

Never Forget Political Power

THE May 16, 1966 Circular of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party drawn up under the personal guidance of our great leader Chairman Mao has been made known to the general public. This is an important event in the political life of China's 700 million people and in the international communist movement. We warmly acclaim the publication of this great historic document!

This Circular is the first programme for China's great proletarian cultural revolution. In this great historic document, in his series of great works and instructions and in the most significant practice of the great proletarian cultural revolution initiated and led by him, Chairman Mao has correctly solved, both in theory and practice, the problem of carrying on the revolution and preventing the restoration of capitalism under the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is a brilliant, epoch-making development of Marxism-Leninism. It is a new milestone in the history of the development of Marxism-Leninism, indicating that Marxism-Leninism has entered an entirely new stage—the stage of Mao Tse-tung's thought.

Over the past few years, Chairman Mao has repeatedly taught us that the issue of who will win in the revolution can only be settled over a long historical period, and that if things are not properly handled, it is

possible for a capitalist restoration to take place at any time. In this document of great historic significance, Chairman Mao clearly points out: "Those representatives of the bourgeoisie who have sneaked into the Party, the government, the army and various cultural circles are a bunch of counter-revolutionary revisionists. Once conditions are ripe, they will seize political power and turn the dictatorship of the proletariat into a dictatorship of the bourgeoisie."

These instructions of Chairman Mao clearly tell us that the struggle between the two classes, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, and between the two roads, the socialist and the capitalist, will be long, complex and acute throughout the period of socialism. This struggle is focused on the question of political power. After the proletariat has seized political power, it is still possible for it to lose it. The handful of Party people in authority taking the capitalist road are the most dangerous enemies that have wormed their way into our vital organs. We want to consolidate our political power, whereas they want to usurp our political power. This is an antagonistic contradiction, a life-and-death struggle. Only by practising extensive democracy under the dictatorship of the proletariat and by broadly mobilizing the masses from below, is it possible constantly to rid our ranks of the counter-revolutionary revisionists and, in struggle, enhance the conscious will of

the masses to prevent and oppose revisionism. Only in this way, can the political power of the proletariat be consolidated and made secure.

Comrade Lin Piao has told us that with political power, the proletariat and the working people will have everything and without political power, they will lose everything. No matter how numerous the issues are, we must never forget political power. Forgetting political power means forgetting the fundamental Marxist viewpoint. If we do so, we will be muddle-headed fools not even knowing, when we are killed, how it happened.

In the 17 years since China's liberation, there has been an extremely acute struggle between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat for the seizure of power and the counter-seizure of power. The many startling facts which have been brought to light in the great proletarian cultural revolution show that the Khrushchov of China is nestling beside us and that, under his protection, a handful of Party people in authority taking the capitalist road had quietly usurped our power in a number of places and departments. Opposing the red flag by waving "red flags" and putting out the signboard of the dictatorship of the proletariat, these villains actually exercised a dictatorship of the bourgeoisie over us. They used that part of political power they had usurped to work feverishly for the restoration of capitalism and vainly attempted to seize political power throughout China and change the political colour of our country. The revolutionary masses have now exposed the handful of top Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road and one by one unmasked the persons like Khrushchov, big and small. This is the most important victory won in the great proletarian cultural revolution during the past year.

Our army is the pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat. In order to usurp the political power of the proletariat, the handful of Party people in authority taking the capitalist road have to work in collusion with the representatives of the bourgeoisie who have wormed their way into the army in order to usurp the military power of the proletariat. Another chieftain of the Peng Chen counter-revolutionary revisionist clique is a counter-revolutionary revisionist who usurped an important position of leadership in military affairs. He is a schemer and careerist who is opposed to the Party, to socialism and to Mao Tse-tung's thought. He opposes Chairman Mao's military line and the instructions to give prominence to politics and other instructions by Comrade Lin Piao, and stubbornly pursued a bourgeois military line. He colluded with the handful of top Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road, formed cliques in pursuit of their own selfish interests, and carried out insidious activities to usurp military power and oppose the Party in a vain attempt to seize political power and restore capitalism once conditions were ripe. Guided by Mao Tse-tung's brilliant thought, we quickly saw through this double-dealing counter-revolutionary, stripped him of his mask and smashed his conspiracy to usurp military power and

oppose the Party. This was the first major victory for our army in the great proletarian cultural revolution. It is also a big victory in the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat and a great victory for Mao Tse-tung's thought. Facts have proved, once again, that no matter who the class enemy may be, his plots to usurp military power and oppose the Party can never succeed and he will run his head up against a brick wall. The great people's army, created by our great supreme commander Chairman Mao himself and put under the direct leadership of deputy supreme commander Lin Piao, his close comrade-in-arms, is an army with a high level of political consciousness and boundless loyalty to Chairman Mao.

Our army is the most important instrument of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Without a people's army, the dictatorship of the proletariat is out of the question. Our comrades in the army must keep their proletarian class vigilance high. We must not let counter-revolutionary revisionists, bourgeois conspirators and careerists usurp the leadership of any department or unit of our army. The people's rifles must always be in the hands of proletarian revolutionaries loyal to Chairman Mao and to his thought.

Our comrades in the army must pay attention to state affairs and never forget the question of political power. We must not only be ready at any moment to crush open attempts by external enemies to seize our political power by force, but also be keenly alert against insidious attempts by persons in authority taking the capitalist road to snatch our political power from within. In those places where power has been lost, we must join the broad revolutionary masses, resolutely recapture it from those in authority taking the capitalist road and help the proletarian revolutionaries to retain it and wield it well.

Chairman Mao has pointed out that the present great cultural revolution is only the first—there will inevitably be many more in the future, that it should not be thought by any Party member or any one of the people in our country that everything will be all right after one or two great cultural revolutions, or even three or four, and that we must be very much on the alert and never lose vigilance. We must engrave this instruction of Chairman Mao's in our minds and fully understand the protracted nature of class struggle in the period of socialism, the protracted nature of the struggle that goes on, under the conditions of the dictatorship of the proletariat, for and against the restoration of capitalism.

All comrades in our army should respond with enthusiasm to the call of the Central Committee of the Party, earnestly study the Circular, which is a document of great historic significance, acquire a better understanding of Chairman Mao's theory and practice concerning the making of revolution and the prevention of a capitalist restoration under the dictatorship of the proletariat, and his theory, line, principles and policies for the great proletarian cultural revolution, carry for-

ward the proletarian spirit of uninterrupted revolution, carry the great proletarian cultural revolution and the socialist revolution through to the end and ensure

that our proletarian state will never change its political colour.

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