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[Article: "Strike Down Anarchism, Further Practice Economy in Carrying Out Revolution," in the "Proletarian Revolutionaries' Discussion" column]

[Excerpts] In the present excellent situation of the great proletarian cultural revolution and amid the sound of the victory for placing a series of Chairman Mao's latest instructions on a solid foundation in an overall manner, proletarian revolutionaries and the broad revolutionary masses throughout the country are enthusiastically responding to our great leader Chairman Mao's great call to "further practice economy in carrying out revolution," and are in the process of further raising a new high tide in the movement to increase production and practice economy. They are struggling to fight effectively the political battle in the economic area and to obtain an overall victory for the great proletarian cultural revolution.

However, the struggle between the two classes, two roads, and two lines is still moving ahead violently. The class enemies have by no means become resigned to one defeat after another. They are still leaving no stone unturned in a vain attempt to undermine the great proletarian revolution and to disrupt the mass movement to increase production and practice economy. Anarchism is but one means used in the insane counterattack that the bourgeoisie is at present launching against the proletariat. It is also a plot of the class enemies to undermine the movement to increase production and practice economy.

There are many manifestations of the ideological trend of anarchism in disrupting production and economy.

First, there are a disregard for organizational discipline, a passive slowdown of work, and a dereliction of duty. Under the pretext of "liberating oneself" there has actually been a "doing as one pleases" and a "coming and going when one feels like it." Work has not been coordinated, actions have been undirected, work and operating times have been shortened at will, the quality of products and services has been allowed to drop, and there is no thought of revolutionary discipline.

For example, some people have distorted the militant call to have the proletarians liberate themselves and vulgarized it into bourgeois individual freedom. The original meaning of the proletarian revolutionary call to "liberate oneself" was that the proletarians were to undertake their own liberation, that they could not depend upon the bestowing of favors by bourgeois "philanthropists." There could also be no illusion about retribution from a "world savior"; there could only be dependence upon the proletarians themselves armed with Marxism-Leninism and the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

This means that if the proletarians are to liberate themselves, it is necessary to organize and to strengthen the significance of revolutionary discipline. The founding fathers of anarchism, Proudhon, Bakunin, and their like, distorted the idea of "liberating oneself" into "Do what you want to do! Think what you want to think!" and propagated an extreme bourgeois individualism. Some of us comrades who disregarded organizational discipline have wittingly or unwittingly drunk the poison of anarchism.

Second, there are a disregard for the state's policies and laws and for the financial and political system, an abuse of job prerogatives, a confused issuing of memoranda, a taking advantage of the state's generosity, and attempts to work for individual benefit.

Under the pretext of so-called "breaking of stereotypes," there has been an undermining of necessary regulations and systems. Production has not been done according to plans, money has not been spent according to regulations, income due has not been received, payments due to upper levels have not been made, ostentation and show have been sought, and state funds have been wasted. For example, some people qualitatively confused the policies, laws, regulations and systems of a proletarian state with those of a bourgeois and revisionist state, and said that the policies and laws and the necessary regulations and systems of a proletarian state were "stereotypes." They made them objects for destruction, which was a severe mistake. We want to remind these comrades that they should be aware that, during the course of this great proletarian cultural revolution, the class enemies are utilizing the reactionary slogans "Suspect everything" and "Strike down everything" to fish in troubled waters, make a vain attempt to disrupt our country's socialist system, and undermine the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Only the anarchists deny all power. Actually this constitutes opposition to the dictatorship of the proletariat. Their thorough smearing of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat and of the policies and laws of the proletarian state as "bureaucratism" and as a "stereotype" that "hampers freedom" is an extremely reactionary thesis. Each revolutionary must clearly differentiate this ideological trend.

Third, there are the concern only with the benefit to one's own unit and organization to the detriment to the collective long-term interests, the rise of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism and the growth of small-group mentality, even to the point of lawlessness and setting up independent kingdoms. Faced with the call to unify all controls, this sort of person insists on setting up another stand and another business. After seizing power, he works to serve "my" organization and group. This kind of person wants to use money, stretches his hand out for it, and opposes the seal being in my hand. You support my faction and I'll "open back doors" and "render support." You say your "viewpoint" is not the same as mine? I'm sorry. Although there is need in your work, I cannot render mutual assistance. This type of person makes the unit over which he has control into his own independent kingdom. With the upper levels he's two-faced; with those of the same level, he substitutes factionalism for party spirit. This type of person has already gone to a very dangerous brink.

Bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism is a poisonous snake encircling these people. After the poison penetrates them, they become very nearsighted. They see only their own private interests and not those of the masses. To serve the people means only to serve the individual or the small group. This is the watershed between "public" and "private" and the touchstone distinguishing revolution and nonrevolution. The proletarian revolutionaries must wage a revolutionary struggle with this manifestation of anarchism--small-group mentality.

There are also various other manifestations of the anarchist trend of thought in undermining production-increase and economy. For example, they include such things as control units which take their hands off the control, leadership people who have abandoned leadership--working at cross purposes and in a perfunctory manner in carrying out tasks, and often a "disregard for control" by lower level units or individuals. Whenever the higher levels of leadership correctly criticize them for not completing tasks according to plan and for mistaken tendencies to do things in their own way, they shout that this is a "reactionary line" and raise their voices for "rebellion." And so it goes; one example is more than enough.

The ideological trend of anarchism is extremely dangerous. Although anarchism has many manifestations, it never departs from its essentials. Always under the cover of opposing all authority, it opposes proletarian authority, denies the organizational discipline of the proletariat, the necessity for united will and for a planned united socialist economic system. It also weakens and disrupts the dictatorship of the proletariat. Anarchism erodes the revolutionary rank and file, dissipates organization, slackens discipline, makes it impossible to effectively implement the policies and laws of the party and state, and obstructs placing the series of instructions from Chairman Mao on a solid foundation in an overall manner. Especially at the present time, anarchism is just like a bug in the increase-production and practice-economy drive. It is harmful to the supports and underpinnings of the socialist edifice and, just like a rat, it destroys the goods which have come from the blood and sweat of workers.

The broad revolutionary masses of workers and peasants resolutely oppose anarchism. Those people who have been affected by the ideological trend of anarchism should immediately follow our great leader Chairman Mao's teaching to "combat self-interest and criticize revisionism," eliminate this influence and quickly return to the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao.