

NEED FOR EDUCATION ON CURRENT SITUATION CITED
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[Full text of an editorial entitled "Do A Good Job of Education on the Current Situation."]

In the hightide of the studying of Chairman Mao's latest instructions, many units of our army are giving close attention to education on the current situation; taking into consideration what is actually in people's minds, their discussion concentrates on the unprecedentedly excellent situation prevailing in the great proletarian cultural revolution and the great victories of Mao Tse-tung's thought and Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line. The results are fine. The methods used merit attention and popularization.

A correct principle, policy and plan stem from the correct analysis of the political situation and a correct assessment of class forces. The series of latest instructions put forward by Chairman Mao were drawn up on the basis of a most scientific and profound analysis which he had made of the situation in the great proletarian cultural revolution. Only by doing good work in education on the correct situation to let the broad masses see more clearly the unprecedentedly excellent situation prevailing in the great proletarian cultural revolution, is it possible to enable them to understand more profoundly the great significance of Chairman Mao's latest instructions and to carry out Chairman Mao's great instructions still more consciously and effectively. Otherwise, if the assessment of the situation is incorrect, it is impossible to reach a correct understanding of the principles, policies and plans drawn up by Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, it will lead to a number of incorrect actions, and may even result in losing one's bearings and going astray.

Under the guidance of the great thought of Mao Tse-tung, a very rapid development in the great proletarian cultural revolution movement is taking place. Chairman Mao says: "What are the characteristics of the present movement? What are its laws? How is it to be directed? These are all practical questions." "The movement is developing, new things have yet to emerge, and they are emerging in an endless stream. To study this movement in its entirety and in its development is a great task claiming our constant attention." We must constantly carry out education on the current situation among the army units so that they can keep a clear mind and maintain a correct

orientation, and closely follow Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought and Chairman Mao's great strategic plan. We should constantly use Mao Tse-tung's thought in analyzing and summing up new trends, new achievements, new experiences and new problems which arise in the movement, carry out timely education among the masses of commanders and fighters so that their ideas keep pace with the developing new situation.

The fundamental question in education on the current situation is to help the masses to use Mao Tse-tung's thought as a telescope and microscope for observing complex situations in the class struggle, and to use Mao Tse-tung's thought to unify people's understanding of the situation, to see through the class enemy's sowing of discord and instigation, and to overcome the influences of all kinds of non-proletarian ideology, whether from the right or the "Left."

In his latest instructions, Chairman Mao teaches us: "The situation in the great proletarian cultural revolution throughout the country is now just good but excellent. The entire situation is better than ever before. The important hallmark of this excellent situation is the full mobilization of the masses. Never before in any mass movement in the past have the masses been mobilized so widely and in such a deep-going manner."

Using Mao Tse-tung's thought in observing and analyzing the situation means that one must act in accordance with this teaching of Chairman Mao's; above all, one must keep the masses constantly in view. The masses are the makers of history and the masters of history. The mass current decides the nature of the revolutionary situation. Whether the situation of our revolution is favorable or unfavorable depends on the breadth and depth of the mobilization of the masses by using Mao Tse-tung's thought, the level of their consciousness and their organization. The experience of the great proletarian cultural revolution proves that once Mao Tse-tung's thought is integrated with millions upon millions of the masses and everybody -- except the renegades, secret agents, the diehard Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road, and the ghosts and monsters of society (landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries, bad elements and the rightists who have not sufficiently remolded themselves) -- concerns himself with the affairs of the State and rises up in revolution, then the class enemy cannot escape his doom no matter how much he may rampage for a time and how sinister and sly he may be; whatever the difficulties along the way forward, these will all be overcome. It was precisely in the process of the arousing of the several hundred millions of the revolutionary masses that the counter-revolutionary bourgeois headquarters headed by China's Khrushchev was smashed.

In studying a situation, we must be good at distinguishing between the main aspects and the minor aspects, and not be misled by any superficial phenomena of a particular moment or in a particular place. We should not blow up some isolated, temporary, partial phenomena into general, protracted comprehensive problems. Thus we shall be able to see the far-reaching significance of the unprecedented great victories of the great proletarian cultural revolution, see the great revolutionary spirit and creative power of

the masses and see the vigorous new things constantly emerging in the mass movement, and always be filled with revolutionary optimism.

To do a good job of education on the current situation, and to help the army units apply Mao Tse-tung's thought in observing and analyzing the situation, we must adhere to the mass line. The practice of the struggle of millions upon millions of the revolutionary masses in the great cultural revolution is a rich living textbook. In various ways, we must draw wide nourishment from society and arouse every comrade in the army to use Mao Tse-tung's thought as the guide in analyzing the excellent situation in the great cultural revolution, linking this with one's own experience and developing mutual inspiration and education. In this way, it is possible to carry out lively and animated education on the current situation and effectively raise the army's political consciousness, enabling the army to grasp Mao Tse-tung's thought still better and make still better progress in the direction indicated by Chairman Mao.