A PROPOSAL BY 57 REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS Peiping, NCNA, 29 January 1967

A proposal to do away with old customs, observe no holidays during the Spring Festival and launch a mass struggle to seize power was made by 57 revolutionary organizations, including the Combined Railway Command, Shanghai Workers' Revolutionary Rebel General Headquarters. The text of the proposal follows: "The world is ours, the country is ours, and society is ours. If we don't speak, who will? If we don't work, who will?"

The current great proletarian cultural revolution has entered a new stage. With the fury of a hurricane, an alliance of proletarian revolutionary rebels has been formed to seize power from a small bunch of power-holders in the Party who take the capitalist road and a few diehards who cling to the bourgeois reactionary line. The present revolutionary situation is excellent, indeed excellent!

However, the scoundrels in the party who follow the capitalist path and a few bourgeois reactionary line diehards are still there and will not give up. They are playing new tricks. Vainly hoping to make use of the forthcoming Spring Festival, they continue to promote counterrevolutionary economism by granting workers holidays in advance or extending their leave of absence. They do so with the object of buying off revolutionary rebels, luring workers away from the fighting front and from their production posts, subverting the great cultural revolution and undermining production, in an effort to save themselves from the impending doom. This is another new counter-attack of the bourgeois reactionary line, a new provocation, a new conspiracy! This should never be tolerated!

The broad masses of revolutionary rebels should promptly see through their intrigues, thoroughly unmask them, and crush them with vigor and without mercy!

Let us shout at this bunch of scoundrels: Put away your devilish tricks! We will have no holiday during the Spring Festival. We will launch a mass drive to wrest back power and firmly carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end!

For this reason, we propose the following things to all revolutionary rebels and the whole body of revolutionary comrades:

One, doing away with the old feudal custom of making the Spring Festival a holiday and firmly keeping to our combat and production posts. Without reservations, we will carry out the great call of "taking firm hold of the revolution and stimulating production" put forward by Chairman Mao. Resolute and unafraid of sacrifice, we shall belittle difficulties of all sorts, overcome all of our enemies, and thoroughly crush the new counterattack of the bourgeois reactionary line. We will not stop doing so until a total victory is won. We will whip up a new upsurge in revolution and production, seizing twin victories in both revolution and production.

Two, "there is no construction without destruction, no flowing without damming, no motion without rest." We should destroy what is old and foster what is new in a big way. During the period of the Spring Festival. we will rebel against old feudal and capitalist customs and habits that have come down through the centuries. We will foster new proletarian customs and habits and establish the thought of Mao Tse-tung. To hell with worship of gods, exchange of visits on the lunar New Year's Day, giving dinner parties, giving gifts, eating, drinking and having a good time!

We of the working class have never acquired these dirty habits. What we have is the strength to transform the old world and the revolutionary rebel spirit of smashing all old systems. We will remove, root and branch, all the rotting stuff left over by landlord and bourgeois classes and thoroughly burn them. We are the critics of the old world and makers of the new world. In the great alliance of all proletarian revolutionary rebels in the country and at this crucial moment of launching the struggle to wrest back power, let us spend an historically significant Spring Festival.

Three, heightening our vigilance against the sabotage activities of our class enemies. Since the small bunch of power-holders in the party taking the capitalist road, a few bourgeois reactionary line diehards, as well as landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements and rightists who have not properly reformed themselves are not yet reconciled to their defeat, they will take advantage of every opportunity to fan gusts of ill wind, shoot secret arrows, and spread rumors, carrying out sabotage activities politically and economically and frenziedly hitting back at us. Our revolutionary rebels and the broad masses of revolutionary people must sharpen their sight, enhance their fighting will, and heighten their vigilance a hundred fold. Where the enemy makes destructive moves, we shall destroy him right there.

Four, stepping up propaganda campaigns to arouse the masses in a big way. During the period of the Spring Festival, we should start all propaganda machines running and use all propaganda devices to propagate the thought of Mao Tse-tung with fanfare. We should publicize the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao, the grand alliance of proletarian revolutionary rebels, and the great historical significance of the struggle to seize power from those power-holders in the party who take the capitalist road. We should propagate the great call to "take firm hold of the revolution and stimulate production" put forward by Chairman Mao and publicize the great significance of destroying what is old and fostering what is new...

All proletarian revolutionary rebels, unite! Guided by the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, let us fight unremittingly in order to destroy the old world and create a glowingly red new world! Let us fight and fight! Let us raise the cry to sound the death knell to the old world in the fight! Let us cheer the birth of the new world in the battle!...

Combined Railway Command, Shanghai Workers' Revolutionary Rebel General Headquarters Branch Railway Command, Capital Workers' Revolutionary Rebel General Headquarters

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- 26 -

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