

ANARCHISM LOOKS LEFT, IS ESSENTIALLY RIGHT

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[Summary of LIBERATION DAILY 9 February editorial: "What Is the Essential Element of Anarchism?"]

[Text] The editorial says that the essential element of anarchism is opposition to the proletarian headquarters. The struggle we have been waging against anarchism is a reflection of the new situation in which the struggle between the two classes, two roads, and two lines is being waged. The facade of anarchism looks extremely left, but its essence is extremely right and it is very harmful.

The destructive nature of anarchism has become more apparent since the proletarian revolutionaries seized power from a handful of capitalist-roaders in the party and established revolutionary committees on an extensive scale. Politically, anarchism negates all authority and regards individual rights as unlimited. On the surface it seems that anarchism has no need of government, but in reality it wants a government of its own choice. When the newborn revolutionary committees are not in accord with the wishes of those who entertain anarchism, the anarchists immediately adopt an attitude of nonrecognition and no support of the revolutionary committees; and when the policy and measures of the party run counter to the wishes of those who cherish anarchism, the anarchists indiscriminately label them as bourgeois reactionary lines, boycott them, and rebel against them. In the places where anarchism prevails, the new political power of the proletariat cannot always be exercised and Chairman Mao's revolutionary line cannot be thoroughly implemented.

Economically, anarchism excludes the unified plan of socialist economy.

When anarchism reigns, unusual things take place in every stage of production, transportation, commerce--so that goods that should not be produced are produced, commodities that should be transported are not transported, and commodities that should not be transported are transported. There is no coordination as far as management is concerned. No matter whether the management system is good or not, it is willfully undermined. Some units even engage in barter, and turn the socialist system of ownership by all the people into a system of ownership by each unit. If this situation is permitted to continue, it will do great damage to the economic base of socialism.

Organizationally, what anarchism wants is not the discipline of organization but the extreme of democracy. Those who harbor anarchism always act any way they like and think that they are No 1 in the world. They even disregard the repeated calls of the proletarian headquarters. The development of anarchism would result in the disintegration of the revolutionary organization, the splitting of the revolutionary ranks, and the weakening and destruction of proletarian fighting power.

Ideologically, anarchism values egotism. Those who cherish anarchism always brazenly make individualistic demands that generate sinister winds of freedom, indulgence, pleasure-seeking, and selfishness--corrupting the spirit of the proletariat and disrupting the fighting will of the revolutionary ranks.

The editorial says: In the present situation, anarchism has become a tool for the class enemy to restore capitalism. All class enemies are eager for a fight in the proletarian world. They are attempting to exploit the reactionary current of anarchism so they can fish in troubled waters. All revolutionary comrades should maintain high vigilance.

The editorial says in conclusion that, at present, anarchism is interwoven in the conspiratorial activities of the class enemy in some areas. We must be good at detecting the conspiratorial activities of the class enemy and we must also be good at correctly handling the contradictions among the people. The class enemy's conspiracies should be resolutely exposed. If the enemy is using anarchism to oppose the dictatorship of the proletariat, we must resolutely retaliate with the iron fist of proletarian dictatorship.

Shortcomings and mistakes are appearing among the masses because some people are influenced by anarchist ideology. We must solve these problems by stepping up ideological and educational work in a penetrating and meticulous manner.

Chairman Mao has pointed out: "The anarchical state of affairs does not correspond to the interests and aspirations of the people. The broad masses of people loathe this anarchical state of affairs." He also instructed us: "Within the ranks of the people, we cannot do without freedom, nor can we do without discipline; we cannot do without democracy, nor can we do without centralism." The broad masses of people understand this principle. Therefore, we must step up painstaking political and ideological work by running study-courses in Mao Tse-tung's thought. This is the best method.

Once the class consciousness of the broad masses is enhanced, they will struggle against anarchism without compromise. Then those people who are taking advantage of anarchism to stir up disturbances will be fully exposed and isolated.