Valiantly Forge Ahead Along the Path of The Great October Revolution

TODAY is the 48th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Chinese people, together with the people of the Soviet Union and the whole world, warmly celebrate this great revolutionary festival.

A New Era in History of Mankind

The October Revolution is the greatest revolution in the history of mankind and has had the most far-reaching impact. In this revolution, the proletariat of Russia, uniting with the other working people and led by the great Lenin and the Bolshevik Party, toppled the rule of the landlord class and the bourgeoisie and established the world's first state under the dictatorship of the proletariat. As a result of this victory, the imperialist front was breached on one-sixth of the world's land mass and socialism began to be turned from an ideal into a reality. The victory shook imperialism's rear and greatly promoted the struggle of the oppressed nations for liberation. By linking this struggle directly with the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat, the victory opened up a revolutionary front against world imperialism. In this way, the October Revolution ushered in a new era in the history of mankind and marked a great turning-point in world history. Since then, the era has dawned in which capitalism and imperialism are heading for their doom while socialism and communism are advancing towards victory.

The Soviet people are a great, heroic people: they are the pioneers of the proletarian world revolution. Under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin and holding high the banner of the October Revolution, they overcame obstacles, pressed forward courageously, withstood severe tests of every kind and brought about earth-shaking achievements. After the victory of the October Revolution, they defeated the armed intervention of more than a dozen imperialist countries, quelled the armed rebellion of the domestic counter-revolutionaries and defended the fruits of the revolution. They smashed the sabotage activities of the Trotskyites, Zinovievites, Bukharinistes and other agents of the bourgeoisie, and carried out socialist industrialization and agricultural collectivization. During World War II, the Soviet people were the main force fighting against the fascists; they scored a tremendous victory in the anti-fascist war. In the postwar years, they worked staunchly in rehabilitating their country and developing construction. They are a great people with a glorious revolutionary tradition. No difficulties or obstacles can check their advance.

The Path of the October Revolution

The path of the October Revolution the Soviet people have blazed is a Marxist-Leninist path; it is the common path of the people of the world for the liquidation of capitalism and the march to socialism. Lenin pointed out that the basic characteristics of the October Revolution were of international significance and that there was “the historical inevitability of a repetition on an international scale” of what had taken place in Russia. The path of the October Revolution mirrors the law of historical development. The proletariat of any country must follow this path to carry their revolution to victory.

The path of the October Revolution is one of revolution by violence. Through armed uprising, the proletariat and other working people of Russia destroyed the old state machine, overthrew the rule of the exploiting classes and set up their own state power. Then they carried out three and a half years of revolutionary war in order to consolidate the political power which they had seized. As Lenin said: “In the October Revolution, revolutionary violence scored a brilliant success.” The history of the October Revolution and of the revolutions in other countries shows that the seizure of state power by force of arms is the central task and the supreme form of revolution. It is a universal law applicable to the revolution of all peoples. It is an inviolable truth.

The path of the October Revolution is the path of the dictatorship of the proletariat and of carrying the socialist revolution through to the end. The seizure of power by the proletariat is only the first step in the proletarian revolution. After seizing power, the proletariat must persist in the dictatorship of the proletariat, rely on the masses, use the state machine to suppress the class enemies' resistance and sabotage and carry the revolution forward unceasingly. It is necessary to carry the socialist revolution through to the end, not only on the economic front but also on the political and ideological fronts. Only thus can the socialist positions be consolidated, and only thus can
socialist construction be carried out, the restoration of capitalism prevented and conditions prepared for the transition to communism.

The path of the October Revolution is the path of proletarian internationalism. The proletarian revolution has always been an international cause. The victory of revolution in one or several countries in no way means the conclusion of the cause of the proletarian revolution. Countries which have won victory in their socialist revolution should, as Lenin always taught, be the bases for supporting the world revolution. They should do everything in their power to discharge their proletarian internationalist duty by resolutely and unconditionally supporting the revolutionary struggles of all oppressed peoples and oppressed nations and carrying the world revolution against imperialism through to the end.

Tremendous changes have taken place in the world in the 48 years since the victory of the October Revolution. The basic tenets of Marxism-Leninism embodied in the path of the October Revolution have shone with ever greater radiance. The people of the world have advanced from victory to victory in their struggle for world peace, national liberation, people's democracy and socialism. Whatever twists and turns there may be on the road forward, the East wind will prevail over the West wind, socialism will win and imperialism will perish. This is the general law of development of world history which no one can alter.

Class Struggle — Motive Force of Social Development

Marxism-Leninism has always held that class struggle is the motive force of social development and that class struggle alone can propel the wheel of history forward. This is true of each individual country and of the world as a whole. At present, with the deepening of the revolution, class struggle in the world arena is very complicated and sharp. In trying to save themselves from their doom, imperialism headed by the United States and the reactionaries of various countries are, to the best of their ability, making use of their counter-revolutionary double-dealing tactics to check the revolutionary tide. A great life-and-death struggle is going on between the international proletariat and the revolutionary people of the world on the one hand and U.S. imperialism and its lackeys on the other. The glorious historic mission of the international proletariat is to hold high the banner of Marxism-Leninism, the banner of the October Revolution and the banner of proletarian internationalism, and unite with all the forces that can be united to defeat U.S. imperialism and its flunkies and carry the revolution through to the end.

Why Modern Revisionism Must Be Opposed

To fulfill its historic mission, the international proletariat must wage a struggle against modern revisionism and modern dogmatism, which deviate from Marxism-Leninism. In particular, it must wage an uncompromising struggle against modern revisionism which is the main danger in the international communist movement at present. The emergence of modern revisionism is not a fortuitous phenomenon but a product of class struggle. As the 1957 Declaration said: "The existence of bourgeois influence is an internal source of revisionism, while surrender to imperialist pressure is its external source." The modern revisionists have betrayed Marxism-Leninism, the path of the October Revolution and proletarian internationalism.

It is imperative to oppose modern revisionism in order to defend the purity of Marxism-Leninism.

It is imperative to oppose modern revisionism in order to keep firmly to the path of the October Revolution.

It is imperative to oppose modern revisionism in order to make revolution and support the revolution.

It is imperative to oppose modern revisionism in order to oppose imperialism headed by the United States.

It is imperative to oppose modern revisionism in order to uphold the unity of the socialist camp and the international communist movement.

History has proved and will continue to prove that whoever betrays Marxism-Leninism, the path of the October Revolution and proletarian internationalism will sooner or later be discarded by the masses of the revolutionary people and become some wretched creature lamenting its dismal end in a corner.

The Chinese people, taught by the Chinese Communist Party and Comrade Mao Tse-tung, have always regarded the Chinese revolution as a continuation of the October Revolution. We always hold the great Soviet people in high esteem and look upon them as our close and reliable friends. The Chinese and Soviet peoples have supported, assisted and encouraged each other and forged a profound militant friendship in protracted revolutionary struggles. The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people have made consistent and untiring efforts for safeguarding the unity of the two Parties and the two countries. The relations between the two Parties and the two countries have been impaired in the past few years through no fault of ours. This is something which we do not wish to see happen, nor is it something which the Soviet people wish to see happen. Looking at the long course of history, we believe that the difficulties in Sino-Soviet relations are only an episode. The traditional friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples can stand the test of any storm and it is everlasting.

Let us valiantly forge ahead by holding still higher the banner of Marxism-Leninism, the banner of the October Revolution and the banner of proletarian internationalism!

("Renmin Ribao's" editorial of November 7.)