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Let Mao Tse-tung's Thought Occupy All Positions in the Press

In Shanghai, a city with a glorious revolutionary tradition, the present situation is characterized by the rapid growth and great alliance of various revolutionary forces with the Shanghai working class as their nucleus. The revolutionary new-born newspapers Wenhui Bao and Jiefang Ribao have fought their way through in the fierce battle between the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao and the bourgeois reactionary line.

The proletarian revolutionaries in Shanghai have seized the leadership of the newspapers from the hands of the bourgeois Rightists, and have firmly taken into their own hands the destiny of the people's press. This is a tremendously important event in the history of the development of China's great proletarian cultural revolution and a new pioneering act in the history of the journalism of China's proletariat.

With the spirit and far-sightedness of a great proletarian revolutionary, our Chairman Mao has set extremely high value on this event. Chairman Mao has pointed out that it is a great revolution, one in which one class overthrows another. This event will certainly play a tremendous part in pushing ahead the development of the great proletarian cultural revolution throughout east China and in all the cities and provinces in the country.

The basic question in any revolution is that of state power. The proletarian revolutionaries must take political, economic and cultural power firmly into their own hands. This is an issue of prime importance affecting the destiny of the proletarian dictatorship in China, the destiny of the socialist economy and the destiny of the great proletarian cultural revolution. In brief, it is a matter of great importance concerning whether China will or will not change colour.

The fighting task the proletarian revolutionaries must courageously shoulder is the recovery of all usurped power from the handful of persons in the Party who are in authority and are taking the capitalist road and the very small number of diehards who are persisting in the bourgeois reactionary line. Just as the revolutionaries of the Wenhui Bao and Jiefang Ribao said: "If we do not make this revolution, who will! If we do not seize this power, who will!"

Our Party's newspapers are an important instrument of the dictatorship of the proletariat. They are

the best able to have an impact on the inner being of the broad masses, the beating of their pulses, and their thinking, feeling and political orientation. Newspapers that have fallen into the hands of those in authority who are taking the capitalist road will become their counter-revolutionary tools serving to spread capitalist and revisionist poison and to carry out a capitalist restoration. This is absolutely impermissible. The proletarian revolutionaries of Wenhui Bao and Jiefang Ribao resolutely rose in rebellion in alliance with the revolutionary rebels in Shanghai. They seized the leadership back, and turned the capitalist orientation of the newspapers so as to really make these two newspapers the voice of the Shanghai proletarian revolutionaries, a powerful weapon of the great proletarian cultural revolution and a powerful weapon in smashing the new counter-attack by the bourgeois reactionary line. These revolutionary comrades were very correct to do this, and did it very well!

When the proletarian revolutionaries recaptured the leadership of the newspapers, those capitalist elements who had wormed their way into the Party raised an evil storm by accusing them: "You have discarded Party leadership." This is perverting the truth! In the eyes of the proletarian revolutionaries, Party leadership is the leadership of the Party's Central Committee led by Chairman Mao, the leadership of Mao Tse-tung's thought and the leadership of the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao. It is exactly this handful of bourgeois elements who had wormed their way into the Party and who in reality are opposed to the Party, Mao Tse-tung's thought and the proletarian revolutionary line. We must rebel against these bourgeois lords! Once we rebel against them, we will bring the newspapers back into the orbit of Mao Tse-tung's thought, back to Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, and enable the revolutionary masses to really hear the voice of the Party and Chairman Mao. This is genuine perseverance in upholding the Party leadership. This rebellion is entirely justified!

These bourgeois "authorities" say: "You are not qualified." But revolutionary rebels are undaunted. Do not think for a moment that without these bourgeois lords we cannot survive and run our affairs. On the contrary, with these stumbling-blocks removed, our road becomes broader and broader as we march on, and our work can be done better and better.

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Look at the newly born Wenhui Bao and Jiefang Ribao! Once freed from the control of the criminal bourgeois reactionary line, these newspapers are full of vitality and disperse the gloom in which "ten thousand horses stand mute." Under the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, they have a clear-cut stand, and are sharp and pungent and full of militancy. All the revolutionary people say: "This is fine! This is excellent!"

In the all-out class struggle by the proletariat and the broad masses of revolutionary people against the bourgeoisie and its agents, the revolutionary comrades of the Wenhui Bao and Jiefang Ribao have set a fine example for revolutionary journalists throughout the country. We should learn from them. We should learn from these comrades in standing firmly on the side of the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and standing on the side of the revolutionary

rebels to seize the enemy positions in the great cause of the proletarian cultural revolution. We should learn from the revolutionary rebel spirit of these comrades, and place the destiny of the press firmly in the hands of the proletarian revolutionaries. We should learn from the way these comrades have linked themselves closely with the workers' movement, the students' movement and the mass revolutionary movement, forging close links between the newspapers and the revolutionary masses. In short, all the proletarian revolutionary newspapers should have a completely new and militant style, and should make clear what we support and what we oppose in a completely frank and unequivocal way.

Let the great thought of Mao Tse-tung occupy all positions in the press. Victory belongs to the proletariat and to the vast masses of the people!

("Renmin Ribao" editorial, January 19.)