

CHENGCHOW MAY 30 INCIDENT DESCRIBED

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[Full text of an article entitled "Bloodbath in Central China, A Factual Account of the 'May 30' Tragedy at State Cotton Mill No 6 in Chengchow."]

Before the blood stains of the "May 4" tragedy dried up and only four days after the bloody incident of "May 26" occurred, May 30 marked another day of sorrow and heroism for those inhabiting the land of Central China! On this day, the "May 30" tragedy of the 1960's and part of the counter-revolutionary uprising engineered by Ho Yun-hung, another terrible crime of suppressing the rebels by bloody actions was committed by Ho. Although not a gunshot was heard in Honan, a counter-revolutionary uprising had raged in that province!

At daybreak on May 30, a frightening and bloody act of suppression eventually took place!

The building was completely surrounded by the so-called "March Leftist faction" while fully armed hooligans controlled all key approaches. Loudspeaker vans, fire-brigade vehicles, earth-movers and trucks equipped with heavy cranes appeared one after another. There were ear-splitting shouts of "Trample down the Workers' Militia Detachment." Truckloads of "March Leftist faction," wearing white armbands, kept coming to reinforce the hooligans.

At 5:30 a.m. the fascist hooligans began launching furious attacks on the building of the Workers' Militia Detachment. After entering the premises, the hooligans smashed the staircases and the ceilings with iron bars.

At this moment a big hoist carrying a huge hammer began to pound at the building, shattering the windows and demolishing the walls of the balcony. In addition, the "iron army" of "United Action" rained missiles on the building, putting the structure in a bad shape and causing it to fall apart. Many fighters were beaten up and suffered injuries.

But the brave members of the Workers' Militia Detachment stood up in the rain of bricks, tiles and missiles. The wounded continued to fight on. Without medicine and bandages, comrades of the Capital Medical Team to Honan treated the wounded with gauze masks cleansed with disinfectants.

After smashing the ceiling of the ground floor, a group of ferocious hooligans rushed to the upper floor. A woman comrade of the Workers' Militia Detachment was trying to go up another floor, but she was caught and slashed into two by one of the hooligans with a chopper. Blood covered the floor; it was indeed a tragic sight to behold!

As trucks equipped with cranes and huge hammers kept pounding at the building, earth-movers also thumped at the structure while fire-brigade vehicles sprayed water on the top floor. The building was instantly enveloped in heavy smoke, sand and stones as the crackling of the building was mingled with the lusty laughter of the hooligans. The building itself was in danger of collapsing as bricks and concrete slabs of the roof began falling down! The dauntless and brave members of the Workers' Militia Detachment of No. 6 State Cotton Mill continued to fight persistently....

When Premier Chou's instructions calling for talks under the auspices of the Honan Military District Command were relayed by telephone at 3:00 p.m. the hooligans had to cease operating the hoists. However, the latter took no heed of Premier Chou's instructions for when a member of the Workers' Militia Detachment of No. 6 State Cotton Mill suggested withdrawal of the members of the units outside the building and asked for assurance for the physical safety of delegates, the "diehard conservative" "March Leftist

faction" of the Chengchow workers' headquarters rejected the proposed terms over a loudspeaker. They claimed that Premier Chou gave them another telephone call saying that since the Workers' Militia Detachment had burned and destroyed vehicles they had lost their right to hold talks. In this way they unreasonably turned down the other side's offer of holding talks.

After attacks on the building were later renewed, the top part of the structure began to crack. In the wake of another assault by hoists and lifters, the hooligans applauded and broke into wild laughter.

Three or four hoists swung lifting machines at the four corners of the tower while two earth-movers ripped gaping holes in the walls. However, the defenders fought bravely and prevented the fully-armed hooligans from gaining access to the upper floors of the building.

The deceived and misled masses kept coming. The hooligans moved in an extra big iron trunk with a truck so as to force the "diehard conservatives" to the tower. The command car and other vehicles which kept moving back and forth made an awful and frightening noise to create an atmosphere of terror.

At the sight of this heart-rending violence, some of the hoodwinked masses of the "workers' general command" could not help shedding tears. After making a number of charges and pounding movements, even the operator of the hoist was reluctant to go on. He was immediately dragged out of the vehicle by the hooligans and given a good beating. Another fire-brigade vehicle also turned away from the scene of violence, unwilling to slaughter the fighters of the "Two-Seven Commune."

As dusk was gathering the mobs lost their patience and became increasingly desperate. Forcing their way into the building, the "Chengchow iron army" poured gasoline and "666" powder on the barricaded corridors on the second and third floors of the building, setting them afire. The mobs outside the building shouted wildly: "Learn from the 'Chengchow iron army.' Salute the iron army!"

As the flames shot up to the tower of the building, the glow of the conflagration lighted up Chengchow's western suburbs. A great many people were watching the fire burning people to death! However, at Chengchow in the month of May the mobs were running amuck killing people! As the flames raged fiercely, not a single drop of water was available to extinguish the fire. Fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" had to pull down the walls and threw bricks at the fire. A dense pall of smoke emitting the odor of the "666" insecticide smothered the fighters and scorched their hair. In this desperate situation, the fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" had to retreat to the balcony. As the staircase was engulfed in flames, the fighters had to use a rope to get to the roof through the windows.

The concrete roof was baked by the conflagration to such a high temperature that it was in danger of exploding at any moment. At this juncture,

the heroic fighters of "Two-Seven Commune," holding the red-covered booklet Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung, kept chanting with great emotion and tear-filled eyes our great leader Chairman Mao's teachings: "Resolute and unafraid of sacrifice, we will surmount all difficulties to win victory." "Wherever there is struggle there is sacrifice, and death is a common occurrence. But we have the interests of the people and the sufferings of the great majority at heart, and when we die for the people it is a worthy death."

Brave fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" then set about burning their cherished armbands while comrades of the Red Guard Congress destroyed all the material which they were prepared to send in a report to the Party Central Committee. They waited for the final moment to come....[elipsis as given]

After all the wooden materials of the building were consumed by the flames, the raging fire gradually died out. Everything on the roof that could be used as cover had been put to use and by daybreak of May 31 all the brave fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" were exhausted.

Shortly after 5:00 a.m. hooligans holding iron clubs with nails on them rushed to the roof and started brutally beating up the fighters of "Two-Seven Commune." The place was at once splashed with blood.

Heroic fighters of the Workers' Militia Detachment of No. 6 State Cotton Mill fell near the fierce flames and in puddles of blood....[elipsis as given]

Their heroic deeds occupied another sorrowful chapter in the annals of history!

After the building was taken, No. 6 State Cotton Mill was closed. At that moment it was quite impossible to determine exactly the number of casualties, but at least seven or eight persons were believed to have been burned to death. This group of utterly inhuman hooligans later sent all the fighters of the Workers' Militia Detachment to the city's outlying areas in preparation for carrying out even more ruthless persecution and bloody slaughter. The lives of these 300-odd heroic fighters were in great danger!

At the time when members of the Workers' Militia Detachment of No. 6 State Cotton Mill were encircled and attacked, nearly ten thousand hooligans carrying iron clubs stopped traffic on Nanyang Road and caused bloodshed at Wu Ssu Building which was guarded by only 60 people (some were not inhabitants of the city). Using modern weapons to attack the upper floors of the building, the hooligans brutally beat up every fighter of "Two-Seven Commune," such as slapping him or striking his waist with a club. They attacked from all sides, and two fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" were so badly beaten up that they died instantly of fractured skulls. After the siege ended, the

hooligans detained those students who came from another province with the result that their whereabouts could not be ascertained. The fate of both male and female members of the local detachment of "Two-Seven Commune" (many of them were members of drama troupes) was unknown because the men were taken to a village while the women were detained.

In addition, the hooligans encircled and attacked No. 7 Middle School. They spread word that after subduing the Workers' Militia Detachment of No. 6 State Cotton Mill they would bring about a bloodbath at the Engineering College, the joint committee of a grain depot and the revolutionary committee of Chengchow University. They said they would do so in an attempt to finish off at one stroke the genuine revolutionary rebels in Honan Province, "Two-Seven Commune" of Honan.

In broad daylight tens of thousands of people disrupted highway traffic, dismantled machinery and destroyed equipment with weapons, wrecked farm implements, and forcibly commandeered fire-brigade vehicles, earth-movers and hoists for the purpose of encircling and attacking the revolutionary rebels on a large scale and engineering bloody and tragic incidents. If this is not a counter-revolutionary rebellion, what is it?

What follows is an account of the events which preceded and followed the "May 30" incident which occurred at Chengchow.

In the latter part of May Premier Chou summoned the representatives of rival factions in Honan to Peking for talks. In Peking all revolutionary rebels in the country pledged firm support for "Two-Seven Commune," thus thoroughly smashing the criminal plot of Ho the old rotten egg of branding "Two-Seven Commune" as a counter-revolutionary organization. Upon finding out that the Peking talks were unfavorable to what he had in mind, Ho the old rotten egg resisted and defied the Party Central Committee by doing his utmost to spread rumors against Premier Chou and Vice Premier Hsieh. In order to sabotage the talks, liquidate the revolutionaries and retain his independent kingdom in Honan, Ho the old rotten egg on the one hand engineered a bloody tragedy and on the other recalled his representatives. He even suggested that the leadership of the Party Central Committee should go to Honan to preside over the talks.

Under Ho Yun-hung's instructions, a small bunch of rotten eggs even went so far as to bombard Vice Premier Hsieh and the Central Committee's Cultural Revolution Group, openly turning the spearhead against Premier Chou and Comrade Chiang Ch'ing and against Chairman Mao and the Party center. After frenziedly bombarding the proletarian headquarters, Ho the rotten egg did not hesitate to suppress the revolutionary rebels by bloody measures and on an extensive scale. Then he carried out a counter-revolutionary uprising!

The "May 4" and "May 26" incidents and dozens of other bloody tragedies were all engineered by Ho the rotten egg and directed by his underlings.

The "May 30" tragedy was again directed by a plainclothes man from X X. In the previous tragedies, X X always attributed the bloody incidents to provocations on the part of "Two-Seven Commune." The utterly inhuman and tragic "May 30" bloody incident marked the beginning of a series of organized and planned counter-revolutionary uprisings plotted by Ho the old rotten egg.

"Blood spilled over the plains of Central China fertilizes growing grass, the frozen earth of winter prepares the ground for spring blossoms."

The blood spilled by heroes will not be shed in vain. We vow to avenge them and ask Ho the old rotten egg to pay the blood debts!

The blood spilled by heroes teaches and encourages us fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" and arouses the broad masses of people. The bugle call for thoroughly smashing the counter-revolutionary uprisings of class enemies has been sounded.

The broad masses of fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" have now taken action. Holding high the great red banner of the thought of Mao Tse-tung, they are ready at all times to give up their lives and to greet the baptism in the storm of the counter-revolutionary uprising!

Revolutionary rebel comrades-in-arms, "Thousands upon thousands of fore-runners and martyrs have heroically sacrificed their lives before us in the interests of the people. Let us hold high their banners and advance over their blood-stained tracks!"

Weitung Investigation Mission to Honan  
of Tientsin Nankai University  
"August 13" "Editorial Department of  
Smash-into-Central-China Express  
Bulletin" of Tientsin University

Down with Ho Yun-hung! Ask Ho the old rotten egg to pay the blood debts!

Avenge those martyrs who died in the "May 30" tragedy!

Down with gun-carrying Liu and Teng! Smash the independent kingdom in Honan!

Chairman Mao, Chairman Mao, we fighters of "Two-Seven Commune" are thinking of you!

June 1, 1967