

METHOD OF PURGING FACTIONALISM DESCRIBED

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[Text] The 28 January KIANGSI DAILY carries an editorial entitled "Clarify the Water To Catch the Bad Elements." The editorial reads as follows:

In those units and areas where struggle between factions is sharp, it is obvious that the black talons of the class enemy are engaged in incitement and sabotage from behind-the-scenes. Ironclad evidence can be drawn from the fact that (Wang Fu), a false revolutionary, big traitor, and big black hand, and bad leader (Ma Cheng-hsin), are both behind this factionalism. All revolutionary comrades should pay attention to this. A handful of diehard capitalist-roaders, traitors, special agents, landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements, and rightists, who have not sufficiently transformed themselves and who are capitalizing on bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism to confuse our class front, have given us enough of their performance. We must never allow these rascals and scoundrels to muddy the water. Now is the time to cleanse the water and catch these bad elements.

Chairman Mao teaches us: "We must maintain high vigilance in every work department and be good at distinguishing those elements who pretend to support the revolution but in fact oppose the revolution. We must purge them from every front in order to defend the great victories we have won and are going to win."

Today, at a time when the great proletarian cultural revolution has won decisive victory, the handful of class enemies, by attempting counterrevolutionary activities, will only accelerate their doom. Unable to organize their counterrevolutionary ranks, they resort to new tactics, put on new disguises, and pretend to be revolutionary leading cadres, as did (Wang Fu) and company, or pretend to be revolutionary comrades, as did (Ma Cheng-hsin) and company. Taking advantage of factionalism, they sneaked into our revolutionary ranks and fabricated rumors to deceive the people. They supported one group, attacked another, incited "civil wars," and created incidents in a vain attempt to confuse our revolutionary new order and class front and create a situation wherein the fish and the mussel fight each other to the benefit of the fisherman." By doing this they hoped to maintain their present existence; but if the opportunity were to arise, they would seize the power of leadership and exercise a bourgeois dictatorship.

The class enemy who has sneaked into our revolutionary ranks has become more sinister and cunning. One of his frequently used counterrevolutionary tricks is that of taking over our revolutionary slogans, distorting them, and making use of them. Hatching schemes and kindling hell-fire, they have, either from the right or the extreme "left," resisted Chairman Mao's latest instructions, interfered with Chairman Mao's great strategic plan, mixed up the types of qualitatively different contradictions, shifted the general orientation of struggle, and directed the spearhead at the great PLA and proletarian headquarters. We must maintain high vigilance against these enemies who don the cloak of a revolutionary. We must remember that we are the victorious, that all kinds of people have come over to our side. To prevent impurity in our ranks, we must have keen sight and maintain high vigilance.

People who are affected by factionalism tend to forget the enemy. They often regard comrades as enemies, enemies as friends. They do not recognize the class enemies as the target, but rather certain individuals in their own ranks. People who are seriously affected by factionalism approach everything from the viewpoint of self-interest. They regard anybody who seizes the opportunity to side with the left as being good. They make unjustified trouble and become indignant at anybody who criticizes their shortcomings and mistakes. On the other hand, the class enemies, who conceal a knife behind their smiles, do their utmost to praise and express their firm support for you. In this way the class enemies confuse and trick you into saying what they want to say, but dare not do so. They trick you into doing what they want to do, but dare not do. Is this not very dangerous? It is quite necessary that we warn these people: "Comrades, you have taken the road of crime. You should awaken quickly."

Factionalism is a poison; it harms our comrades and protects the enemy. We urge those comrades who are disposed toward factionalism to keep a cool head, to think more in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings. They should realize who it is that is praising their erroneous behavior, and who it is that is actually supporting them behind the scenes.

They must make up their mind to eliminate bourgeois and petty-bourgeois factionalism and use the telescope and microscope of Mao Tse-tung's thought to observe and distinguish events. With Mao Tse-tung's thought, one can see through everything and not be taken in by the enemy. No matter how revolutionary the enemy pretends to be or how touching his words, his reactionary nature will be clearly revealed.

The enemy regards factionalism as their amulet. Factionalism is the task force of the class enemy. In order to eliminate factionalism, it is necessary to chop off the black hands. In order to chop off the black hands, it is necessary to destroy factionalism. The stink of factionalism is unbearable. People who are seriously affected by factionalism also stink, but they are unaware of it. Sensing this odor, a few humming flies dash toward it.

Only a handful of class enemies exist, but with factionalism as their amulet their strength is by no means small. We must not stand idly by and do nothing. Simultaneously, with our efforts to destroy factionalism, we must launch a mass movement to check up on the backstage activities of the capitalist-roaders, check up on traitors and special agents, and check up on the sabotage activities of landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements, and rightists who have not sufficiently transformed themselves. We must drag out these rascals and scoundrels and deal telling blows at them with the iron fist of the proletarian dictatorship.

The class enemies are mortally afraid of their mobilizing the masses to destroy factionalism and chop off the black hands. In particular, they are afraid that people in their own organizations who know them will drag them out. Therefore, bad persons in all organizations should be dragged out by relying on comrades of that organization. Information about enemies should be exchanged between organizations, but comrades from one organization should not go to drag out bad persons in another organization. More important, they should not attack other organizations under the pretext of dragging out bad persons. We want the enemy to be in disorder, not ourselves. We must resolutely unite with more than 95 percent of the masses and cadres, firmly grasp the general orientation of struggle, and wage a common struggle against the enemy.

Beware of the fearful force of evil winds; demons and monsters of all kinds are sources of trouble. We, the proletarian revolutionaries and Red Guard young fighters, must strictly distinguish between the two types of contradictions and clearly demarcate between ourselves, our enemies, and our friends. We must dare to expose and struggle against the handful of class enemies. We must exercise dictatorship over them. To be kind and benevolent to the enemy is to be cruel to the people. We must use the formula unity-criticism and self-criticism-unity to deal with those comrades who have committed mistakes, allow them to correct their mistakes, welcome them to correct their mistakes, and encourage them to destroy factionalism and unite against the enemy.

It is not impossible for our revolutionary comrades to commit mistakes; but they should correct them. Let us destroy factionalism and chop off the black hands. Proletarian revolutionaries, unite; embark on a spring cleaning with the iron broom of Mao Tse-tung's thought and drag out all class enemies who have sneaked into our revolutionary ranks so as to usher in the all-around victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution.