Great Alliance Is the Key Factor

The proletarian revolutionary rebel groups of Tsingtao in Shantung Province have formed a great alliance in the course of repulsing the new counteroffensive of the bourgeois reactionary line. Twentythree different organizations founded the Tsingtao Revolutionary Rebel Committee. On the morning of January 22, a rally was held by several tens of thousands of red revolutionary rebels celebrating the founding of the Committee. It solemnly announced that the Committee had taken over all power in the Tsingtao Municipal Party Committee and the Tsingtao Municipal People's Council from the handful of persons who were in authority and took the capitalist road, and from the bourgeois reactionary line diehards in these two organizations. At the meeting, the Committee announced a message saluting Chairman Mao. The full text of the "Renmin Ribao" editorial (January 30) on this event follows. - Ed.

Songs of triumph are heard all around and good news keep pouring in. Twenty-three revolutionary rebel organizations in Tsingtao have joined forces and seized vital Party, government, financial and cultural power in the city from the hands of these in the Party who were in authority and took the capitalist road, and from the bourgeois reactionary line diehards! This is another great victory for Mao Tse-tung's thought following on the successful seizure of power by proletarian revolutionary rebel groups in Shanghai and Shansi.

The experience of the Tsingtao proletarian revolutionary rebels in gaining this signal victory was many-sided. The most important feature was the formation of a great alliance of proletarian revolutionary rebel groups on the basis of Mao Tse-tung's thought.

Only when such an alliance is forged is it possible to be successful in the struggle to seize power. Any hasty attempt to seize power without such an alliance is either empty talk or ill-considered action headed for failure. Therefore, the key issue here is the great alliance. This has already been testified to by the revolutionary practice of the revolutionary rebels in both Shanghai and Shansi; now the revolutionary rebels of Tsingtao have proved it once again by their successful seizure of power.

At present, problems of one sort or another are cropping up, and various types of resistance are emerging concerning the seizure of power in certain districts and units. Such resistance comes mainly from the handful of people who have wormed their way into the Party who are in authority and are taking the capitalist road; at the same time it also comes from the old force of social habit. This resistance currently manifests itself in the obstruction of the formation of a great alliance by the proletarian revolutionary rebel groups.

As a result of the influence of certain bourgeois and petty-bourgeois ideas, there exist in varying degrees in the ranks of our revolutionary rebel groups in certain places, units and organizations a tendency to seek the limelight, to adopt the "mountain stronghold" or the "small group" mentality. Among some revolutionary rebels individualism, ultra-democracy and disregard of organizational discipline are fairly serious. All these hamper and adversely affect the great alliance of the revolutionary rebel groups and success in the struggle to seize power.

It is therefore of great importance in seeking to realize the great alliance of the proletarian revolutionary groups that we should diligently study Chairman Mao's *On Correcting Mistaken Ideas in the Party* and other brilliant works and link them with the actual struggle, so as to correct mistaken tendencies and strengthen our sense of organization and discipline.

The class enemy mortally fears and hates our great alliance and is trying by every means to undermine it. Employing the various kinds of power they have stolen and still hold in their hands at present, those people in the Party who are in authority and are taking the capitalist road make use of the existing shortcomings in the revolutionary rebel groups and the non-proletarian ideas of some people among them to disintegrate them and to vainly attempt to set up opposition groups among them and disrupt their great unity and alliance, so as to protect their own power. Comrades of the revolutionary rebel groups: We must be very much on guard!

Chairman Mao teaches us that "we should support whatever the enemy opposes and oppose whatever the enemy supports." Since the enemy is afraid of our alliance and tries to undermine it, we must forge the alliance. In line with Chairman Mao's teachings, the proletarian revolutionary rebel groups in Tsingtao have mercilessly exposed the intrigues and criminal activities of the class enemy aimed at undermining the alliance and have dealt him a stinging blow. Guided by the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought and allied on the basis of the common principles of the proletarian revolutionary line, they have set up a Revolutionary Rebel Committee. This Committee has the working class as its leading force and the great alliance of workers, peasants, revolutionary students, revolutionary intellectuals and revolutionary cadres as its foundation. This form of organization has become the organ of power giving unified leadership to the struggle to seize power. Leading comrades who adhere to the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao play an important part in forging the great alliance of the proletarian revolutionary groups. Under the unified leadership of the Revolutionary Rebel Committee, a decisive victory has been won in the struggle to seize power in Tsingtao. This has provided valuable experience for the revolutionary rebel groups throughout the country.

Let all true proletarian revolutionary rebel groups unite under the great red banner of the invincible thought of Mao Tsc-tung and forge the broadest and closest great alliance in order to seize new victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution!