

Revolutionary Committees Are Fine

Editorial of *Renmin Ribao*, *Hongqi*, and *Jiefangjun Bao*

THE spring breeze of Mao Tse-tung's thought has reached every corner of our motherland. The revolutionary committees which have come into being one after another stand like red flags flying in the wind. To date, revolutionary committees have been established in 17 provinces and municipalities and in one autonomous region. More are in the preparatory stage in other areas. Vast numbers of units at the grassroot levels have set up their own revolutionary committees. This is a significant indication of the fact that the situation in the great proletarian cultural revolution is excellent and is getting even better. This is a magnificent act in the struggle for all-round victory in this revolution.

When the new-born revolutionary committees appeared on the eastern horizon a year ago, our revered and beloved leader Chairman Mao, with his great proletarian revolutionary genius, pointed out with foresight: **"In every place or unit where power must be seized, it is necessary to carry out the policy of the revolutionary 'three-in-one' combination in establishing a provisional organ of power which is revolutionary and representative and enjoys proletarian authority. This organ of power should preferably be called the Revolutionary Committee."**

Our great leader Chairman Mao again recently pointed out: **"The basic experience of revolutionary committees is this — they are three-fold: they have representatives of revolutionary cadres, representatives of the armed forces and representatives of the revolutionary masses. This forms a revolutionary 'three-in-one' combination. The revolutionary committee should exercise unified leadership, do away with redundant or overlapping administrative structures, have 'better troops and simpler administration' and organize a revolutionized leading group which is linked with the masses."** Chairman Mao's brilliant directive sums up the experience of revolutionary committees at all levels and gives the basic orientation for building revolutionary committees.

The "three-in-one" revolutionary committee is a creation of the working class and the masses in the current great cultural revolution. Chairman Mao teaches: **"We must have faith in and rely on the masses, the People's Liberation Army and the majority of the cadres."** The "three-in-one" revolutionary committee is the organ which organizationally knits closely together the three sides pointed out by Chairman Mao after having summed up the experience of the masses, so as more effectively to meet the needs of the socialist eco-

nomie base and the needs of consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and preventing the restoration of capitalism.

The "three-in-one" revolutionary committee is a great creation of the hundreds of millions of the revolutionary masses that appeared in the course of their struggle to seize power from the handful of Party people in authority taking the capitalist road. It has shown enormous vitality in leading the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in the fight against the class enemy over the past year and more.

This "three-in-one" organ of power enables our proletarian political power to strike deep roots among the masses. Chairman Mao points out: **"The most fundamental principle in the reform of state organs is that they must keep in contact with the masses."** The representatives of the revolutionary masses, particularly the representatives of the working people — the workers and peasants — who have come forward en masse in the course of the great proletarian cultural revolution are revolutionary fighters with practical experience. Representing the interests of the revolutionary masses, they participate in the leading groups at various levels. This provides the revolutionary committees at these levels with a broad mass foundation. Direct participation by the revolutionary masses in the running of the country and the enforcement of revolutionary supervision from below over the organs of political power at various levels play a very important role in ensuring that our leading groups at all levels always adhere to the mass line, maintain the closest relations with the masses, represent their interests at all times and serve the people heart and soul.

This "three-in-one" organ of power strengthens the dictatorship of the proletariat. **"If the army and the people are united as one, who in the world can match them?"** The great Chinese People's Liberation Army is the main pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat and a Great Wall of steel defending the socialist motherland. The revolutionary "three-in-one" combination carries our army-civilian unity to a completely new stage. In its work of helping the Left, helping industry and agriculture, exercising military control and giving military and political training, the People's Liberation Army has made big contributions over the past year and more and has been well steeled in the process. As a result of the direct participation of P.L.A. representatives in the work of the provisional organs of power at all levels, our dictatorship of the proletariat is better able to withstand storm and stress, better able

to smash the intrigues by any enemy, whether domestic or foreign, and play a more powerful role in the cause of socialist revolution and socialist construction.

Revolutionary leading cadres are the backbone of the "three-in-one" organs of power. They have rich experience in class struggle and are a valuable asset to the Party and people. By going through the severe test of the great proletarian cultural revolution and receiving education and help from the masses, they were touched to the soul and remoulded their world outlook further. The combination of the revolutionary leading cadres and representatives of the P.L.A. and of the revolutionary masses in the revolutionary committees makes them better able to carry out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, grasp and implement the Party's policies, and correctly organize and lead the masses forward. At the same time, veteran cadres and young new cadres work together in the revolutionary committees, learn from each other and help each other so that, as Chairman Mao teaches, **the veterans are not divorced from the masses and the young people are tempered.** Organizationally, this guarantees the work of training successors to the proletarian revolutionary cause.

This "three-in-one" organ of power has absolutely nothing in common with the over-staffed bureaucratic apparatus of the exploiting classes in the old days. It has an entirely new and revolutionary style of work of its own and it functions in a way which is beneficial to the people. The "three-in-one" revolutionary leading body brings together the P.L.A. "three-eight" working style,* the labouring people's hard-working spirit and our Party's fine tradition of maintaining close contact with the masses. **"Remain one of the common people while serving as an official."** Maintain **"better troops and simpler administration,"** and drastically reform old methods of office and administrative work. Have a small leading body and a small staff, as certain revolutionary committees have begun doing, so that there is no overlapping or redundancy in the organization and no over-staffing, so that bureaucracy can be prevented. In this way, the style of hard work, plain living and economy is fostered, corrosion by bourgeois ideology is precluded; and the revolutionary committee becomes a compact and powerful fighting headquarters which puts proletarian politics to the fore and is full of revolutionary enthusiasm and capable of taking prompt and resolute action.

In order to become genuinely revolutionary headquarters with proletarian revolutionary authority, the revolutionary committees should hold fast to the general orientation for the struggle, consistently direct the spearhead of attack against China's Khrushchov and the handful of other top Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road and their agents, distinguish the contradictions between ourselves and the enemy from contradictions among the people, carry on revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation, continue to consolidate and develop the revolutionary great alliance and the revolutionary "three-in-one" combination and

constantly sum up experience and draw lessons. It is precisely in the storm of class struggle that the revolutionary committees in many places are being consolidated.

Of all the good things characterizing the revolutionary committees, the most fundamental is the creative study and application of the thought of Mao Tse-tung and the doing of this well. Revolutionary committee members are outstanding P.L.A. commanders and fighters, revolutionary leading cadres and representatives of the revolutionary masses who have been assessed and selected by the broad masses in the course of the struggle. The highest demand which they put upon themselves is to be loyal to Chairman Mao, to the thought of Mao Tse-tung and to Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line. We hope that all the leading members of the revolutionary committees will continue to regard studying, carrying out, spreading and defending Chairman Mao's instructions as their most sacred duty. The revolutionary committees should see to it that Chairman Mao's instructions are transmitted most promptly and accurately so that the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers are imbued with the thought of Mao Tse-tung, and so that it is translated into the conscious action of the masses and becomes an inexhaustible source of strength in transforming the world.

The revolutionary committee is something new which has emerged in the course of the revolutionary mass movement and it is continuing to develop. It should be cherished and supported by all revolutionary comrades. As for the shortcomings and mistakes which are inevitable in the course of its growth, we should make well-intentioned criticism so as to help it keep on making progress and improving. It is necessary to be on guard against and expose plots by the class enemy to shake and subvert the revolutionary committees either from the Right or the extreme "Left." All personnel of the revolutionary committees should resolutely implement Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, carry out his latest instructions in an exemplary way, make strict demands on themselves, have a correct attitude to themselves and to the masses, conduct constant criticism and self-criticism and pay the closest attention to wiping out any vestige of being divorced from the masses.

The revolutionary "three-in-one" provisional organs of power which have sprung up all over the country will lead the proletariat and the revolutionary masses in establishing proletarian authority and in playing a vital revolutionary role in the momentous struggle to win all-round victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution.

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* The Chinese People's Liberation Army, under the leadership of Chairman Mao, has fostered a fine tradition. This fine tradition is summed up by Chairman Mao in three phrases and eight additional characters, meaning firm, correct political orientation; a plain, hard-working style; flexibility in strategy and tactics; and unity, alertness, earnestness and liveliness.