

CIRCULAR OF THE CCP CENTRAL  
COMMITTEE CONCERNING  
THE PROHIBITION OF  
INSTIGATING PEASANTS TO CARRY OUT  
ARMED STRUGGLE IN CITIES

*Chung-fa* No. 218 (67)

To Party committees of military districts and sub-districts at all levels, people's militia departments at all levels, revolutionary committees (preparatory groups) of all provinces and municipalities, and military control committees at all levels and for transmission to all mass organizations:

For a time of late, a handful of those in authority taking the capitalist road in Kiangsi, Szechwan, Chekiang, Hupeh, Honan, Anhwei, Ninghsia and Shansi — especially a few comrades who have not satisfactorily transformed themselves ideologically in the local militia departments of some provinces, municipalities, administrative districts, county and communes — have instigated some peasants who do not understand the actual situation into going into cities to participate in armed struggle, and encircle and attack the revolutionary mass organizations of factories and mines, organs and schools. Some places have even advanced the slogan of "encircling the cities with the countryside" and other reactionary slogans, and organized the peasants to go into cities to suppress the revolutionary rebels. The Central Committee is of the view that this method of work is wrong in the extreme, and the broad revolutionary masses should see through this conspiracy of the handful of Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road and wage a struggle against them.

To insure the smooth progress of the great proletarian cultural revolution, it is now decided:

- (1) That no person or organization may use any pretext

to instigate the peasants into going to town to carry out armed struggle, nor can the peasants be mobilized to manufacture weapons or be issued with guns and ammunition for the purpose of armed struggle.

(2) That no pretext may be used to instigate the peasants into setting up check points along railroads and waterways to block the movement of trains and boats and undermine communications and transportation.

(3) That the commune members who have gone into cities to participate in armed struggle or left the countryside to undermine communications and transportation must return to the countryside at once to "grasp the revolution and promote production," and all weapons issued must be recalled.

(4) That all kinds of so-called "preferential treatment" granted to commune members participating in armed struggle are null and void, and it is forbidden to put any of them in force. The instigators shall be held responsible for all casualties and accidents brought about by participation in armed struggle in the cities, losses in production, and compensation for loss of work.

(5) That from the day this circular is transmitted to the lower level, people who have committed any of the aforesaid mistakes should at once correct their mistakes, and perform deeds of merit to make up their demerits. Those people who obstinately refuse to correct their mistakes and act in contravention of the above articles again and again must be severely dealt with, and the evil ones should be punished according to law.

This circular should be publicised by production teams among the peasants masses.

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