

Chairman Mao's Passing Deeply Mourned Throughout the World

THE passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung has been mourned with profound grief since September 9 in many countries and by many people throughout the world. They have expressed heartfelt love and boundless respect for Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great leader of the Chinese people and the great teacher of the international proletariat, the oppressed nations and oppressed people.

The Governments of Romania, Laos, Niger, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Zambia, Algeria, Uganda, Mozambique, Kuwait, Nigeria, Botswana, Gambia, Guyana, Panama, Chile, Yugoslavia, Cyprus, New Zealand, Canada, France, Switzerland, Turkey and West Germany expressed their deep sorrow at the death of Chairman Mao by flying their flags at half-mast throughout their respective countries or on government and parliament buildings. A number of them declared September 18 a day of national mourning, others officially set several days aside as a period of national mourning. Preliminary figures show that 53 countries have flown their flags at half-mast.

State leaders or their representatives and government representatives of 105 countries have made condolence calls at the Chinese Embassies; 169 cables or letters of condolence have been sent to China by 128 heads of state or government. Marxist-Leninist Parties and organizations of many countries in the five continents have sent cables or letters of condolence to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

The parliaments of Sierra Leone, Mauritius, Jamaica, the Netherlands and Australia have held memorial meetings or adopted resolutions mourning the passing of Chairman Mao.

In the past few days, the governments and people of many countries have solemnly held memorial meetings or large-scale processions to mourn the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung. They have recalled the glorious revolutionary exploits of Chairman Mao, and highly praised his great contributions to the liberation of the Chinese people, to the liberation of the oppressed nations and oppressed people the world over and to the communist cause. Korea, Albania, Romania and Democratic Kampuchea have held solemn mass memorial meetings or memorial meetings at grass-roots level. Condolence processions and other mourning activities, involving 10,000-20,000 people in some cases, have been held in many places in Tanzania. Memorial meetings

have also been held in Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, the Congo, Benin and Zambia.

Memorial meetings deeply mourning Chairman Mao's passing have also been held by Marxist-Leninist Parties, mass organizations and friendship organizations in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, the Philippines, India, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Peru, Venezuela, Japan, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Austria, Greece, Australia, Canada and the United States.

Delegates to many international conferences have expressed mourning for and paid tributes to Chairman Mao. At the opening ceremony of the 31st Session of the U.N. General Assembly on September 21, representatives from more than 140 member states observed a one minute silence for Chairman Mao's passing. Earlier, at meetings of other U.N. bodies, delegates also expressed deepest condolences on the passing of Chairman Mao. In Mexico City, when the conference on economic co-operation among the developing countries opened on September 13, the delegates from 104 countries and international organizations all stood for a minute in silent mourning for Chairman Mao.

In London, on the same day, delegates of a number of countries attending the 61st Session of the Legal Committee of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization and officials of the organization's secretariat expressed profound condolences on the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung. On September 18, the secretariat flew its flag at half-mast at its headquarters in mourning for the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

When a special plenary session of the Communications Divisional Meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization was held in Montreal, Canada, on September 9, all the delegates stood in silent tribute for one minute mourning the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung. Flags were flown at half-mast that afternoon.

Upon learning the news of the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung, the European Conference of Heavy Ion Nuclear Physics in session in Caen, northwestern France, suspended its proceedings during the afternoon of September 9 and about 400 delegates from 28 countries stood in silence as a symbol of their sincere grief on the passing of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

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