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Approve Conferring of Titles of
Honour on a Company and
Ten Martyrs of the P.L.A.**

**Grasp Revolution, Promote Production
And Win New Victories on the
Industrial Front**

"Renmin Ribao" editorial.

CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG'S LATEST INSTRUCTIONS

Serious attention must be paid to policy in the stage of struggle-criticism-transformation in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

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In making plans, it is essential to mobilize the masses and see to it that there is enough leeway.

Chairman Mao and Vice-Chairman Lin Piao Approve Conferring of Titles of Honour on a Company and Ten Martyrs of the P.L.A.

OUR most respected and beloved great leader Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Vice-Chairman Lin Piao have personally approved two orders issued separately by the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party conferring two titles of honour. The title "The Heroic Company Which Put Out a Raging Fire for the People" was conferred on the first company of a unit under the Heilungkiang Provincial Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army, and the title "Ten Heroes Boundlessly Loyal to Chairman Mao on the Szechuan-Tibet Transport Line" was conferred on Li Hsien-wen, deputy political instructor of the third battalion of a motor transport unit under the General Logistics Department of the People's Liberation Army, and nine other martyrs.

At the crucial moment in a big fire in a chemical plant on January 26, 1968, 17 comrades of the first company of a unit under the Heilungkiang Provincial Military Area Command, following our great leader Chairman Mao's teaching that "our duty is to hold ourselves responsible to the people," rushed out of their barracks. With the fearless spirit of revolutionary heroism, they plunged into a raging sea of flames. At the critical moment when a high explosive blew up, they dashed forward one after another and bravely fought the fire without thinking of themselves. Fourteen of the comrades were injured and the other three lost their lives. These commanders and fighters finally put out the fire after a tremendous battle. They defended the safety of the lives of the people and state property with their blood and lives. This fully showed the boundless loyalty of the commanders and fighters of the first company to the Party, to the people and to our great leader Chairman Mao.

The order of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Party calls on all P.L.A. commanders and fighters to learn from the first company's boundless loyalty to the Party, to the people and to our great leader Chairman Mao; to learn from their revolutionary heroism of "remaining steadfast when engulfed by raging flames, and never hesitating at the crucial moment of life or death" in the interests of the people; to learn from their lofty communist integrity of "rather take a step forward and die for the public interest than retreat half a step and survive for self-interest"; and to learn from their advanced experience of vigorously carrying out education in Chairman Mao's thinking and line on army building, carrying out deep-going revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation, and strengthening the work of revolutionizing the company.

To defend the frontiers and the great proletarian cultural revolution and to smash anti-China provocations by imperialism, revisionism and all reaction, Li Hsien-wen, deputy political instructor of the third battalion of a motor transport unit under the General Logistics Department, and nine other comrades, with boundless loyalty to our great leader Chairman Mao, valiantly carried out their tasks on the Szechuan-Tibet Plateau. They died heroically after putting up a dauntless fight in an exceptionally big landslide while performing their transport task to strengthen preparedness against war. (The heroic deeds of the ten martyrs are carried in our issue No. 14, 1968.) They "lived to fight in defence of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and laid down their lives for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line."

The order of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Party calls on all P.L.A. commanders and fighters to learn from the ten loyal martyrs' lofty qualities of being boundlessly loyal to our great leader Chairman Mao, to the great thought of Mao Tse-tung and to Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line; to learn from their spirit of revolutionary heroism of daring to charge forward in the interests of the people even in the face of landslides; and to learn from their basic experience in revolutionizing their thinking through the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought.

The orders call on all P.L.A. commanders and fighters to hold still higher the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, implement Chairman Mao's latest instructions in an all-round way, further deepen the mass movement for the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought, and make new contributions for the people in the great struggles to defend the country and to seize all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

Solemn meetings were recently held separately in Shenyang and Peking to confer the titles of honour — "The Heroic Company Which Put Out a Raging Fire for the People" and "Ten Heroes Boundlessly Loyal to Chairman Mao on the Szechuan-Tibet Transport Line." On behalf of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Party, Chiu Hui-tso, Deputy Chief of the General Staff and Head of the General Logistics Department of the P.L.A., and Chen Hsi-lien, a leading member of the P.L.A. units under the Shenyang Military Area Command, each read out the respective order conferring the title of honour and each presented a banner inscribed with the title of honour.

Grasp Revolution, Promote Production and Win New Victories on the Industrial Front

WITH tremendous mighty force, the great proletarian cultural revolution is pushing China's socialist construction forward at high speed. The swift dissemination of Mao Tse-tung's thought among the hundreds of millions of people and the deep-going development of the revolutionary mass movement for struggle-criticism-transformation have brought the enthusiasm of the masses of the people in revolution and production to an unprecedented height. Rich harvests have been reaped in agriculture in our country for several years in succession. Following the new victories in the great proletarian cultural revolution, many major cities and regions have witnessed planned and systematic new developments in industrial production. Their advent is faster than expected and their foundation is deeper than ever before. Many industrial and mining enterprises have set one new production record after another and outstripped their past peak production figures. The working class has successfully tackled many important technical items which the bourgeois reactionary technical authorities had for a long time failed to solve. The recent successful explosion of another hydrogen bomb marked a new leap forward in China's industrial production and science and technology. The Nanking Yangtse River Bridge designed and built by China itself has been completed and opened to traffic ahead of schedule. The petroleum industry has fulfilled its tasks set by the Third Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule. The total value of industrial output in the second half of 1968 increased by a big margin compared with that in the first half of the year. The technical revolution is advancing, bringing forth a host of new products, new techniques and new materials. The whole industrial front is seething with activity; reports of new successes keep pouring in and there is a flourishing and invigorating scene everywhere.

The excellent situation on the industrial and agricultural fronts has brought about an excellent situation on the financial and trade fronts. Prices are stable and the market is thriving. By the end of 1968, all national bonds had been paid off. China thus has become a powerful, independent socialist country in the world free of both domestic and foreign debts.

This is a great victory for the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung and for the great proletarian cultural revolution. It is a magnificent result of Chairman Mao's great policy of **"grasping revolution and promoting production and other work and preparedness against war."**

In 1969, we will continue to carry out the policy of **"grasping revolution and promoting production,"** give energetic leadership to the great mass movement on the industrial front, carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end and seize still greater victories in both revolution and production.

The relationship between revolution and production is always one between what commands and what is commanded. The excellent situation in production results from the excellent situation in revolution. We should put revolution in command and make it take the lead and promote production. In **grasping revolution and promoting production**, we should first of all grasp revolution, grasp class struggle, grasp mobilizing the masses and grasp implementing the various policies.

Chairman Mao has recently pointed out: **"Serious attention must be paid to policy in the stage of struggle-criticism-transformation in the great proletarian cultural revolution."** All factories, villages, schools and government organs must conscientiously carry out this latest instruction of Chairman Mao's.

Following Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, we should continue to consolidate and develop the revolutionary great alliance formed on the basis of different fields of work and trades, and consolidate and perfect the revolutionary three-in-one combination. We should carry on deep-going revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation to refute the reactionary revisionist theories spread on the economic front by the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi and the handful of other top capitalist roaders in the Party, and eliminate the pernicious influence of Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line. In those units where the task of purifying the class ranks is not yet completed, it is necessary to grasp the work firmly and do a good job of it, to carry out the proletarian policies formulated by Chairman Mao, unite with the broad masses, distinguish between the two different types of contradictions, **help more people through education and narrow the target of attack** and expose the handful of counter-revolutionaries who in their death-bed struggle vainly try to sabotage socialist production, undermine the great cultural revolution and incite the masses to fight among themselves. In units where the task of purifying the class ranks has been completed in the main, it is necessary to lose no time in fulfilling

the other tasks of struggle-criticism-transformation, including the consolidation and building of the Party, and continue to push the vigorous revolutionary mass movement ahead. Comrades working in the revolutionary committees should bear in mind Chairman Mao's teaching: **"Be concerned with the well-being of the masses, pay attention to methods of work,"** modestly learn from the masses and carry out deep-going, painstaking ideological-political work among them.

In the struggle to fulfil the tasks in each stage of struggle-criticism-transformation, leading comrades at all levels must do a good job of investigation and study, analyse the situation in an all-round way and be good at grasping typical examples — this should include two aspects: Summing up the advanced experience in struggle-criticism-transformation in good time and making determined efforts to tidy up the few units having **"big, difficult and long-standing"** problems. At the same time, they must pay attention to discovering, studying and carefully handling new questions of policy arising in the course of the movement and have a deep, firm and solid grasp on work. Only when we have grasped the revolution well and made certain that the proletarian policies are being carried out will it be possible to keep the leadership firmly in the hands of the proletariat and bring into full play the enthusiasm and creativeness of the working class and the masses.

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"The working class must exercise leadership in everything."** **"Trust the masses, rely on them and respect their initiative."** In our work in the cities, **"We must whole-heartedly rely on the working class, unite with the rest of the labouring masses, win over the intellectuals."** This is a fundamental line Chairman Mao set forth in his Report to the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, a line which has demonstrated great revolutionary force in the great proletarian cultural revolution. The revolutionary enthusiasm and creativeness of the working class and the masses of the people are inexhaustible; we must take into full account the tremendous creative power of the working class armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought. Chairman Mao incisively points out: **"The masses have a potentially inexhaustible enthusiasm for socialism."** It is our duty to continue to bring the masses' enthusiasm for socialism into play and develop it in an organized way. We should carry on the mass movement for the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought among the masses of workers, give prominence to proletarian politics, raise the political consciousness of the working class, repudiate and overcome the influence of bourgeois ideas on workers and promote the revolutionization of people's thinking. Engineering and technical personnel should be organized to take part in productive labour, to be re-educated by the working class and to integrate themselves with the masses of workers, who are ingenious, so as to give play to the role of the three-in-one combination of workers, technicians and leading cadres.

Changes of irrational rules and regulations should be made through mass discussions and after trying them out in typical cases.

We must conscientiously study Chairman Mao's series of basic ideas for guiding the socialist construction and integrate them with specific conditions in each department and unit. We should understand Chairman Mao's policy of **"grasping revolution and promoting production and other work and preparedness against war"** from the high plane of his great strategic concept **"be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people."** In organizing socialist production, we must proceed from the fact that our country has 700 million people, from the general principle for the development of the national economy, that is, **"take agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor,"** from the need of vigorously strengthening national defence and preparedness against natural disasters, and from serving the masses of working people in China and supporting the revolutionary people of the world. Chairman Mao teaches us: **"On what basis should our policy rest? It should rest on our own strength, and that means regeneration through one's own efforts."** Chairman Mao also points out: **"Of all things in the world, people are the most precious. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, as long as there are people, every kind of miracle can be performed."** It is our basic strategic principle to stand firmly on the basis of regeneration through our own efforts, bring the strength of the masses into full play and **organize the strength of the masses.** So long as we carry out this principle, we can mobilize the great strength of the 700 million Chinese people to the full and always remain invincible. Liu Shao-chi and the handful of other top capitalist roaders in the Party advocated a series of counter-revolutionary revisionist fallacies, such as the philosophy of servile dependence on foreigners for everything, **"relying on specialists to run the factories,"** **"putting vocational work first,"** **"putting profits in command"** and **"material incentives."** The central point of these fallacies is to negate the strength of the masses, suppress the revolutionary masses and vainly try to restore capitalism, sell out China and turn it into a colony of imperialism and revisionism. The iron fist of the great proletarian cultural revolution has smashed this scheme.

We should, under a unified national plan, bring into full play the enthusiasm and creativeness of the masses and the initiative of the localities. We must ensure high quality in accomplishing the task of publishing Chairman Mao's works. We must carry out the policy of building our country and running enterprises through diligence and frugality, **practise frugality in carrying out revolution** and resolutely combat extravagance and waste. Great efforts should be made to strengthen the mining industry, strengthen industry's aid to agriculture and strengthen the communications and transport front. The policy of **"walking on two**

legs" must be carried out. While ensuring the fulfilment of the tasks of the country's capital construction, it is necessary to fully exploit the potentialities of the existing enterprises so as to raise the level of self-sufficiency in industry. Further efforts should be made to promote the technical revolution movement, bring the wisdom of the masses into play, storm the peaks of science and technology and make comprehensive use of resources and strive to "catch up with and surpass advanced world levels" in more fields.

Chairman Mao has recently pointed out, "In making plans, it is essential to mobilize the masses and see to it that there is enough leeway." This has been Chairman Mao's consistent teaching. We must give full play to the masses' enthusiasm and at the same time treasure it. We should keep the masses well informed, mobilize them to discuss the plans and tasks, find out the key points and work out measures; at the same time, enough leeway must be left so that the masses can reach and surpass the new production targets through active efforts and the mass movement can develop continuously and surge ahead with increasing vigour.

Our great leader Chairman Mao teaches us: "She [China] will have become a powerful socialist industrial country. And that is as it should be. China is a land with an area of 9,600,000 square kilometres and a population of 600 million people, and she ought to have

made a greater contribution to humanity." ["In Commemoration of Dr. Sun Yat-sen," November 1956.]

Tempered in the great proletarian cultural revolution in the past two years and more, the Chinese working class has greatly heightened its consciousness of class struggle and of the struggle between the two lines; it is filled with increased vigour and militancy. Boundlessly loyal to Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought and Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, the working class and the revolutionary masses are displaying their wisdom and creativeness to the full and scaling the peaks of world science and technology. Our socialist motherland is flourishing and daily becoming more prosperous, while U.S. imperialism, Soviet revisionism and all reaction in the world, badly battered and on their last legs, are in an impasse. Truly, "the landscape here is beyond compare." In this excellent situation, we should continue to display proletarian heroism and advance with even greater spirit!

Let us rally closely around the proletarian headquarters with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader, go all out, aim high, bring all positive factors into play and achieve greater, quicker, better and more economical results in pushing the socialist cause forward in all fields, and greet the Ninth National Congress of the great, glorious and correct Communist Party of China with new successes in revolution and production!

(*"Renmin Ribao"* editorial, February 21, 1969)

Nation's Armymen and Civilians Celebrate Revolutionized Spring Festival

Amid the high tide of the great struggle-criticism-transformation, China's armymen and civilians, filled with revolutionary vigour, celebrated a revolutionized Spring Festival. During the festival, they enthusiastically propagated Mao Tse-tung's thought, heartily sang the praise of our great leader Chairman Mao, contrasted the bitterness of the old society with the happiness of the new society and relentlessly repudiated the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi. Holding high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought and making energetic efforts to grasp revolution and promote production, they have made new contributions during the festival. The following reports will help our readers clearly see this revolutionary scene.

— "P.R." Ed.

P.L.A. Men Enthusiastically Propagate Mao Tse-tung's Thought

DURING the Spring Festival, commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army warmly propagated Mao Tse-tung's thought and further aroused the revolutionary masses' profound proletarian feeling

of boundless loyalty to our great leader Chairman Mao. Braving 30°C. below zero, the commanders and fighters of a P.L.A. cavalry unit stationed in the Kannan grasslands of Kansu Province mounted their horses, crossed the Yellow River and climbed over snowy mountains more than 3,900 metres above sea level to spread Mao Tse-tung's thought among the revolutionary masses of

the Tibetan nationality and give performances in praise of Chairman Mao. With tears in their eyes, the Tibetan revolutionary masses said: "Chairman Mao is dearest to us and *chingdrolmagmi* (meaning the Liberation Army) is kindest. You have brought Mao Tse-tung's thought to the grasslands, and it lights up the snow-capped mountains and grasslands!" When propagating Mao Tse-tung's thought among the poor herdsmen in their yurts, the P.L.A. men's Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda team of a frontier outpost in Inner Mongolia presented the herdsmen with portraits of our great leader Chairman Mao which they themselves had meticulously embroidered. With deep respect and admiration, the herdsmen hung these portraits up in the centre of their yurts and, together with the P.L.A. commanders and fighters, cheered: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to Chairman Mao!" On the eve of the Chinese lunar new year and during the festival, the 4th detachment of a P.L.A. unit stationed on Taohua Island, an outpost in the East China Sea, sent eight propaganda teams to every corner of the island, presenting portraits of Chairman Mao to the poor and lower-middle peasants and fishermen. Deeply moved upon receiving the portraits, the poor and lower-middle peasants said: "In the old society, the Spring Festival was like a barrier for the poor people to get over. It is our great saviour Chairman Mao who lifted us from the abyss of misery. Today our dear Chairman Mao sends our kith-and-kin, the People's Liberation Army men, to bring us the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung. Having won our emancipation, we will never forget Chairman Mao. Living a happy life, we will never forget the Communist Party." Improvising a song in praise of Chairman Mao, an old fisherman in his seventies sang: "The red sun rises in our fishing village. It lights up our hearts. We will always follow Chairman Mao in riding the waves. No force on earth can check our advance."

Revolutionary Workers and Staff Stay At Posts and Score New Successes

TEMPERED in the struggles of the great proletarian cultural revolution, the workers of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company stayed at their production posts day and night during the Spring Festival. They have creatively studied and applied Chairman Mao's works, mercilessly repudiated the towering crimes of the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi and his agents in pushing the counter-revolutionary revisionist line. With a militant and daring spirit, they have made big efforts to smelt more and better iron for the revolution. On February 17, the very first day of the Spring Festival, they set outstanding records in production.

In the revolutionary spirit of the "Constitution of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company," which was approved by Chairman Mao, the revolutionary workers and staff of the seamless tubing mill have carried out



technical innovations and technical revolution in a big way and unfolded the movement to compare, learn from, overtake and help each other. As a result, they overfulfilled ahead of time the February production quota for precision steel tubes during the Spring Festival.

In the past year, stirring and seething struggles in revolution took place at the Shanghai Oil Refinery and all-time high records in production were set. Through their own experience in struggle, the revolutionary workers and staff have gained a deep understanding that the revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation is a great impetus to production. On the first day of the Spring Festival, all the workshops vigorously repudiated the counter-revolutionary revisionist trash of the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi, such as the philosophy of "going at a snail's pace," "material incentives" and "relying on specialists to run the factories." This stimulated the workers' enthusiasm in grasping revolution and promoting production. Closely co-ordinating their efforts, the militant workers and staff achieved the stable operation of all refining equipment for continuous production and scored outstanding successes in production. The coking workers overfulfilled their daily production quota for petroleum coke by more than 10 per cent. The machine maintenance workers invented a machine which raised production efficiency 30 times.

Revolutionary Mass Criticism at "Rent Collection Courtyard"

ON February 17, the revolutionary masses in villages around the former manor of the big landlord Liu Wen-tsai in Taiyi County, Szechuan Province,

turned this manor into an arena for revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation. This was how they spent the first day of a revolutionized Spring Festival.

Wearing a shining badge of Chairman Mao on her chest, 68-year-old poor peasant Aunt Hsiao arrived early in the morning at the manor where she had once been savagely persecuted by the big landlord Liu Wen-tsai. Seeing this hell for the poor in the old days, she could not help recalling her bitter past. With tears in her eyes, she denounced the towering crimes of Liu Wen-tsai before the revolutionary masses. Before liberation, Aunt Hsiao was forced to work in the manor as a wet nurse and suffered untold sufferings because her family owed Liu Wen-tsai rents in grain. At that time, she had to hold back her tears and give her milk to fatten Liu Wen-tsai and one of his concubines, while her own baby died of hunger 17 days after birth. Her husband also died as a result of anger and grievance. And the inhuman Liu Wen-tsai flogged her black and blue and threw her into his dungeon. Suffering beyond endurance, she finally fled this hell on earth and went begging with her little daughter. With deep emotion, Aunt Hsiao said: "I begged everywhere. It was not until our great saviour Chairman Mao sent in our kith-and-kin, the People's Liberation Army, that I was saved from the depths of misery and returned to my native village. Dear Liberation Army men, you are my dearest kith-and-kin! Dear Chairman Mao, I will never forget your goodness and I will always be loyal to you!" The revolutionary masses were deeply moved by Aunt Hsiao's words. Shouts of "Long live the Liberation Army!" and "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to Chairman Mao!" resounded.

The old woman then told young people present: "Before liberation, I spent the first day of the Spring Festival begging in the streets. Today, the labouring people are leading a happy life under the leadership of Chairman Mao. We must never forget the miserable days of the past!"

Just as Aunt Hsiao finished speaking, elderly poor peasant Fu Shao-chou stood up to denounce Liu Wen-tsai for his crimes of driving his family to ruin by extorting exorbitant rent and usurious interests. Fu Shao-chou said angrily: "The theory of 'the dying out of class struggle' advocated by Liu Shao-chi is nothing but humbug. How can the class enemies be reconciled to their defeat! They are still engaging in disruptive activities to this day. That hatchetman of Liu Wen-tsai's who persecuted me was shielded by this sinister theory of Liu Shao-chi's after liberation. It was not until the present campaign to purify the class ranks that he was ferreted out by the masses." Pointing to a yard to one side of the "Rent Collection Courtyard," another elderly poor peasant, Liu Teh-shan, said: "That was originally the site of my house. Liu Wen-

tsai grabbed it to build his manor and my family was unable to eke out a living."

Taking Oath on a Mountain Where Martyrs Fought

THE 25 educated young people from Peking who have settled in the Tseli brigade of Kuanchuang commune in Tingshiang County, Shansi Province, spent a revolutionized and militant Spring Festival together with the local poor and lower-middle peasants. These young people had earlier urged those like them not to return to the cities for the festival.

To let the educated young people know that today's happiness did not come easily, the poor and lower-middle peasants of the Tseli brigade organized a special political camping activity for them together with the local militiamen in Hungchuan Mountain some 15 kilometres from the village on the eve of the festival. There veteran Communist Party members, veteran cadres and militiamen showed the young people the sites where the local Party organization under the leadership of Chairman Mao had led guerrilla forces in fighting the enemy heroically during the War of Resistance Against Japan and the War of Liberation. They told the young people of the magnificent deeds of the revolutionary martyrs who had fought courageously and died rather than yielded.

Standing where the fallen revolutionary heroes had once fought, the young people studied this teaching of Chairman Mao's: "**Thousands upon thousands of martyrs have heroically laid down their lives for the people; let us hold their banner high and march ahead along the path crimson with their blood!**" Then all together they took this oath: "We will carry forward the glorious tradition of our revolutionary forbears, inherit their revolutionary spirit, always remain loyal to Chairman Mao and closely follow Chairman Mao in making revolution!"

By their concrete actions, they made big efforts to carry out their proposal. At a meeting called by the Party branch on the evening of the lunar new year's day to implement Chairman Mao's great call to "**grasp revolution and promote production,**" they expressed their determination to earnestly and diligently study Mao Tse-tung's thought, receive re-education from the poor and lower-middle peasants and unswervingly take the road of integration with the workers and peasants. On the second day of the Spring Festival, they set out early in the morning and joined the poor and lower-middle peasants in making busy preparations for ploughing.

Militant Power of Revolutionary Public Opinion

by Chi Yang-wen

From a People's Liberation Army Unit

OUR great leader Chairman Mao has profoundly taught us: "Historical experience merits attention. A line or a viewpoint must be explained constantly and repeatedly. It won't do to explain them only to a few people; they must be made known to the broad revolutionary masses."

By studying this recent directive of Chairman Mao's we come to understand deeply how essential it is to create revolutionary public opinion in a big way and bring its mighty militant power into full play.

The political role of revolutionary public opinion is highly esteemed by our great leader Chairman Mao. Not only has he, with genius, given a series of penetrating elaborations on this in theory, but he has set for us the most brilliant example by great practice in revolution.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "To overthrow a political power, it is always necessary first of all to create public opinion, to do work in the ideological sphere. This is true for the revolutionary class as well as for the counter-revolutionary class." It is necessary for the proletariat and other working people to create revolutionary public opinion in a big way in order to overthrow the reactionary rule of the exploiting class and seize political power; and after seizing power, it is also necessary for them to wield the power of public opinion well, make full use of this tool and create revolutionary public opinion in a big way in order to consolidate the proletarian dictatorship and prevent the restoration of capitalism. Making revolutionary public opinion is an important fighting front in the general revolutionary front. Without revolutionary public opinion, there will be no revolution, nor will it be possible to seize the political power and consolidate and develop it. This is an important, historical law of the class struggle. It holds good universally, for China and for all other countries, past or present.

To create revolutionary public opinion in a big way means vigorously spreading Marxism, Leninism, Mao Tse-tung's thought, propagating Chairman Mao's pro-

letarian revolutionary line so that every directive of Chairman Mao and every militant order by the proletarian headquarters are swiftly disseminated among the broad revolutionary masses, so that the great thought of Mao Tse-tung and Chairman Mao's revolutionary line can be closely integrated with the struggle of the broad revolutionary masses.

The course of struggle in the great proletarian cultural revolution tells us: As soon as Chairman Mao's latest instructions or the militant orders issued by the proletarian headquarters with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader have been made known to the proletarian revolutionaries and the broad revolutionary masses and turned into their conscious action, an all-conquering, infinite power bursts forth. In certain places, some of the masses lost their orientation temporarily due to the undermining and sabotage by the renegades, enemy agents, diehard capitalist roaders and other counter-revolutionaries. However, when the voice of the proletarian headquarters reached the masses and struck deep roots among them and was made known to every household, the handful of class enemies immediately became isolated. Their underhand tactics failed and the situation with respect to the revolution took a swift turn for the better and became still better as time went on.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "There is no construction without destruction. Destruction means criticism and repudiation; it means revolution. It involves reasoning things out, which is construction. Put destruction first, and in the process you have construction." The essence of revolutionary public opinion is criticism, is struggle. To create revolutionary public opinion in a big way, it is necessary to criticize and repudiate counter-revolutionary revisionism and various trends of bourgeois ideology. In revolutionary mass criticism, we have used the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung as our weapon to destroy the counter-revolutionary revisionist ideas of the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi, thus spreading Mao Tse-tung's thought on an unprecedented scale among the masses. Henceforth,

we still have to use Mao Tse-tung's thought to struggle against revisionism, against erroneous Rightist ideas or ideas which are "Left" in form but Right in essence. Revolutionary mass criticism like this makes revolutionary public opinion fully play its militant role in consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and in preventing the restoration of capitalism.

Actually, the attitude towards creating revolutionary public opinion is the attitude towards the propagating of Mao Tse-tung's thought and Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. One of the important criteria for judging our level of consciousness in the struggle between the two lines is whether we have done the work of revolutionary public opinion well.

"To engage in polemics on paper is nothing important. It doesn't have much meaning." Work in creating public opinion is to engage in polemics on paper. Is it nothing important? No. To engage in polemics on paper means waging ideological struggle, creating public opinion. The positions occupied by bourgeois reactionary ideas must be and can only be attacked, destroyed, and occupied by proletarian ideology. A revolutionary fighter should be good both at using his gun in fighting and his pen in launching attacks. When he is attacked militarily or in words he should be able to fight back in the same way. Only thus can Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and the dictatorship of the proletariat be safeguarded. We revolutionary fighters should never belittle the role of the pen.

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"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."** When the broad revolutionary masses all get to create public opinion, to enthusiastically propagate and resolutely implement Chairman Mao's instructions and the mil-

itant orders issued by the proletarian headquarters, a lively and vigorous situation showing the powerful force of revolutionary public opinion will appear. Work in creating public opinion is certain to be in a dreary state if it is done not by mobilizing the masses boldly but by relying on a few people. Thus, it is the sacred duty of every revolutionary to make revolutionary public opinion in a big way.

If the proletariat does not occupy the positions of public opinion, the bourgeoisie surely will. The bourgeoisie always uses the positions of public opinion that it has held to spread reactionary, decadent bourgeois ideas to corrupt the masses and to attack the socialist system in a vain attempt to restore capitalism. In these circumstances, it is all the more important for the proletariat to create revolutionary public opinion in a big way in order to conquer the enemies without guns and to transform the world according to its own outlook. The proletariat has to firmly occupy the positions of public opinion, use the great thought of Mao Tse-tung to educate the masses and to make the thought of Mao Tse-tung the very being of the hundreds of millions of revolutionary people. Revolutionary public opinion should be used to attack the class enemies, to break down the counter-revolutionary propaganda in order to build a Great Wall of steel which can guard against and combat revisionism, and to consolidate and develop the dictatorship of the proletariat.

We should have a better grasp and make more effective use of the fighting art of creating revolutionary public opinion in a big way, a fighting art of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tse-tung's thought, to seize all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution under the brilliant command of our supreme commander Chairman Mao.

(Abridged translation of an article originally published in "Hongqi," No. 2, 1969.)

Repudiating a Reactionary Novel Advocating Liu Shao-chi's Renegade Philosophy

by Chi Hsiang-tung

Sun Chen (pen-name Hsueh Ke), a counter-revolutionary scoundrel, got out a reactionary novel *Militant Youth* in 1958. As soon as it was published, it immediately won the praise of the bourgeois headquarters headed by Liu Shao-chi. The book went through many printings, and favourable comments followed one another. It was adapted for the stage and a film script

based on it was written. Chou Yang, the ringleader of the sinister counter-revolutionary revisionist line in literature and art, smugly declared: *Militant Youth* "is excellent because it portrays the secretary of the district Party committee as a renegade."

Chou Yang's acclamation showed this book's essence in a negative way.

What is meant by their "excellent" is that it is "excellent" in feverishly advocating Liu Shao-chi's renegade philosophy.

Ode to a Renegade

The novel *Militant Youth* deals with the War of Resistance Against Japan on the central Hopei plains. One of its main characters, district Party committee secretary Hu Wen-yu, is a renegade.

Kneeling before the enemy for allowing him a despicable life, a renegade is a criminal to history, a mangy dog that wags its tail in asking pardon from the enemy at the cost of betraying the revolution and the comrades. In depicting a renegade from the proletarian stand, one must expose his base and vile soul, condemn his crimes of betraying the people and the revolution and repudiate the decadent renegade philosophy which puts survival above everything. But this novel is written in an entirely different manner. All the way through, the author flatters the renegade Hu Wen-yu with great gusto, shows infinite sympathy for him and apologizes for him in every way.

Born into a bourgeois family of a rich merchant, Hu Wen-yu lives the wastrel's life of a pampered son since childhood. Unsatisfied with his parents' marriage arrangements for him, he leaves home and later worms his way into the revolutionary ranks. Without undergoing any severe test, he is soon accepted into the Party and becomes secretary of a district Party committee. The novel does not make the slightest attempt to expose and repudiate such an intellectual, whose innermost soul is still a kingdom of the bourgeoisie. On the contrary, from his appearance to his thinking, it tries to glorify him in every possible way. Sun Chen's pen portrays Hu Wen-yu as one who "is bold, determined and very capable of doing any work," and "works with unusual vitality" as soon as he arrives in the district.

When he kills people, a pirate excuses himself with the logic of a pirate; a renegade also has his theory for defending himself. The arch renegade Liu Shao-chi once said: "A man representing the proletariat . . . really wanted to make revolution at the beginning, but he becomes a renegade afterwards." According to this logic, a renegade who once "represented the proletariat" only "becomes a renegade afterwards," so he naturally has both "merits" and "faults" and therefore is a forgivable man whose "merits offset his faults." Or he even is a "hero" who has "more merits than faults." What *Militant Youth* peddles is just this kind of trash advocated by Liu Shao-chi.

Our great leader Chairman Mao teaches us: "In class society everyone lives as a member of a particular class, and every kind of thinking, without exception, is stamped with the brand of a class."

In the eyes of the proletariat, renegades never have been true revolutionaries, but worms and opportunists

who sneaked into the revolutionary ranks. Kneeling before the enemy in order to live as a coward fully exposes their rotten souls and reactionary class essence. The purpose of Liu Shao-chi, Sun Chen and their like in glorifying the history of a renegade is to cover up their own crimes as renegades with the "merits" of the renegade, use "losing one's footing accidentally" to erase the class and ideological roots of their betrayal of the revolution, and whitewash their traitorous acts.

Apologist for a Renegade

Falling at the enemy's feet and betraying the revolution, one's comrades and one's soul, all to save one's own life — these are crimes that can never be forgiven. Yet the author of *Militant Youth* takes a renegade's stand and tries to sell "betrayal is justified" and loudly plumps for the philosophy of survival.

Here is how the novel describes Hu Wen-yu's betrayal. Arrested by puppet troops during the Japanese invaders' "mopping-up operation," he is greatly terrified when the enemy intimidates him, feeling "as if he saw his own blood-stained corpse," as if "he were really going to die." At the decisive moment of life or death, he "suddenly seizes the fountain pen, like a drowning man in the sea grabbing a life-buoy, and signs the confession" in the last minute of the enemy's time-limit.

It's "as if he saw his own blood-stained corpse"! Does this mean that to save one's head one can lose his revolutionary integrity and sell his own soul? This comes right from Liu Shao-chi's stockpile. Liu Shao-chi drivelled that a Communist should "love himself," "take good care of himself" and "protect his own life and health." In his eyes, oneself is everything and one's life is everything. The Party's interests, revolutionary principle and national dignity could all be sold provided "his own life and health" could be "protected." Liu Shao-chi's stock of the utterly shameless philosophy of survival is, in fact, talk from his own experience accumulated in a lifetime of betraying the revolution.

Sun Chen is quite capable of comprehending this kind of reactionary fallacy which apologizes for the renegades. Didn't Hu Wen-yu throw himself into the enemy's embrace precisely for "taking good care of himself" and "protecting his own life and health"? Liu Shao-chi and Sun Chen are shameless apologists for those shameless renegades.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "Wherever there is struggle there is sacrifice" and "when we die for the people it is a worthy death."

This is a warm tribute to the thousands upon thousands of revolutionary martyrs as well as a severe denunciation of those shameless renegades who thought survival came first and foremost. Bitter sacrifice strengthens bold resolve which dares to make sun and moon shine in new skies. In the glorious history of the Communist Party of China, there were thousands

upon thousands of revolutionary martyrs who bravely laid down their lives for the interests of the people. On the raging battlefield, they were courageous fighters daring to breach and storm the enemy citadel; in the pitch-dark prison of the enemy, they were men of unyielding integrity; at the execution ground, they were heroes who, far from turning pale or becoming faint-hearted, stared death fearlessly as the enemy threatened them with bayonets. They would have rather lost their lives and shed their blood than lose their revolutionary integrity. Their staunch revolutionary will and lofty revolutionary integrity are worthy examples for us to follow for ever.

Renegade's Reversal of Verdict

Since renegades surrender to the enemy, all their words and actions are inevitably tied in with the renegade's standpoint.

Yet Hu Wen-yu in *Militant Youth* is portrayed as a "unique" renegade. Though he surrenders to the enemy, he disagrees with it at heart while agreeing with it in appearance. He betrays the revolution, yet he feels regret at leaving it. He is no devoted and diehard follower of the enemy and he remorsefully criticizes his own degeneration and crime. Sun Chen is bent on portraying this shameless renegade as a "repentant" character with a "sense of shame." This is absolutely abominable!

Sun Chen does his utmost to disguise Hu Wen-yu as a character with a "dual personality" who never forgets the revolution after he becomes a renegade. This is a replica of Liu Shao-chi's absurd theory of being "faithful to the enemy as well as to the Party." In point of fact, stemming from their reactionary class nature, renegades of all types in the world are falsely faithful to the Party and truly faithful to the enemy. All the manifestations of the renegade Hu Wen-yu's repentance are merely a means to cover up his real renegade features.

From "sincerity in making revolution" to an "accidental slip" and finally "repentance and determination to turn over a new leaf" — this is the trilogy meticulously worked out by Sun Chen as the renegade Hu Wen-yu's monument and biography.

This sort of writing creates nothing new; anyone with a discerning eye can see at a glance that what is being hawked here is Liu Shao-chi's theory of "a wrong thought at a single moment." Liu Shao-chi openly stated: "As far as an individual is concerned, he is free to come over or go to the other side, he can be revolutionary or counter-revolutionary. The basic question lies in a single thought. The difference between a wrong thought and a correct thought at a single moment is small, but this slightest divergence leads one far astray." Sun Chen portrays the image of Hu Wen-yu completely in line with this renegade theory of Liu Shao-chi and is worthy of the name of Liu Shao-chi's faithful follower.

"A wrong thought at a single moment"! This is sheer nonsense. How can the difference between a revolutionary and a counter-revolutionary be compared to that between a wrong thought and a correct thought at a single moment and regarded as only a slight difference? A genuine Communist, unyielding proletarian fighter, **looks upon the interests of the revolution as his very life.** In the interests of the revolution and in order to realize the great ideal of communism, we Communists **are ready at all times to give our lives for the cause.** To save their lives and for their own selfish interests, renegades prostrate themselves before the enemy and sell out the revolution, the Party and their very souls. How can this be the difference between a wrong thought and a correct thought at a single moment? No! This is absolutely not a matter of a wrong thought at a single moment but the wrong stand! Through his characterization of Hu Wen-yu, Sun Chen feverishly advocated Liu Shao-chi's theory of the difference between a wrong thought and a correct thought at a single moment, and tried to disguise renegades as "heroes" and confuse the demarcation line between revolutionaries and counter-revolutionaries.

It has been established that Sun Chen prostrated himself before the enemy during the War of Resistance Against Japan and was a shameless renegade who surrendered to the enemy.

* * *

As early as 1936, the top Party capitalist roader Liu Shao-chi personally instigated a bunch of persons to confess to the enemy and he himself was a big shameless renegade who on several occasions prostrated himself before the imperialists and the Kuomintang reactionaries. To protect the hidden renegade clique he headed within the Party, he vigorously propagated the renegade philosophy for a long time. Disguised as "veteran revolutionaries," a handful of shameless renegades under his wing sneaked into our leading Party and government organizations and grabbed important leading posts. When the time was ripe, they would try to usurp Party and government leadership and turn the proletarian dictatorship into a bourgeois dictatorship. Chairman Mao teaches us: **"To overthrow a political power, it is always necessary first of all to create public opinion, to do work in the ideological sphere. This is true for the revolutionary class as well as for the counter-revolutionary class."** *Militant Youth* did its best to prettify renegades. In the final analysis, this is to restore capitalism.

Guided by the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, the broad masses of proletarian revolutionaries, during the great proletarian cultural revolution, ferreted out the handful of renegades headed by Liu Shao-chi hidden in the Party and exposed their features as long-standing counter-revolutionaries. With the doom of its master, *Militant Youth*, the utterly shameless piece of renegade literature, has also been thrown on to the garbage heap of history.

Malayan National Liberation Army Forges Ahead in Battle

STRIVING for the genuine independence and liberation of Malaya, the Malayan people and their own army — the Malayan National Liberation Army — have dauntlessly persevered in and developed their revolutionary armed struggle and achieved new victories in the past year, notes an article in the *Malayan Bulletin* issued by the Mission of the Malayan National Liberation League in China.

The article says: Confronted by the ferocious suppression of British and U.S. imperialists and their lackey — the Rahman-Lee Kuan Yew clique, the Malayan National Liberation Army, giving full play to the spirit of being fearless in the face of hardship and death, has courageously fought and smashed the enemy's counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" campaigns, thus further consolidating and expanding its own strength and the guerrilla zones and revolutionary base areas. In the eastern, central and western sectors of the Malaya-Thailand border, the Malayan National Liberation Army, firmly relying on the masses and skilfully applying the strategy and tactics of guerrilla warfare, has dealt severe blows at the Malayan-Thai puppet troops and police which intruded into the revolutionary base areas.

The article says: According to incomplete statistics, in the past year, the Malayan National Liberation Army killed or wounded more than 150 enemy troops and police, eliminated 30 enemy agents, local despots and other counter-revolutionaries and captured a large quantity of weapons and ammunition.

The article lists a number of outstanding feats by this army in heroically and skilfully annihilating enemy effectives. During February last year, a contingent of the Malayan National Liberation Army intercepted an enemy patrol force ten times its own size. In this raging battle which was fought at close quarters, the liberation army killed 20 enemy officers and men and wounded six others, and moved away without a single casualty. On June 17, the Malayan National Liberation Army annihilated at Kroh, Perak State, one whole platoon of the Rahman clique's "Police Field Force." This threw the enemy into panic and dismay. On August 15,

a small group of five liberation army fighters out on a mission was encircled by some 80 enemy troops and police. Displaying the style of daring to fight and daring to win, these fighters fought the enemy for well over three hours. After inflicting 11 casualties upon the enemy, they succeeded in breaking through his encirclement. On the same day, in the eastern sector of the border, a small unit of the liberation army ambushed a mixed enemy patrol, killing or wounding 12. From December 4 to 7, a detachment of the Malayan National Liberation Army, active in north Perak, eliminated 25 intruding enemy troops and police by setting up ambushes, carrying out outflanking manoeuvres and laying landmines and traps.

The article says: The Malayan National Liberation Army is the people's revolutionary armed forces led by the Malayan Communist Party. This army has resolutely carried out the Party's decisions. In addition to fighting the enemy in the past year, this army sent out work teams which energetically did propaganda among the masses and organized and armed them. The work teams organized the masses to study Chairman Mao's works and to undergo military training, and led them in operations to do away with enemy agents and local despots. During this period, the political consciousness of the broad masses has been greatly raised, the people's militia units and other mass organizations have been further consolidated and expanded and the revolutionary forces in the base areas have grown stronger.

The article says in conclusion: **"A nation, big or small, can defeat any enemy, however powerful, so long as it fully arouses its people, firmly relies on them and wages a people's war."** In the course of their struggle in 1968, the Malayan people have acquired a deeper understanding of this brilliant teaching of Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people. With great confidence in final victory, the Malayan people are striving harder to overcome difficulties in their march forward and to bring into reality the militant call made by the Central Committee of the Malayan Communist Party in its June 1, 1968 statement which was issued in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Anti-British National Liberation War.

Surging Tide of the Malayan People's Mass Movement

THERE has been a continuous upswing in the people's mass movement in enemy-occupied areas in Malaya (including Singapore), the latest issue of the *Malayan Bulletin* points out. This has dealt the Anglo-American imperialists and the Rahman-Lee Kuan Yew puppet clique repeated blows.

"The invincible Mao Tse-tung's thought is the spiritual weapon in the fight against imperialism and all reactionaries and is the beacon light guiding our revolution," the bulletin says.

It points out that the revolutionary people of Malaya (including Singapore) are conscientiously studying and spreading Mao Tse-tung's thought. Chairman Mao's teachings that "**political power grows out of the barrel of a gun**," that "**all reactionaries are paper tigers**" and that "**it is right to rebel against reactionaries**" have become very popular among the masses. Whether in concentration camps and jails, during demonstrations and strikes, or in clashes with the enemy, the revolutionary people in Malaya recite quotations from Chairman Mao and draw great spiritual strength from them. Despite bans by the reactionary authorities, they are proud of possessing the works, badges and portraits of Chairman Mao.

The bulletin says that, in the past year, the concentration camps in Batu Gajah and Muar and the jails in Singapore were turned into bloody battlegrounds in the patriots' struggle against the enemy. Illegally locked up for years and subjected to barbarous torture and inhuman treatment, political prisoners went on repeated and prolonged hunger strikes, which greatly alarmed the Rahman-Lee Kuan Yew puppet authorities.

Meanwhile, relatives of the political prisoners and other revolutionary masses repeatedly held demonstrations in support of their just struggle. From Penang in the north to Singapore in the south, the revolutionary masses held countless demonstrations, put up posters and painted slogans condemning the puppet regime and fought back against fascist police suppression. They won many victories in struggle.

Massive strikes by workers took place in different parts of Malaya at the close of last year against per-

secution by the Rahman-Lee Kuan Yew clique and stepped-up exploitation by the reactionary capitalists. Workers of the Gim Huat quarry in Singapore went on strike on September 25 last year and have since persisted in this struggle against the large-scale dismissal of workers by the capitalists. The workers put up portraits of Chairman Mao in their strike command post and diligently studied Chairman Mao's works during the struggle. On December 24, the Lee Kuan Yew clique sent police and special agents to the quarry in an attempt to put down the strike. The strikers immediately demonstrated and surrounded the police and special agents in a tit-for-tat struggle. The workers of a government-run quarry in Singapore also went on strike on January 1 this year. On January 3, the Lee Kuan Yew clique sent 300 fully armed police to the quarry to suppress the workers. The reactionary police brutally beat up a woman worker. The angry striking workers fought back with stones and sticks. In the 45-minute battle, the heroic workers gave the reactionary police a sound beating and the latter had to run for shelter.

The workers in the Nan Ya shoe factory in Johore and those at a rubber plantation in Kedah also went on strike at the end of last year and heroically fought back against the police called out by the Rahman puppet clique to suppress them.

In the countryside, the dismissed plantation workers and the landless and land-hungry peasants waged many struggles to seize land. Despite the puppet authorities' ruthless suppression, these workers and peasants put up stiff resistance. According to the local press, by the middle of last year, the peasants had seized more than 110,000 acres of land in three states alone.

During the past year students in Malaya (including Singapore) also courageously took part in demonstrations and struggles against persecution by the Rahman-Lee Kuan Yew clique and against the reactionary educational system.

The *Malayan Bulletin* says in conclusion that the Malayan people will firmly follow Chairman Mao's teaching: "**Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory.**"

What the Sinister Model of "Peaceful Transition" The Indian Revisionists Brag About Is Like

THE inside story of the Kerala State Government, a sinister model of "peaceful transition" set up by the Indian revisionists, was revealed in an article in the December 1968 issue of the Indian journal *Liberation* (monthly). The article showed up the Kerala State Government as a tool of the Indian reactionaries for oppressing and exploiting the labouring people.

The article cited numerous facts to demolish the fallacies spread by the Indian revisionists to embellish the state governments under their control. They babbled that these governments are "an instrument of struggle" in the hands of the people and that they have given "immediate relief to the people," etc. It pointed out that the Kerala State Government has never been an instrument of class struggle "fighting the offensive of the reactionary ruling classes." On the contrary, it is an obliging instrument of the big Indian capitalists, landlords and kulaks, loyally serving the Indian and foreign reactionaries.

The article said that when the poor peasants wanted to take over government waste lands, the state government controlled by the Indian revisionists turned down the peasants' demand. It then staged the farce of "distribution of government waste lands," but lands were given only to those who were closely connected with or had bribed the Indian revisionists. The lands of the big landlords and kulaks were not only left untouched, but the fixing of a higher procurement price of rice, in which Indian revisionist Namboodiripad, Chief Minister of the Kerala State Government, had a hand, the refusal to impose a higher levy on them and the flourishing black market have fattened them still more during the 21 months of the state government's rule. So it is not the peasantry but the rich landlords, kulaks and usurers who have used the "Marxist"-led government as an obliging instrument for fleecing the people even more frightfully.

The Indian magnate Birla operates a rayon factory in Mavur in Kerala State. The workers of this factory went on strike towards the end of March and at the beginning of April last year. The Indian revisionist-controlled state government immediately rushed police there to protect Birla's interests. Birla's man publicly expressed his appreciation of the services rendered by Namboodiripad and his government.

A hydroelectric project is under construction in Iddiki in this state. Some 4,000 people working there are viciously exploited and maltreated. Casual labourers were compelled to strike on last May 21 and waged a heroic struggle. Namboodiripad promptly took steps to guarantee the security of the robbers. By the middle of June, at least 94 workers had been arrested.

The Namboodiripad government also sent armed police and plain-clothes men to suppress the state government employees' struggle. It also sent police to break up a workers' meeting and Namboodiripad's private secretary personally went to the vicinity of the meeting place to direct the police action.

The article noted that these self-styled "Marxists" served the interests of foreign and domestic reaction by trying desperately to break up workers' meetings, beat up and arrest workers and crush all their militant actions.

The Indian revisionists have spread the word that the state governments under their control could give "immediate relief to the people." Refuting this nonsense, the article said: "Less food, more unemployment and higher prices of all consumer goods—this is the kind of 'immediate relief' the 'Marxist'-led Government of Kerala has offered the people!" Under the rule of the Indian revisionists who still hold the reins today, the rice ration in Kerala State dwindled from six ounces to three ounces per adult per day, while the price of rationed rice shot up by 35 per cent. Of the about 19 million population in the state, more than 600,000 people have absolutely no employment and another four to five million people are under-employed. The number of unemployed will increase every year.

The article emphatically pointed out: "During the period when world capitalism is in its death-throes, all talk of a 'programme of giving immediate relief' to the people in a country like India, which is jointly plundered by imperialism, the native big bourgeoisie and the feudal class, is sheer deception. Kerala's experience is one more conclusive proof of the truth that without smashing the present economic-political set-up through People's Democratic Revolution no relief, however meagre, can be offered to the basic masses. The 'Marxists,' 'Communists' and 'Socialists,' who claim that a 'modest programme of giving immediate relief' to the basic masses can be carried out even within the present set-up, are political scoundrels of the worst type. By trying to create this illusion they are blunting the revolutionary consciousness of the people, seeking to preserve the present system and are thus serving faithfully imperialism and domestic reaction."

The article also pointed out: "Namboodiripad and his men pretend that their government proposes to do justice evenly to the exploiters and the exploited, to the oppressors and the oppressed. This pretension, as every Marxist should know, is just a knavish trick to hoodwink the backward masses, for in a class society ruled by capital and feudal interests, the government serves as an instrument of exploitation and oppression of all working people."

Clumsy Performance

by Hung Tsai-ping

THE new U.S. imperialist chieftain Richard Nixon pretended to be concerned about the people's livelihood at a press conference on January 27. He bragged about making "new approaches" and having "some fine turning of our fiscal and monetary affairs in order to control inflation" "without an increase in unemployment." A few days later, he hypocritically "visited" the Black ghettos in Washington, as if he were very much "concerned" about the Black people. Has the U.S. ruling clique really forsaken its evil ways and turned over a new leaf? Nothing of the sort. Imperialism will never change its nature. Nixon's hypocritical gestures are only a clumsy and ridiculous performance.

Concerning imperialism and all reaction, our great leader Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Look at its past, and you can tell its present; look at its past and present, and you can tell its future."** The financial and economic policies of all U.S. governments have never brought any welfare to the working people, but instead have ruthlessly exploited and fleeced them in the interests of monopoly capital.

When Nixon's predecessor Johnson took office, did he not make the same hullabaloo, saying that he wanted to build a "great society," do away with unemployment and "make war on poverty"? But how do matters stand today, five years after that? According to the figures released by the U.S. Department of Labour, the number of unemployed in June 1968 exceeded 3.6 million. This figure had obviously been greatly watered down. It did not include large numbers of partially unemployed who have only several hours' work a week and several million vagrant unemployed.

Soaring inflation and runaway prices were part of Johnson's "achievement" during his five years' rule. According to official U.S. figures, the consumer price index stood at 108 in 1964 (taking 1957-59 as 100) when Johnson came to power and rose to 123 in 1968 when he stepped down from office. As prices rose steeply, for the working people, expenses have gone up greatly and the workers' real wages have dropped sharply. After paying taxes, a worker who has a family of four in the United States has to spend 33% of the remaining part of his monthly wages for rent, 14% for transportation expenses. What is left for food and clothing is very little. Unable to make both ends meet, they have to live by borrowing at usurious rates of interest. The *Wall Street Journal* revealed recently that up to November 1968, outstanding consumers' credit had reached 110,000 million U.S. dollars, an increase of more than 30,000 million dollars as compared with the time when Johnson came into office.

Exorbitant taxation is one of the chief means by which the U.S. Government directly robs the people. Wages of the working people in the United States are

not sufficient to maintain the minimum standard of living, but the U.S. Government still imposes heavy taxes on them. The personal income tax alone on an unmarried worker accounts for one-fifth of his wages and on a worker with a family of four, more than 12% of his wages. Moreover, there are premiums on social insurance and all kinds of other taxes. All these taxes eat up one-third of the income of the working people.

The American working people are suffering exploitation in all its forms from monopoly capital and are living an extremely hard life. In the reputedly "rich" United States today, even the American bourgeois press admitted that more than 10 million Americans go hungry, more than 30 million Americans are poverty-stricken. Facts give the lie. Even Lyndon Johnson had to admit before he left office that his so-called "anti-poverty programme" had ended in failure. This presents a striking contrast to the fact that the monopoly capitalist class is becoming richer and richer by greedily squeezing the working people. There are at least 153 multimillionaires in the United States today, some of them owning property worth over 1,000 million dollars. The great Lenin long ago spoke about **"the handful of arrogant multimillionaires who wallow in filth and luxury, and the millions of working people who constantly live on the verge of pauperism."**

As a result of the reactionary policy of racial discrimination long pursued by U.S. ruling circles, the more than 20 million Afro-Americans in the United States are leading a particularly deplorable life. Take the unemployment question for example. The Black people suffers most from it. Owing to the measures taken by the capitalists to hire Afro-Americans last and fire them first, the rate of unemployment of the Black people is three to four times that of the whites. In 20 major U.S. cities, nearly one-third of the non-white youth (mostly Afro-Americans) who are old enough to take a job are now unemployed. The army of the unemployed Black Americans who have been kicked out of factories, wander the streets, go begging and daily struggle on the verge of hunger and death. Taking advantage of the predicament of the unemployed Black Americans, the U.S. Government is driving the young Black people to serve as cannon fodder for the big capitalists in wars of aggression. Constituting only 11 per cent of the total U.S. population, the Afro-Americans account for 25 per cent of the U.S. aggressor troops in Vietnam.

U.S. monopoly capital also enforces the policy of unequal wages in discriminating against the Black Americans. Wages of Afro-Americans are only one-third to one-half those of the whites in the same job or with the same skill. In this way, the American magnates squeeze out at least more than 20,000 million dollars of super-profits annually.

Due to the high rate of unemployment and low wages, the Black working people live much more poorly than do the white working people.

The housing conditions of Afro-Americans are also most wretched. In New York, the largest city in the United States, 500,000 Afro-Americans live in a slum which is called Harlem. In this hellhole, most of the houses are broken down and damp and gloomy. In the southern part of the country, many Afro-American farm workers are unemployed and homeless and have to live in tents. "Tent cities" have appeared in some areas.

All this is the "welfare" granted to the working people by U.S. ruling circles. The more this sort of "welfare," the worse the plight of the working people.

Nixon, Johnson and all other heads of the U.S. imperialist governments, past and present, are agents of the U.S. monopoly capitalist class and blood-suckers of the working people. It can be clearly recalled that Nixon once served as a deputy chief in the Eisenhower Administration and when they came to power they boasted as usual that they would work to better the people's livelihood; but what they actually did later was to plunder and exploit the working people still more ruthlessly. Nixon is also a hatchetman whose hands are stained with the blood of the Afro-Americans. This time the American multimillionaires brought him to power

again. On the eve of Nixon's assumption of office, he had supported Johnson in extending the levy of income tax surcharge which alone will annually snatch nearly 10,000 million dollars from the working people. Less than ten days after Nixon took office, the U.S. Government announced that a 15-month short term bond would be issued in order to get new extortions from the working people.

History is the best witness. The sanguinary and criminal records of all U.S. administrations in oppressing and exploiting the working people serve as the best footnotes to Nixon's so-called "new approaches" in the financial field and his "concern" for the Black people.

Where there is oppression, there is resistance. The persecution and exploitation of the working people by the U.S. ruling clique serve only to further awaken the broad masses of the working people. In recent years, the powerful storm of the Afro-American struggle has dealt heavy blows to U.S. imperialism. A growing number of working people among the whites oppose racial discrimination and support the Black people's struggle against violent repression. Just as our great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out: **"The struggle of the Black people in the United States is bound to merge with the American workers' movement, and this will eventually end the criminal rule of the U.S. monopoly capitalist class."**

"Opium" Traffickers and "Booze" Merchants

by Kuo Yi-ping

REPUDIATING the capitalist world approximately twenty years ago, a Soviet social scientist wrote the following: "Religion prospers first of all in places where crushing disasters, unmitigated hardships, pessimism, disappointed hopes, anguish and heartbreak prevail." He never would have thought that such a statement was destined to be a portrayal of today's Soviet society under revisionist rule. Religion has "prospered" there once again.

Marx once said: "Religion is the opium of the people." Lenin also said: "Religion is a sort of spiritual booze." Let us take a look at the way the Soviet revisionist renegades, dressing themselves up as Marxist-Leninists, have directed their retainers, "writers" and "scholars," to peddle such "opium" and "booze."

One Soviet revisionist "scholar" pleaded in *Izvestia*: "If religion is believed to be opium for the people, then it must be said a small dose of this opiate is beneficial, for it has a soothing effect and can reduce pain."

Another Soviet revisionist, a "leading scientist," openly declared: "As a scientific worker, I am of the belief that there is in the universe a kind of power that transcends man. Let this power be called God."

Not so long ago, that Soviet revisionist rag *Komsomolskaya Pravda* even carried a "proposal" calling for the restoration of religious courses in the schools. "Without Christ," so this proposal said, "there is no morality, nor can there be any."

It is precisely because of connivance and encouragement by the Soviet revisionist renegade clique that reactionary religious trends are on the rampage everywhere in the Soviet Union.

Marx pointed out: "What is antiquated tries to re-establish itself and maintain its position within the newly acquired form." In the Soviet Union after the October Revolution, the system of exploitation, together with impoverishment of the people, was liquidated and the social foundation of religion demolished. Thanks to scientific atheist propaganda, which was carried out with great effort, the overwhelming majority of the toilers freed themselves from religious prejudice. But with the usurpation of state power by the Khrushchovite revisionist clique, a bourgeois privileged stratum, made up of only a tiny minority of the population, returned to sit on the backs of the people again. The masses were thrown into the depths of suffering, and the once flourishing Soviet society was turned into the worst possible mess and disorder. In the circumstances, scum

surfaced, rogues of every description came to the fore, and remnants of the religious forces, profiting from the fertile breeding ground of "crushing disasters, unmitigated hardships," swiftly came into their own again. According to the Soviet revisionist press, religious services of one kind or another increased by three or four times in the last ten years in different parts of the Soviet Union, churches and dioceses are multiplying and religious followers are now in the tens of millions.

From time immemorial religion has been used by the exploiting classes as an instrument for the spiritual enslavement of the masses. It therefore is no surprise that the Soviet revisionist renegade clique, which represents the interests of that tiny minority—the bourgeois privileged stratum—should vigorously foster reactionary religious forces. Throwing the sop of "happiness in heaven" to "console" the downtrodden Soviet people, the clique vainly tries to induce the Soviet people to submit meekly to its reactionary rule and allow it to push them around as it pleases.

Nor is this all. The clique also uses religious prejudice in its struggle against Marxism. It encourages religious activities and fans religious bigotry, hoping thus to check the spread of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tse-tung's thought, in the Soviet Union.

To provide pretexts for rampant religious activities, the shameless Kremlin traitors have sunk to such depths as trying to find some common positive factors

between religion and socialism. *Life Abroad*, a magazine published by the Soviet revisionists, has been printing a spate of articles from their hangers-on which dish out, for instance, tripe saying that religion "contains admonitions which conform to the tenets of socialist revolution." They even went to the length of attacking Marx's celebrated conclusion—**Religion is the opium of the people**—as incorrect, alleging that it "does not hold true from a Marxist point of view." This is the height of insolence.

The chieftains of the Soviet revisionist renegade clique have not hesitated to take the field themselves in pushing the sales of "opium" and "booze." Podgorny and a string of Soviet revisionist officials followed one another in journeying to the Vatican to be received by the Pope. Delegations of the Vatican and of clergymen from a dozen or so countries or regions, delegations from American churches included, were invited by these renegades to Moscow to take part in the festivities of the Moscow Orthodox Archbishopric. All this exposes in a most naked manner the Soviet revisionist clique as traitors to Marxism.

Engels said: **"No religious tenets will ever suffice to prop up a tottering society."** This naturally applies without exception to the revisionist rule of the Soviet revisionist renegade clique. No amount of prayers by priests or fathers can save the Soviet revisionist traitors. Their doom is sealed.

Important Link of Capitalist Restoration

Free Markets Rampant in Soviet Union

SOCCIALIST commerce has long ago degenerated into capitalist commerce in the Soviet Union under the rule of the revisionist renegade clique. Free markets prevail everywhere in cities and the countryside, with speculative activities going unchecked. The Soviet revisionist journal *Soviet Trade* recently revealed that 8,000 free markets have been set up throughout the country, in cities and towns, big and small. Moscow, which the Soviet revisionist clique boasts of as the "window of socialism," has already 40 free markets. The various kinds of commodities on the free markets make up an astonishing proportion of their total output. For instance, potatoes make up 47 per cent and meat, 20 per cent of the total output. It is no surprise that the bourgeois U.S. press has praised the Soviet free market as the "oasis of private enterprise" and expressed great satisfaction that it "operates with the support and under the patronizing eyes of the state."

Promoting Capitalist Liberalization Policy

The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has made strenuous efforts to create public opinion for the opening of capitalist free markets. When Khrushchov was in power, he actively advocated the "principle of the

free marketing of products," and the opening of free markets, declaring that "the economic relations between the state and the collective farms should be radically changed" and that collective farms should be allowed to "buy and sell products freely at prices which reflect production and the level of labour productivity." Since coming to power, Brezhnev, Kosygin and company have become even more blatant in advocating that "the state will use the stabilized purchasing price to protect and stimulate the free purchase of agricultural products and promote the energetic development of commodity relations." They have urged that state and collective farms "gradually pass on to selling with complete freedom" their own products and increase their "autonomy" and "independence." In energetically pushing ahead the "new economic system" with the principle of "profits first" as its essence, Brezhnev, Kosygin and their kind have preached about the "free regulation [of market prices] according to the law of value," prohibited "administrative regulation" of market prices, and officially proclaimed that the various kinds of commodities on the free markets be sold "according to the prices formed on the market."

Thus the Soviet revisionist chieftains have scrapped the unified plan of the state so as to vigorously carry out the capitalist liberalization policy on the market and "radically change" the socialist public economy into capitalist private economy. Socialist planned economy has completely disintegrated in the Soviet Union which is witnessing an all-round restoration of capitalism.

The great Lenin long ago pointed out that **"without comprehensive state accounting and control of the production and distribution of goods, the power of the working people, the freedom of the working people, cannot be maintained, and that a return to the yoke of capitalism is inevitable."** Isn't this precisely the road the Soviet revisionist renegade clique has taken?

Providing All Facilities for Expanding Free Markets

The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has not only vigorously prepared public opinion for the opening of free markets, but has done its utmost to create all the facilities for them to expand far and wide. The Soviet revisionist authorities have passed laws and decrees allocating large sums of money to build "big, modern and well-equipped free markets." They have built booths, warehouses, cold storages and hotels for the free markets, and allocated motor vehicles specifically for transportation of goods by private persons. In Moscow, the Soviet revisionist authorities have recently spent lavishly in constructing a reinforced concrete building for the free market. Some new kulaks and speculating merchants can even fly to Moscow without any restrictions to sell their goods at high prices.

The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has done away with the practice, in force until 1966, of including a considerable portion of the markets' receipts in the state budget, and this has "created great possibilities" for building free markets or for their re-equipment. In Moldavia, "all funds from retail tax or from the renting out of equipment" are allocated for the "construction, improvement and expansion" of free markets. The fact that the Soviet revisionist authorities have shown such great concern for the new kulaks and speculators lest the capitalist free markets develop too slowly reveals fully that when Brezhnev and company shout about "the building of communism" they are selling dog meat while displaying a sheep head.

The criminal action of the Soviet revisionist renegade clique in energetically developing free markets in cities and the countryside has made a mess of the production of consumer goods and agricultural production in the Soviet Union, and brought about unprecedented shortages of market supplies, constant rise in prices and increasing poverty for the working people. The shelves in Moscow stores are often empty and long queues for consumer goods can be seen everywhere. The shorter the supplies in the Soviet revisionist state-run stores the more serious are the speculative activities on the free markets. To a large extent, free markets in various parts of the country have taken the place of state stores; speculative merchants who corner the free markets can raise prices at will. The prices on

free markets are 30, 50 and even 100 per cent higher than in the state stores.

Agricultural and Industrial Products Bought and Sold Freely

The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has abolished all the restrictions on spontaneous capitalist forces in market management with a view to encouraging and fostering a big development of free markets. A chieftain of the Soviet revisionist Department of Commerce openly advocated in the press the increase of the types of commodities sold on the free market to include flour, grain, vegetable oil, potatoes, and fruits. The Minister of Commerce of the Moldavian S.S.R. proposed that wheat and maize may be sold on the free market and advocated that workers on state farms also provide commodities to the free market. Many state and collective farms simply gave up farming and engaged in commerce. They opened their own shops, formed partnerships in running "joint-stock companies" and opened canned goods factories. The profiteers bought goods cheap in one place and travelled to other localities where they sold them at higher prices.

In some big cities in the Soviet Union there are also free markets for industrial products. Many commodities (mostly spare parts) on the free markets are wangled from factories by corruption, theft, and other illicit means. Spare parts and small industrial goods which for a long time have been unavailable in state stores can be bought on the free market at high prices. The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has even gone out of its way to promote free dealings in the means of production on an extensive scale. For instance, machine tools, cranes, generators, locomotives, instruments, seamless steel tubes, and petroleum can be bought and sold freely.

"Paradise" for Kulaks and Speculators

In the free markets, people rub shoulders in crowds. They push and jostle each other. It is a sickening scene of noise and confusion, with hawkings to attract customers, angry bargainings, etc. Vendors even fight among themselves just to secure a good place to sell their ware. This is typical of the nauseating scene of capitalist free competition. The Soviet revisionist authorities also abolished the regulations which limit the selling of goods on the market to licence holders, thus giving the green light to speculating merchants. The free market has become a "paradise" for kulaks and speculators. The Soviet revisionist press revealed: In Tajik, "many of those who sold goods on the free markets are not old men or old women. They are appropriators of private orchards and market gardens." "Many of them have motor cycles and sedans and other kinds of vehicles." "Living a well-to-do life, these fellows do not work at all." They are simply speculators hunting for exorbitant profits and ill-gotten fortunes.

Soviet Revisionist Renegades Will Be Severely Punished

That socialism will inevitably replace capitalism is an objective law independent of man's will. The

Guinean Government Delegation Visits China

The Guinean Government Delegation led by N'Famara Keita, Minister of Commerce, Transport and Telecommunications of the Government of the Republic of Guinea, arrived in Peking by air on February 22 on a friendly visit at the invitation of the Chinese Government. Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and more than 1,000 revolutionary people in the capital gave it a warm welcome at the airport.

The next day, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien gave a banquet in honour of the delegation. Speaking at the banquet, the Vice-Premier said: The Chinese Government and people firmly support the Guinean Government and people in their just struggle against imperialism and in defence of national independence. The Chinese people always stand on the side of the Guinean people in their march forward.

He paid tribute to the Guinean people who, under the leadership of President Sekou Toure, had won tremendous victories in the struggle against imperialist aggression and for defending national independence and state sovereignty over the past ten years since independence. He also praised them for their achievements in developing national economy and culture and in building their country.

The Vice-Premier added: Chairman Mao has taught us: **"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." The Chinese and Guinean peoples are brothers and comrades-in-arms in the revolutionary struggle against imperialism, and always sympathize with and support each other. We regard your achievements and victories as our own and derive great inspiration from them.

Referring to the present excellent international situation, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said: The revolutionary movements of the people of all countries in the world are developing vigorously. U.S. imperialism and Soviet modern revisionism are having an increasingly difficult time. The national revolutionary struggles against imperialism in Africa are also developing in depth and the situation is excellent. We are firmly convinced that as long as the African people unite and persist in struggle, they will certainly drive imperialism and colonialism completely out of Africa.

The 700 million Chinese people, he continued, under the leadership of the proletarian headquarters with Chairman Mao as its leader and Vice-Chairman Lin as its deputy leader, are now seizing all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution. The Chinese people, armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, will henceforth surely give even stronger support to the people of Africa and to the Guinean people in their revolutionary struggles.

In his speech at the banquet, Minister N'Famara Keita said: The delegation which I have the honour to lead feels extremely satisfied and happy to visit the People's Republic of China once again. Coming to China to make contacts with the Chinese people and acquaint ourselves with China's revolutionary cause is an enlightening and experience-gaining happy event for us Guinean people. It was always so in the past and is all the more so today when the great Chinese people are carrying out the great proletarian cultural revolution.

The current visit to China, he added, gives us the opportunity to pay our profound and warm respects to the Chinese people's extremely wise great leader Chairman Mao Tse-tung who enjoys high prestige.

He pointed out that the Chinese people had consistently supported the Guinean people in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, and that the Guinean people highly appreciated the sincere friendship and effective co-operation between Guinea and China.

The Guinean Minister condemned imperialism which is carrying out a desperate struggle in Africa. He said that Guinea would make every effort to safeguard the African outpost of struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

On February 23, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and Minister N'Famara Keita held talks which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Soviet revisionist renegade clique which has ravaged to such an extent the Soviet socialist economy, personally promoted and fostered by Lenin and Stalin, is bound to be severely punished by the Soviet people.

Our great leader Chairman Mao pointed out, **"The Soviet Union was the first socialist state and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was created by Lenin. Although the leadership of the Soviet Party and state has now been usurped by revisionists, I would advise comrades to remain firm in the conviction that the masses of the Soviet people and of Party members and**

cadres are good, that they desire revolution and that revisionist rule will not last long." The broad masses of the Soviet working people, with the traditions of the Great October Revolution behind them, will not tolerate for a long period of time the exploitation and oppression by the privileged bourgeois stratum. The day is bound to come when, illuminated by the radiance of Marxism, Leninism, Mao Tse-tung's thought, they will rise up in rebellion against the Soviet revisionist renegade clique and throw this handful of vermin, together with such trash as free markets, on to the garbage heap of history.

ROUND THE WORLD

A nation, big or small, can defeat any enemy, however powerful, so long as it fully arouses its people, firmly relies on them and wages a people's war.

— MAO TSE-TUNG

LAOS

1,000 U.S. Planes Reduced To Scrap

The Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces in Savannakhet Province shot down a U.S. F-4 plane on January 22. This brought the total number of U.S. bandit planes downed or destroyed on the ground by the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and people to the 1,000 mark since May 17, 1964 when the U.S. imperialists began bombing the liberated areas in Laos.

Among these 1,000 U.S. aircraft, 238 were brought down by light weapons and 40 blasted on the ground.

In a recent communique, the Supreme Command of the Laotian People's Liberation Army (L.P.L.A.) pointed out that this was a tremendous victory for the Laotian people, the L.P.L.A. and the Laotian patriotic neutralist forces. It was a very heavy blow for the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys.

Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat, sent a letter to the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and the people congratulating them on their brilliant feat.

This, the letter said, is a magnificent victory for the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and the people of Laos, while for U.S. imperialism and its henchmen this is a severe defeat. In the last three months alone, the United States lost 165 aircraft in Laos. This shows that the more U.S. imperialism escalates its war, the heavier will be its defeat.

Not only have the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and the people dealt a heavy blow at the U.S. imperialist air bandits. On the ground, too, they

have won one victory after another in engagements with the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys. Fighting over 100 battles in January, the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and people put more than 1,300 enemy troops out of action, captured nearly 180 weapons, seized or destroyed 39 military vehicles, sank one motor-boat, blew up one bridge and demolished four ammunition dumps.

Since the beginning of the 1968-69 dry-season, the losses suffered by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen in manpower and war materiel for the month of January were far bigger than in any previous month. This is an important sign of the growing strength of the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and people.

BURMA

People's Forces Win Victories

Extensive guerrilla warfare was carried out in many parts of Burma by the people's armed forces under the leadership of the Communist Party of Burma and the people's armed forces of different nationalities in that country during the last quarter of 1968. Their operations hit the Burmese reactionaries hard. During this period, the peasants were aroused to rise and destroy local organs of oppression and exploitation, the Ne Win military junta's grass-roots power structure, and set up peasant organizations and red political power in their place.

In the Pegu area where Ne Win's reactionary troops were massed for counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" campaigns, the people's armed forces operated actively in the vast countryside and frequently dealt the enemy heavy blows. On October 9 last year, they attacked the

reactionary government's Bureau of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Conservancy near the town of Nyaunglebin.

On November 6, the people's armed forces launched a surprise attack on a unit of the government's 35th Infantry Battalion in Tharrawaddy District. On November 26, they ambushed and cut to pieces a patrol of the 30th Infantry Battalion in the Daik-u town area. The enemy patrol which was conducting counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" stepped on mines laid by the people's armed forces and was fired on from both sides. It suffered heavy casualties.

Frequent news of victory came from Irrawaddy, Akyab, Tenasserim, the Shan States and other areas where the people's armed forces were very active. On October 16, they ambushed a police patrol in the Bassein District, killing the police chief and capturing a number of weapons.

On October 18, the people's armed forces attacked a police check-point in Salin, Minbu District. On November 12, they sprang a two-pronged surprise attack on a police post in Sandoway, Akyab Area. On December 10, the armed forces of the National-Democratic United Front trounced a patrol of the 93rd Infantry Battalion in Wakema, Myaungmya District.

Meanwhile, the people's armed forces of the different nationalities were also chalking up victories in many places. On October 5, the armed forces of the Karen people launched an attack on a police patrol in the town of Papun, killing two police chiefs and two policemen. In mid October, they trapped a patrol of the 28th Infantry Battalion in Pan District, killing or wounding 11 enemy soldiers. At midnight November 8, Karen people's armed forces stormed into Moulmeingyun, badly mauling the reactionary police and "self-defence forces" there and wrecking a government warehouse.

In the delta of Lower Burma and Tenasserim Area, the people's armed forces battered and crippled the reactionary government's water and land communication lines. On December

19, the armed forces of the National-Democratic United Front intercepted a government steamboat and set fire to it in the vicinity of Kyaiklat. On December 23, they seized a barge loaded with government supplies near Yandoon. The people's armed forces along the Tenasserim coast attacked two government motor junks on December 20 and captured machinery and stores on board.

In the last quarter of 1968, the Burmese people's armed forces pressed on with the struggle to liquidate traitors and local despots over wide areas in Pegu, Irrawaddy and Magwe. They aroused the masses to rise and smash the power structure of Ne Win's reactionary regime in the rural areas, such as its "security committees," "agrarian committees" and "co-operatives" and to replace them with mass organizations and red political power. In Kyaunggon, Bassein District, the people's armed forces executed a number of "security committee" and "agrarian committee" chieftains and despotic landlords between October and December. In Thayetmyo District, Magwe Area, the people's armed forces set up committees of the poor peasants in Minhla and red political power in four villages in Mindon to guide the peasants in their struggle.

JAPAN

Most Servile Flunkey

Eisaku Sato's reactionary government has been shaken by the Japanese people's patriotic struggle against U.S. imperialism and the progressive student movement, which have been boiling over since the beginning of the year. Protest demonstrations against U.S. and Japanese reactionaries have been growing in scale and intensity. In the first week of February, 55,000 people on Okinawa held a powerful anti-U.S. demonstration. They called for the dismantling of U.S. imperialism's military base on Okinawa and an end to its colonial rule over the island. The slogan "Down with U.S. imperialism!" resounded through the islands of Japan.

Afraid that developments might get out of hand, Sato immediately

spoke up for U.S. imperialism. Beloved Sato in the Japanese Diet: Okinawa is a "base of a defensive character" and "plays a role of relaxing tension." He added: "In the Vietnam war, the United States has never thought of using Okinawa as a base for aggression." His words were few, but they graphically stamped Sato as a traitor.

The United States lies on the Eastern Pacific, while Asia lies opposite on the Western Pacific Ocean. Even primary school pupils know this plain fact. The question can be asked: How come the United States must go to Japan, to an Asian country, to "defend" itself. Extending its tentacles to the Western Pacific, U.S. imperialism has turned Okinawa and all Japan into major military bases from which to carry out feverish activities of war and aggression. Herein lies an important root cause of tension in Asia. Yet Sato has the cheek to say that the Okinawa military base "plays a role of relaxing tension." This is preposterous in the extreme. If that logic is to be followed, should not Asian countries go to the other side of the Pacific and occupy U.S. territory in order to "defend" themselves and "relax tension"? To describe aggression as "defence" is a well-established practice of U.S. imperialism. Sato's babbling only parrots his master.

That Okinawa is used directly by U.S. imperialism as a base for aggression in its war against Vietnam is known the world over. U.S. B-52 bomber squadrons take off from there to raid Vietnam and massacre the Vietnamese people. Towering crimes have been committed as a result. Still Sato, unabashed, has come forward to "testify" for U.S. imperialism. One can only be amazed by the earnestness with which Sato applies himself to serving U.S. imperialism.

Our great leader Chairman Mao pointed out: "A flunkey who allows himself to be led by the nose by U.S. imperialism will only end up in the same grave as his master."

In shamelessly coming to the defence of the U.S. aggressors, Sato merely serves as a teacher by negative example. His performance

only makes the Japanese people see still more clearly that he is a most servile flunkey of U.S. imperialism and spurs their struggle against the American and Japanese reactionaries.

U.S.A.

Nixon Gets "Pay Boost"

While great sections of the American working people have to scratch out a living in increasingly difficult circumstances, the new U.S. imperialist boss Richard Nixon had his pay raised by a hundred per cent. This went into effect when he took office. Increments were also subsequently arranged all along the line for the smaller fry among the reactionary U.S. ruling circles.

Shortly before Nixon's inauguration, U.S. Congress, which is controlled by the U.S. monopoly capitalist class, rushed through a resolution raising the salary of the president from 100,000 dollars to 200,000 a year. This was followed by another resolution on February 5 authorizing a "pay raise" of 42 per cent for Congressmen and 71 per cent for cabinet members.

The "pay raises" for a handful of reactionary rulers, the U.S. capitalist press admits, put an extra yearly burden of 25 million dollars on the American working people. And if state governors and the bigger and smaller local government heads follow suit, the burden will become much greater for the working people.

Nixon's salary and salaries for the other bigwigs actually make up only a tiny fraction of what they squeeze out of the American working people. According to much watered-down figures given recently by the American bourgeois press, Nixon's expenses as president alone will amount at least to 35 million dollars a year, not counting the facilities and assets valued at more than 160 million dollars put at his disposal. American workers again must carry this entire heavy load.

One of the "reasons" offered by Nixon and his kind for their "pay raises" is that the cost of living in the United States has gone up 14.2

per cent between 1964 and 1968. True, prices have soared and the cost of living has risen to an alarming degree in that country. But these are the dire consequences of aggression and expansion carried out abroad by the reactionary U.S. ruling clique. Rises in prices and cost of living are also used by U.S. ruling circles to rob the people at home. Victims are the broad masses of the working people. It is a monstrous crime committed by the reactionary U.S. ruling circles against the American people. Extremely absurd is that Nixon and Co. should put this forward as a "reason" for enriching themselves at the expense of the workers.

The reactionary ruling circles have set a 5 per cent increase "wage guide line" for the working people in the United States. This is said to

be in keeping with the "national interest," but actually it is to restrict increases in workers' wages. The U.S. bourgeois press revealed that although some workers won minor wage increases through their struggles last year, their real wages have actually dropped as a result of rising prices. For instance, the real wages of iron and steel workers dropped by 3.5 per cent last year and those of rubber workers by 3.6 per cent, and the same was true of oil, machine-building and chemical workers.

The monopoly capitalist class is free to squeeze the people by hook or by crook, while the labouring masses must submit to its exploitation and extortion — such is the gangster logic of Nixon and his ilk. It is clear from the "pay raises" given themselves by the chieftain of U.S. imperialism and his big and

small hangers-on that the U.S. rulers are nothing but a crew of blood-suckers preying on the American people.

CORRECTIONS

1. The first sentence of the 2nd paragraph from the bottom in the left column of p. 13 in our No. 5 issue, 1969 should read: "Smashing foreign stereotypes, young women workers at a Peking factory fulfilled in a short time the task of producing extra large pieces of glass with anti-reflection chemical coating."

2. The last sentence of the 2nd paragraph from the bottom in the right column of p. 14 in the same issue should read: "They gathered abundant scientific information for many branches of science including optical astronomy, radio astronomy, meteorology, geophysics and atmospheric physics, all achieved under the conditions of a low-hanging sun and a fleeting total eclipse."

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