

MASSES MUST NOT STRUGGLE AGAINST STUDENTS
(11 September 1966)

[Full text of an editorial entitled: "The Masses of Workers and Peasants Should Unite With the Revolutionary Students Under the Banner of Mao-Tse-tung's Thought."]

During the great proletarian cultural revolution, the broad masses of workers, peasants, and revolutionary students in China share the same targets of the struggle and the same main orientation for the revolution. Under the banner of the

invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, we, sharing the same breath and the same fate, must encourage, learn from, support, and rely on each other so as to win great victories in the great cultural revolution.

The 16 point-decision put forth by Comrade Mao Tse-tung pointed out: "To prevent the struggle from being diverted from its main objective, it is not permitted, whatever the pretext, to incite the masses to struggle against each other, or to incite the students to do likewise." This decision of the CCP Central Committee charted the orientation for the struggle, inspired the will of the masses to fight, and strengthened unity among the masses of workers and students, among the revolutionary students, between the masses of workers and peasants and revolutionary students, and among all revolutionary comrades so that the tempest of the cultural revolution would be vigorously developed throughout the country.

But responsible persons in some localities and some units openly defied this decision of the CCP Central Committee. They created various pretexts to suppress the mass movement. They even incited a number of the workers and peasants who did not know the truth to oppose and antagonize the revolutionary students. Their actions run diametrically counter to Comrade Mao Tse-tung's directives. Their actions constitute an error on matters of orientation and an error of line.

We workers and peasants must sharpen our sights and raise our vigilance. Never permit anyone, whatever the pretext, to incite the masses of workers and peasants to struggle against the students.

Under the leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and the CCP and tempered by the long and arduous revolutionary struggle, our worker and peasant masses have profound class feelings for our great leader Chairman Mao, for Mao Tse-tung's thought, for the party, and for the cause of socialism. We will never allow anyone to oppose Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought, the party, or socialism. We will wage a firm struggle against anyone who does that. But we also will not allow anyone to make use of the profound class feelings toward the party of our worker and peasant masses to sow dissension or create antagonism between ourselves and the revolutionary students so as to create opportunities for their own gains.

In the great proletarian cultural revolution the students rise to make revolution and to direct the spearhead of the struggle against those in authority who are taking the capitalist road, and against all demons and monsters. There

is no mistake in their main orientation. This is the main current of the movement. We workers and peasants should warmly welcome and firmly support their revolutionary actions. It is hardly avoidable that the revolutionary students should show at least some shortcomings in the course of struggle. We must believe, however, that the overwhelming majority of the students genuinely seek to make revolution and are capable of educating themselves. Under the illumination of the glorious thought of Mao Tse-tung, they will certainly be able to learn how to swim by swimming and to struggle by waging struggles. We should not be easily taken in by the incitement of some people to interfere with the revolutionary actions of the students by merely looking at the shortcomings of the students.

In the course of the struggle, it is perfectly normal that the masses of workers and peasants and the revolutionary students hold different views with regard to certain questions. The key is how to handle contradictions when they are discovered.

The correct attitude should be to act upon Comrade Mao Tse-tung's teachings, to regard the 16 points as the criteria for distinguishing right from wrong, to make use of the formula of unity-criticism-unity, and to adopt correct measures and resolve contradictions by consultations. We should never interfere with others or create antagonism simply because we hold views different from theirs.

We workers and peasants must unite with the revolutionary students, and all revolutionary comrades must unite to act firmly on Chairman Mao's directives. We must play an exemplary role in implementing the 16 points so that the cultural revolution will triumphantly advance forward along the path of Mao Tse-tung's thought.