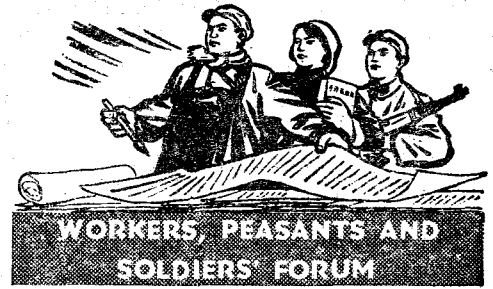


A People's Army Is Invincible Before Any Enemy

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Army unit in which martyr Chang Szu-teh saw service



LED by the Communist Party of Thailand, the heroic Thai People's Liberation Army has been sweeping across the length and breadth of Thailand. Like a torrent with irresistible force, it is violently battering at the rule of the U.S.-Thai reactionaries. By its performance the Thai People's Liberation Army has greatly increased the revolutionary militancy of the people of Thailand and pushed the people's armed struggle to a new stage. We revolutionary fighters hail the great victories won by the Thai People's Liberation Army and are overjoyed by the fact that the people of Thailand now have their own army.

Consistently growing strong in the heat of battle, the Thai People's Liberation Army is marching from victory to victory because it answers the call of its Supreme Command to "study and master Mao Tsetung Thought" and "serve the people wholly and entirely."

Twenty-six years ago, our great leader Chairman Mao made a brilliant speech *Serve the People* at a meeting in tribute to the memory of Comrade Chang Szu-teh, a P.L.A. guard, who had died for the people. In that speech, Chairman Mao paid high tribute to our army, a people's army: **"Our Communist Party and the Eighth Route and New Fourth Armies led by our Party are battalions of the revolution. These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work entirely in the people's interests. Comrade Chang Szu-teh was in the ranks of these battalions."** This high praise from Chairman Mao, which for us revolutionary fighters embodied the greatest concern, greatest inspiration and greatest education, made the direction of struggle clearer to us and gave us immeasurable strength for fighting and wiping out the enemy.

At that time, the Japanese imperialists frantically attacked our anti-Japanese base areas, carrying out a fascist "kill all, burn all, rob all" policy, while the Chiang Kai-shek bandit gang tightened its encirclement and blockade of northern Shensi. Crude weapons, food shortages and insufficient clothing—these were the odds against us. As things were, we followed the instructions of the Party Central Committee and bore in mind Chairman Mao's teaching to serve the people "wholly" and "entirely" and went to the villages and mountain areas where we visited the poor and helped the downtrodden, spread revolutionary truths among the masses, stimulated their class consciousness and hatred for the national foe and fortified

their confidence in victory. There we aroused the masses, organized the peasants on a wide scale, introduced democratic reforms, set up anti-Japanese democratic regimes, vigorously conducted a campaign to weed out spies and eliminate local despots and unfolded a struggle to reduce rent and interest. In so doing, the broad masses of the people won their liberation, political and economic. The fact that we consistently adhered to building up the Party, to setting up political power of the people, to organizing people's armed forces, to establishing mass organizations, to helping in industrial and agricultural production, indeed to doing everything necessary to enable a locality to stand on its own feet, had enabled us to expand the revolutionary ranks and make the anti-Japanese bases stronger and more consolidated. The people's army thus won the hearts of the masses and their warm support.

When not on combat duty, we would go to the villagers living near by to carry water and tidy up their courtyards for them and help them gather crops at harvest time. When the lunar new year and other festival days came we joined the masses and had a good time with them. Everywhere we went and in everything we did, we strictly observed our Army's Three Main Rules of Discipline and Eight Points for Attention.*

To break the enemy's economic blockade and lighten the people's burdens, we engaged in production while fighting the enemy. We obtained ample food and clothing through our own efforts, and by economizing on consumption and saving a bit here and there we managed to send the villagers grain from what we had saved. When we fought, we recalled Chairman Mao's teaching **"We have the interests of the people and the sufferings of the great majority at heart, and when we die for the people it is a worthy death."** In accordance with the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death, we protected the people with our lives and

* The Three Main Rules of Discipline are as follows:

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

The Eight Points for Attention are as follows:

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

shielded the masses. The bonds of affection between us were so strong and relations so close that we looked upon the people as our parents, who in turn treated us as their own sons. Many of them enthusiastically served as our guides and scouts and took on the job of forwarding military intelligence, and did a good job of guarding military secrets.

In 1947, the bandit troops under Hu Tsung-nan (one of Chiang Kai-shek's trusted generals) invaded northern Shensi. With the support and assistance of the people, we were kept well posted and enjoyed freedom of action. We annihilated the invading bandit troops and smashed Chiang Kai-shek's plot to mount an all-out attack on our liberated area. Since then we've consistently followed Chairman Mao's teaching of serving the people "wholly" and "entirely," overcoming enormous difficulties and defeating the enemy to expand our forces and win the people's liberation. The experience drawn from putting people's war into practice shows that a people's army built in accordance with Chairman Mao's thinking on army building to serve the people wholly and entirely is as strong as steel and invincible.

Today, we are very glad to see how the Thai People's Liberation Army, led by the Communist Party of Thailand, is making great strides along the road of serving the people "wholly" and "entirely" and fighting heroically for the liberation of the Thai people.

In its proclamation, the Supreme Command of the Thai People's Liberation Army pointed out that the Thai People's Liberation Army "which comes from the masses and enjoys their support is an army of fighters with a high level of revolutionary consciousness, a true army of the sons of the people and an army which serves the people wholeheartedly, is closely linked with them, has a high sense of discipline and maintains unity between officers and men." It declared that "therefore it can be said with certainty that this army will grow from small to big, from weak to strong, and march from victory to victory." The Thai People's Liberation Army is exactly a people's army of this description, an army which has flesh-and-blood ties with the masses. When not on combat duty, it goes deep among the masses, arouses and organizes the masses and propagates Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought among them. With their welfare at heart, the men of the Thai People's Liberation Army often put in hours of work for the masses, ploughing the fields for them, giving them medical treatment if needed and repairing their houses. Whether on a march or in actual combat, the men observe the army's Ten Main Rules of Discipline with a conscious responsibility. When confronted with serious threats from the enemy, they have staunchly protected the lives and property of the people even if this meant sacrificing their own lives. The Thai People's Liberation Army loves the people and is loyal to them. On their part, the people love the Liberation Army and look upon it as their kith and kin. Men and women, young and old, they all often volunteer

for sentry-go duty and send the armymen clothing and grain. They brave the elements, defy the enemy's threats and spurn his blandishments in order to shield their fighters, always ready to lay down their lives in the process. They are enthusiastic in sending their dear ones to join the army, too. By joining forces with the broad masses of the people and by helping one another, the Thai People's Liberation Army has been able to wipe out large numbers of enemy effectives, deal the enemy stunning blows and cut him down to size — a paper tiger. The actual struggle of the Thai people makes it completely clear: "The army must become one with the people so that they see it as their own army. Such an army will be invincible."

Growing from strength to strength, the Thai People's Liberation Army has struck crushing blows at the U.S.-Thanom clique and shaken its reactionary rule to its foundations. But the closer the enemy draws to his grave the more desperate he becomes in his counter-revolutionary last kicks. U.S. imperialism is now trying with might and main to shore up the traitorous Thanom clique and is strenuously expanding and beefing up the Thai reactionary army for a brutal crack-down on Thailand's revolutionary people. Meanwhile, the U.S.-Thanom clique is launching one counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" campaign after another against the Thai People's Liberation Army and carrying out a sanguinary policy of "kill all, burn all, rob all" against the people. Using counter-revolutionary dual tactics in the political sphere, the U.S.-Thanom reactionaries have come up with a bogus constitution in a vain effort to deceive the Thai people. But no matter what counter-revolutionary tricks they may have up their sleeves these will get them nowhere, and in the end they will only lift a rock to drop it on their own feet. Whatever the form of their persecution of the people, this can only accelerate the revolution of the Thai people on a broader and more intense scale, stir the Thai People's Liberation Army's inveterate hatred for the enemy and inspire it to greater heights of heroism in fighting the enemy to the finish. Growing stronger and more courageous in battle, the Thai People's Liberation Army is kindling the flames of armed struggle everywhere in Thailand, which is dotted with U.S. military bases. It abides by the instruction of the Communist Party of Thailand to "regard the study and mastery of Mao Tsetung Thought as its primary task" in actual struggle and "bring into full play the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither difficulties nor death and serving the people wholly and entirely, and of utter devotion to others without any thought of self." It is marching from victory to victory. We are convinced that, led by the Communist Party of Thailand, the Thai People's Liberation Army will surmount all difficulties and smash the enemy's "encirclement and suppression" campaigns, drown the U.S.-Thanom clique in the ocean of people's war and establish a revolutionary regime of the people. Final victory is sure to go to the heroic people of Thailand!