
C.P.C. Central Committee's Message of Sympathy to Earthquake-Stricken Area

The Party committees and the revolutionary committees of Hopei Province and Tientsin and Peking municipalities, the Peking Military Area Command, the Hopei Provincial Military Area Command and the Peking Garrison and the Tientsin Garrison of the Chinese People's Liberation Army as well as the Party committees and revolutionary committees at various levels, the people of various nationalities and the P.L.A. commanders and fighters of Tangshan and its nearby stricken places:

A strong earthquake occurred in the Tangshan-Fengnan area on July 28, 1976 and affected Tientsin and Peking municipalities. It caused great losses to people's life and property, and Tangshan city, in particular, suffered extremely serious damages and losses. With great concern, our great leader Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee extend cordial sympathy to the people of various nationalities and commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army afflicted by the earthquake.

The Central Committee believes that the people of various nationalities and commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army, armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the move-

ment to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, will certainly bring into full play the revolutionary spirit of arduous struggle, plunge into the anti-quake relief fight with a firm and indomitable will and develop production and rebuild their homes energetically and through self-reliance under the leadership of the provincial and municipal Party committees and revolutionary committees and the Party committees of the P.L.A. units and with the support and assistance of the people of the whole country.

The Central Committee calls on Communist Party members, Communist Youth League members, revolutionary cadres, workers, poor and lower-middle peasants and commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in the earthquake-stricken area to conscientiously study Chairman Mao's important instructions, take class struggle as the key link, deepen the great struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping's counter-revolutionary revisionist line and repulse the Right deviationist attempt at reversing correct verdicts, and unite to fight against the serious natural disaster. Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory!

The Central Committee of the
Communist Party of China

July 28, 1976

Heroic People Are Invincible

A STRONG earthquake occurred recently in the Tangshan-Fengnan area of Hopei Province and affected the Tientsin-Peking area. Under the loving care of our great leader Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee and with the energetic support and assistance of the people throughout the country, the people in the stricken area have fought heroically and won great victories in the struggle to combat the quake and carry out relief work. We pay high tribute to the masses of the people and cadres who are fighting in the forefront and to the comrades of the People's Liberation Army, the medical teams and other fronts who are working to help the afflicted area.

Chairman Mao has taught us: "This army has an indomitable spirit and is determined to vanquish all enemies and never to yield." The recent grave natural disaster has tested and tempered our people. The masses and cadres in the stricken area are fearless and are

holding their heads high in the face of the disaster which hit them with deadly force. Full of confidence and militancy, they have displayed the revolutionary spirit that man will surely conquer nature; they have quickly organized themselves to rescue people and property, made every possible effort to ensure the livelihood of the masses, worked energetically to restore production, communications and transport and waged an unremitting struggle against this serious natural disaster.

In this struggle, the masses have cared for each other, and they have shown love for and helped each other, putting public interest before self-interest and the interest of others above their own. There are numerous moving examples of heroic deeds. Some workers and poor and lower-middle peasants have laid down their lives to rescue their class brothers. Leading cadres at various levels have been directing the struggle on the

spot, sharing the danger and hardships of the masses. Some leading comrades, though they themselves had been injured, plunged into the battle as soon as they were rescued. Large numbers of commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army have rushed to the seriously afflicted places to do rescue and relief work despite the great danger. Some medical workers, regardless of their own serious wounds, have worked with perseverance to rescue the injured. With their own deeds, the comrades carrying on the struggle against the earthquake and doing relief work have composed a magnificent song of revolutionary heroism.

The people throughout the country, whose hearts beat in unison with those of the afflicted people, regard the difficulties of the people in the stricken area as their own. They share the wishes and concern of the afflicted people. When one place is in difficulty, help comes from all sides. With regard to manpower and materials, top priority is given to the needs of the afflicted area and whatever is needed is provided. Some places which were afflicted themselves have done their utmost to assist the seriously hit area of their own accord. A large number of medical teams have rushed to the stricken area. Large quantities of medicines, food, clothing, building materials and other relief supplies are pouring into the afflicted area from all parts of the country. This makes a vivid scene of nationwide unity in relief efforts and embodies the great power of self-reliance and the lofty communist spirit of our people.

All this shows in a deep-going way that our heroic people armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution are invincible; that our socialist system under the dictatorship of the proletariat has immense superiority and that the conscientious study by the

cadres and masses of the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the restriction of bourgeois right, the criticism of Teng Hsiao-ping's counter-revolutionary revisionist line and the struggle to beat back the Right deviationist attempt have yielded fruitful results. Led by the Communist Party and guided by Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, our people can surmount any difficulty and create any miracle. As Chairman Mao has pointed out: "No difficulties can prevent people from advancing; we can drive difficulties away provided we fight against them and hold on to the end." The people in the afflicted area said proudly: "When there is a quake, we meet it with a revolution." "No hurricane can knock us down, and no strong earthquake can topple us. Be it hurricane or quake, we will be victorious."

At present, we should resolutely respond to the militant call of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, conscientiously study Chairman Mao's important instructions, take class struggle as the key link, deepen the great struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and repulse the Right deviationist attempt and link it with the reality of class struggle and two-line struggle on various fronts, and score new victories in the anti-quake struggle and relief work. We have the strength, confidence and ability to defeat Teng Hsiao-ping's counter-revolutionary revisionist line and also the strength, confidence and ability to conquer the serious natural disaster. We firmly believe that, with Chairman Mao's revolutionary line as our guide, with leadership from the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao and the Party committees at all levels and with the warm support of the people across the country, the people in the stricken area will surely surmount all difficulties, rebuild their homes and continue their triumphant advance along the broad road of socialism.

(*"Renmin Ribao" editorial, August 2*)

Man Will Conquer Nature

People in Afflicted Area Fight Quake

A STRONG earthquake took place in the Tangshan-Fengnan area in eastern Hopei Province of north China at 03:42 hours on July 28. Relatively strong shocks were felt in Tientsin and Peking.

Figures released by the nation's network of seismological observatories specified the magnitude of the principal shock to be 7.5, with the epicentre at 39.4 degrees north latitude and 118.1 degrees east longitude. Damages of varying degrees were reported in the epicentral region.

After the quake, our great leader Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee showed great concern

for the people in the afflicted area. The Party Central Committee immediately sent a message of sympathy which was a great encouragement to the people there. The Hopei provincial Party committee, the Tientsin and Peking municipal Party committees and the Party organizations at various levels in the stricken area took emergency measures and led the masses in speedily fighting against the effects of the quake and in taking precautionary measures against possible future shocks. Leading comrades on the Hopei provincial Party committee rushed to the scene at the head of leading members of departments concerned to direct the work. Responsible comrades of the Tangshan prefectural Party

Central Delegation in Earthquake-Stricken Area

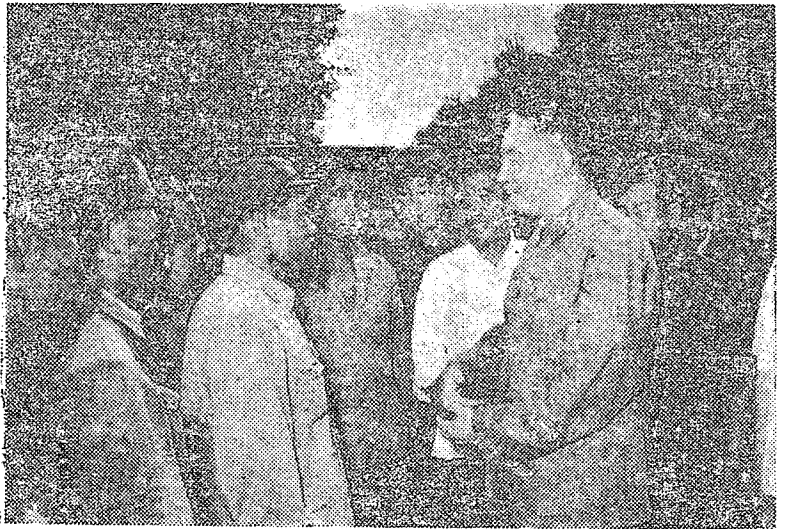
A CENTRAL delegation sent by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council, with Premier Hua Kuo-feng as the general leader, is touring places struck by the violent earthquake of July 28 to extend cordial sympathy to the victims, convey to them the tremendous solicitude of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, and encourage them to give play to the revolutionary spirit of hard work and self-reliance to develop production and rebuild their homes.

Deputy general leaders of the delegation are Comrades Chen Yung-kuei, Ulanfu, Kuo Yu-feng, Fan Tzu-yu, Chang Tsai-chien, Huang Yu-kun, Chang Tsung-hsun, Yang Chun-sheng, Hsieh Ching-yi, Hsieh Hsueh-kung, Hsu Cheng, Liu Tzu-hou and Ma Hui. The central delegation consists of three subdivisions for Tangshan, Tientsin and Peking respectively.

When the delegation left Peking, it was seen off at the airport by Party and state leaders Wang Hung-wen, Chiang Ching, Chen Hsi-lien, Wang Tung-hsing and Li Su-wen, and Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Yang Cheng-wu.

After arriving in Tangshan which was seriously hit by the quake, Premier Hua Kuo-feng immediately went to the Kailan Coal Mine and the Tangshan Iron and Steel Company to tender sympathy to the masses. As soon as members of the three subdivisions reached the affected areas of Tangshan, Tientsin and Peking on July 30, they went to factories, mines, villages, army camps, offices, schools and hospitals. They called on quake victims, read aloud the message of sympathy from the Party Central Committee to the people in the stricken areas, conveyed the tremendous solicitude and cordial sympathy of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee for the masses and cadres in the afflicted area, and encouraged them, under the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and under the leadership of the Party committees at various levels, to carry forward the revolutionary spirit that man will conquer nature, unite and help one another, work hard and dauntlessly plunge into the struggle to fight the effects of the quake and carry out relief work.

The broad masses of the people in the earthquake-stricken areas were deeply moved by the fact that



Premier Hua Kuo-feng extending cordial sympathy to quake victims at the Kailan Coal Mine.

Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee had sent the delegation to visit them. Wherever Premier Hua Kuo-feng and the delegation members went, people greeted them with warm handshakes. Many quake victims, with tears in their eyes, shouted: "Long live our great leader Chairman Mao!" "Long live the Communist Party of China!" "Thank Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee for their loving care!" They said: "At a time when we are in great difficulty, Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee have sent armymen and medical teams to our rescue, bringing large quantities of goods and materials for us. Now the delegation is here among us, extending to us warm sympathy. Great are heaven and earth, but greater still is the kindness of the Party; deep are the rivers and seas, but deeper still is the kindness of Chairman Mao!" They expressed the determination that they would by deeds answer the loving care of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee and the support rendered by the people throughout the country. Under the impetus of the struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and beat back the Right deviationist attempt to reverse correct verdicts and taking class struggle as the key link, they pledged to work hard and self-reliantly and fight in unity so as to restore production and rebuild their homes as soon as possible. They expressed the determination to fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory.

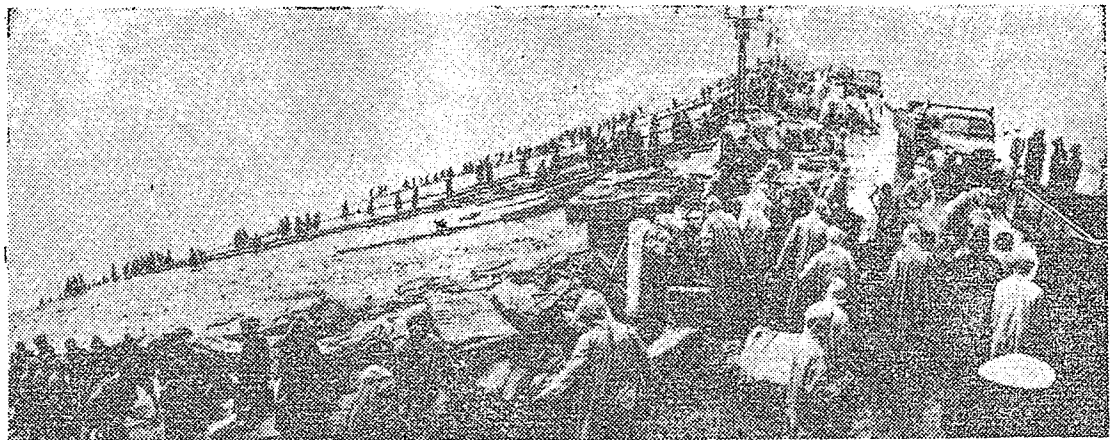
(Hsinhua news dispatch, August 4)

committee, the Tangshan city Party committee and People's Liberation Army units stationed in the locality immediately set up command posts to lead the masses in fighting the aftereffects of the quake.

Scientific workers from the state seismological bureau and the Hopei provincial seismological bureau promptly went to the stricken area to conduct on-the-spot observation and keep an eye on developments.

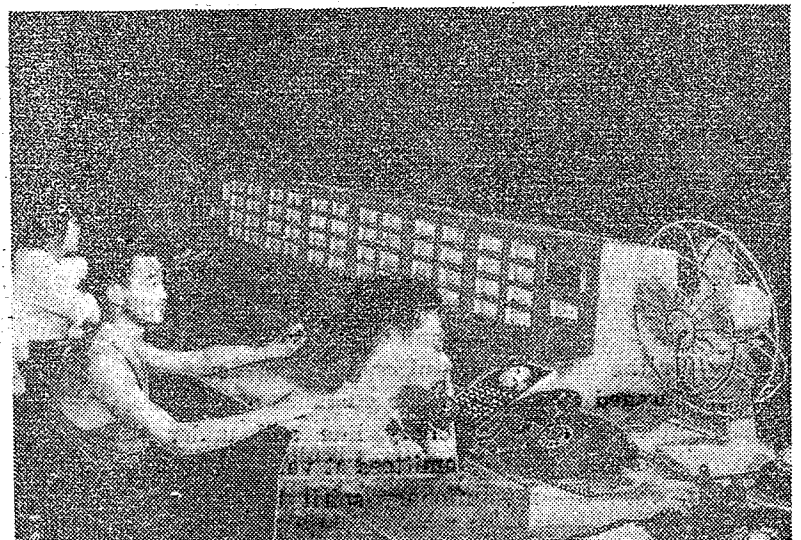


Cadres and workers of the Kailan Coal Mine studying the Party Central Committee's message of sympathy.



Commanders and fighters of the P.L.A. putting up a pontoon bridge to enable relief materials to flow into the stricken area.

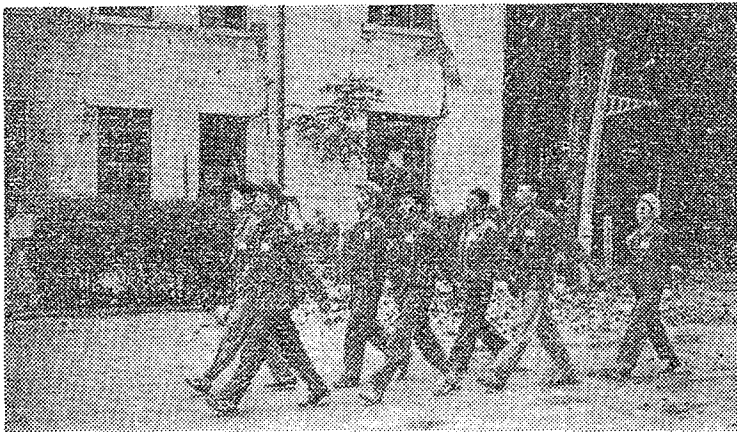
Reinforcing the Paiho River dam of the Miyun Reservoir on Peking's outskirts.



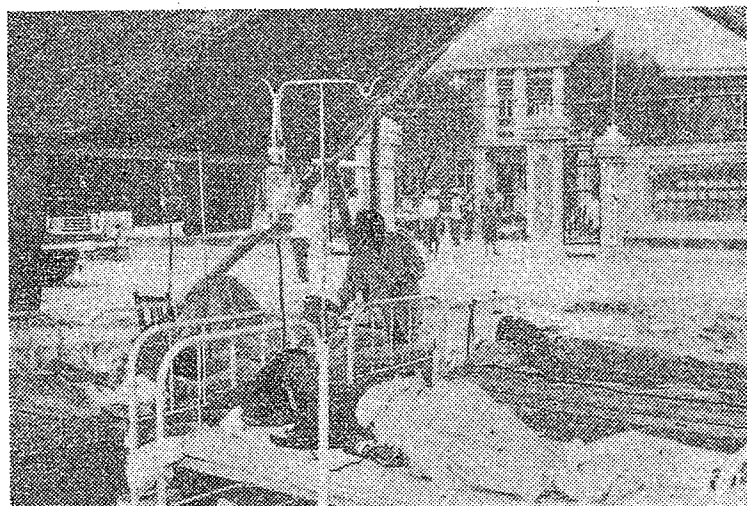
A power plant in Tientsin back in commission in less than two hours after the quake.

With soaring revolutionary spirit, the cadres and people of the afflicted Tangshan-Fengnan area are waging a heroic struggle to combat the natural disaster. Contingents of relief and rescue workers from other parts of Hopai Province and from some provinces, mu-

nicipalities and autonomous regions and units of the People's Liberation Army are carrying out relief work round the clock together with the local people. The whole area is filled with the revolutionary atmosphere of unity in struggle. This fully demonstrates the tre-



Worker-militia of Tangshan on patrol.



Tangshan medical workers putting up tents to treat the injured.



Members of Hsiao-chin-chuang Production Brigade on Tientsin's outskirts working the fields after the quake.

mendous superiority of China's socialist system under the dictatorship of the proletariat. It also shows the dauntless spirit of the Chinese people who are armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, have been tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and are now advancing triumphantly in the struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and repulse the Right deviationist attempt at reversing correct verdicts.

Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, the cadres and workers of the Kailan Coal Mine, the Tangshan Iron and Steel Company, the Tangshan Power Plant, the Tangshan No. 422 Cement Works and other factories and mines energetically helped the afflicted workers and their families and checked the damages done to the equipment and workshops so as to restore production as soon as possible. Most of the workers of Kailan who were underground when the quake struck returned safe and sound above ground and many among the masses were out of danger. Not long after the quake, members of the worker-militia of Tangshan were out patrolling the streets.

The people of Tangshan have displayed fine revolutionary heroism and revolutionary optimism. Members of Party committees at various levels have been in the van throughout the struggle. Many leading cadres of Party committees in the factories, mines and other industrial enterprises hurried to their respective units to direct the work of combating the aftereffects of the quake without so much as taking time to clean themselves of the mud on their bodies or find out what had happened to their own families. Party committee secretary Peng Hung of the Tangshan Power Plant who is nearly 60 fought his way free of debris and rushed to the plant without pausing to see how his aged mother and his children were. Communist Party members pledged that they would live up to their glorious name in these critical moments. They threw themselves into rescue work under the most hazardous circumstances. As soon as he was out of danger, Keng Fu-an, a Communist Party member of the Tangshan Colliery, flung himself into rescue work, with a portrait of Chairman Mao he had cut out of a pictorial in his bosom. His family had suffered casualties but he held back his grief. The workers displayed the spirit of fearing neither difficulties nor death. In order to maintain telephone contact with other parts of the country, seven comrades manning a post and telegraph station on the outskirts of Tangshan refused to go off duty, although their voices were hoarse and their eyes bloodshot and swollen. A

safety and rescue team of the Tangshan Colliery set out immediately after they received orders to open up an old ventilation shaft some five kilometres away. But when they got there they found that the electric winch was out of commission. With their hands and shoulders they used sheer force to open up the heavy doors of the shaft, thereby ensuring the safety of the miners.

After the earthquake tremors reached Peking, the indomitable urban and rural population plunged into anti-quake work while carrying on with their work and production. Water, electricity, coal and gas supply as well as telecommunications and transport in the city continued as usual. Foodstuff, vegetables and other daily necessities are being supplied without a hitch. The inhabitants have been organized and settled in places of safety. People in the capital took emergency measures and collected, manufactured and sent large quantities of relief materials to the Tangshan-Fengnan area. They also dispatched a power supply equipment repair team and over a dozen medical teams to the afflicted area. Many injured people were rushed from the stricken area to Peking for treatment.

In Tientsin, which was also affected by the earthquake, the inhabitants remained calm and the city was orderly. Workers lost no time in repairing the damaged buildings and machinery to get production started again.

When the transmission lines were damaged at the Takang Oilfield, leading members of the oilfield's power plant together with the workers swung into action to restore power supply under dangerous conditions. Within a short time drilling and oil extraction operations got going as usual. Drilling footage and oil output after the earthquake rose step by step. By July 30, that is, two days after the quake, production in the entire oilfield was back to pre-quake level.

The Tientsin Foodstuff Factory was back working normally 32 hours after the quake, supplying foodstuff to the city and the people of Tangshan. Daily production of biscuits was almost 300 tons, the pre-quake level. The Party branch of the Hsiao-chin-chuang Production Brigade, a nationally famous advanced unit on the outskirts of Tientsin, called a branch committee meeting right after the earthquake on the morning of July 28 to discuss measures for combating the aftermath of the quake. A meeting of commune members was also held to mobilize them to overcome the difficulties brought on by this serious natural disaster. In two days they top-dressed a huge area under maize and overhauled their drainage and irrigation equipment. On the evening of July 30, the evening political school resumed classes. Men and women, young and old, were filled with tears of gratitude when they studied the message of sympathy from the Party Central Committee. The spare-time cultural propaganda team, beating gongs and drums, rehearsed on the brigade's sports ground new items to boost the morale of the people. A brigade member

wrote a poem which reads: "We meet the typhoon without blinking, and stand rock-firm in the big quake. Always remembering to take class struggle as the key link. We will paint a lovelier picture on this devastated land of ours." These lines reflect the heroic spirit of the commune members of Hsiao-chin-chuang and the people of the stricken area.

Liaoning, Shanghai and many other places are sending an unending stream of personnel, grain, foodstuffs, medicine, tents, timber, cement and other urgently required materials by air, sea and land to the Tangshan-Fengnan area. The people of the afflicted area are deeply moved by the loving concern shown them by Chairman Mao, the Party Central Committee and the people of the whole country. With tears of gratitude, they shouted: "We thank Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee for their loving concern!" "Long live our great leader Chairman Mao!"

Many units of the People's Liberation Army took emergency measures to give all-out assistance to the people of the afflicted area. They rushed to the scene despite the pouring rain. Disregarding fatigue and risking the danger of aftershocks, the commanders and fighters conveyed to the local people the solicitude of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee and fought tenaciously side by side with the people day and night. They worked wherever the damage and the danger were the greatest. They did whatever they could to rescue every injured person, helped the masses overcome difficulties and made prompt delivery of relief materials, restored telecommunications, repaired railways, highways and bridges and reinforced the reservoirs.

Support and assistance pouring in from all quarters have provided favourable conditions for relief work. People in the afflicted area have been given accommodations and the several thousand medical workers who rushed to the seriously affected places in Tangshan have given first aid to the injured. Railways, highways, water and electricity supplies and telecommunications damaged by the quake are being restored step by step.

Under the loving care of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee and with all-out support and assistance from the people throughout the country, the people of the severely hit area are displaying high militant spirit. Workers of the Tangshan Iron and Steel Company have declared: "We are not afraid even if the sky should fall and the earth should crumble. We will not bow even before an avalanche. The bigger the earthquake, the more energetically we will work. We pledge to rebuild our homes through self-reliance." Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, they are determined to take class struggle as the key link, deepen the great struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and repulse the Right deviationist attempt at reversing correct verdicts and win victories in combating the effects of quake and in relief work.