

A vivid situation in which the people of the whole country are united in engaging in relief work has emerged. It embodies the powerful strength of self-reliance of the people of our country and the lofty communist style.

All these things have shown incisively that the heroic people armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution are invincible, that the socialist system of the dictatorship of the proletariat is tremendously superior, and that the vast number of cadres and masses have achieved fruitful results in conscientiously studying the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat, restricting bourgeois rights, criticizing Teng Hsiao-ping's counterrevolutionary revisionist line, and beating back the right deviationist attempt to reverse verdicts. Led by the Communist Party and guided by Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, our people can surmount any difficulty and work any wonder in the world. Just as Chairman Mao pointed out: "NO DIFFICULTY CAN STOP ONE'S ADVANCE. IF WE PERSISTENTLY FIGHT AGAINST DIFFICULTIES, THEY WILL BE DRIVEN AWAY."

The people of the afflicted area proudly say: If there is an earthquake, we will wage a revolution. "Typhoon grade 12 and earthquake grade 7 are nothing to be afraid of. Whether it is a typhoon or an earthquake, the victory belongs to us."

At present, we must resolutely respond to the militant call of Chairman Mao and the party Central Committee, conscientiously study Chairman Mao's important directives, take class struggle as the key link, deepen the great struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and beat back the right deviationist attempt to reverse verdicts by linking it with the current class struggle and struggle between the two lines on all fronts, and win a new victory for the anti-quake relief work. We have the strength, confidence and ability to defeat Teng Hsiao-ping's counterrevolutionary revisionist line as well as grave natural calamities. We are convinced that under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the leadership of the party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao and party committees at all levels, the people of the afflicted area, with the warm support of the people of the whole country, can surely surmount all difficulties to rebuild their homestead and continue their victorious advance on the socialist road.

RED FLAG No 8 Commentary

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[Text] Peking, August 1, 1976 (HSINHUA)--Full text of "Man Will Triumph Over Nature", a short commentary carried in the latest issue of RED FLAG journal on the recent strong earthquake in the Tangshan-Fengnan area of Hopei Province in north China, follows:

A strong earthquake occurred in the Tangshan-Fengnan area of Hopei Province on July 28, which affected the Tientsin and Peking municipalities. Our great leader Chairman Mao and the party Central Committee have been very concerned for the people in the earthquake-stricken area. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China cabled a message of sympathy to them, which has been a great encouragement to the broad masses who are now fighting against this grave natural calamity. Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, the party, government, army and people in the afflicted area, united as one, calm, confident and resolute, are fighting heroically and stubbornly in the relief work against the quake. Support is being rushed in from all parts of the country. Large quantities of medicine, food, clothing, building material and other materials and equipment are flowing in an endless stream to the quake-afflicted area, creating a magnificent scene of unity in struggle with many moving events glowing with communist attitude.

This is more proof that any grave natural calamity can be overcome with the guidance of Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, the brilliant leadership of Chairman Mao and the party Central Committee and the socialist system of proletarian dictatorship by the heroic people who have been tempered in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and who are now advancing triumphantly in the struggle to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping and to beat back the right deviationist attempt to reverse correct verdicts.

Man will triumph over nature--this is a great Marxist verity. Faced by any grave natural calamity, Marxists always bring into play man's indomitable revolutionary spirit to fight and triumph over it. Chairman Mao points out: "The wealth of society is created by the workers, peasants and working intellectuals. If they take their destiny into their own hands, follow a Marxist-Leninist line and take an active attitude in solving problems instead of evading them, there will be no difficulty in the world which they cannot overcome." (an introductory note to the article "The Party Secretary Takes the Lead and All the Party Members Help Run the Cooperatives") The grave earthquake calamity has indeed created difficulties for us. But we must be aware that, like all "disturbances", natural calamities and the difficulties they create have a dual character, and in given conditions they can be transformed into their opposite. The decisive condition for transforming difficulty into smoothness is the factor of man, the existence of an advanced class and a correct political line that represent it. We proletarians and communists are known for fearing no difficulties.

In the course of transforming society and nature, we have overcome many difficulties and are ready to overcome all others that we may face, including those created by the present earthquake calamity. We are Marxist dialectical materialists and revolutionary optimists. Tactically we take every concrete difficulty seriously and, by taking such a serious attitude, we create the necessary conditions for overcoming it; strategically we despise all difficulties, no matter how great, to be dealt with as something to be fought and overcome. In the past two decades and more, we have defeated sabotage by class enemies at home and abroad and resistance by the bourgeoisie, the bourgeoisie in the party in particular, and have won great victories in the socialist revolution and construction. We have overcome various kinds of natural calamities and won good harvests for years running. Provided we resolutely implement Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, take an active attitude in solving problems instead of evading them, and constantly sum up experience, we will certainly be able to overcome the present earthquake calamity and the resultant difficulties.

In the current relief work against the quake, we should bear in mind Chairman Mao's teaching: "We must have faith in the masses and we must have faith in the party. These are two cardinal principles. If we doubt these principles, we shall accomplish nothing." ("On the Question of Agricultural Cooperation") Our party is a long-tested Marxist-Leninist revolutionary party. Our people are revolutionary people armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. Leadership by the party and reliance on the strength of the masses are the fundamental guarantees for overcoming all difficulties. After the present earthquake, party committees at all levels in the afflicted area took all necessary emergency measures and immediately led the masses in plunging into relief work.

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