerrillas

to wipe out enemy effectives, deal heavy blows at the reactionary troops and smash time and again their counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" operations. A song singing the praises of Chairman Mao which is popular in the revolutionary base areas in Burma goes something like this:

*The radiant sunshine of Mao Tsetung Thought*

*Guides the world's people forward.*

*Firmly grasping Mao Tsetung Thought,*

*Workers of the world take up gun and sword.*

*Invincible and ever-victorious,*

*Mao Tsetung Thought generates splendour.*

## A DIRTY DEAL

by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator

SOVIET Foreign Minister Gromyko himself began talks on December 8 with the ambassador of the Brandt government of West Germany to the Soviet Union on the question of so-called "mutual renunciation of the use of force." This is a new step by the Soviet revisionist ruling clique to intensify collusion with West German militarism and further sell out the German people's sovereignty and interests. It is also part of the clique's criminal manoeuvring to divide up spheres of influence in Europe in its collusion and contention with U.S. imperialism.

The bargaining between Soviet revisionism and West Germany over the question of so-called "mutual renunciation of the use of force" is of long standing. Beginning in 1966, they have again and again issued statements and exchanged notes to strike a bargain, nevertheless, they have not been able to hold talks between them. Now, impatient to team up with West Germany, the Soviet revisionist ruling clique has given up the pre-condition it originally set forth, that is, West Germany should first of all recognize the German Democratic Republic as a sovereign state before negotiations take place. One Western news agency smugly remarked that the Soviet Union has dropped its "20-year-old policy." This act of the Soviet revisionist ruling clique once again exposes its flagrant betrayal of the interests of the German people.

Everyone knows that the German Democratic Republic and Poland lie between West Germany and the Soviet Union. If West Germany renounces the use

of force against the Soviet Union, it should first of all renounce the use of force against the German Democratic Republic. Now West Germany is not holding talks on this question with the German Democratic Republic first, but with the Soviet revisionist ruling clique instead. Openly ignoring the German Democratic Republic's sovereignty, the Brandt government tries to pose as the so-called "representative of the entire Germany" and sign an agreement concerning the German Democratic Republic by bypassing it. It was under such circumstances that the Soviet revisionist ruling clique brazenly accepted the West German proposal. What position does the clique want to put the German Democratic Republic in after all? Does this acting in place of others not eloquently show that the clique regards itself as the overlord and uses the sovereignty of an "allied country" as a stake in making a political deal? This is one more bare-faced manifestation of Soviet revisionist social-imperialism's notorious "theory of limited sovereignty."

In its eagerness to hold talks with West Germany, the Soviet revisionist ruling clique has also further betrayed the interests of the German people on the question of West Berlin in order to meet the needs of West Germany and the West. West Berlin lies in the territory of the German Democratic Republic and accordingly should belong to it. West Berlin has never belonged to West Germany and is not under its jurisdiction. However, the Soviet revisionist ruling clique has given in again and again on the West Berlin question. At first, it called for converting West Berlin into a

"demilitarized free city" on condition that the system of occupation of the city be abolished and the German Democratic Republic should recover complete sovereignty over entry and exit through the corridor to the city. The clique later changed this position and waived these conditions and merely proposed that West Berlin become an "independent political unit." Now it has ambiguously stated that West Berlin only has a so-called "special status." The Soviet revisionist ruling clique has even hinted that it would tacitly approve the claim that West Berlin belongs to West Germany. The first sign of this was the Soviet revisionists' acquiescence in the holding of the presidential election by the West German Bundestag in West Berlin last March.

In the face of such blatant treacherous activities on the part of the Soviet revisionists, it is time for those, who together with them have sent troops into Czechoslovakia and followed them in vilifying China for "colluding" with West German militarism, to wake up.

The Soviet revisionist ruling clique's treacherous activities have been carried out at a much quicker pace since the West German general elections in September. As soon as the Social Democratic Party's Brandt government of West Germany came to power, this clique began to laud it to the skies, saying that its policy shows "the turn to realism" and "contains positive factors." What are the facts? Except that it is more crafty and insidious, there is no essential difference between Brandt's "new Eastern policy" and the policy of his predecessors. In his "policy statement," Brandt talked glibly about his readiness to reach an "understanding with the East" and "eliminate the gap in the past," but at the same time, he openly clamoured that "the international recognition of the German Democratic Republic" by West Germany "is out of the question," and that the so-called "right to self-determination" of the "Germans" would never be renounced. To put it plainly, this means persisting in the militarist policy, insistence on annexation of the German Democratic Republic, and intensified infiltration and expansion into the East European countries. The prettifying of the Brandt government by the Soviet revisionist ruling clique is nothing but an effort to cover up its own criminal activities for closer collaboration with West German militarism and further betrayal of the interests of the German people.

While trying to woo West Germany at present with redoubled efforts and contending with U.S. imperialism for hegemony over Europe, Soviet revisionism is also trying to reach an agreement with the Western countries for maintaining the status quo in Europe, so as to stabilize its sphere of influence in Eastern Europe and strengthen its domination and enslavement of East European countries. U.S. imperialism is seizing this opportunity to put pressure on Soviet revisionism and

forcing it to make further concessions on the German and West Berlin issues in order to make it easier for U.S. imperialism and West German militarism to intensify their infiltration into East European countries and expand their force of aggression. Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism are bitterly contending over the question of Europe.

Imperialism and social-imperialism always rely on armed force to carry out aggression and expansion, and they will never "renounce" the use of force. Both are heightening arms expansion and war preparations. They have stationed large numbers of armed forces in many European countries. Soviet revisionism has sent troops to occupy Czechoslovakia and exercised military control over and made armed threats against other East European countries. Isn't this the use of force and the threat of force? The Western press recently revealed that the defence ministers' meeting of the U.S. imperialist-dominated NATO adopted secret documents, asserting that once war breaks out, tactical nuclear weapons would be used to strike first at military targets on the territories of Poland, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic. Isn't this also the use of force and the threat of force? Neither Soviet revisionism nor U.S. imperialism can bring "security" to Europe. Their collusion and contention can only bring the greatest harm to the people of various European countries. To gain their objectives, they have made a big fanfare about "ensuring European peace and security," but this is sheer humbug.

The great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out: "Working hand in glove, Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism have done so many foul and evil things that the revolutionary people the world over will not let them go unpunished. The people of all countries are rising. A new historical period of struggle against U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism has begun."

The Chinese people resolutely support the German people's struggle against West German militarism, resolutely support the East European people's struggle against Soviet revisionist social-imperialism, and resolutely support the European people's struggle against U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism. Germany belongs to the German people and Europe belongs to the European people. The destiny of Europe today is not decided by U.S. imperialism, Soviet revisionist social-imperialism or West German militarism, but by the proletariat and the broad masses of the revolutionary peoples of the different European countries. The criminal scheme of Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism to divide Europe up into spheres of influence in their collusion and contention with one another is bound to end in dismal failure.

(December 22, 1969)

# Soviet Government's Intensified Collusion With West German Militarism

**T**HE Soviet Government is speeding up the tempo of its collusion with West German militarism. More feverishly than ever, it is stopping at nothing in selling out the interests of the German and other European peoples.

To get out of its internal political and economic predicament and to deceive the broad masses of the working people in the country, the West German monopoly capitalist class staged the farce of changing horses in late October, that is, replacing the government of Kiesinger of the Christian Democratic Union with the government of Brandt of the Social Democratic Party, which likewise represents the interests of the West German monopoly capitalist class. The "policy statement" announced by the Brandt government after it came to power and its latest actions show that it continues to pursue the same old policies of out-and-out militarism and revanchism, with the only difference that it is more crafty and insidious in using counter-revolutionary dual tactics.

The Soviet Government, however, is trying its utmost to prettify, lavish praise on and curry favour with the newly formed Brandt government and has been eagerly fraternizing with it. In early October, soon after the West German Bundestag elections ended and an agreement on the formation of coalition government was reached between Brandt's Social Democratic Party and the Free Democratic Party, one of the Soviet leaders described the results of the elections as "a definite success of the democratic forces." He welcomed "the turn to realism" in West Germany's policy, saying that the Soviet Union "would be ready to respond to this in due manner." After Brandt was chosen chancellor, a Soviet leader immediately sent him a message of congratulations. The Soviet press carried Brandt's photograph and his brief biography along with reports and commentaries on his election. The West German news agency DPA said: "Such treatment of new Western government heads in the Soviet press is unusual." *Pravda* advertised that Brandt's advent to power "is a dividing line in West German political life." The director of TASS held that "a new stage has

begun" in the relations between the Soviet Union and West Germany.

Moreover, the Soviet Government has taken a completely undisguised treacherous position towards the Brandt government's wild revanchist attempts to annex the German Democratic Republic and West Berlin. In his "policy statement," Brandt brayed that "international recognition of the German Democratic Republic" by his government "is out of the question." He expressed his intention of "preventing any further alienation of the two parts of the German nation." He also bellowed that "the status of the city of (West) Berlin must remain untouched." The Soviet Government which always arrogates to itself the role of "defender" of the East European countries has kept silent on all such howling by West German militarism. Yet, again and again it has nauseatingly lauded the policy of the new West German Government as "positive" and "realistic" and called Brandt's "policy statement" a "peaceful declaration." The Soviet Government also has not uttered a single word against the successive visits to West Berlin by Brandt and other West German chieftains for provocations immediately after Brandt took office.

It is well known that West Berlin is on the territory of the German Democratic Republic and has never belonged to West Germany. But U.S. imperialism has all along maintained firm control over West Berlin, using it as an important base for subversion against and infiltration into the East European countries; whereas West German militarism with U.S. imperialist backing has always included the annexation of West Berlin as part of its expansionist plans. Over a long period of time, the Soviet Government has time and again retreated before U.S. imperialism and West German militarism on the question of the status of West Berlin in an attempt to use West Berlin as a stake in making dirty political deals with them. In 1958, it proposed turning West Berlin into "a demilitarized free city" on the condition of abolition of the occupation system of West Berlin and the recovery by the German

Democratic Republic of its complete sovereignty over the entry and exit through the West Berlin corridor. In 1962, it waived its past condition and merely declared that West Berlin was an "independent political unit." Not long ago, it made another retreat by vaguely referring to West Berlin as a "special political entity" in its note to the United States, Britain and France. The Soviet Government is also making a deal with the West on the issue of the West Berlin corridor. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko indicated at the meeting of the Supreme Soviet in July 1969 that he was prepared to discuss with the West "how to prevent complications associated with West Berlin." This was followed by a repeated exchange of notes between the Soviet Government on the one side and the United States, Britain and France on the other over this proposed deal. All this clearly shows that the Soviet Government has in fact taken an attitude of connivance and acquiescence in the aggressive designs of West German militarism to annex the German Democratic Republic, and, first of all, West Berlin. This is a flagrant betrayal of the interests of the German people.

The Soviet Government recently started negotiations with West Germany in Moscow on the question of the so-called "mutual renunciation of the use of force," with each side having its own ulterior motives. By holding such negotiations with the Soviet Union and some East European countries with which it has no common borders instead of with the German Democratic Republic which borders on it, West Germany aims at annexing the G.D.R. step by step and infiltrating into East European countries by means of bilateral talks with the Soviet Union and some other East European countries under the signboard of "mutual renunciation of the use of force." West Germany's designs were clearly exposed by the British paper *The Guardian* in a recent report, which said: "So far as Bonn is concerned, the real purpose of the talks with Moscow is to pave the tortuous path to a European peace settlement incorporating German reunification." The so-called "mutual renunciation of the use of force" is therefore an important means employed by West German militarism to push ahead with its revanchist policy. For its part, the Soviet Government has been amazingly active and eager to hold negotiations with West Germany. It has thrown aside West Germany's recognition of the German Democratic Republic as the prerequisite to "formal" negotiations with West Germany, and has gone out of its way to assign its Foreign Minister Gromyko to hold talks with the West German ambassador to the Soviet Union. Such treacherous actions by the Soviet Government have "surprised" even West German officials. One U.S. bourgeois news

agency report said with satisfaction that this means the Soviet Government has dropped its "20-year-old policy." A British bourgeois paper hailed it as "the success of Herr Willy Brandt's Eastern policy."

Since the Brandt government took office, the Soviet Union has also stepped up its economic collaboration with West Germany. Recently, it reached an agreement with West Germany under which the Soviet Union will supply West Germany with 3,000 million cubic metres of natural gas yearly. It was reported that this supply will continue for at least 20 years. The U.S. *International Herald Tribune* said that such a transaction was Soviet "support" for Brandt's policy. In addition, the Soviet Union has ordered 1.2 million metric tons of steel tubes from a West German export company. The Associated Press reported that "the transactions are among the biggest the Soviet Union has ever conducted with any Western country in recent years and mark a new high in Soviet-West German economic relations." According to a DPA report, a consortium of West German banks recently made an agreement with the Soviet Bank for Foreign Trade to loan the Soviet Union more than 1,000 million marks. The Soviet Union will use this loan to purchase the steel tubes to lay a gas line from Siberia to Western Europe. It is worth noting that this gas line will bypass the German Democratic Republic and reach West Germany via Czechoslovakia.

The Soviet Government's intensified collaboration with West Germany also reflects its contention with U.S. imperialism for spheres of influence in Europe. The Soviet Union has long considered Eastern Europe its own sphere of influence, but U.S. imperialism has been trying in every way to penetrate this region. West Germany is an important partner of U.S. imperialism in the latter's efforts to infiltrate into Eastern Europe. To "maintain" its position in Eastern Europe and stabilize its Western front, the Soviet Union, by selling out the interests of the people of the German Democratic Republic, hopes in vain to appease and woo West Germany, sow discord in the relations between West Germany and U.S. imperialism, disintegrate the NATO bloc and weaken the influence of U.S. imperialism in Europe. However, just as the great Lenin pointed out: "**Imperialism is becoming more arrogant every day and we find . . . beasts of prey more predatory. . . . They are plundering the world, fighting each other, and arming against each other. This cannot be concealed for long.**" The contention between social-imperialism and U.S. imperialism will serve to help the people in Europe and elsewhere in the world to see their ferocious features more clearly.

# ROUND THE WORLD

## Britain Forced to Agree To Dismantle Military Bases in Libya

Faced with strong pressure from the Libyan people and Government, the British Government was forced to agree on December 13 to the dismantling of its military bases in Libya.

Agreement between the two countries stipulated withdrawal of British troops and equipment from Libya on December 14 and its completion by the end of March 1970.

Since Libya's feudal monarchy was overthrown last September, the people and the new Government of Libya time and again have demanded that U.S. and British imperialism dismantle their military bases in Libya. Negotiations with the British began in Tripoli from December 8.

During the negotiations, Moamer Kazafi, Chairman of the Libyan Revolution Command Council and Commander-in-Chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, demanded that Britain immediately and unconditionally dismantle its bases in Libya. As an independent country, he said, Libya could not allow a part of its territory to remain under occupation by foreign troops. "Libya's freedom will always be deficient so long as foreign soldiers are on its territory," he added.

On the strength of the 1953 unequal treaty concluded with the former feudal monarchy, Britain had set up military bases in Tobruk and Darna, built airfields in El Adem and two other places, and set up barracks in Barka and Tripoli in order to carry out its imperialist policy in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. The El Adem air base serves as an important link in Britain's system of strategic air transport to the Far East.

To celebrate their great victory over British imperialism, the Libyan people staged a powerful demonstration in Tripoli on December 14. The demonstrators demanded that U.S. imperialism also quickly dismantle its Wheelus air base near the

capital. This pressure by the people and Government of Libya compelled the U.S. imperialists to start negotiations with the Libyan Government on the liquidation of the Wheelus air base. Reports said that on December 15, some 10,000 people demonstrated outside the Municipal Hall in Tripoli where the U.S. and Libyan Delegations were holding negotiations. They shouted slogans demanding that the United States dismantle the Wheelus air base. In his speech at the meeting, the Chairman of the Libyan Revolution Command Council and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces insisted that the United States immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Libya. He condemned the United States for using the Wheelus air base to train Israeli forces and as a springboard for aggression against Arab countries. Earlier in November, the Libyan Revolution Command Council had issued a decree nationalizing all foreign banks.

## Bitter Wrangling at Conference Of West European "Common Market" Six

A conference of the heads of government of the West European "Common Market" countries — France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg — took place in The Hague in early December to discuss the question of Britain's entry into the "Common Market." The hard bargaining at the conference made it clear that the contradictions and contentions within the Western imperialist bloc are being further aggravated against a background of the constant deepening of the general crisis of capitalism.

Set up in 1958, the West European "Common Market" is an instrument used by some West European countries whose strength had been expanding relatively in the fifties to compete jointly for markets and hegemony in Western Europe with U.S. and British imperialism whose strength had declined relatively.

Prompted by considerations for their own vital interests, the six "Common Market" countries have abolished among themselves tariffs on industrial products and introduced uniform prices on agricultural products within the group. This is a telling blow to the U.S. export trade which has all along taken Western Europe as one of its major markets.

Deep in political and economic crises, Britain has hoped in vain to preserve its "great power position" by relying on its "special relationship" with the United States. After its wishful thinking failed to materialize, Britain has again and again applied for "Common Market" membership in order to find a way out politically and economically by squeezing into continental West Europe. The United States fully supports Britain's entry into the "Common Market" because it wants to use Britain to safeguard its own interests in Western Europe and expand its influence there. Thus the attitude of the six countries towards Britain's entry not only directly reflects their clash of interests with Britain; it also shows to a considerable extent their attitude towards the United States.

France believes that Britain would speak for U.S. interests after its entry into the "Common Market" and that its entry would be unfavourable to France's contention for hegemony in Western Europe. That's why it vetoed Britain's application in 1963 and 1967. West Germany needs American support politically and militarily. It wants to win over Britain so as to enhance its own position in Western Europe and grab the British Commonwealth markets by relying on its own economic strength. Therefore, West Germany is throwing more and more weight behind Britain's entry. In this way, France and West Germany are locked in ever fiercer wrangling over this question.

At the recent six-nation summit conference, Britain's entry became the focus of quarrel once again. West German Chancellor Brandt even threatened that he would not return to Bonn if no positive agreement

was reached on this question. French President Pompidou insisted that arrangements for the six-nation group's "agricultural fund" should be definitively made before the end of 1969—a fund made up mainly from West German subsidies to French agricultural exports. He made this a prerequisite for considering the start of negotiations with Britain on its entry. A compromise finally was reached after heated bargaining. France promised that discussions will be held among the six nations to decide by the end of next June on a common stand with regard to the holding of negotiations with Britain, and then the six countries as an entity will

start negotiations with Britain. On their part, West Germany and other countries agreed to make a clear-cut decision on the "agricultural fund" before the end of the year.

Although the meeting arrived at certain agreement, the participants are still engaged in underhanded rivalries, trying in every possible way to lay pitfalls for their opponents. For instance, France does not want to fix a date for negotiations with Britain, resorting to delaying tactics instead. Even if negotiations begin, France can make the question drag on as long as it pleases so as to postpone the date of Britain's entry into the "Common

Market." Although West Germany and other countries have agreed to make arrangements on the "agricultural fund" by the end of the year, these will have to be approved by the parliaments of the six countries before they can be implemented. Should France continue to postpone the date of Britain's entry, West Germany may temporarily refuse to approve the arrangements, thereby turning them into a scrap of paper. For this reason, even some Western bourgeois journals had to admit that the road for Britain's entry into the "Common Market" will still be a long one, and that open and concealed struggles will continue within the six-nation group.

(Continued from p. 4.)

verge of extinction invariably conduct desperate struggles. They are bound to resort to military adventure and political deception in all their forms in order to save themselves from extinction." Suffering crushing defeats on the battlefield of Viet Nam, ferocious U.S. imperialism is stepping up its counter-revolutionary dual tactics in order to save itself from doom. Since his inauguration, Nixon, while talking glibly about "peace," has energetically carried out the "de-Americanization" of the war in Viet Nam, equipped and expanded the puppet troops and strengthened the puppet regime, trying hard to drag out and intensify the war of aggression against Viet Nam. Not long ago, Nixon again openly came out with the war outcry that he would take what he called "forcible and effective measures to deal with" the just struggle of the Vietnamese people, thus thoroughly revealing the criminal vain design of U.S. imperialism to perpetuate its forcible occupation of southern Viet Nam and the division of Viet Nam. Immediately after it was made, Nixon's bellicose speech was sternly repudiated and strongly condemned by the Vietnamese people and resolutely opposed by the revolutionary people of the world. The Chinese people and the Chinese People's Liberation Army firmly support the just stand

of the Vietnamese people. We are deeply convinced that holding aloft President Ho Chi Minh's banner of 'firm resolve to fight and win,' the heroic Vietnamese people and their army under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, persevering in protracted war, persevering in maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in their own hands, persevering in self-reliance and overcoming every difficulty on their road of advance, will certainly drive all the U.S. imperialists off Vietnamese soil and achieve the sacred goal of liberating the south, defending the north and proceeding to reunify their fatherland.

Wu Fa-hsien pointed out: At present, the revolutionary struggles of the people of various countries are vigorously surging forward, and the situation is excellent. U.S. imperialism and social-imperialism are beset with difficulties both at home and abroad and find themselves in an impasse. They are stepping up their mutual contention as well as their mutual collusion in a vain attempt to suppress the revolutionary struggles of the people of various countries, seek world domination and redivide the world. Suffering repeated setbacks in its policy of aggression in Asia, U.S. imperialism has recently again ganged up with the Sato government of Japan in hatching a big plot of aggression spearheaded against the people of various

Asian countries, in which the Japanese reactionaries serve as the shock troops. Social-imperialism is also actively wooing the Japanese Sato government and trying to use the military collaboration between the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries to oppose China, stamp out the flames of the Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, sabotage the reunification of Korea and undermine the revolutionary struggles of the people of various Asian countries. In face of the aggressive designs and war threats of U.S. imperialism and social-imperialism, the people of the whole world should heighten their vigilance, unite and make full preparations. If they dare to impose wars of aggression on the people of the world, the people of the world should use revolutionary war to eliminate wars of aggression and bury them completely."

In conclusion, Wu Fa-hsien said: Following Chairman Mao's teachings, the Chinese people and Chinese People's Liberation Army have always regarded the struggle of the Vietnamese people as their own struggle. Tempered by the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, the Chinese people and Chinese People's Liberation Army will, as always, firmly support the Vietnamese people in carrying through to the end their war against

U.S. aggression and for national salvation.”

Also present at the reception were Hsiao Ching-kuang, Vice-Minister of National Defence of the People's Republic of China, and leading members of the various general departments, services and arms of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the P.L.A. Peking units and Peking Garrison and the other departments concerned.

### Comrade E.F. Hill Arrives in Peking

At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Comrade E.F. Hill, Chairman of the Australian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist), and Com-

rade C.J. McCaffrey arrived in Peking by air on December 12.

They were welcomed at the airport by Comrade Kang Sheng, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Comrade Tsao Yi-ou, Member of the Party Central Committee, Comrade Kuo Yu-feng, Alternate Member of the Party Central Committee, and leading comrades of the departments concerned.

### Negotiations on Sino-Soviet Boundary Question Adjourned Temporarily

The Hsinhua News Agency reported on December 14 that the So-

viet Government Delegation to the negotiations on the Sino-Soviet boundary question informed the Chinese Government Delegation that V.V. Kuznetsov, head of the Soviet Government Delegation and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union, and V.A. Matrosov, deputy head of the delegation, had the need to leave Peking for about one week, in order to return to the Soviet Union to attend the session of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet. Thereby, the negotiations on the boundary question being held in Peking between the Chinese Government and the Soviet Government at the level of vice-minister of foreign affairs were adjourned temporarily.

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## IN THIS ISSUE

### THE WEEK

Cultural Revolution Group Under Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party Sponsors Soirees

### ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS

**Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou Send Message to President Nguyen Huu Tho**—Most warmly greeting the ninth anniversary of the founding of South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

**Comrades Hoxha, Lleshi and Shehu Send Message to Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou**—Expressing most heartfelt thanks for the warm greetings on the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Albania

**Comrade Lin Piao Sends Message Warmly Greeting 25th Anniversary of Founding of Vietnamese People's Army**

3	<b>It Is Essential to Grasp the "Four Goods" Firmly</b> — Editorial Department of <i>Jiefangjun Bao</i>	8
	<b>Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy</b> (October 1969 script)	12
	Strive to Create the Brilliant Images of Proletarian Heroes—the "Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy" Group of the Peking Opera Troupe of Shanghai	34
	Powerful Ideological Weapon in the Hands of People's Fighters in Southeast Asia	40
5	Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought Widely Disseminated Among Revolutionary People in North Kalimantan	41
	<b>A Dirty Deal</b> — <i>Renmin Ribao</i> Commentator	42
6	Soviet Government's Intensified Collusion With West German Militarism	44
	<b>ROUND THE WORLD</b>	46
7	<i>Peking Review</i> Subject Index (Nos. 27-52, 1969)	49

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# PEKING REVIEW SUBJECT INDEX

— Nos. 27-52, 1969

## I. Our Great Leader Chairman Mao and Mao Tsetung Thought

### 1. Chairman Mao and His Close Comrade-in-Arms Vice-Chairman Lin Piao: Receptions and Other Activities

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Warmly Celebrate Third Anniversary of Chairman Mao's Swim in the Yangtze	30 : 3
Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Approve Conferring Title of "Combat Hero" on Sun Yu-kuo and Nine Other Comrades	39 : 12
Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Receive Representatives From All Over China Attending the National Day Celebrations in Peking	42 : 7
Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Piao Receive P.L.A. Commanders and Fighters in Peking	42 : 8
<b>2. Quotations From Chairman Mao Tsetung (On Inside Front Cover)</b>	
The force at the core leading our cause forward is the Chinese Communist Party.	
The theoretical basis guiding our thinking is Marxism-Leninism.	27 : 5
The Chinese Communist Party is the core of leadership of the whole Chinese people. Without this core, the cause of socialism cannot be victorious.	27 : 5
The Party organization should be composed of the advanced elements of the proletariat; it should be a vigorous vanguard organization capable of leading the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in the fight against the class enemy.	27 : 5
Every Party branch must reconsolidate itself in the midst of the masses. This must be done with the participation of the masses	

and not merely a few Party members: it is necessary to have the masses outside the Party attend the meetings and give comments.

*Issue Page*  
*No. No.*

27 : 6

In the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, some tasks have not yet been fulfilled and they should now be carried on, for instance, the tasks of struggle-criticism-transformation.

27 : 6

Without the efforts of the Chinese Communist Party, without the Chinese Communists as the mainstay of the Chinese people, China can never achieve independence and liberation, or industrialization and the modernization of her agriculture.

28 : 2

Armed with Marxist-Leninist theory and ideology, the Communist Party of China has brought a new style of work to the Chinese people, a style of work which essentially entails integrating theory with practice, forging close links with the masses and practising self-criticism.

28 : 2

People of the whole world, unite still more closely and launch a sustained and vigorous offensive against our common enemy, U.S. imperialism, and against its accomplices! It can be said with certainty that the complete collapse of colonialism, imperialism and all systems of exploitation, and the complete emancipation of all the oppressed peoples and nations of the world are not far off.

28 : 2

Unite to win still greater victories.

29 : 2

42 : 2

The enemy rots with every passing day, while for us things are getting better daily.

29 : 2

46 : 2

It is man's social being that determines his thinking. Once the correct ideas characteristic of the advanced class are grasped by the masses, these ideas turn into a material force which changes society and changes the world.

29 : 2

42 : 2

45 : 2

47 : 2

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.		<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
They [die-hard] always get the opposite of what they want. They invariably start by doing others harm but end by ruining themselves.	29 : 2	I am for the slogan "fear neither hardship nor death."	32 : 3 33 : 2 35 : 2
Political work is the life-blood of all economic work.	30 : 2 44 : 2	Work meticulously. Meticulous care is necessary; to be careless will not do for that often leads to errors.	32 : 3
People say the Yangtze is a very big river, but actually, bigness is nothing to be afraid of. Isn't U.S. imperialism very big? But there wasn't much to U.S. imperialism once we stood up to it. So there are big things in the world which are actually not to be feared.	30 : 2	The raging tide of the people of the world against the U.S. aggressors is irresistible. Their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys will assuredly win still greater victories.	33 : 2 43 : 2 47 : 2
Working hand in glove, Soviet revisionism and U.S. imperialism have done so many foul and evil things that the revolutionary people the world over will not let them go unpunished. The people of all countries are rising. A new historical period of struggle against U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism has begun.	30 : 2 33 : 2 34 : 2 51-52 : 2	The Chinese people regard victory in the anti-imperialist struggle of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America as their own victory and give warm sympathy and support to all their anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggles.	34 : 2
The working class must exercise leadership in everything.	31 : 2	We will not attack unless we are attacked; if we are attacked, we will certainly counter-attack.	34 : 2
The proletariat must exercise all-round dictatorship over the bourgeoisie in the realm of the superstructure, including the various spheres of culture.	31 : 2	One of our current important tasks on the ideological front is to unfold criticism of revisionism.	35 : 2 36 : 2 44 : 2 50 : 2
To accomplish the proletarian revolution in education, it is essential to have working class leadership; the masses of workers must take part in this revolution and, in cooperation with Liberation Army fighters, form a revolutionary three-in-one combination with the activists among the students, teachers and workers in schools and colleges, who are determined to carry the proletarian revolution in education through to the end. The workers' propaganda teams should stay permanently in the schools and colleges, take part in all the tasks of struggle-criticism-transformation there and will always lead these institutions.	31 : 2	Make trouble, fail, make trouble again, fail again . . . till their doom; that is the logic of the imperialists and all reactionaries the world over in dealing with the people's cause, and they will never go against this logic. This is a Marxist law.	35 : 2 44 : 2
This army is powerful because all its members have a conscious discipline; they have come together and they fight not for the private interests of a few individuals or a narrow clique, but for the interests of the broad masses and of the whole nation. The sole purpose of this army is to stand firmly with the Chinese people and to serve them wholeheartedly.	32 : 3	By persevering in protracted war the Vietnamese people will surely drive the U.S. aggressors out of their country.	36 : 2
		Marxism can develop only through struggle, and not only is this true of the past and the present, it is necessarily true of the future as well.	36 : 2
		Going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism.	38 : 2
		With regard to the question of world war, there are but two possibilities: One is that the war will give rise to revolution and the other is that revolution will prevent the war.	38 : 2
		Socialist society covers a considerably long historical period. In the historical period of socialism, there are still classes, class con-	

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
traditions and class struggle, there is the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road, and there is the danger of capitalist restoration. We must recognize the protracted and complex nature of this struggle. We must heighten our vigilance. We must conduct socialist education. We must correctly understand and handle class contradictions and class struggle, distinguish the contradictions between ourselves and the enemy from those among the people and handle them correctly. Otherwise a socialist country like ours will turn into its opposite and degenerate, and a capitalist restoration will take place. From now on we must remind ourselves of this every year, every month and every day so that we can retain a rather sober understanding of this problem and have a Marxist-Leninist line.	39 : 2	total collapse, the imperialists have fallen inextricably into crisis. . . . 42 : 2
The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution is a powerful motive force for the development of the social productive forces in our country.	39 : 2	The 700 million Chinese people are powerful backing of the Vietnamese people; the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area. 43 : 2 51-52 : 2
We the Chinese nation have the spirit to fight the enemy to the last drop of our blood, the determination to recover our lost territory by our own efforts, and the ability to stand on our own feet in the family of nations.	39 : 2 43 : 2	Revolution means liberating the productive forces and promoting their growth. 43 : 2 Politics is the commander, the soul in everything. 44 : 2
The Chinese people will see that, once China's destiny is in the hands of the people, China, like the sun rising in the east, will illuminate every corner of the land with a brilliant flame, swiftly clean up the mire left by the reactionary government, heal the wounds of war and build a new, powerful and prosperous people's republic worthy of the name.	41 : 2	Class contradiction, the class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road exist throughout the transitional period. We shall go astray if we forget this fundamental theory and practice of our Party over the last dozen years or so. 45 : 2
The truth of Marxism-Leninism is on our side. So is the international proletariat. So are the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples. And so are the masses of people who constitute over 90 per cent of the world's population. We have friends all over the world.	41 : 2 47 : 2	All reactionary forces on the verge of extinction invariably conduct desperate struggles. They are bound to resort to military adventure and political deception in all their forms in order to save themselves from extinction. 45 : 2
Just because we have won victory, we must never relax our vigilance against the frenzied plots for revenge by the imperialists and their running dogs. Whoever relaxes vigilance will disarm himself politically and land himself in a passive position.	41 : 2	To lead means not only to decide general and specific policies but also to devise correct methods of work. Even with correct general and specific policies, troubles may still arise if methods of work are neglected. 46 : 2
The epoch we are living in is an epoch in which the imperialist system is heading for		By taking part in collective productive labour, the cadres maintain extensive, constant and close ties with the working people. This is a major measure of fundamental importance for a socialist system; it helps to overcome bureaucracy and to prevent revisionism and dogmatism. 46 : 2
		Every Communist must grasp the truth, "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." 46 : 2
		Liberate philosophy from the confines of the philosophers' lecture rooms and textbooks, and turn it into a sharp weapon in the hands of the masses. 47 : 2
		Referring to the comrades from the basic levels who were newly elected to the Central Committee, Chairman Mao exhorted us during the Ninth National Congress of the Party to "see to it that they do not divorce themselves from the masses or productive labour and that they must perform their duties." 48 : 2
		Going down to do manual labour gives vast numbers of cadres an excellent opportunity to study once again; this should be done by

all cadres except those who are old, weak, ill or disabled. Cadres at their posts should also go down in turn to do manual labour. 48 : 2

Let the Parties and peoples of China and Albania unite, let the Marxist-Leninists of all countries unite, let the revolutionary people of the whole world unite and overthrow imperialism, modern revisionism and the reactionaries of every country! A new world without imperialism, without capitalism and without any system of exploitation is certain to be built. 38 : 2  
48 : 2  
50 : 2

Revolutions and revolutionary wars are inevitable in class society, and without them it is impossible to accomplish any leap in social development and to overthrow the reactionary ruling classes and therefore impossible for the people to win political power. 48 : 2

The Parties and peoples of China and Albania have cemented a profound revolutionary friendship in socialist revolution and socialist construction and in the struggle against imperialism and modern revisionism. This friendship founded on the basis of Marxist-Leninist and proletarian internationalist principles is eternal and indestructible. 49 : 2

The revolutionary friendship between the peoples of China and Albania has stood the test of fierce international class struggles.

No matter what happens in the world, our two Parties and our two peoples will always be united, will always fight together and be victorious together. 49 : 2  
51-52 : 2

The time is not far off when all the aggressors in the world will be buried together with their running dogs. There is no escape for them. 49 : 2  
50 : 2

Break down foreign conventions and follow our own road in developing industry. 49 : 2

Weapons are an important factor in war, but not the decisive factor; it is people, not things, that are decisive. The contest of strength is not only a contest of military and economic power, but also a contest of human power and morale. Military and economic power is necessarily wielded by people. 50 : 2

All our literature and art are for the masses of the people, and in the first place for the workers, peasants and soldiers; they are created for the workers, peasants and soldiers and are for their use. 51-52 : 2

Ideological work and political work are the guarantee for accomplishing economic and technical work and serve the economic base. Ideology and politics are the commander, the soul in everything. Economic and technical work are bound to go wrong if we in the least slacken our ideological and political work. 51-52 : 2

### 3. Chairman Mao's Works

Chairman Mao's Military Writings Published in More Foreign Languages 32 : 27

Chairman Mao on Continuing the Revolution Under the Dictatorship of the Proletariat 39 : 3

World's Revolutionary People Enthusiastically Translate and Publish Chairman Mao's Works 40 : 31

### 4. Living Study and Application of Mao Tsetung Thought

Heroic Fighters Conquer Snow-Capped Mountains and Deserts 28 : 16

Continue the Revolution, For Ever Make Revolution 30 : 10

Closely Following Chairman Mao, Serving the People Heart and Soul — Valiant P.L.A. fighter Ning Hsueh-chin who fears neither hardship nor death 32 : 18

Yang Shui-tsai — Communist Fighter Who Feared Neither Hardship Nor Death 33 : 8

Serve the People With Utter Devotion 33 : 12

Using Materialist Dialectics to Cure Common Diseases 36 : 12

Pi Ying-lan — Good Daughter of the Communist Party 38 : 15

Shaoshan People Advance Boldly Along Revolutionary Road Pointed Out by Chairman Mao 40 : 38

Mao Tsetung Thought Lights Up the Tibetan Plateau 41 : 24

New High Tide in Mass Movement for Living Study and Application of Mao Tsetung Thought Throughout the Army 43 : 3

Valiant Army Station on Tangla Range Atop "Roof of the World" 45 : 12

Red Children Nurtured by Mao Tsetung Thought 45 : 14

Continuing the Revolution Under the Guidance of Mao Tsetung Thought — On profound

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
changes in mental outlook of members of Liuho "May 7" Cadre School	46 : 6
Turning Chairman Mao's Philosophical Thinking Into Sharp Weapon in Hands of Workers	46 : 10
Mao Tsetung Thought Guides Us in Conquering Nature	47 : 5
Workers, Peasants and Soldiers Study and Apply Philosophy	47 : 8
Infinite Might of Chairman Mao's Thinking on People's War	48 : 8
Chairman Mao's Military Thinking Is the Magic Weapon in Defeating the Enemy	49 : 18
Dialectics in Building a 10,000-Ton Freighter	50 : 15

### 5. Revolutionary People of the World Love Chairman Mao

Take the Road of Armed Struggle Pointed Out by Chairman Mao	32 : 30
Foreign Friends Acclaim Mao Tsetung Thought for Lighting Up the "Forbidden Zone" of Deaf-Mutes	33 : 20
Japanese People Praise Chairman Mao's Inscription for Pointing the Way for Their Revolution	39 : 25
"Mao Tsetung Thought Is Our Greatest Support"—Palestinian guerrillas ardently study Chairman Mao's works in the course of fighting	39 : 26
More Revolutionary Japanese People Study and Apply Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought	48 : 19
Powerful Ideological Weapon in the Hands of People's Fighters in Southeast Asia	51-52 : 40
Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought Widely Disseminated Among Revolutionary People in North Kalimantan	51-52 : 41

## II. Celebrating the 48th Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of China

Long Live the Communist Party of China—In commemoration of 48th anniversary of founding of Communist Party of China (Editorial by "Renmin Ribao," "Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao")	27 : 7
--	--------

December 26, 1969.

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Celebrating the 48th Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of China	28 : 3
Warm Revolutionary Greetings to the Glorious Communist Party of China (July 1 editorial of Albanian paper "Zeri i Popullit")	28 : 11

## III. Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China

### 1. Celebration Activities

Slogans for Celebration of 20th Anniversary of Founding of People's Republic of China	38 : 3
The Whole Nation Warmly Acclaims Publication of Slogans for Celebration of 20th Anniversary of Founding of People's Republic of China	39 : 37
Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Piao Join Peking Masses and Representatives From All Parts of China in Celebrating 20th Anniversary of Founding of People's Republic of China	40 : 7
Vice-Chairman Lin Piao's Speech at the Rally Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China	40 : 15
Speech by Premier Chou En-lai at the Reception Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China	40 : 17
Fight for the Further Consolidation of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat—In celebration of 20th anniversary of founding of People's Republic of China (Editorial by "Renmin Ribao," "Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao")	40 : 19
Warmly Welcoming Foreign Delegations Attending Celebrations of 20th Anniversary of Founding of the People's Republic of China	40 : 24
Full-Length Colour Documentary "Celebration of 20th Anniversary of Founding of Great People's Republic of China" Showing	51-52 : 3

### 2. Greetings

Albanian Party and State Leaders' Message of Greetings on Chinese National Day	41 : 16
--	---------

53

	Issue Page No. No.		Issue Page No. No.
Viet Nam Party and Government Leaders Send Message of Greetings on Chinese National Day	41 : 18	— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Germany (Marxist- Leninists)	44 : 21
Central Committee of South Viet Nam N.F.L., and Provisional Revolutionary Government of Republic of South Viet Nam Send Mes- sage of Greetings on Chinese National Day	41 : 19	— Greetings From Central Committee of Marxist-Leninist Party of Austria	44 : 22
Warm Greetings on 20th Anniversary of Founding of People's Republic of China		— Greetings From Organization of Swiss Communists	44 : 22
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Burma	42 : 22	— Greetings From Eastern Publishing House of Italy	44 : 22
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Thailand	42 : 23	— Greetings From Central Committee of Marxist-Leninist Party of Netherlands	44 : 22
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Malaya	42 : 23	— Greetings From Japanese Society for Studies of Mao Tsetung Thought	45 : 21
— Statement by V.G. Wilcox, General Se- cretary of Communist Party of New Zealand	42 : 25	— Greetings From Executive Committee of Communist Party of Spain (Marxist- Leninist)	45 : 21
— Greetings From E.F. Hill, Chairman of Communist Party of Australia (M-L)	42 : 26	— Greetings From Greek Marxist-Leninist Group	45 : 22
— Statement by Delegation of Central Com- mittee of Indonesian Communist Party	42 : 26	— Greetings From Norwegian Socialist Youth League (Marxist-Leninists)	45 : 23
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Poland	43 : 20	— Greetings From Austrian Revolutionary Workers' Association (Marxist-Leninists)	45 : 23
— Greetings From N. Sanmugathasan, Gen- eral Secretary of Ceylon Communist Party	43 : 21	— Greetings From Central Committee of League of Dutch Marxist-Leninists	45 : 24
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Brazil	43 : 21	— Greetings From Finnish Association of Helsinki Marxist-Leninists	45 : 24
— Greetings From National Secretariat of Communist Party of Bolivia	43 : 22	— Greetings From San Marino Marxist- Leninist Communist Movement	45 : 24
— Greetings From Chilean Revolutionary Communist Party	43 : 23	— Greetings From Yugoslav "Djuro Dja- kovic" Marxist-Leninists' Organization	45 : 24
— Greetings From Central Committee of Peruvian Communist Party	43 : 23	— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party of Belgium (Marxist- Leninist)	45 : 26
— Greetings From M. Rosen, Chairman of National Committee of U.S. Progressive Labor Party	43 : 24	— Greetings From Executive Committee of National Leadership of Communist Van- guard of Argentina	46 : 17
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist League (Marxist-Leninist) of Sweden	43 : 25	— Greetings From Political Leadership of French Journal "Ligne Rouge"	46 : 18
— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of Italy	43 : 26	— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of Belgium	46 : 19
— Greetings From Central Leading Body of Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of France	44 : 19	— Greetings From Greek Communist Party (Marxist-Leninists) Organizations Abroad	46 : 19
— Greetings From National Council of Japanese Communist Party (Left)	44 : 20	— Greetings From Central Committee of Communist League (Marxist-Leninist) of Denmark	46 : 20
		— Greetings From Yugoslav Organization of Marxist-Leninists	46 : 21

## IV. The Chinese People's Liberation Army

Issue Page  
No. No.

### 1. Celebrating Army Day

The People's Army Is Invincible—In commemoration of 42nd anniversary of founding of Chinese People's Liberation Army (Editorial by "Renmin Ribao," "Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao") 32 : 4

Ministry of National Defence Gives Reception: The 42nd Anniversary of Founding of Chinese People's Liberation Army Warmly Celebrated 32 : 7

—Speech by Chief of General Staff Huang Yung-sheng 32 : 7

### 2. Army Building

Chairman Mao's Line on Army Building—Beacon Guiding Our Victorious Advance 32 : 11

"Four-Good" Companies March With Big Strides Along the Road of Continued Revolution 32 : 14

Men Armed With Mao Tsetung Thought Are the Greatest Fighting Power 33 : 14

Advancing in the Direction Pointed Out by Chairman Mao—How young Red Guard fighters are tempered and grow up in the great school that is the Chinese People's Liberation Army 35 : 5

Long Live the Revolutionary Spirit of Fearing Neither Hardship Nor Death!—Stories about the diving squadron of Naval Unit 4005 of the Chinese People's Liberation Army 36 : 4

Always Giving Prominence to Proletarian Politics 44 : 11

Fly in the Blue Sky of the Motherland—The maturing of women fliers in an air force unit of the Chinese People's Liberation Army 48 : 12

It Is Essential to Grasp the "Four Goods" Firmly (Editorial Department of "Jiefangjun Bao") 51-52 : 8

### 3. Supporting the Army and Cherishing the People

Wang Ping-wen, Outstanding Communist in Defence of Chairman Mao's Revolutionary Line 27 : 10

If the Army and the People Are United as One, Who in the World Can Match Them? 32 : 21

Song of Victory Through Unity—Moving stories of unity among the army men and

civilians in the Chenpao Island area during their struggles 32 : 25

We Poor and Lower-Middle Peasants Have the Greatest Love for the People's Liberation Army 35 : 8

## V. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

### 1. General

Shanghai No. 17 Cotton Mill—"Red Bulwark" of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in Shanghai 27 : 12

Strengthening Revolutionary Unity to Win Still Greater Victories 30 : 13

The Class Struggle in China's Ideological Sphere 37 : 13

Never Forget the Dictatorship of the Proletariat—A fundamental question in the struggle between Marxism and revisionism 39 : 14

Cadres Should Persist in Taking Part in Collective Productive Labour 48 : 6

### 2. Revolutionary Committees

Three Strands of Rope Tightly Twisted Into One 29 : 11

Be a Vanguard in Continuing the Revolution—How a veteran cadre underwent a change in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution 45 : 5

Pay Attention to Methods of Work ("Renmin Ribao" editorial) 46 : 5

A Vanguard in the Revolution—On the outstanding deeds of Hsueh Yun-chung, P.L.A. regimental commander and chairman of Fengfeng Coal Mining Administration Revolutionary Committee 46 : 13

Chang Fu-kuei Returns to the Production Brigade 47 : 15

### 3. Party Consolidation and Party Building

A Party Branch Full of Vitality 28 : 8

### 4. Working Class Exercises Leadership in Struggle-Criticism-Transformation in the Superstructure

#### a. Revolutionary Mass Criticism and Repudiation

Politics Is in Command of Economics, Revolution Is in Command of Production 30 : 5

**Working-Class Leadership in Everything Is Fine — Refuting Soviet revisionist renegade clique for vilifying Chinese working class mounting political stage of struggle-criticism-transformation in the superstructure** 31 : 17

**Firmly Grasp Revolutionary Mass Criticism** (Editorial by "Renmin Ribao," "Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao") 35 : 3

**Comments on Stanislavsky's "System"** 36 : 7

**The Essence of "Theory of Productive Forces" Is to Oppose Proletarian Revolution** 38 : 5

**From Bernstein to Liu Shao-chi** 38 : 8

**A Big Poisonous Weed Advocating Capitalist Restoration on Behalf of Liu Shao-chi — A critique of the novel "Morning in Shanghai"** 44 : 14

**Doctrine of Trailing Behind at a Snail's Pace Is the Reactionary Philosophy of Slavish Compradors** 49 : 24

**Ghost of Confucius' Shop and Actual Class Struggle** 50 : 18

**The Decisive Factor in War Is People, Not Things** 50 : 22

**b. Revolution in Education**

**Anniversary of Entry of Working Class Into Realm of Superstructure — Hailing the tremendous achievements of China's first workers' and P.L.A. men's Mao Tsetung Thought propaganda team in Tsinghua University during the past year** 31 : 3

**Great Changes in Fudan University Under the Leadership of the Working Class** 33 : 16

**A Vanguard Fighter Who Dedicated His Life to the Proletarian Educational Revolution** 34 : 14

**c. Re-education of Intellectuals**

**Marching Forward With Big Strides Under the Leadership of the Working Class — The achievements of the revolutionary teachers and students of the Chungshan Medical College, Kwangchow, led by the workers' and P.L.A. men's Mao Tsetung Thought propaganda team, in receiving re-education by the poor and lower-middle peasants** 31 : 10

**Workers' and P.L.A. Men's Propaganda Team Mobilizes the Masses to Use Mao Tsetung Thought to Transform the Literary and Art Front** 31 : 13

**Honestly Receive Re-education by the Working Class** 31 : 15

**d. Medicine and Health**

**New Medical Triumphs: Mao Tsetung Thought Is the Source of Courage and Wisdom** 27 : 16

**Illuminated by Mao Tsetung Thought: Acupuncture Revitalized** 42 : 19

**5. Revolutionary Literature and Art**

**Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy** (October 1969 script) 51-52 : 12

**Strive to Create the Brilliant Images of Proletarian Heroes — Appreciations in creating the heroic images of Yang Tzu-jung and others** 51-52 : 34

**VI. The Economic and Scientific and Technological Fronts**

**1. New Nuclear Tests**

**China Victoriously Conducts a New Hydrogen Bomb Explosion, Successfully Conducts the First Underground Nuclear Test** 41 : 20

**Heavy Blow to Nuclear Monopoly of U.S. Imperialism and Social-Imperialism — Warm congratulations on China's successful new H-bomb explosion and its first underground nuclear test from Albania, Viet Nam, southern Viet Nam, Korea, Laos, C.P. of Burma, C.P. of Thailand, C.P. of Malaya, Australian C.P. (M-L), C.P. of Poland, Ceylon C.P., Italian C.P. (M-L)** 47 : 18

**2. Industry and Communications**

**Grasp Revolution and Promote Production** 28 : 14

**New Industrial Production Victories** 30 : 30

**Ranks of Engineering and Technical Personnel in Shanghai Machine Tools Plant Are Growing** 31 : 7

**China's Petroleum Industry Advances With Big Strides on the Road of Self-Reliance** 39 : 17

**Tremendous Development in China's Textile Industry** 39 : 19

**China Produces 15-Ton Tip Trucks for Mines** 39 : 36

**Socialist Revolutionary Emulation on the Iron and Steel Front** 39 : 38

**China's Iron and Steel Industry Advances Rapidly Along Chairman Mao's Proletarian Revolutionary Line** 40 : 32

**China's Machine-Building Industry Enters Another New Stage of Development** 40 : 34

**Socialist Revolutionary Emulation in Full Swing on Coal Front** 43 : 4

**China's Road of Socialist Industrialization** 43 : 7



	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
10,000-Ton Freighter Successfully Launched in Tientsin	43 : 37
Exploitation of Southern Kiangsu's Coalfields in High-Gear	45 : 29
Kiangsi Province Turns Out Large Numbers of Trucks	45 : 30
China's Longest Bridge Using Arch Ribs With Arched Top Flanges	46 : 30
Fengcheng County Builds Small Integrated Iron and Steel Enterprise	46 : 30
Shaoshan-Ching kang Mountains Highway Opened to Traffic	48 : 4
Developing China's Chemical Industry by Our Own Efforts	49 : 21
 <b>3. Agriculture</b>	
China Reaps Rich Wheat and Barley Harvest	28 : 13
Today's "Foolish Old Man" Nurtured by Mao Tsetung Thought	29 : 14
Wresting Land From the Sea	31 : 30
Alkaline Land Becomes Fertile Paddyfields	31 : 30
Blasting Hills to Construct a Lake	31 : 31
Tenghsien County's Rich Summer Harvest Reveals New Look in China's Countryside	34 : 21
China's Rich Harvest of Early Rice	35 : 22
Rich Crop of Spring Wheat in Heilungkiang Province	35 : 22
Big Livestock Increase in Sinkiang This Year	35 : 23
Hungchi Canal Completed in Linhsien County	36 : 26
Unite to Tame Rivers	36 : 27
Brilliance of Mao Tsetung Thought Lights Up a Cotton Area	39 : 22
Tibet Reaps Its 11th Consecutive Bumper Harvest	39 : 36
Large Numbers of Small Hydro-Power Stations Built in Kiangsi's Mountainous Areas	41 : 36
Closely Following Chairman Mao Means Victory	42 : 15
China's Great Success in Building Water Conservancy Projects for Farmland	43 : 17
Bringing About Mechanization on the Basis of Co-operation	45 : 9
China Continues Its Succession of Rich Harvests	48 : 10
Mao Tsetung Thought Is the Source of Strength — How Shansi's Tachai Brigade reaped eight successive excellent harvests	50 : 13

December 26, 1969

#### 4. Science and Technology

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
Shanghai Worker-Technicians Mature in Struggle	34 : 18
Outmoded Boilers Renovated by Shanghai Industrial Workers	36 : 26
China's First 125,000-kw. Steam Turbo-Generator With Inner Water-Cooled Stator and Rotor	40 : 35
Relying on Mao Tsetung Thought to Scale New Peaks of Science and Technology	41 : 21
First Electronic High-Speed Telegraph Receiver for Messages in Chinese Successfully Trial-Produced	41 : 34
China's First Rotating Oxygen Converter Goes Into Operation	41 : 34
4,000 H.P. Diesel Locomotive Trial-Produced in China	41 : 34
Chinese-Built 10,000-Ton-Class Dredger Launched	41 : 35
Paeon to Self-Reliance — On building China's first 125,000-kw. steam turbo-generating set with inner water-cooled stator and rotor	43 : 13
Vigorous Development of Electronics Industry in Shanghai	43 : 36
5,000-H.P. Diesel-Hydraulic Locomotive	43 : 37
China's First Completely Automatic Long-Distance Telephone Switching Equipment	43 : 38
China's First Self-Propelled Combine Harvester	45 : 29
Gold-Silver Printing Paste for Covers of "Selected Works of Mao Tsetung"	49 : 29
Another Big Pure Oxygen Top-Blow Converter Built	48 : 29
Automatic Universal Electrolytic Machine Tool	48 : 29
High-Grade Thin Paper for Special Industrial Use	48 : 29
June 26 Medical Instrument Successfully Produced	48 : 29

#### 5. Trade and Finance

Great Victory for Mao Tsetung Thought on Financial and Monetary Front	29 : 7
Overall and Sharp Reduction of Medicine Prices in China	40 : 37
Abundant Supplies on Flourishing Market	41 : 35
China's Autumn Export Commodities Fair Opens	43 : 5

57

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
China's 1969 Autumn Export Commodities Fair Closes	47 : 4
Advancing From Victory to Still Greater Victories — China's 1969 Autumn Export Commodities Fair	47 : 13

## VII. Other Domestic Subjects

Documentary on Ninth Party Congress Now Being Shown	27 : 31
Albanian Documentary "Warm Greetings" Being Shown Throughout China	27 : 31
Peking Rally Welcomes Huang Tien-ming and Chu Ching-jung Who Have Crossed Over to the Mainland	27 : 31
Foochow Armymen and Civilians Welcome Chou Chen-teh, Former Chiang Gang Platoon Leader, Who Has Crossed Over	38 : 30

## VIII. International

### I. International Communist Movement

Argentine People Will Take the Road of New Democratic Revolution (Excerpts from article published by "No Transar," organ of the Argentine Communist Vanguard)	27 : 20
Unite All Forces That Can Be United to Overthrow the Main Enemy (Excerpts from article by the Ecuadorian weekly "En Marcha" on the united front)	27 : 21
Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Founded	28 : 18
Political Resolution of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)	28 : 18
Comrade V.G. Wilcox Calls On All Members of Communist Party of New Zealand to Study Chairman Mao's Works	31 : 20
A United Front Against U.S. Imperialism and Soviet Revisionism Must Be Established (Comrade Hill's article denouncing Soviet revisionism for its crime of joining U.S. imperialism to oppose China)	31 : 22
Resolutely Take the Path of People's War Pointed Out by Chairman Mao (Report on the peasants' armed struggle by the Sriakulam District Committee of the Indian communist revolutionaries in Andhra Pradesh)	32 : 27
Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party Sends Message to Central Committee of Communist Party of Burma Most Warmly	

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
Greeting the 30th Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of Burma	34 : 3
March Forward Along the Road of "Winning the War and Seizing Political Power"! (Statement of Delegation of Central Committee of Communist Party of Burma on 30th anniversary of birth of Communist Party of Burma)	34 : 6
Oppose Counter-Revolutionary Violence With Revolutionary Violence (Call by Central Committee of Communist Party of Malaya to people of all nationalities of Malaya)	34 : 24
Comrade E.F. Hill Ends Visit to China	36 : 23
Give Prominence to Revolutionary Politics, Heighten Vigilance and Combat Revisionist Ideas (Charu Mazumdar, leader of Communist Party of India [Marxist-Leninist] issues call to Party members)	44 : 23
Delegation of Communist Party of Poland Concludes Visit in China	47 : 3
The Banner of the October Socialist Revolution Is Invincible — Re-seeing the films "Lenin in October" and "Lenin in 1918"	47 : 21
Develop Revolutionary War to Eliminate Aggressive War (Article by Charu Mazumdar)	48 : 18
French Marxist-Leninist Communists Delegation in Peking	50 : 4
Statement by Central Committee of Communist Party of Thailand on 27th Anniversary of Founding of the Party	50 : 24
"Voice of Malayan Revolution" Radio Inaugurated	50 : 25
Cultural Revolution Group Under Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party Sponsors Soirees — Entertaining leading comrades of fraternal Parties and Albanian comrades in Peking	51-52 : 3
Comrade E.F. Hill Arrives in Peking	51-52 : 48

### 2. Supporting the Albanian People's Struggle Against Imperialism and Revisionism

Comrade Lin Piao Sends Message to Comrade Beqir Balluku — Most warmly greeting 26th anniversary of founding of Albanian People's Army	29 : 3
Glorious Albanian People's Army Day Warmly Commemorated	29 : 26
Comrade Beqir Balluku Sends Message to Comrade Lin Piao — Most warmly greeting 42nd anniversary of founding of Chinese People's Liberation Army	32 : 9

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Albanian Party and Government Delegation Visits China After Attending Funeral of President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 28	Chinese Party and Government Delegation Visits Albania's Mao Tsetung Hydro-Power Station	50 : 9
Four Chinese Pamphlet Editions of Comrade Enver Hoxha's Writings Published	40 : 40	Comrades Hoxha, Lleshi and Shehu Send Message to Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou — Expressing most heartfelt thanks for the warm greetings on the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Albania	51-52 : 6
Political Bureau of Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Fetes Comrade Xhorxhi Robo, Albanian Ambassador to China	46 : 3		
Albanian People's Army Art Troupe Arrives in Peking	47 : 3	<b>3. Supporting the Vietnamese People in Carrying Their War Against U.S. Aggression and for National Salvation Through to the End</b>	
Albanian Ambassador to China Gives Reception: 20th Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between Albania and China Warmly Celebrated	48 : 3	Premier Chou En-lai Receives Minister Tran Buu Kiem	27 : 31
Long Live the Militant Friendship Between Chinese and Albanian Peoples — In celebration of 20th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Albania ("Renmin Ribao" editorial)	48 : 15	Ambassador Nguyen Van Quang Gives Reception in Honour of the Establishment of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam	29 : 27
Albania's Revolutionization Movement Develops More Deeply Over the Past Year	48 : 16	President Ho Chi Minh Issues Appeal Calling On the Armed Forces and People to Persist in the Resistance War	30 : 19
Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou Send Message to Comrades Hoxha, Lleshi and Shehu — Extending the warmest greetings on 25th anniversary of liberation of Albania	49 : 3	Provisional Revolutionary Government of Republic of South Viet Nam Issues Communique Reiterating Determination to Fight On	30 : 19
Chinese Party and Government Delegation Attends Celebrations in Tirana	49 : 4	Vietnamese Government Economic Delegation Visits China	34 : 36
Mass Rally, Military Review and Parade in Tirana: Grand Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Liberation of Albania	49 : 5	Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin, Premier Chou Warmly Greet 24th Anniversary of D.R.V.N. Independence	36 : 3
Marking 25th Anniversary of Albania's Liberation: Ambassador Robo Gives Grand Reception	49 : 8	Vietnamese Ambassador Gives National Day Reception	36 : 23
Grand Rallies in China's Major Cities: Warmly Celebrating Albanian People's Glorious Festival	49 : 12	Central Committee of Communist Party of China Sends Message of Condolences to Central Committee of Viet Nam Workers' Party on Passing Away of President Ho Chi Minh	37 : 3
Heroic People, Spectacular Victory — In celebration of 25th anniversary of liberation of Albania ("Renmin Ribao" editorial)	49 : 13	Special Communique on Passing Away of President Ho Chi Minh Issued by Central Committee of Viet Nam Workers' Party, National Assembly, Council of Ministers and Viet Nam Fatherland Front	37 : 4
Albania Scores Great Achievements in Its Socialist Industry and Agriculture	49 : 27	Chinese Communist Party Delegation Led by Comrade Chou En-lai Leaves for Hanoi to Tender Condolences on Passing Away of President Ho Chi Minh	37 : 6
Chinese Party and Government Delegation Home From Tirana	50 : 3	Chinese Communist Party Delegation Headed by Comrade Chou En-lai Pays Last Respects Before Portrait of President Ho Chi Minh	37 : 6
Exhibition on China's Successes in Socialist Construction Opens in Tirana	50 : 4		
Central Committee of Albanian Party of Labour and Council of Ministers Fete Chinese Party and Government Delegation	50 : 5		
— Comrade Mehmet Shehu's Speech	50 : 5		
— Comrade Li Hsien-nien's Speech	50 : 8		

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.		<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
Chinese Communist Party Delegation Holds Talks With Vietnamese Leaders	37 : 7	Acknowledgement by the D.R.V.N. Embassy in China	39 : 11
Chinese Communist Party Delegation Headed by Comrade Chou En-lai Returns to Peking	37 : 8	Agreement on Chinese Economic Aid to Viet Nam Signed	40 : 40
Message of Condolences From Standing Committee of National People's Congress of People's Republic of China to Standing Committee of National Assembly of Democratic Republic of Viet Nam	37 : 8	Vice-Chairman Tung Pi-wu Sends Message on Behalf of People's Republic of China to Comrades Ton Duc Thang and Nguyen Luong Bang Warmly Congratulating Them on Being Elected D.R.V.N. President and Vice-President	41 : 26
Message of Condolences From State Council of People's Republic of China to Council of Ministers of Democratic Republic of Viet Nam	37 : 9	D.R.V.N. Government Issues Statement on Nixon's Speech	41 : 26
Chou En-lai, Chen Po-ta, Kang Sheng and Other Comrades Tender Condolences at D.R.V.N. Embassy on Death of President Ho Chi Minh — In the name of the great leader Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Vice-Chairman Lin Piao, expressing, with boundless grief, condolences on the unfortunate death of President Ho Chi Minh	37 : 10	Provisional Revolutionary Government of Republic of South Viet Nam Issues Statement on Nixon's Speech	41 : 27
Peking Revolutionary Masses Express Condolences at D.R.V.N. Embassy	37 : 12	Warm Welcome to Comrades-in-Arms From South Viet Nam	41 : 37
Chinese Party and Government Delegation Goes to Hanoi to Attend Funeral of President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 10	Premier Chou En-lai Gives Banquet Warmly Welcoming President Nguyen Huu Tho on His Friendly Visit to China	42 : 11
Chinese Party, Government and Army Leaders Tender Condolences at D.R.V.N. Embassy in China on Unfortunate Death of President Ho Chi Minh (pictorial)	38 : 13	Communique on the Talks Between Premier Chou En-lai and President Nguyen Huu Tho (October 15, 1969)	43 : 6
Chinese Armymen and Civilians Mourn Death of President Ho Chi Minh, Great Leader of Vietnamese People	38 : 14	Communique on the Talks Between Premier Chou En-lai and Premier Pham Van Dong (October 25, 1969)	44 : 6
Order of State Council: China to Fly National Flag at Half Mast on September 9 in Mourning for President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 14	Premier Chou En-lai Gives Banquet in Honour of Premier Pham Van Dong's Visit to China	44 : 7
Appeals by Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee and Its Military Commission and High Command of Viet Nam People's Army Concerning Passing Away of President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 19	Statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on Nixon's Speech	46 : 22
Appeal by the South Viet Nam National Liberation Front, the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the Advisory Council to P.R.G. Concerning Passing Away of President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 20	Statement of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on Nixon's Speech	46 : 23
Will of President Ho Chi Minh	38 : 21	D.R.V.N. Military Attache in China Gives Army Day Reception	51-52 : 4
Vietnamese Party and Government Leaders Cable Chinese Party and Government Leaders	39 : 11	Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Lin and Premier Chou Send Message to President Nguyen Huu Tho — Most warmly greeting ninth anniversary of founding of South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation	51-52 : 5
		Comrade Lin Piao Sends Message Warmly Greeting 25th Anniversary of Founding of Vietnamese People's Army	51-52 : 7
		<b>4. China's Relations With Foreign Countries</b>	
		Warm Welcome to Pakistan Government Delegation Led by Air Marshal Nur Khan on Its Visit to China	29 : 4
		Iraqi Charge d'Affaires in Peking Gives National Day Reception	30 : 4

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
Air Marshal Nur Khan Concludes Visit to China	30 : 8	Zambian Embassy Gives Reception for Fifth Independence Anniversary	45 : 3
Chinese Medical Team Wins Deep Love of Yemeni People	30 : 17	Korean Charge d'Affaires ad Interim in Peking Gives Banquet	45 : 4
Heal the Wounded, Rescue the Dying, Practise Revolutionary Humanitarianism — Chinese medical team in Algeria	31 : 23	Cambodian Ambassador to China Gives Independence Day Reception	46 : 3
Chinese Delegation to Sino-Soviet Joint Commission for Navigation on Boundary Rivers Returns to Harbin	33 : 20	N.P.C. Standing Committee and State Council Send Message Greeting 52nd Anniversary of Great October Socialist Revolution	46 : 4
6th Anniversary of Congo (B) Revolution Celebrated	34 : 37	Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien Receives Iraqi Civil Aviation Delegation	46 : 4
Rumanian Ambassador Gives National Day Reception	36 : 23	Chinese Medical Team in the Yemen	46 : 26
Zambian Government Goodwill Mission Visits China	36 : 23	Chinese, Tanzanian, Zambian Governments Sign Supplementary Agreement on Construction of Tanzania-Zambia Railway	48 : 5
Chinese Trade Caravan in Pakistan	36 : 25	Seeds of Friendship — Chinese agricultural technicians help build rice and tobacco experimental station in Somalia	48 : 23
Rumanian Party and Government Delegation Stops Over in Peking	38 : 29	Statement of Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs — Expressing great indignation at U.S. imperialism's aggression against Cambodia	49 : 16
Korean Charge d'Affaires Gives National Day Reception	38 : 29	Mauritanian Ambassador to China Gives National Day Reception	49 : 17
Zambian Government Goodwill Mission Leaves China	38 : 29	Negotiations on Sino-Soviet Boundary Question Adjourned Temporarily	51-52 : 48
Fruit of Chinese-Congolese (B) Friendship	39 : 31		
Ceremony Marking the Handing Over of Textile Combine Built With Chinese Assistance for Congo (B)	39 : 33	<b>5. Exposing and Repudiating U.S. Imperialism and All Reaction</b>	
Premier Chou En-lai Gives Banquet Warmly Welcoming Prime Minister Raoul on His State Visit to China	41 : 5	Nixon's "Withdrawal" Plan — New Outright Swindle	27 : 32
Guinean Embassy in China Gives National Day Reception	41 : 37	Frustrated Nixon in Frantic Arms Drive for War	28 : 22
Premier Chou En-lai Sends Message of Greetings on Laotian Revolutionary Day	42 : 10	Mimicking His Master, Lackey Carries On the Tradition — Real nature of so-called "special relationship" advanced by Indian expansionists	28 : 28
China-Congo (B) Government Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement Signed	42 : 10	Nepal's Public Opinion Supports Bista in Condemning Indian Government's Expansionist Policy	28 : 29
Negotiations on Sino-Soviet Boundary Question Begin in Peking	43 : 4	Reactionary Sato Government Is Following Tojo's Old Road	29 : 24
Laotian Patriotic Front Delegation Visits China	43 : 5	Italy's Rumor Government Out	29 : 31
Friendship Fostered in Hard Struggle — Account of China's surveying and designing team which helps build the Tanzania-Zambia Railway	43 : 32	West German Militarist Forces Harbour Wild Ambitions	30 : 26
Chinese Government and Military Delegation Leaves for Algeria to Attend National Day Celebrations	45 : 3	Indian People in Abyss of Misery	31 : 29
Algerian Embassy Gives Reception Marking 15th Anniversary of Revolution	45 : 3	Countless U.S. Imperialist Crimes of Aggression Against the Philippines	32 : 32
		U.S. Imperialism Speeds Up Manufacture of Chemical and Germ Weapons	32 : 32

	Issue Page No. No.		Issue Page No. No.
Hsinhua News Agency Authorized to Refute Rumour	32 : 33	Heroic Chinese Air Force Unit Downs U.S. Imperialist Pilotless High-Altitude Military Reconnaissance Plane	45 : 17
U.S. Imperialism's Incurable Disease	33 : 25	The Hell With Nixon's "Reasonable Step"	45 : 27
"Sick Man of Europe": British Imperialism Rapidly Decaying and Declining	33 : 27	Indian Reactionaries: Factional Strife Boiling Over	45 : 28
In-Fighting Within Indian Ruling Circles: Dog Bites Dog	33 : 30	West German Mark Revaluation Cannot End West's Financial Crisis	46 : 24
France Compelled to Devalue Franc	34 : 35	U.S. Farm Production: "Over-Production" Crisis Worsening	46 : 29
U.S. Imperialist Economic Expansion and Plunder in Southeast Asia	35 : 14	U.S. Imperialism Becomes Ever More Isolated in Manipulating U.N. to Oppos. China	47 : 23
U.S. Imperialism's Aggressive Tentacles Stretching Into Indonesia	35 : 16	Nixon's Bellicose Speech Reveals His Ferocious Warmonger Features	47 : 25
Ruthless Plunder of the Philippines by U.S. Imperialism	35 : 17	Expose Nixon's Lies About "Peace"	47 : 26
U.S. Imperialism Increases Aggression and Control in Thailand	35 : 18	Japanese Reactionaries Feverishly Push Policy of Armaments Expansion and War Preparations	47 : 27
West German Ruling Circles Step Up Expansion Abroad	35 : 19	U.S. Imperialism in Unprecedented Difficulties at Home	48 : 24
U.S. Imperialist Chieftain Nixon: Spendthrift and Coward	35 : 21	Nixon-Sato Talks: U.S. and Japanese Reactionaries Step Up Military Collaboration	48 : 28
U.S. Imperialism Steps Up Ruthless Plunder and Exploitation of Latin American People	36 : 22	U.S.-Japanese Reactionaries' Criminal Designs ("Renmin Ribao" editorial)	49 : 14
Japanese Reactionaries' Pipe Dream	38 : 26	U.S.-Japanese Reactionaries' Criminal Design to Intensify Aggression in Asia Condemned	
Crushing Defeat for U.S. Imperialism in 20 Years of Rabid Anti-China Hostility	41 : 31	— D.R.V.N. Foreign Ministry Statement	50 : 26
Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Denounces U.S. Imperialism for Armed Provocations	42 : 10	— Commentary by Korean Paper "Rodong Sinmun"	50 : 27
U.S. Imperialism Is Rotting With Each Passing Day	42 : 29	Japanese Reactionaries Step Up Aggression and Expansion in China's Taiwan Province	50 : 27
Expose Nixon's Rapacious Nature	43 : 31	French Parliamentary Delegation Sneaks Into Taiwan for Collusion With Chiang Bandit Gang	50 : 28
U.S. Imperialist Aggression in Brazil: Turning the Amazon Area Into a Colony	43 : 35	U.S. Servicemen's Struggle Against Aggressive Wars	50 : 29
West German Monopoly Capital: Diverse Infiltration in Asia, Africa and Latin America	43 : 35	Britain Forced to Agree to Dismantle Military Bases in Libya	51-52 : 46
Heroic Chinese Air Force Downs U.S. Imperialist Pilotless High-Altitude Reconnaissance Plane	44 : 3	Bitter Wrangling at Conference of West European "Common Market" Six	51-52 : 46
Resolutely Wipe Out Any Enemy Who Dares to Intrude ("Renmin Ribao" and "Jiefangjun Bao" Commentator)	44 : 3		
U.S. Imperialist Spy Case Broken by Lanchow's Organs of Dictatorship	44 : 4		
Heighten Our Vigilance and Smash All Imperialist Plots of Sabotage ("Renmin Ribao" Commentator)	44 : 5		
U.S. Imperialism: New Plot to Stamp Out Palestinian People's Liberation Cause	44 : 29		

## 6. Exposing and Repudiating Social-Imperialism

"System of Collective Security in Asia"—Soviet Revisionism's Tattered Flag for Anti-China Military Alliance	27 : 22
Veil of "Internationalism" Cannot Cover Up New Tsars' Gangster Features	27 : 24

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.		<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
The New Tsars — Common Enemy of the People of All Nationalities in the Soviet Union	27 : 25	The Nation Angrily Condemns Soviet Revisionists' for Crime of Provoking New Bloody Incident	34 : 8
Soviet Agriculture Seriously Undermined	27 : 28	Soviet Revisionists' Monstrous Crimes in Twelve Months' Armed Invasion of Czechoslovakia	34 : 12
"Anti-Imperialist Warrior" Reduced to Size: Puny Clown Toadying to Imperialism	27 : 33	Soviet Revisionist Renegades' "Communist Christianity" Shows How Degenerate They Have Become	34 : 28
The Chinese Government Lodges Strong Protest With the Soviet Government — Against intrusion into Pacha Island	28 : 6	Soviet Revisionist Renegade Clique Is Biggest Exploiter and Oppressor of Central Asian and Kazak Peoples	34 : 31
Soviet Frontier Troops Flagrantly Intrude Into China's Territory the Pacha Island Area for Armed Provocation	28 : 6	Documentary "Chenpao Island Brooks No Violation" Showing in China	34 : 38
Sketch Map Showing Sino-Soviet Boundary Line in Area Around Chinese Territory Pacha Island	28 : 7	Documentary Film "Czechoslovak People Will Never Submit" Now Showing	34 : 39
Soviet Revisionist New Tsars Use "Aid" to Stretch Their Claws Into Asia, Africa and Latin America	28 : 24	Soviet Revisionists' Vile Exhibition: Counter-Revolutionary "Film Festival"	35 : 20
C.P.S.U. Turned Into Tool of Fascist Dictatorship by Soviet Revisionist Renegade Clique	28 : 27	The Aggressive Nature of Soviet Revisionism's "New Stage of Economic Integration"	36 : 16
Soviet Revisionist Anti-China Scoundrels Slap Their Own Faces	29 : 21	Acheson's New Disciples	36 : 19
Soviet Revisionists Intensify Colonial Rule and Feverishly Carry Out Arms Expansion and War Preparations in Mongolia	29 : 22	Tear Off the Wrappings From Soviet Revisionists' Theory of "Responsibility for Security"	36 : 20
Trap Is the Word for So-called Asian "Regional Economic Co-operation"	29 : 23	Another Step in New Tsars' Expansion in Asia — Expose expansionist essence of so-called "Asian collective security system"	37 : 18
India — A Vivid Specimen of How Soviet Revisionists Push Social-Imperialism	30 : 20	A Carbon Copy of the "Theory of Ultra-Imperialism"	39 : 28
The Ruining of Timber Resources in Soviet Union	30 : 24	Defeat of "Mechanization" by Revolutionization Is the Logic of History	39 : 34
Serious Unemployment Under Reactionary Soviet Revisionist Rule	31 : 27	Statement of the Government of the People's Republic of China — On Sino-Soviet Boundary Question (October 7, 1969)	41 : 3
Soviet Working People Hate the New Tsars	31 : 28	Document of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China — Refutation of the Soviet Government's statement of June 13, 1969 (October 8, 1969)	41 : 8
Soviet Revisionists' "Anti-Imperialist" Veil Ripped Off	31 : 29		
Soviet Revisionists Intensify Militarist Education at Home	32 : 33		
Chinese Government Lodges Strong Protest With Soviet Government — Against intrusion into Tiehliekti area	33 : 3		
Ugly Performance of Self-Exposure	33 : 4		
Soviet Troops Flagrantly Intrude Into China's Tiehliekti Area in Creating Incident of Bloodshed	33 : 7		
The New Tsars: Stepping Up Collaboration With All Reactionaries	33 : 29		
Chinese Government Lodges Strong Protest With Soviet Government — Against provocations in many parts of Sino-Soviet border in June and July	34 : 4		
		<b>7. Revolutionary Armed Struggles in Various Countries</b>	
		Palestinian Younger Generation Grows Up in Armed Struggle	29 : 18
		True Bastion of Iron — Stories about Arab people's support for Palestinian guerrillas	29 : 19
		Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and People Score Splendid Dry Season Victories	29 : 29
		Asian People's Revolutionary Armed Struggle Rages On	30 : 27
		Indian People's Armed Forces Are Growing Stronger in Battle	32 : 29

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Thai People's Armed Forces Growing in Strength	34 : 26
Battles in the Phetchabun Mountains — Stories about the revolutionary armed struggle of the Thai people	35 : 11
Burmese People's Armed Forces Growing Stronger in Struggle	36 : 14
Raging Armed Struggle of the People in Asia, Africa and Latin America	36 : 28
Hail Rising Revolutionary Storm of the Indian Peasants	38 : 23
Indian Peasant Armed Struggle Rages Like a Prairie Fire	38 : 25
People's Armed Struggle Surges Ahead in Southeast Asia	43 : 27
Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and People: Great Victory in Monsoon Season	43 : 34
India's Revolutionary Armed Struggle Surges Forward	44 : 26
Palestinian People's Armed Struggle and New Awakening of the Arab People	45 : 18
African People's Anti-Imperialist Armed Struggle Developing Day by Day	48 : 21
Excellent Situation in Dhofar Area Armed Struggle	49 : 29
 <b>8. Mass Movements on Five Continents</b>	
South Korean Students Take On Pak Jung Hi Clique	29 : 29
Rockefeller Gets the Boot Everywhere	29 : 30
Mounting Workers' Struggle in the United States	31 : 25
Coalminers' and Grape Pickers' Strikes	31 : 26
Afro-American Workers Launch Vigorous Offensive Against the Ruling Class	33 : 22
Asian People Strongly Rebuff Nixon	33 : 23
People's Movement Forges Ahead	33 : 30
Czechoslovak People Determined to Drive Soviet Revisionist Aggressor Troops Out of Their Country	34 : 10
Czechoslovak People's Struggle Against Soviet Revisionist Occupation Reached New Heights	35 : 10
Northern Ireland: Masses Take Up Arms Against British Rule	35 : 20
Arab People: Anti-U.S. Struggle in New High Tide	36 : 28
West German People: Oppose Neo-Nazi Party	36 : 28

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Let the Storm of the Czechoslovak People's Struggle Against Soviet Revisionism Rage On More Fiercely	37 : 21
Revolutionary Mass Struggles Surging in West Europe, North America and Oceania	41 : 28
Japanese Student Struggle Hits U.S.-Japanese Reactionaries Hard	43 : 29
The United States: Over a Million Demonstrate Against Aggressive War in Viet Nam	43 : 34
New Upsurge of Latin American People's Liberation Struggle	44 : 27
Japan: Hundreds of Thousands Hold Mammoth Anti-U.S. Demonstrations	44 : 30
Italy: Three Million Workers on Strike	45 : 28
Mammoth Demonstrations by American People Against War of Aggression in Viet Nam	47 : 29
People of Various Countries Condemn U.S. Imperialist Aggressors	47 : 30
Italy: General Strike by 20 Million Workers	48 : 27
France: Workers and Peasants' Struggle Surges Ahead	48 : 27

### **9. Imperialism, Revisionism and Reaction Collude and Contend With Each Other**

India's Reactionary Prime Minister Conspires in Japan	27 : 32
U.S.-Soviet Collaboration in Speeding Up Creation of "Middle East Munich"	30 : 23
Soviet Revisionist Chieftain Advocates Soviet-U.S. "Friendship"	30 : 28
Soviet Revisionism and U.S. Imperialism Step Up Global Counter-Revolutionary Collaboration	35 : 12
Red Cross Society of China Condemns International Red Cross Standing Commission for Serving U.S. Imperialist Scheme to Create "Two Chinas"	38 : 29
Intensified U.S.-Soviet Collaboration: Another Nuclear Swindle	44 : 30
Intensified U.S.-Soviet Collaboration Against China: Essence of So-called Preliminary Talks on "Strategic Arms Limitation"	46 : 28
Soviet-Japan Collusion Intensified: Soviet-Japanese Agreement on Aviation Talks	46 : 28
More Evidence of Stepped-Up Soviet-Japanese Collaboration	50 : 29
A Dirty Deal ("Renmin Ribao" Commentator)	51-52 : 42
Soviet Government's Intensified Collusion With West German Militarism	51-52 : 44