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China Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

(FOUO 11/81)



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PARTY AND STATE

CHENGDU SQUAD STUDIES QUESTION OF CLASS STRUGGLE

Beijing JIEFANGJUN BAO in Chinese 4 Jul 79 p 1

[Article by Li Jiangcheng [2621 3068 2052], Song Quanan [1345 0356 1344], Li Jincai [2621 6651 2088]: "The Carrier Wave Squad of the First Battalion of the Central Communications Station of the Chengdu Troops Studies the Government's Work Report; It Gains A Deeper and Correct Understanding of the Question of Class Struggle"]

[Text] The carrier wave squad of the first battalion of the central communications station of the Chengdu troops recently organized the comrades of the entire squad to study the government work report given by Chairman Hua at the second meeting of the Fifth People's Congress, and gained a deeper and correct understanding of the question of class struggle.

Most of the cadres and soldiers of the carrier wave squad are very young. During these years, because of the influence of the remnant poison of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," they lack a correct understanding of class struggle. After the Third Plenum of the 11th Party Central Committee determined the shift in emphasis in party work, some comrades worried that they might "lose the key link" and "change the direction." When they studied the government's work report, the party branch emphasized guiding everyone to conscientiously analyze our nation's internal classes and class struggle, to create a deeper understanding of the discussion in the report affirming that "class struggle is no longer the major conflict in our nation's society at present, we should carry out class struggle around the central task of building socialist modernization and serving this central task." The comrades said that in our nation the feudal system of exploitation and the capitalist system of exploitation have already been eliminated, the small production system has been reformed. The landlord class and the rich peasant class have already been eliminated, the capitalist class as a class does not exist any longer. Of course, various class enemies will still exist for a long time, and we must still exercise proletarian dictatorship over them. Glorifying class struggle or neglecting class struggle are all wrong. Starting out from these basic facts, the party Central Committee has shifted the emphasis in work to building socialist modernization, has realized the highest benefits for the nation's people at the present stage, and has fully expressed the common wishes of our nation's people.

In the previous period, during the thorough implementation of the current policies of the party, some comrades saw the overturning of some cases of injustice, fake

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cases, mistaken cases, reinstatement of rightwing elements and changing the composition of landlord and rich elements that have been reformed, and they worry that doing this will eliminate class struggle. In the current study efforts, they used Premier Hua's report as a weapon to further criticize Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and to engage in the criminal act of expanding class struggle in a big way so that everyone understood how Lin Biao and the "gang of four" grasped class struggle. This is exercising dictatorship over the people. Changing the composition of the landlord and rich peasant elements who have labored and obeyed the law for a long time is not discarding class struggle; it is done to better unite all those people who can be united around the proletarian class in order to wage a determined struggle against all opposing elements so that class struggle can better serve the construction of socialist modernization.

In the study it was also pointed out that in the new situation, some comrades will still have an insufficient understanding of the various class enemies for a long time and will have an insufficient understanding of the influence of the ideology of the capitalist class and the feudal class for a long time; this is also wrong. The comrades have said that our revolutionary soldiers are the builders of the four modernizations and also the protectors of the four modernizations. We must keep a clear head to catch up completely with the steps of the new long march in our struggles.

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PARTY AND STATE

REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT URGED BY 'COMRADE-IN-ARMS'

Guangzhou ZHANSHI BAO in Chinese 11 Jan 81 p 1

[Article by Xiao Wei [1420 3634]: "It Is Necessary To Promote the Revolutionary Spirit of Fearing Neither Hardship Nor Death; On ' People Must Have Some Spirit'"]

[Text] Dear Comrade-in-arms:

You asked in your letter why we have to develop the spirit of "fearing neither hardship nor death" today as we build the four modernizations. This question is a good one. Today, as we build and protect the four modernizations, developing the revolutionary spirit of "fearing neither hardship nor death" has a very practical significance in overcoming difficulties and hastening the building of the four modernizations.

Fearing neither hardship nor death is the glorious tradition of our party and our military forces. It is a slogan that we have insisted upon in the long period of revolutionary struggle. Bringing out this slogan makes people naturally think of Jinggangshan, Daduhe, Ludingqiao and Yanan, Nanniwan, the crushing of the 8-million-strong army of Jiang Jieshi, taking over Ganling, the three-eight line, the days of one frying pan and one handful of snow, Zhang Side [1728 1835 1795], Dong Cunrui [5516 1317 3843], Huang Jiguang [7806 4949 0342], Liang Yingrui [2733 5391 3843]....This glorious slogan that shines with the spirit of the proletarian revolution encouraged the Chinese people and army so that they won the battles against dangers one after the other, and overturned the three mountains that had suppressed the Chinese people. It realized such great historical feats!

Maybe you will say that these are all events of the war years, so why do we have to fear neither hardship nor death in national construction? If you think in these terms, then you are wrong. Today, as we march toward the four modernizations, the party Central Committee has clearly pointed out that while our nation realizes great achievements, serious financial and economic dangers are lurking. The national economy must be further readjusted under the prerequisite of national stability and unification. At the same time, it has pointed out by seeking truth from facts that we are carrying out national construction on the basis of having a large population of 1 billion, including 800 million farmers; a weak foundation; low scientific, cultural and technological levels; and being a large and poor nation. We face many difficulties. On the road of the new long march, there are many dangers like those of "loushanguan" and "Lazikou" which we have to grapple

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with and overcome. If our morale is not high, if we are frightened by difficulties, how can we even talk about overcoming the difficulties? "The establishment of the socialist system has opened up for us a path to reach the ideal world. But the realization of an ideal world must depend on our hard and conscientious labor." The beautiful picture of the four modernizations is not sent from heaven. Only by developing the spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death can we realize it through hard struggle. The spirit of hard struggle during the Yanan period helped us conquer great difficulties. Today our conditions are much better; if we develop the Yanan spirit, it can also help us overcome difficulties and continue to help us win victories.

Developing the spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death is especially important to our armed forces. Our military forces are always a fighting team. They need to carry out the sacred duty of protecting the four modernizations and protecting the motherland. Some comrades have described the military provocation of Vietnam's hegemonism and the capitalist wind of Hong Kong and Macao faced by the military units in the military regions as threats by "two bombs" (real guns and bullets and sugarcoated guns and bullets). This is a very apt description. In facing this test and struggle, we must have the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death, we need to have Mo You [5459 1429], Liang Yingrui [2733 5391 3843] and the thousands and ten thousands of model heroes. As Liang Yingrui said before his death: "As the new generation of youths, we must have the spirit of the foolish old man in carrying out the four modernizations. Because without hard struggles, there will not be any four modernizations. Without mundane and hard labor, we will not be able to build the tall structures of socialism." "When the party needs me, I am willing to give my life." Indeed, fearing neither hardship nor death is our traditional treasure. It is the spiritual force of our armed forces to defeat the enemy; it is an important factor of the fighting force of our armed forces. We must exert efforts to popularize it among commanding combat personnel, use it to fight back at the influence of the capitalist class, feudalism and other nonproletarian ideologies upon us and their erosion of us. Only in this way can we stand undefeated before steel bullets and sugarcoated bullets.

The revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death is a test of people's spirits. People who are unselfish, who struggle hard, who dare to give their lives, have all shown their glory in this test. On the other hand, those individualists who seek an easy and comfortable life, those who fear death, cowards and lazy people, have all shown their original lowly forms. During war years, a person who retreats from a charge forward is laughed at by others as a "coward." Suffering hardships for the people and even giving one's own life are the utmost glory. Today, in our new long march toward the four modernizations, we must also relay the spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death and we must hand it down; we must develop the spirit of overcoming all enemies and overcoming all difficulties to contribute to the construction and protection of the four modernizations.

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PARTY AND STATE

POLITICAL WORK CONFERENCE OF MILITARY REGIONS HELD

Report on Conference

Guangzhou ZHANSI BAO in Chinese 13 Mar 81 p 1

[Article by Jiang Liuchu [1203 2692 0443], Cao Guangxiong [2580 0342 7160], and Zhao Keming [6392 0668 6900]: "Start Out From the Actual Ideology of the Troops; Correctly Carry Out Education in the Four Basic Principles; Comrades Attending the Political Work Conference of the Military Regions Believe Only By Eliminating 'Leftist' Influence Can We Truly Insist on the Four Basic Principles To Resist Mistaken Ideology"]

[Text] How do we correctly carry out propaganda and education in the four basic principles? Comrades attending the political work conference of the military regions believe that only by starting out from the actual situation of the troops and continuing to eliminate the "leftist" influence can we truly insist on the four basic principles and forcefully criticize and resist the various kinds of mistaken ideology that negate the four basic principles.

The nearly 200 political cadres in armies, divisions and regiments unanimously believe that the leading comrades of the Central Committee have again insisted on the four basic principles; the political work conference of the entire armed forces has decided to take the propaganda and implementation of the four basic principles as the primary tasks to strengthen the political work of the armed forces. The conferees have grasped the foundations which suit the actual situation of the troops completely. They investigated the ideology of the cadres and soldiers before the conference, and they believe that the broad masses of cadres and soldiers support the insistence on the four basic principles; the masses of cadres and soldiers have already expressed differences of opinion with those who oppose the four basic principles; they have already resisted the mistaken ideology of those in the society who oppose the four basic principles. But two tendencies exist simultaneously: One is the tendency to be influenced by the mistaken ideology in society. Some envy the material culture of capitalism, crave the capitalist lifestyle, and even believe that socialism is not as good as capitalism. Some are shaken in their beliefs and have lost interest in political learning. Some do not have organization and discipline and are influenced by the ideology of anarchism. Some practice extreme individualism. Some individuals even violate the laws and discipline. These mainly occur among some young soldiers. The other tendency is to understand the four basic principles from a "leftist" frame of mind. This

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mainly exists among some cadres above the regimental level. Although these comrades support the four basic principles and strongly oppose the mistaken ideology of negating the four basic principles, they often stand on the side of the "leftists" and oppose some things that are correct as things that are mistaken. For example, they insist on following the socialist road, but they cannot draw the line between true and false socialism clearly, they cannot shake off the yoke of being large in size and collective in nature, egalitarianism and high goals, and they use these as standards to view the various present economic policies of the party. In their minds, they always have doubts as to whether they have leaned toward the right or deviated. In insisting upon the people's democratic dictatorship, i.e., proletarian dictatorship, they cannot shake off the ghost of "taking class struggle as the key link" and "total dictatorship"; they believe that now the trend is to eliminate class struggle and there is a lack of "the iron fist." In insisting on leadership by the party, they cannot differentiate clearly between the party's leadership in everything and taking over everything; they regard improvement of the party's leadership, implementation of the separation of party and administration, and the refusal of party committees to engage in actual matters as weakening the party's leadership. In insisting on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, they still are bound to varying degrees by the two "everythings." To the leaders, they only talk about glorious tasks and contributions; they cannot talk about faults and mistakes. Yue Keiyuan [1471 0418 0337], chief of the political department of a certain division, and Wang Ming [3769 2494], chief of the propaganda department of a certain army, pointed out: In supporting the four basic principles, we must carry out concrete analysis. Most comrades can correctly understand the four basic principles, but the idea of the four basic principles in which some comrades believe is heavily tainted by the "left." If these "leftist" things are not purged, it is impossible to truly insist on the four basic principles.

After such analysis by seeking truth from facts, comrades attending the conference expressed the belief that our profound implementation of the propaganda and education in the four principles must have the courage to start out from the basis of the actual situation of the cadres and soldiers. We must not underestimate the influence of the mistaken ideology of negating the four principles upon the troops, and even more, we must not neglect the hindrance of the "leftist" ideology. We must solve the various ideological problems with special emphasis according to the ideological tendencies of different personnel. We must not simply use certain ideological trends of society to replace the actual situation of the troops. Some comrades of the Guangdong Military Region and the Hainan Military Region pointed out: At present, the ideology of some comrades is clearly bound by the "left," but they do not recognize this themselves and they are not willing to admit it, so they use criticism of the mistaken ideology of negating the four principles in society to cover up the "leftist" things in their own ideology, and insist on their own "left" as correct. If this situation is not changed, the mistaken ideology cannot be criticized and overturned, and the "leftist" things will be helped in their growth.

Based on this analysis, comrades attending the conference conscientiously studied how to do the work of propaganda and education in the four principles well. All expressed the belief that learning by the leading cadres above the regimental level must first be grasped well. The true meaning of the four basic principles

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must be understood one by one, the "leftist" influence and other mistaken viewpoints must be purged from the original understanding, and what truly adheres to the four principles must be understood. For this, the collective training of cadres should be grasped well; efforts should be exerted to gradually understand clearly the theory of building the party under scientific socialism and Marxism-Leninism and the basic theoretical viewpoint of proletarian dictatorship; to guide everyone in linking up with the experience and the lessons of 30 years in building the nation; to understand clearly which is the socialist road that we must insist upon, what is the false socialism of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," what is the revival of capitalism, what truly adheres to proletarian dictatorship, what is the feudal fascist dictatorship of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," what is capitalist class liberalization, what can be done that will benefit persistence of the party's leadership, what actions will lead to damage and weakening of the party's leadership, what has been proven by practice and examination to be the correct Mao Zedong Thought, and what are the mistakes of Chairman Mao during his final years. In this way, we can purge the source in ideology. Comrades of some troops reviewed the practice and experience of the previous period and expressed the belief that everyone must be guided toward combining the learning of the four basic principles with learning of the political line, guidelines and policies since the party Third Plenum so as to fully recognize that the lines, guidelines and policies since the party Third Plenum have realized the four basic principles in a concentrated manner. Insisting on implementing and carrying out the party's line, guidelines and policies is truly insisting on the four basic principles.

Lecture by Political Commissar

Guangzhou ZHANSHI BAO in Chinese 13 Mar 81 pp 1, 4

[Report: "At the Political Work Conference of the Military Regions, Political Commissar Xiang Zhonghua [0686 0112 5478] Talked About Insisting on the Four Basic Principles"]

[Text] On 7 March, the political commissar of the military regions, Xiang Zhonghua [0686 0112 5478], lectured to over 1,300 comrades attending the political work conference of the military regions and cadres of the leading organizations above the regimental level in the military regions on the question of insisting on the four basic principles.

Clearly Recognize the Line Separating Truth and Falsehood and Correctly Understand the Four Basic Principles

Political commissar Xiang said in his lecture: Recently the leading comrades of the party Central Committee have said a lot concerning insistence on the four basic principles. They have all emphasized that the four basic principles must be understood by elevating them to the level of the future and destiny of our party and state. This is very pertinent. Political commissar Xiang said: Some comrades compared the four basic principles to the four pillars of the great edifice of socialism and to the tracks of progress of the four modernizations. This is also very fitting. A tall building will topple if it does not have supports, and trains that leave the track will turn over. Without insisting on the four basic principles, we will not be able to build a strong and modernized socialist nation, and

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we may even lose the achievements of the past 60 years which we realized through sacrifice and bloodshed, hard work and struggle. Political commissar Xiang pointed out: At present some people in society fundamentally negate and oppose the four basic principles; a very few want to change the direction of our advancement, they have other schemes; while some others believe that our party's current policies have deviated from the four basic principles. This is ideological confusion. What is the situation of our troops? Some comrades believe that insisting on the four basic principles has the complete support of the troops, and there is no problem. This view is correct in one way, but it is not entirely correct. Generally speaking, implementation of the four basic principles among our troops is relatively good. But it cannot be said that we have done very well in this respect and there is no problem. Political commissar Xiang said: There are a few people in the armed forces who have been influenced by the various mistaken ideologies in society, which have created confusion in their thinking; some people have even oppose the four basic principles in words and actions. This shows that during the previous period we did not do enough to propagandize and to educate people in the four basic principles, and in the future work in these aspects must be greatly strengthened. Political commissar Xiang pointed out: Some cadres and soldiers among the troops have doubted and swayed from their belief in the four basic principles; except for a few who are questionable as to their position, most of them have questionable ideological understanding.

Concretely speaking there are three types of cases: The first type is confusion over the line separating the four basic principles distorted by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and the four basic principles that have been persistently upheld by our party. Lin Biao and the "gang of four" used false socialism to replace scientific socialism, used feudal fascism to replace proletarian dictatorship, used the gang's leadership to replace the party's leadership, used distorted and changed Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought to fake the scientific system of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, and they brought profound and serious disasters to our party and nation. Some comrades do not know that what we should abandon is only the false merchandise of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," and thus they have misunderstood and doubted the four basic principles. The second type is confusion over the line separating the faults and mistakes in our implementation of the four basic principles and the four basic principles themselves. For many years, we judged the class struggle situation in violation of objective reality, and made the mistake of enlarging the class struggle. We carried out the mistaken "leftist" ideology for a long time in national economic construction, advanced hastily, suffered difficulties and prevented production and the living standard of the people from realizing the improvement they should have realized. As a result, the superiority of the socialist system did not fully develop. Some cadres and soldiers mistakenly believed that these mistakes which had subjective causes were the faults of the four basic principles themselves, thus affecting the faith and confidence to insist on the four basic principles. The third type is confusion over the line separating the new developments of the four basic principles in the new situation and negation of the four basic principles. Since the party's Third Plenum, the party Central Committee has insisted on seeking truth from facts, liberated ideology, carried out major reforms on each battle line, and created new developments of the four basic principles in theory and practice. The fundamental purpose of doing this is mainly to start out from the national situation of China,

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to better persist along the road of socialism, to insist on the party's leadership, to insist on Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought so that our nation can healthily and steadily realize socialist modernization. Some comrades have illusions about this situation and have mistakenly believed that as we advocate liberation of ideology, the four basic principles are not useful any more, that the party's guidelines and policies are not in step with the four basic principles. Some even say this is "regression" and "revival of capitalism." These comrades used the ideological frames of two "everything" to judge right and wrong, used the "leftist" view to look at the four basic principles, mistakenly believed that the political line, guideline and policy since the Third Plenum have deviated from the four basic principles, and regarded the current reiteration by the party Central Committee insisting on the four basic principles as an effort to correct the "deviation" of the Third Plenum. Understanding the insistence on the four basic principles in this way will not allow one to clearly separate those things that have been distorted and changed by Lin Biao and the "gang of four," the mistaken guiding policy of the "left" that could not be corrected for a long time; the results of our efforts of several years to correct the chaos will be lost, and it will not be possible to thoroughly implement the political lines, guidelines and policies since the party's Third Plenum.

Clearly Understand the Scientific Meaning of the Four Basic Principles One By One

Political commissar Xiang described each principle in concrete terms when he lectured on the question of how to correctly understand the four basic principles.

When we talk about insisting on the road of socialism, we mean insisting on the road of scientific socialism. This is not the road displaying the billboard of socialism by selling capitalism, nor is it the road of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" displaying the billboard of socialism but carrying out feudal fascism; it is not the various forms of fake socialism. Political commissar Xiang said: According to the theory of Marxism and the historical experience of socialist construction, the most fundamental task in insisting on the road of socialism is to insist on the fundamental economic system and the political system of socialism. We must insist on the socialist production relationship based on the public ownership system, implement the socialist principle of distribution "from each according to his ability and to each according to his work," eliminate by the roots the practice of man exploiting man, insist that the state carry out unified planning and leadership of the national economy, hasten the development of socialist production according to socialist economic rules, continue to satisfy the ever-increasing needs in the material life and cultural life of the entire society, insist on the people's democratic dictatorship based on the alliance of workers and farmers under the leadership of the Communist Party, make the laboring people the master, eliminate by the roots the system of a few people suppressing the majority of people, insist on socialist democracy and its legal system, and create an active and lively political situation of centralization and democracy, discipline and freedom, unified will and individual comfort.

Political commissar Xiang pointed out: Of course, insisting on the basic economic system and political system does not mean that the concrete political, economic and cultural organization and form of socialism and their management systems

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have all been solved. Establishment of a whole set of concrete systems and management forms that are required by the basic systems of socialism and that are effective is a long-term process that requires continuous practice and continuous exploration. Viewing the entire long history of mankind, the socialist system is still in its youthful period, it still lacks mature experience. Our nation has practiced socialism for 30 years, and several major upheavals have occurred. We must not be shaken in our insistence on the road of socialism and belief because of this; we cannot confuse the superiority of the socialist system with the destruction by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and the mistakes in our work, or believe that "socialism is not as good as capitalism" because we have seen and heard some superficial phenomena. We should rightfully point out that "socialism has much superiority over capitalism" and that "only socialism can save China": this has been proven by over 100 years of history of the struggle of the Chinese people since the Opium War of 1840. After the Taiping revolution, the political reform of Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao at the end of the 19th century and the revolution of 1911 at the beginning of the 20th century all wanted to use a capitalist China to replace the semicolonial and the semifeudal China, and the results were all failures, providing that this road is blocked. Only after the Chinese Communist Party was established to lead the people on the road of socialism did China emerge from darkness toward a bright future and the people become thoroughly liberated. Therefore, if we do not insist on the road of socialism, the bloodshed and sweat of our forefathers will have been wasted. If we do not insist on the road of socialism, our party, nation and people will have no future and means. As an aware revolutionary soldier, the problem to be considered is not whether to insist on the road of socialism, but to give more consideration to the problem of how to insist on the socialist system well, how to perfect the socialist system, how to protect the socialist system.

We say that insisting on the people's democratic dictatorship is proletarian dictatorship; it is to insist on the mutual alliance of internal democracy of the people and dictatorship over the reactionary faction proposed by Comrade Mao Zedong, not the so-called "total dictatorship" distorted and changed by Lin Biao and the "gang of four." Political commissar Xiang said: First, we must correctly differentiate between two types of conflicts of a different nature: the conflict between us and the enemy, and the internal conflict of the people. We must clearly recognize who is our enemy, who is our friend; we must unite the majority of the people and the masses to exercise dictatorship over the minority of true enemies. At present, we must mobilize and depend on the broad masses to be firm in striking at and dividing and breaking down the various powers that destroy stability and unity, be firm in striking at and dividing and breaking down the remnant forces of the counterrevolutionary cliques of Lin Biao and Jiang Qing. We must be firm in striking at, preventing and stopping various criminal activities. Second, we must correctly recognize and handle the problem of class conflict and class struggle. In our nation, the exploiting class as a whole class does not exist anymore; class struggle is no longer the major conflict in our society. But class struggle still actually exists. Now counterrevolutionary elements still exist in society, the remnant forces of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" still exist, those who want chaos still exist, remnant elements of the exploiting class still exist. These opposing forces must be handled firmly in different ways in time to maintain domestic stability and unity. Third, we must handle well the relationship between

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socialist democracy and the legal system. Our party and nation must continue to develop socialist democracy; our armed forces must also further make sound the democratic system within the troops. But at the same time we must make sound the socialist legal system so as to maintain social stability and the democracy of the majority of the people and masses. Democracy that does not want a socialist legal system, democracy that does not want discipline and order, is absolutely not socialist democracy; it can only be liberalization of the capitalist class and anarchism. Fourth, we must strengthen the buildup of the armed forces, fully develop the function of the armed forces in maintaining the people's democratic dictatorship, which is proletarian dictatorship. Marx said: "The foremost condition of proletarian dictatorship is a proletarian army." Our armed forces are a strong pillar of the socialist motherland and they are very important to the consolidation of the political power of the state of the people's democratic dictatorship. Therefore, we must do the work well in building up the armed forces themselves, maintain stability and centralization and unification of the armed forces. From the standpoint of the overall benefits of the revolution, any weakening of the position and function of the armed forces or distortion of the form of the armed forces, any words and actions that destroy military rule and military and civilian unity are all very wrong and they must be firmly resisted. But we must also educate the cadres and soldiers of the troops to see the problems that exist within the armed forces themselves. We must not excessively blame the localities or complain about the government; we must solidly strengthen the buildup of a modernized revolutionary armed force, use real action to insist on contributing more to the people's democratic dictatorship, which is proletarian dictatorship.

When we talk about insisting on the party's leadership, we are insisting on the correct leadership by the Communist Party in our socialist revolution and buildup. This is the core of insisting on the four basic principles. Political commissar Xiang said: Insisting on the party's leadership is not an abstract concept; it contains rich and solid content. The main content is to insist on the ideological line of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the use of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought as the guiding ideology, the party's line, guidelines and policies, the exercise of strong and forceful leadership in each important task of each battle line, the revolutionary united front under the leadership of the party, mobilization of all active factors to struggle for the realization of the party's guidelines, the goal of seeking benefits for the people, leading the broad masses to realize their own basic benefits, developing the superior tradition and style of work of the party, correction of the incorrect style of work within the party, realization of the leadership of the party through fully developing the vanguard models of party members. Political commissar Xiang pointed out that on the question of insisting on the basic principles, the most important at present is to correctly handle the relationship between the insistence on party leadership and improvement of party leadership. Now there are some people in society who have other schemes; they are trying hard to distort the party's image while our party is summarizing experience and lessons, reforming the leadership system of the party and the state, reorganizing the leadership groups of each level, improving the party's leadership. They have accused our party of being bad, they are calling for a second "cultural revolution," they want a two-party system, and they are saying such nonsense as the less leadership by the Communist Party the better. This is in fact a desire to abolish and overthrow the party's leadership and to take over the leadership themselves. This is reactionary, and it is never allowed. Of

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course, we are not afraid to admit that our party has shortcomings and mistakes. But these faults and mistakes have already been corrected or are being corrected. Our party has learned the lessons of difficulties resulting from mistakes, it is becoming more and more mature and stronger, and it is still a glorious, great and correct party. We must never negate and oppose the party's leadership because of its faults and mistakes, nor must we use the excuse of improving the party's leadership to negate and oppose the party's leadership. Strengthening the party's leadership requires improving the party's leadership. Political commissar Xiang said: Improving the party's leadership first requires the establishment of a correct line, guideline and policy. This we have already done. The second is strengthening the work of political ideology. Then, we must correctly implement the party's democratic centralism, make the organizational life of the party strict, improve the party's style of work, strengthen the party's own buildup. If we do not strengthen the party's political and ideological work, if we do not build up the party itself well, insisting on the party's leadership will not be convincing and we will not be able to convince people.

When we talk about insisting on Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, we mean completely and accurately grasping the scientific system of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought; we want to insist on scientific evaluation of Mao Zedong Thought and Comrade Mao Zedong; we must without swaying take Mao Zedong Thought that has been practiced and examined and proven to be correct as the guiding thought of our party and nation. Political commissar Xiang said that in evaluating Comrade Mao Zedong, we must unambiguously say: Comrade Mao Zedong was a great Marxist; he was a great leader of the whole party, the whole armed forces, the entire nation and all peoples of the nation. The achievements of Comrade Mao Zedong are foremost, his mistakes are secondary. Such an evaluation is entirely the Marxist attitude of seeking truth from facts. On this question, we must all stand on the side of the party and the people, we must start out from the overall situation of the revolution, we must have a scientific attitude, we must not listen and believe the nonsense of those people with other schemes, we must also not start out from personal hatred and do things emotionally. Political commissar Xiang pointed out that our party's history and experience have proven that at the time of major upheavals in history, strengthening the buildup of Marxist theory, using Marxist theory to arm the entire party, especially to arm the party's backbone, have especially important significance. Because if we do not understand the basic theory of Marxism, we cannot talk about insisting on the four basic principles, we cannot correctly understand the party's lines, guidelines, and policies, and we cannot talk about conscientiously implementing and executing them; we cannot talk about maintaining true uniformity with the party in politics. We must turn the tendency of neglecting the learning of Marxist theory around and create an atmosphere permeated with the attitude of conscientiously learning theory.

Political commissar Xiang emphasized in his lecture that in general, to insist on the four basic principles, we must eliminate "leftist and rightist interference, we must clarify the various types of confused understanding through propaganda and education that take an active initiative, that are right and convincing. Education in the four basic principles among the troops must be closely related to the actual situation; it must help cadres and soldiers to actually understand the scientific meaning of the four basic principles so that they can understand how to insist on

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the four basic principles and understand the uniformity in the thorough implementation of the party's lines, guidelines and policies since the Third Plenum, and conscientiously struggle against words and actions that negate and oppose the four basic principles.

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MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ARTILLERY UNIT CAREFULLY HANDLES PEOPLE'S APPEALS

Beijing JIEFANGJUN BAO in Chinese 23 May 79 p 1

[Article by special correspondent Yang Menghua [2799 1322 5478] and correspondent Lu Linjun [7627 2651 0193]: "Artillery Regiment in Nanjing Carefully Handles Letters and Visits from the People"]

[Text] The political organ of a certain artillery regiment in Nanjing was conscientious and responsible, sought the truth from the facts, consistently followed the principle of "four-same" and carefully handled the people's letters and visits.

1. Treating Letters and Visits in the Same Manner. The regiment realized in practice that those who asked for policy implementations or for solution of this or that kind of problems usually would write first. Only when the letters produced no effect would they come and visit. Therefore, conscientiously handling the letters was an important means to reduce the visits. A soldier of the first battery was wrongly classified as an anti-party and anti-socialist element in 1958 and expelled from the army. At the end of last year, he wrote to appeal his case. Upon investigation, the regimental commander found that the opinions which he expressed to the party organization at that time were correct. Upon approval by the higher level, the original action was rescinded and he was given a discharge instead. The regiment also sent someone to his hometown to explain the redress and, according to the living conditions of his family, gave him some financial subsidy. He was deeply moved.
2. Treating Filed Appeals and Unfiled Appeals in the Same Manner. In accordance with the party's policies, they actively solved the problems which required solution regardless of whether the parties concerned had written or visited or not. For instance, discovering in a letter from some third party that one former soldier of the regiment was classified as an anti-party and anti-socialist element in 1958 and expelled from the army and the league, they voluntarily investigated and found the classification wrong. Upon approval by the higher level, the original action was rescinded. However, after 20 years, his whereabouts were unknown. The political office sent two cadres to search for him and finally located him. When the regimental cadres explained

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their visit, his entire family was greatly excited. He said: In the old society, I lived by begging, and I have never felt half-hearted toward the party. Yet, for no reason I can understand, I carried this burden on my back for 20 years. Several times I wanted to write to the unit, but I did not know where it was transferred. I never thought the unit would send people to my door. It indeed is a happy event dropped down from heaven.

3. Treating "Difficult Problems" and Problems Which Are Not Difficult in the Same Manner. Though the various opinions and demands expressed by the letter writers and visitors were either rational, partly rational or irrational, they handled them all warmly, performed conscientious and meticulous work, and strove to convince by policies. Some visitors came in a towering rage, but after education and persuasion, even when they failed to satisfy their demands, they left cheerfully. A former soldier of the third battery lived in a rural village. After discharge, on ground that his illness prevented him from performing agricultural labor, he asked a friend to find work for him in the city, but he needed a medical certificate. He came to the unit and asked the unit hospital for a medical discharge certificate. The comrade receiving him did not cold-shoulder him because of his unreasonable demand. The cadres of the various levels of the battery, battalion and regiment all talked to him, explaining the principles and policies, the future of agricultural modernization and the aspirations of revolutionary soldiers. By patient teaching, his mind was finally enlightened. He declared that he would settle down to farming and contribute his effort to agricultural modernization.

4. Treating the "Minor Problems" and the Major Ones in the Same Manner. The political organ of the artillery regiment found that the problems expressed in the letters and visits contained both those of a relatively strong policy nature and those which were often regarded as "minor" and overlooked. As proved by the facts, when the "minor problems" were properly handled, it would prevent them from expanding into major problems and activate the fervor of the masses. Chen Fengming [7115 7685 7686], a former assistant political instructor of the fifth battery, had inadequate housing space for his large family, causing discord in the family. Finding it very distressing, his wife wrote the unit, asking for help to solve the problem. Should such family affairs be handled? The regimental leadership felt that, if such practical problems were not solved, it would be unfavorable to activating the fervor of all sides. The regiment thereupon sent cadres to his hometown three different times, chatting with the family members and trying to dispel the misunderstandings among them. They also negotiated with the local leaders and the work unit of Chen Fengming's wife for more adequate housing. The problem was properly handled, and the couple reconciled with each other.

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MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY

TANK COMMANDERS REVIEW BORDER WAR WITH VIETNAM

Beijing JIEFANGJUN BAO in Chinese 23 May 79 p 1

[Article arranged by special correspondents Zhou Zongkui [0719 1350 1145] and He Jiasheng [0149 1367 3932]: "A Look at Coordinated Command through Tank Warfare"]

[Text] How was our coordinated command in the self-defense counterattack against Vietnam? In connection with their personal experiences, some of the commanders of the tank unit discussed specific battles and their understanding, looking at coordinated command through tank warfare. Containing experience, lessons and suggestions, their words are most enlightening.

Mastering the Employment Principle

Battle. On 17 February, a certain tank regiment received an order to capture Dongqi within 3 hours, in order to cut off the enemy's retreat, block its reinforcement and protect the thrust of our main force on Gaoping. There was only a small mountain path from the starting point of attack to Dongqi. With high mountains and steep slopes, deep grass and dense forestry, and the rugged road, there were over 40 sharp turns for the 30 kilometers. Fully understanding the important significance of the selection of this line of thrust by the commanding general of the combined army, the commanders of the tank regiment firmly advanced. On the way, they rammed the boulders aside with the tanks to open the path, pushed and pulled through the deep mud, and concentrated their firepower on enemy resistance, hitting and thrusting simultaneously. After violent fighting and fierce assaults, they arrived at Dongqi 5 minutes ahead of schedule. When the tank regiment appeared on the streets of Dongqi, the enemies waved again and again, mistaking the tanks as their own.

Understanding. The direct thrust into Dongqi was an excellent move. The enemy never expected our army to break through at this point, to use tanks on such terrain, or to appear before them in less than 3 hours after the start of the battle. The success of the thrust indicated that the commanding general of the combined army had an excellent grasp of the employment principle of tanks.

It is very important to master the employment principle of tanks. With such mastery, a commanding general of the combined army will, by means of the direction of deployment, the opportunity for tank employment and the selection of

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route, endow the tank operation with an element of surprise and grasp the initiative to overcome the enemy and win victory. We saw in the battlefield that most commanders of the combined army gave serious attention to the employment principle of tanks. But we also heard about other situations: Some commanders did not pay much attention to the direction of the employment of tanks, and their deployment was too dispersed, causing difficulties in communication, command organization and logistics, unfavorable to the development of the power of tanks. Others failed to suitably seize the opportunity of tank employment. Before the landing point across the river was well established, they ordered the tanks to cross. After cruising around for 2 hours on the river and still unable to land, the tanks had to return to our side of the shore. Still others failed to give attention to concealing the intent of action. Arriving at the predetermined battle zone, the tanks underwent training for several days, and the enemy could hear their sound, thereby prematurely revealing the operational intent.

It will be wrong to say that our commanders do not wish to employ the tanks properly. The lack of knowledge of tank employment aptly describes the condition of some comrades. Once we recognize this point, we must strive to acquire knowledge in this aspect.

-- Sun Hui [1327 6540], Assistant Regimental Commander

Understanding Tanks

Battle. On 20 and 21 February, a certain infantry regiment attached to the first company of a certain tank regiment attacked a nameless plateau south of Namo and Nanian. On the first day, the first tank company and infantry launched an attack on the enemy, battling fiercely for 2 1/2 hours, but the progress was not very smooth. At this time, the commander ordered the tanks to lead the assault. Due to the unfavorable terrain and the severance from infantry cover, the tanks encountered the surprise attack of the anti-tank guns concealed in the forest, causing damage to two tanks. Next day, the first tank company continued to coordinate the attack with the infantry. Pinpointing at the terrain and the enemy's operational characteristics, the commander changed the method of tank employment and tried to stay away from the forest. After contacting the enemy, the tanks, following the battle formation of the infantry, deployed and advanced gradually, supporting the infantry with direct firepower. In the battle, the tanks formed a circular observation pattern, and the tanks and the infantry mutually covered each other, advanced alternately, avoided the enemy anti-tank attack and destroyed 16 enemy firing points and 2 enemy tunnels. The tanks rendered effective aid to the infantry in occupying the plateau.

Understanding. The two battles with two different results, one positive and one negative, in the attack for the same spot taught us one principle: Only when we understand tanks will we be able to use them. Tanks are made of iron and have their protective capacity, which is their advantage. But if we only see their advantages and fail to recognize their shortcomings, considering them "iron shells," and blindly use them to attack, we will inevitably suffer a disadvantage.

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In the battlefield, we heard that some commanders, lacking a good understanding of tanks, made stupid mistakes at times. A certain tank battalion made use of the spare time during combat to rest and maintain the vehicles. Same as people who must eat and drink and rest, it was a normal matter, yet some commanders of the combined army found it very strange: "What, do tanks need a rest?"

If the commanders of the combined army have more knowledge of tanks, it will greatly improve the efficiency of their command. We hope that, in the educational training in the future, the commanders will learn more about the technical and tactical properties of tanks and participate in more live maneuvers. The commanders of the various levels of the combined army, in particular, should sit in the tanks, operate them and fire the guns. It will be most beneficial.

-- Fan Bingchen [5400 3521 5256], Regimental Commander

Adjusting Organization and Equipment to Coordinated Operation

Battle. Arriving at Nongmei Tunnel in the evening of 17 February to carry out the task of attacking Gaoping, the fifth vanguard company of a certain tank regiment suddenly encountered enemy resistance. As the surrounding terrain was complex and the mountains precipitous, direct fire could not produce an effect on the enemy, while the coordinating infantry was unable to catch up for the time being. At this time, the mortar company of the first battalion of a certain infantry regiment riding on the tanks voluntarily came forward to render support, fired at the enemy guarding the tunnel and destroyed the exposed enemy firing point. At dawn the next day, the infantry unit caught up and occupied the position. However, as the damaged tanks blocked the road and the mobile protection team lacked the capacity to open the road rapidly, the troops were delayed 16 hours before continuing their progress.

Understanding. While the factors of command played a part in encountering enemy resistance at Nongmei Tunnel, the following problems, at least, were revealed in organization and equipment: The armored transport capacity was inferior, and the infantry had difficulty keeping up with the tanks; the infantry unit attached to the tank regiment was too small, and had difficulty handling emergencies; curved-fire guns to complement tank guns were lacking; the mobile protection strength was inferior, making it difficult to effectively protect the combat actions of the troops.

Many bloody lessons in the battlefield taught us the following: Organization and equipment must be adapted to coordinated operation, and anything unsuitable must be changed. How are the changes made? We have the following suggestions: (1) Each tank regiment must have an armored infantry battalion and a self-propelled gun battalion, in order to strengthen the independent combat capacity of the tank under emergency situations. (2) Each tank regiment must be assigned a mechanized engineer company and equipped with minesweeper and bridge erecting tanks, in order to improve the mobile protection capacity. (3) Each tank regiment must be equipped with armored command and armored transport

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vehicles in order to solve the problems of coordinated command and combat transport in times of coordinated operation.

-- Ding Zaixian [0002 0961 0341], Regimental Commander

Heeding the Opinions of Tank Soldiers

Battle. By order of the commanding general of the combined army, a certain tank regiment used armored transport vehicles to ferry the infantry across the Hong River in stealth for the purpose of taking a high point and giving cover to the troops crossing the river. The vicinity of Beishan was originally chosen as the landing point of the secret crossing. After repeated observation, the commander of the tank regiment felt that the bank at Beishan was too steep and the water too deep and rapid, making it difficult to develop the firepower or to land. Thereupon he suggested Dongping as the point of crossing to the commanding general. After conscientious consideration, the commanding general found the suggestion sound and promptly adopted the plan. After contacting the enemy, the 10 armored vehicles of the regiment, carrying 150 infantrymen, took only 8 minutes to complete the 126-meter crossing. They supported the infantry charge with firepower, wiped out the enemy defending the high point across the river, occupied the high point and won the commendations of the commanding general.

Understanding. As the conditions on the battlefield are complex and ever changing, frequently our combat and tank employment plans are not compatible with reality. Therefore, as a commanding general of the combined army, it is extremely important for him to heed the views of the tank soldiers. The successful crossing of the Hong River in stealth was precisely because the commanding general conscientiously listened to the opinions of his subordinates and practiced correct command.

The ability to accept good suggestions wins battles. There were many instances of such in ancient and modern times. Good at adopting promptly the rational suggestions of the tank soldiers, many commanders of the combined army continuously improved their command techniques and became ever more skillful. However, there were also some who refused to heed the views of others. When the comrades questioned the line of assault of the tanks, the leader answered: "The commanding general decided it. This is the line." As a result, the troops suffered unwarranted losses.

As a commander of the combined army, the responsibilities are heavy and the authority great. One correct order may mean victory; one wrong decision may spell defeat. Where time permits, one must give more attention to the views of the attached units. This is extremely important to the success of coordinated warfare and must not be overlooked.

-- Liang Shucai [2733 2885 2088], Regimental Commander

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