

SHANGHAI EDITORIAL EXCORIATES CLASS ENEMIES

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[Summary of LIBERATION DAILY 24 March editorial: "A Few Flies Dash Themselves Against the Wall"]

[Text] "On this tiny globe, a few flies dash themselves against the wall, humming without cease, sometimes shrilling, sometimes moaning." Guided by the all-illuminating thought of Mao Tse-tung, the movement of the great proletarian cultural revolution is heading toward all-round victory. Continuous victorious winds and thunder are rocking the four seas and the five continents and inspiring the millions of people with awe.

The situation in the great proletarian cultural revolution throughout the country is not just good, but excellent. The situation is better than ever before. The important hallmark of this excellent situation is the full mobilization of the masses. Never before in any mass movement in the past have the masses been mobilized so widely and in such a deepgoing manner. However, a handful of class enemies, like a few flies not yet frozen to death but still humming with melancholy despair, are changing their tunes and using dirty means to distort the excellent situation of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

First they incline to the extreme left: they slander the great proletarian cultural revolution by calling it reformism, eclecticism, or opportunism. They arrogantly rave that "the fruits of the 'January revolution' will soon be lost," and that "another great decisive battle must be launched." In this way they advocate a second revolution.

Then they incline to the extreme right: they sing a different tune and call for a revival of the old and for rehabilitation.

Both the extreme left and the extreme right must be attacked, since both have painted the situation pitch black.

After pointing out the great significance of the proletarian cultural revolution, the editorial says: To put it clearly, the so-called reformism, eclecticism, and opportunism they have mentioned are all intended as a smokescreen to paint the situation pitch black so they can shape counterrevolutionary public opinion. We are quite aware of their real intentions. Today, when the great proletarian cultural revolution has won a decisive victory, they want another great decisive battle. Doesn't this mean that they want a decisive battle with the proletariat? They want to unfold a second revolution. Doesn't this mean that they want to make revolution against the proletariat? The so-called decisive battle and revolution they have mentioned are none other than words calling for restoration.

Their colleagues who are attacking us from the right have expressed their real feelings. In short, all of them dream of recapturing a lost paradise. Their means of distorting the situation, deceiving the people, and creating confusion are nothing new. The proletariat has learned many lessons from the enemies of all description. In the past, the Hu Feng counterrevolutionary clique, the bourgeois rightists, the right-deviation opportunists, as well as foreign imperialists, revisionists, and reactionaries all talked wildly about the situation.

The editorial says: In assessing a situation, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie have always been in disagreement. The proletariat adopts an optimistic attitude in seizing up a situation and invariably considers it good.

This is because the proletariat is the most progressive class in history and it represents the fundamental interests of the majority of the people. In sizing up a situation, the proletariat always keep the masses in mind. The masses are the masters of history and therefore the movement of the masses determines the stability of a situation. A situation is always favorable for the proletariat. Although dark clouds might unexpectedly appear, they are only temporary.

On the other hand, because all class enemies are reactionaries, backward and rotten, they are doomed to destruction. Therefore, as the revolution is advancing victoriously, they feel greatly distressed and moan in melancholy despair. However, they will never be reconciled to stepping down from the stage of history and their reactionary class nature will invariably cause them to make a wrong assessment of the situation. All these fellows are experts in making mistakes. They overestimate their own strength but underestimate the strength of the revolution. Sometimes they pretend to be powerful and stubbornly launch counterattacks against the revolution.

Some of these diehards will never admit their failures because they want to deceive other people as well as themselves; they cannot stay alive if they do not do this.

In conclusion, the editorial says: Of course, we must also recognize that the deceptive propaganda on situations used by the class enemies is not entirely without effectiveness.

Some people who resent the great proletarian cultural revolution, for whatever reason, are imbued with factionalism, anarchism, and counterrevolutionary economism; some are selfish and muddleheaded in political matters. They have always used wrong methods to size up a situation and are incorrect in their standpoint. Therefore, they are easily influenced by the enemies and are even used by them; as a result they become voluntary propagandists.

The broad masses of proletarian revolutionaries must bear the responsibility for educating them. They should criticize them severely and also warmly help them so they will not be attracted to the side of the enemy. If we can win these people to our side, the enemy will be completely isolated and will not be able to play tricks anymore. With irresistible force, we must do away with all pests.