

CANTON VIOLENCE OF 11 SEPTEMBER TOLD
Canton, Tung-fang Hung, 21 September 1967

**[Full text of an article entitled "Factual Account of the
September 11 Bloodshed,"]**

**The appalling, municipality-shaking September 11 bloodshed took
place after the signing of the September 1 Agreement, particularly after**

the announcement of the September 5 Order approved by Chairman Mao. This incident did not happen casually. It was a bloody incident of slaughtering the revolutionary rebels and revolutionary masses, which was intentionally caused by the handful of bad leaders of the conservative organizations manipulated by the Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road. Its aim was to provoke violent struggle on a big scale, to sabotage the implementation of the September 5 Order, to apply pressure on the Party Central Committee and the Canton Military District Command, to interfere with and shift the progressing movement of supporting the army and cherishing the people and the main orientation of the struggle for criticizing T'ao Chu. It was a death-bed struggle waged by the bourgeois reactionaries. After this incident, the conservatives — manipulated by the Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road — started all propaganda machines. They screamed for catching the thief while they themselves were the thieves. They confused right with wrong, wantonly started rumor and vilified and attacked the revolutionary rebels, in an attempt to bring evil upon other people, and acquit themselves of their crimes of murder. How malicious their intentions were!

To rectify misconception, we give below a comprehensive, brief account of the on-the-spot investigations made by the Hungch'i commune of Chienkuo Restaurant under the food and drinks system of the "Workers' Revolutionary Alliance" and by the Elementary Education Red Headquarters, and of the incident witnessed by us:

On September 11, the "Spring Thunder," "District Headquarters," "Doctrine Guards" and other conservative forces in Canton gathered their men in the municipality, adopted economist means to hoodwink the workers and peasants in Foshan, Shaokuan, Tsunghua and other suburban areas to attend the so-called inauguration of the "Revolutionary Committee of Workers in Canton Area" held at Yuehhsiushan Stadium.

It was past nine o'clock in the morning. Seventy-two trucks loaded with peasants from Tsunghua arrived in Canton. The trucks passed Chungshan No. 5 Road. Because there were crowds of people at the junction in Peking Road, the trucks had to move on slowly. When the thirty-second truck came near Peking Road, the masses discovered some weapon in it. They mounted the truck immediately for an investigation. They found a pistol, a hand grenade and a dagger. The onlooking revolutionary masses felt deep indignation at this open violation of the agreement for the keeping of arms under bond and unanimously aired their condemnation. Out of indignation, some of them tore off from the truck the flag of the Alliance of Poor and Lower-Middle Peasants in Areas Skirting Tsunghua. Seeing that their secret had been divulged, one of the men in the truck, in order to escape being caught, pulled out a pistol and was about to shoot. Fortunately, the masses were highly vigilant and immediately ran forward to snatch his pistol. Later, the men of the Red Garrison Headquarters and the Workers' Pickets arrived and the masses handed to them the man who wanted to fire his pistol, together with the arms found in the truck.

The masses did not reproach the peasants under the suburban poor and lower-middle peasant's alliance. Instead, they had friendly chats with them and carried out ideological work among them. Some of them eagerly gave them water to drink and cigarettes to smoke. The peasants came to realize that they had been deceived and that they should not have come into the city. A leader of these peasants said: "We don't know what we come here for. The higher authorities told us that we don't have to work today and must come here for a meeting. Each of us is given two yuan and 15 wage points." The peasant brothers in those trucks which did not drive away were later persuaded by the PLA comrades and went to take a rest in the assembly hall of the Kwangtung Provincial People's Council. The broad revolutionary masses expressed warm welcome to them for their awakening and their revolutionary refusal to take part in the violent struggle provoked by the Workers' Committee under the District Headquarters.

At about 11 o'clock in the morning, two trucks, loaded with members of the Doctrine Guards and "Hung Pan Tsung" of the No. 46 Middle School and with bricks sped along Chungshan No. 5 Road toward the Financial Department Building. The masses on the road laughed at them. Some people threw banana peels and handbills at them. The Doctrine Guards stopped their truck and threw a piece of brick at the masses, wounding one of them. A Doctrine Guard also got down from the truck and struck the onlooking masses with his leather belt. The masses were indignant at this. They loudly condemned the Doctrine Guards "for attempting to kill." Immediately they drew near on both sides of the trucks. Seeing this, the Doctrine Guards at once started their trucks and pressed hard on the accelerators. When the trucks had just left the pursuing masses, the Doctrine Guards pulled out their pistols and shot at the masses behind their trucks. They fired a few shots, wounding four men, one in the head, one in the left chest, one in the hand and one in the foot. After that, the Doctrine Guards sped toward Yuehhsiushan Mountain.

At noon, despite the iron-clad fact that the arms of the Tsunghua suburban poor and lower-middle peasants' alliance had been discovered and the Doctrine Guards had fired their guns to wound the masses, the presidium of the "Revolutionary Committee of Workers in Canton Area" wantonly started a rumor at the meeting, saying that the "Red Flag Faction" amassed their men at Chungshan No. 5 Road (actually the masses at the road junction were unorganized and many of them were children) to sabotage their demonstration... They shaped public opinion in favor of a violent struggle. They also read a so-called statement of protest.

At 1:15 p.m., the Revolutionary Committee of Workers in Canton Area started its parade. The parade contingents wanted to pass Chihsiang Road and go westward along Chungshan No. 5 Road. But, the road was crowded, particularly at the road junction. The handful of heartless and rabid bad leaders of the District Headquarters ran two of their trucks at the crowds at the speed of 40 kilometers per hour and higher. The first truck bumped against the pillar supporting the balcony of the Urban Services Bureau

building. The second truck bumped against a trackless tram stopping at Chungshan No. 5 Road. One person (a child) was killed on the spot, and two others were wounded. The masses felt indignant against these atrocities perpetrated by the fascist murderers. They were forced to pick up pieces of brick by the roadside and launch a brave counter-attack. These bad leaders used machine guns, pistols, hand grenades and other murderous weapons which they had got ready, and aimed at the barehanded masses. A well prepared massacre started in this way. From the time the Doctrine Guards fired their guns to the time the Central Investigation Corps and the PIA unit came to the scene, the District Headquarters and the Doctrine Guards fired more than 200 bullets and threw four hand-grenades. According to incomplete statistics, 13 persons among the revolutionary masses were killed (nine of them died on the spot and the other four died in hospital) and 155 wounded, of whom 17 seriously. Of the wounded, 73 were sent to Chungshan Hospital, 43 to Provincial People's Hospital, 36 to Municipal No. 1 Hospital, 11 to Municipal Workers' Hospital and 5 to Yuehhsiu Area Hospital (those sent to military hospital were not included in the above figures). Apart from this, countless people were wounded with bricks by the District Headquarters and the Doctrine Guards. In Chienkuo Restaurant alone, 45 persons who were slightly injured came in to have their wounds dressed. Moreover, the District Headquarters and the Doctrine Guards beat and unlawfully kidnapped seven persons from among the revolutionary masses and took them away on four trucks, the licence numbers of which were: 3-318, 15-1458, 15-10029 and 15-14944.

The facts above were written with blood. They cannot be reversed no matter what rumor the "Spring Thunder," "District Headquarters," "Doctrine Guards" and other conservative organizations may start. The accounts of their crimes in sabotaging the September 5 Order and the September 1 Agreement must be settled.