Great Victory for Chairman Mao's Proletarian Line on Party Building

— An investigation report on Party consolidation and Party building in Peking Hsinhua Printing House

Following the great leader Chairman Mao's programme for Party building: "The Party organization should be composed of the advanced elements of the proletariat; it should be a vigorous vanguard organization capable of leading the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in the fight against the class enemy," the leading group responsible for Party consolidation and Party building in the Peking Hsinhua Printing House has, with the help of the Mao Tsetung Thought propaganda team of Unit 8341 of the People's Liberation Army stationed there, carried out the work of consolidating and building the Party organization. Party branches have been set up and a new Party committee was established in May last year. Through its work the leading group greatly raised the Party members' consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines, heightened their consciousness in continuing the revolution, purified the Party ranks, forged still closer ties between the Party and the masses and strengthened the Party's combat strength.

Raising Party Members' Consciousness of Class Struggle and Struggle Between Two Lines Through Consolidating the Party Ideologically

At the beginning of the movement, the printing house set up a "three-in-one" group composed of Party members who are revolutionary cadres, outstanding workers and members of the P.L.A. Mao Tsetung Thought propaganda team to lead the work of consolidating and building the Party. Helped by the P.L.A. propaganda team, the leading group conscientiously studied the great leader Chairman Mao's teaching "To put things in order organizationally requires our first doing so ideologically, our launching a struggle of proletarian ideology against non-proletarian ideology." This helped them understand clearly that the primary task in consolidating and building the Party was to give the Party members a general and profound re-education of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, with Chairman Mao's programme for building the Party as the criterion and fighting self and criticizing revisionism as the principle. They regarded the process of consolidating and building the Party as a process to raise Party members' consciousness in continuing the revolution, and to heighten their consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines.

After making clear the aim and significance of consolidating and building the Party, the leading group first of all used Chairman Mao's proletarian line on Party building to fully mobilize the Party members and non-Party people in the plant to take an active part in the movement. They were organized to study seriously Chairman Mao's programme for building the Party and to thoroughly criticize the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line on Party building and all stripes of bourgeois ideas that run counter to Mao Tsetung Thought.

At the beginning, some Party members incorrectly thought that the movement was merely to expel some from, admit some to, and persuade a few to withdraw from the Party and to take disciplinary measures against a few Party members; they paid no attention to the ideological consolidation of the Party. A few of non-Party people thought that the work of consolidating the Party concerned only the Party members, and was none of their business. Keeping in mind these living ideas current among the masses, the group leading the consolidation and building of the Party organized the masses to study relevant teachings of Chairman Mao's. As a result, the Party members and non-Party people acquired a correct attitude towards the movement, and all took an active part in it. The Party members followed the great leader Chairman Mao's teaching "we stand for active ideological struggle because it is the weapon for ensuring unity within the Party and the revolutionary organizations in the interest of our fight. Every Communist and revolutionary should take up this weapon." They conscientiously carried out criticism and self-criticism, especially self-criticism, and made strict demands on themselves. Proceeding from their knowledge of the struggle between the two lines, they conscientiously summed up their experience and drew lessons from it and eagerly took the initiative in soliciting the opinions of others.
One Party member had heart-to-heart talks with 75 non-Party people and modestly listened to their views. In this way, he strengthened the relationship between the Party and the masses and revolutionized his own thinking in a deep-going way. The non-Party people enthusiastically participated in the movement, regarding their action as a glorious task and a right given them by Chairman Mao. They eagerly attended meetings and made comments. They helped the Party members, tempered themselves in the process and deepened their profound proletarian feelings for the Party and Chairman Mao.

Through conscientious ideological consolidation among the Party members and mass political and ideological work, the Party members and the revolutionary masses rapidly raised their level of ideological consciousness. The Party members examined and at the same time corrected their mistakes and shortcomings. They became vigorous and their revolutionary zeal was redoubled. This created a political atmosphere in which personal ease of mind and liveliness prevailed in the printing house, with the Party members making revolution on their own initiative, and the revolutionary masses eagerly commenting. Everybody studies Chairman Mao's works, and all have heightened their political and ideological consciousness. A new unity of the Party members and the revolutionary masses has been achieved on the basis of Mao Tsetung Thought.

"Eliminating Waste Matter" While Strengthening Education of Party Members Who Committed Errors

In line with Chairman Mao's teaching: "Eliminating waste matter," the leading group resolutely cleared out of the Party the proven renegades, enemy agents, absolutely unrepentant persons in power taking the capitalist road, degenerates and alien-class elements. In doing this work, they mobilized the Party members and revolutionary masses to undertake revolutionary mass criticism of the class enemies who had wormed their way into the Party, to eliminate the poisonous influence of Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line on Party building, to settle accounts with the class enemies who had committed towering crimes in the Party and further raised the Party members' and revolutionary masses' consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines.

In the course of consolidating and building the Party, a question of paramount importance arose, namely how to correctly treat a number of Party members who had committed errors of this or that kind.

At first, some Party members and non-Party people could not treat them correctly and some even advocated that those Party members who had committed errors should be persuaded to withdraw from the Party. With the help of the P.L.A. Mao Tsetung Thought propaganda team, the group leading the consolidation and building of the Party ran Mao Tsetung Thought study classes to achieve unity in thinking and in the understanding of Party policies. Careful work was done to teach the Party members and revolutionary masses how to make a comprehensive, historical and dialectical analysis of Party members who had committed errors in accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching "We should lay the stress . . . on the analysis of the circumstances in which the errors were committed, on the content of the errors and on their social, historical and ideological roots, and this should be done in the spirit of 'learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones' and 'curing the sickness to save the patient,' in order to achieve the twofold objective of clarity in ideology and unity among comrades. The adoption of a careful attitude in handling cases of individual comrades, neither glossing things over nor doing harm to comrades, is a sign that our Party is vigorous and flourishing." Stress was laid on re-educating the Party members in the struggle between the two lines.

One example is that of the former acting director of the printing house who had done some good things for the Party and the people during the period of the democratic revolution. But because his world outlook had not been remodelled well, and he had for a long time failed to study Chairman Mao's works in earnest after being admitted into the Party, his consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines was not high and therefore, he had carried out the revisionist line in his work and committed fairly serious errors. Through criticism, education and help by the masses during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, particularly in the course of consolidating and building the Party, he arrived at a profound recognition of his errors and resolved to correct them. Moreover, he did fairly well in his work. After analysing his life as a whole and the root cause of his errors, the masses decided that a commander like him should be kept in the Party.

There was another Party member who had been badly poisoned over a long period by Liu Shao-chi's sinister book Self-Cultivation. As a result, he lacked revolutionary vigour and became politically apathetic. He failed to fulfil the exemplary role expected of a Communist Party member. But, through his conscientious efforts to revolutionize his thinking and the warm-hearted help and education by his comrades in the campaign for consolidating and building the Party, he came to a deep understanding of his past errors. He criticized his mistaken ideas such as "since we have won political power and improved our living standards, we can slacken our efforts in making revolution." He began to study Chairman Mao's works diligently and work hard, thus acting as a Communist Party member should. Everybody agreed that a person who corrected his errors was a good person and that such a commander could remain in the Party.

The experience of the printing house shows that the great majority of the Party members who committed errors can eventually become fighters of the vanguard of the proletariat provided there is patient, careful work to help them with Mao Tsetung Thought and to awaken their class consciousness. But as regards those few...
Party members who committed serious mistakes, there should be appropriate disciplinary measures taken against them according to each case.

Actively and Carefully Infusing New Blood into the Party, Strengthening the Party Organization and Achieving Unified Leadership

On the basis of ideological and organizational consolidation, the Party organization at the printing house, adhering to the principle of doing the work both actively and carefully, admitted into the Party in good time those who had measured up to the standards for a Communist and, at the same time, elected a number of outstanding Communists to the leading bodies of Party organizations at various levels. Implementing conscientiously the great leader Chairman Mao’s instruction: “A proletarian Party must also get rid of the stale and take in the fresh, for only thus can it be full of vitality,” the Party organization received a strong impetus and was infused with more vitality.

After the consolidation and building of the Party began many comrades in the printing house applied to join the Party. In view of this excellent situation, the group leading the consolidation and building of the Party took vigorous measures to “pay attention to . . . admitting politically conscious workers into the Party in a planned way.” They ran Mao Tsetung Thought study classes, organized the applicants to study conscientiously Chairman Mao’s “three constantly read articles” and his programme for Party building, helped them remould their world outlook and constantly examine their motives for wanting to join the Party. At the same time they launched revolutionary mass criticism of the counter-revolutionary fallacy like “joining the Party in order to climb up” advocated by Liu Shao-chi. Strictly abiding by the standards set for Party members, they accepted members in separate groups and at different periods.

A woman worker who came from a poor family, cherishing profound proletarian feelings for the Party and Chairman Mao, had applied for Party membership many times since 1952. However, because on many occasions she had fought against the revisionist line on Party building pushed by the capitalist roaders, the latter considered her “a fault-finder,” and so refused her admission into the Party. During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, this woman worker, holding high the great banner of revolutionary rebellion, rebelled with other comrades against the capitalist roaders in the printing house. She dared to struggle resolutely against all erroneous views, actions and tendencies which ran counter to Mao Tsetung Thought. In this movement for consolidating and building the Party, she gained membership and was elected a leading member of the Party branch, thereby adding fresh blood to the Party.

After ideological and organizational consolidation had been basically finished, the various workshops proceeded to organize full discussions among Party members and the masses, after which the leading bodies of the various Party branches were finally elected by the Party members. On the basis of this, and through repeated discussions and consultations, the new Party committee was finally established by elections by Party members.

The first question faced by the new Party committee is how to achieve unified leadership with the Party leadership as the core. According to the provisions of the new Party Constitution, the Party committee first made clear and established the relations between itself and the revolutionary committee as one of leading and being led. The Party committee considered it essential to carry out the following points before unified leadership could be achieved:

(1). The most fundamental aspect of unified leadership is to achieve leadership by Mao Tsetung Thought. Using Mao Tsetung Thought to command everything is the soul of unified leadership. The Party committee and the revolutionary committee must act strictly in accordance with Mao Tsetung Thought.

(2). Since most of the members of the revolutionary committee are members of the Party committee, the administrative organs of the revolutionary committee are at the same time administrative organs of the Party committee; the Party committee does not establish separate administrative organs.

(3). The revolutionary committee must carry out the decisions of the Party committee.

(4). Strictly carry out the Party’s principle of democratic centralism, “create the kind of vigorous and lively political situation in which there are both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, both unity of will and personal ease of mind.” This enabled the Party organization to become truly “a vigorous vanguard organization capable of leading the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in the fight against the class enemy.”

The consolidation and building of the Party has created an excellent situation in the Peking Hsinhua Printing House under the unified leadership of its new Party committee as regards grasping revolution, promoting production and other work and preparedness against war. The campaign among the Party members and revolutionary masses for the living study and application of Mao Tsetung Thought has now reached a new high. The leading groups at all levels have become militant headquarters in giving prominence to proletarian politics and grasping revolution and promoting production. The political and ideological consciousness of the Party members and non-Party people has risen to an unprecedented height. They are united as one in their concerted efforts to hold high the banner of unity and victory of the Ninth Party Congress and to strive for still greater victories.

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