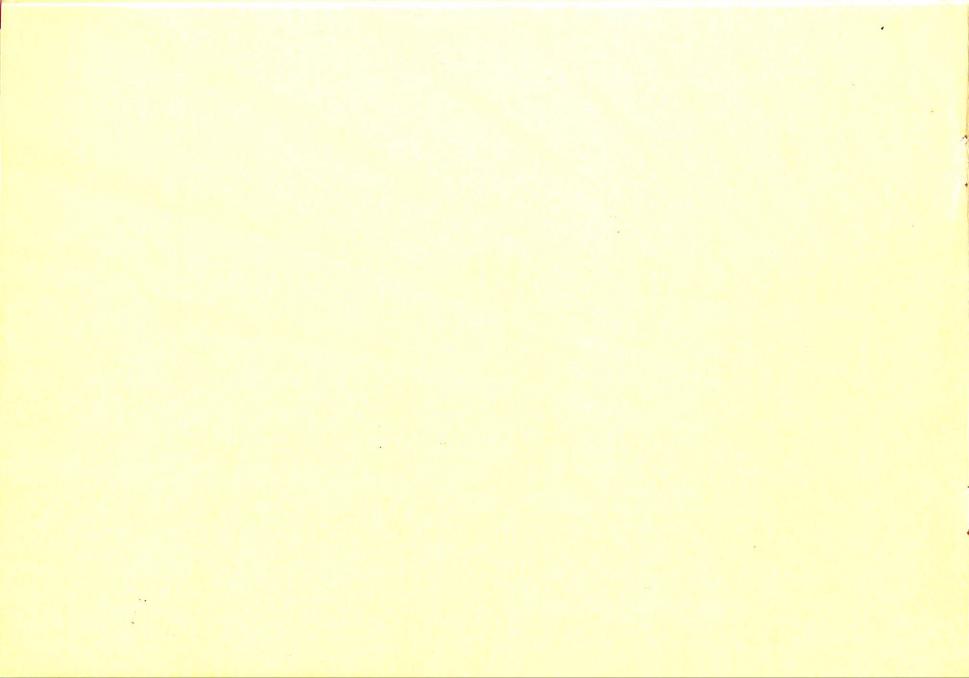
THE EAST IS RED

PAPER CUTS OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION

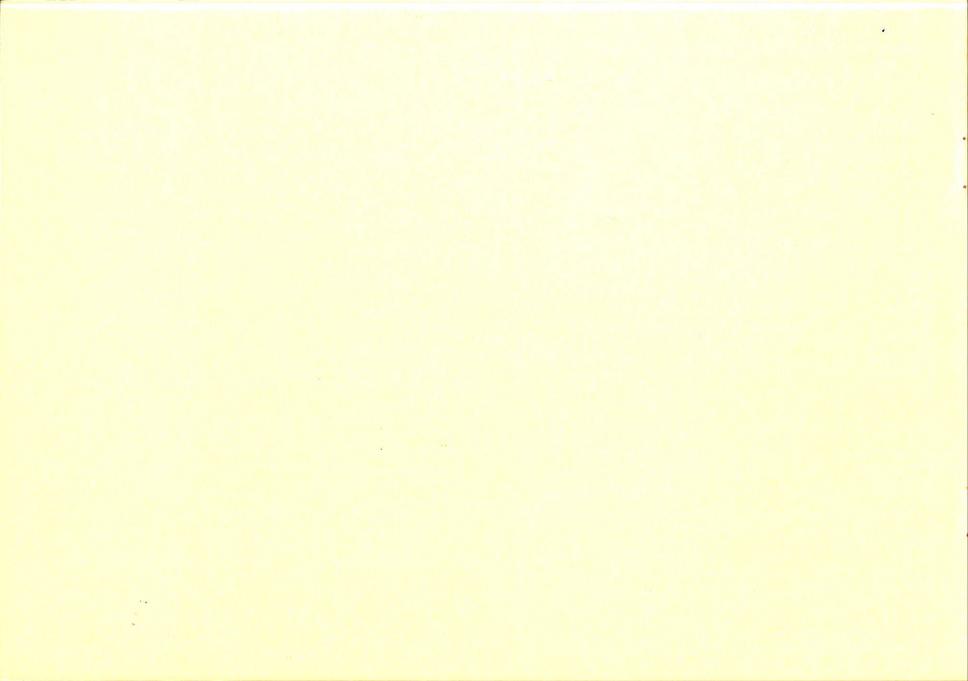
\$ 1.25



THE EAST IS RED

text by Lincoln Bergman paper cuts by members of a People's Commune in Fatshan

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INTRODUCTION

A blade designed
To cut a line so fine
It cannot fail
To capture each detail.

Paper cuts a traditional Chinese art form Served as decoration at New Years celebrations In windows, at weddings, and birthdays.

Many of the most famous paper-cutters have been women.

Revolution brings
A startling transformation in Chinese art and culture
Paper cuts are no exception
The contents are more striking today
Portraying actual events that have shaped the lives
Of the people of China
Many new methods are being employed
Skills have become highly creative.

A blade designed
To cut a line so fine
It cannot fail
To capture each detail.

These paper cuts
Were created by people
Who live on a people's commune in Fatshan
Which is near Canton.

Many people worked on them So in them we can see Creative collectivity.

The struggle to create a revolutionary culture proceeds Art speaking to the people's needs
Everything useful from the great heritage of the past
Is studied with the purpose of making the past
Serve the present and help insure the future
Much has to be rejected and criticized
For new revolutionary culture to constantly arise.

Mao asked artists to understand
What we demand is the unity of politics and art
The unity of content and form
The unity of revolutionary political content
And the highest possible perfection of artistic form.

A blade designed
To cut a line so fine
It cannot fail
To capture each detail
Cut through
To truth
In tapestry
Of victory
Always remember
And understand
The blade is held in human hands.

Red sun rising in the East
Red sun of victory
Chinese revolution rising in the East
Huge new changes in world history
800 million rise so much humanity
Red sun red sun of dawn now rising free.

Revolution in Asia
As today more struggles for self determination
Hasten toward liberation of whole populations
As in Vietnam and all of Indochina
The crimson dawn unfurled
The changing changing of the world.

The night was long
Strife war sacrifice
Process more intricate than these paper cuts
Sunflowers only one way to begin to show
Beautiful new lives which now can grow
Night long but red sun rose.

The night was long
Red sun now rising strong
Night long
Crimson dawn
Mao Tse-tung wrote
To the melody of an ancient song:

The night was long the crimson dawn cracked slowly For hundreds of years demons monsters danced frantically Our hundreds of millions of people were not united Now the rooster has crowed all beneath the sky is bright New music rises rises from a thousand different locations Filling the poet with unparalleled inspirations.

Red sun rising in the East
Red sun of victory
Chinese revolution rising in the East
Huge new changes in world history
800 million rise so much humanity
Red sun red sun of dawn now rising rising free.



The night was long before the liberation Old China landlord whip foreign warship Suffering poverty disease exploitation The night was long before the liberation.

Always popular resistance sometimes war Taiping Revolution 1851 to 1864 Revolution of 1911 led by Sun Yat-sen Resistance rising again and again.

These rebellions failed to unify or liberate
Their contributions great but failed to see
That the major obstacles to freedom were three
All had to be removed to reach victory.

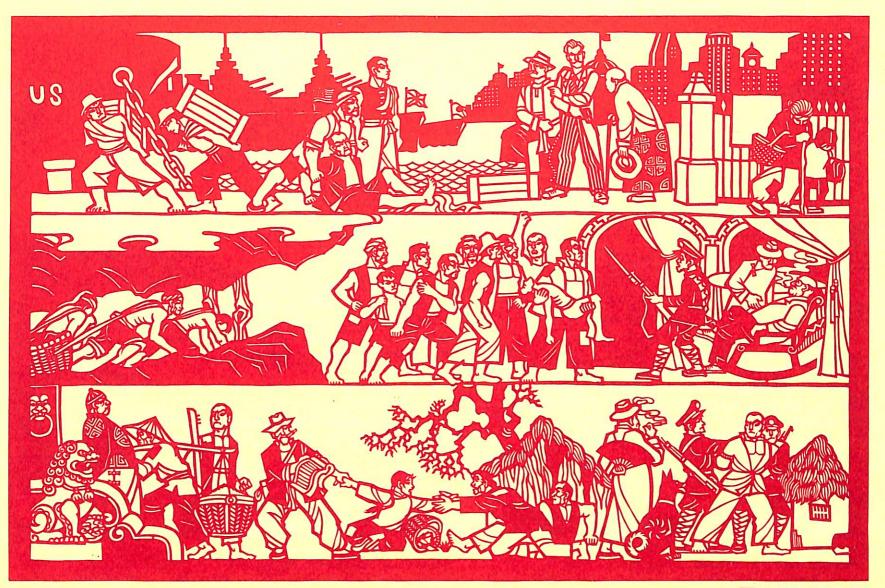
Three heavy mountains as the Chinese now say
Foreign imperialism, starting with the opium slave trade
Early capitalist production, workers brutalized
Feudalism, landlord-warlord rule of the countryside.

Old Shanghai foreign controlled Corruption and starvation bought and sold A few rich Chinese businessmen could profit if they kowtowed Sign in a Shanghai park said no Chinese or dogs allowed.

Child dead in mine, boss says come back another time Can you imagine what it must have meant For the landlord to take away your daughter When you could not pay an impossibly high rent?

The three heavy mountains had to be removed Only when that was done Could liberation be won So long so long before the rising of the sun.

The night was long before the liberation Old China landlord whip foreign warship Suffering poverty disease exploitation The night was long before the liberation.



There was this philosopher Marx Whose red dialectics drew sparks And up rose the spectre as he finished the lecture Little fish will devour the sharks.

Then up stepped a young lawyer named Lenin Love and fire that he dipped his pen in When asked how he did it he said people got with it Fight fire with fire said Lenin.

Connecting word to deed
For ideas take seed become reality
When they are seized by entire peoples
When they meet deep hopes and pressing needs.

October 1917 triumph of the Russian revolution Inspiring people all around the world Connecting word to deed Showing that a popular liberation struggle could succeed. Have you heard? Have you heard? What the Russian workers did? Spread the word! Spread the word! From Nanking to Hamburg!

Connecting word to deed
Bread Land and Peace
The Chinese say the Russian revolution built a bridge
Between workers of the West and oppressed peoples of the East.

Marxism-Leninism takes root in China A revolutionary ideology Through trial and error it was learned It could not be applied mechanically.

Had to be fitted to Chinese reality Ideas the arrow the people the bow Concrete conditions what they had to know To hit the target to reach the goal.



東方的唱光

What is to be Is what is to be done Now can see the sun But work has just begun.

As dawn
Out of the long night bends
They had to ask
Who are our enemies who are our friends?

For if they do not know
The different groups and classes
And what can be their contribution
They cannot organize a winning revolution.

If we ally with enemies We will be deceived

When we put our guard down We'll be shot to the ground.

It took many years to understand
The forces at work within the huge land
Reliance on workers and especially peasantry
Is what came to be the Party policy.

Many years including false alliances
Which led to many revolutionaries dead
Then with experience, reliance on workers and peasants
They learned to maintain strength and independence.

As dawn
Out of the long night bends
They had to ask
Who are our enemies who are our friends?



If we ally with enemies
We will be deceived
When we put our guard down
We'll be shot to the ground.

Shanghai 1927 workers picketing Shot to death by Chiang Kai-shek Raise their fists defiantly Martyrs fighting to be free.

In the twenties an alliance or united front was formed Between the Communist Party
And the Kuomintang Party of Chiang
On the surface it was agreed to merge forces
To overthrow the warlords who ruled different parts
Of a poor and disunited China.

Chiang talked about democracy
But it didn't take too long to see
That he was into money power and prestige
Cooperation with foreign powers.
From the start did not have the people at heart
In addition he was shrewd and cruel
He did not want to serve, he wanted to rule.

So in this alliance with the Communists The ink hardly dry the solemn words said Before Chiang began to plan for the time ahead When his army could shoot all of these reds dead Meanwhile they had good spirit and style An ability to reach the masses of people he'd need If his plans for total rule were to succeed.

In 1927 armed workers liberate Shanghai and Nanking Chiang marching North, seeing the strength of the Party He breaks the united front Communists not warlords bear the brutal brunt U.S. British Japanese French warships shell Nanking Killing and wounding 2000 people Strikers and Communists in many cities killed by Chiang Many thousands of revolutionaries massacred.

Near Nanking today is a place named Yu Hua Tai
Where thousands of Communists killed by Chiang lie
An exhibit with personal effects of some of those killed
Notebooks of jr high and high school students
The gentle face in photograph of a young woman teacher
And there are pine trees on the rolling hills
There stands large monument to martyrs of the revolution
Pine trees rolling hills and all over the ground
Beautiful red agates are found
And the voice of the guide with anger is filled
As he says that the stones
Are bathed in the blood of those who were killed.





Bloody terror takes many lives
The Party tries to turn the tide
By launching premature armed uprisings in the cities
These failed but in defeat some eyes were opened wide
Saw they had failed to grasp the meaning of the countryside.

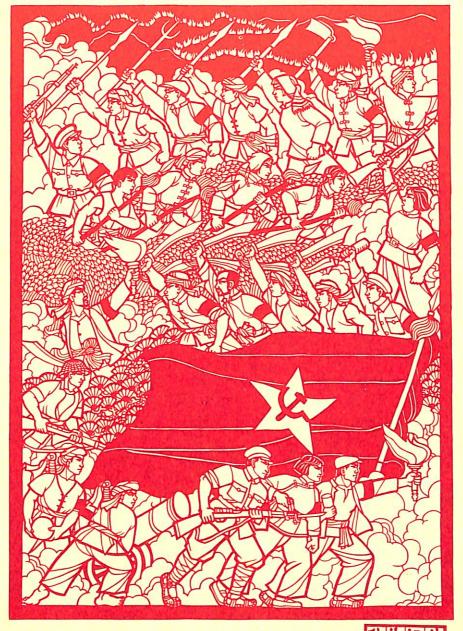
Ninety percent of the people of China Lived in the country Almost all of them Poor and oppressed peasantry.

1927 was only the beginning
Peasant rebellion broke out but no hope of winning
Insufficient preparation organization education
Still there was a huge Autumn Harvest Uprising
Peasants rising in rebellion
Winding through the countryside
With whatever weapons they could find
Organizing and fighting learning how
One of the rebellions led by a Communist named Mao.

Rising in rebellion
Winding
Through the countryside
First flames of what was to become
The prairie fire of agrarian revolution
Struggle mounting higher
A single spark can light a prairie fire.

Mao prophesied:
In a very short time
Several hundred million peasants
Will rise
Like a mighty storm
Like a hurricane
A force so swift and violent
That no power however great
Will be able to hold it back.

That prophecy turned into fact.



秋收起义

VII REVOLUTIONARY BASE IN THE CHINGKANG MOUNTAINS

Autumn Harvest Uprising defeated Group of about 1000 manage to elude capture Gathered together by Mao They climb to the Chingkang Mountains Here in this high place Establish the first revolutionary base.

Chingkang Mountains
Covered with thick jungle
Wild animals of many kinds
Mild weather with rain enough for many crops
Forests of fir and bamboo
Coal iron and gypsum
Small villages whose people lived
In a clan stone-and-wood age society
High natural fortress
In these green mountains
The guerrilla war begins.

Mao said to those who marched with him
That there would be much hardship and danger
He could well understand how some of them
Might prefer to return to near their homes
Especially those who were still convinced

That city workers were central to the revolution.
He said that was fine if they returned
Because wherever they were they would be Communists
Like seeds among the people
And the revolution would connect their struggle.

Some people left the mountain.

For those who remained an intensive campaign
Political education and critical examination
Of the history of the Party,
As they began the task of becoming one with the people
Serving and working alongside them
Spreading political ideas, learning needs
Learning the ways to survive on the mountain.

So began the creation
Of a new type of army
Establishing a democratic peasant government
At the same time as waging guerrilla war
Bettering the conditions of life
While facing blockades and encirclements by Chiang
Helping to lead land redistribution
In the Chingkang Mountains
The first base area of the revolution.



并占此合师

The land is life from deep within Sustains sustenance harvest grows Nourished by our labor joy and pain Rain flows with the sweat and blood Of those who work each day The shining sun beats heat upon The land is life from deep within The harvest grows The martyrs bleed Life flows From conception to birth As thought grows into deed The peasant bends Close to the earth To plant the living seed.

Between 1928 and 1934
Revolutionary base areas expand
Land reform began
Gradually working out a plan
So that the peasants
Could at last have their own land
A mighty storm
Rebellion roared
Isolating only the largest landlords.

Revolutionary base areas expand Several large regions called Soviets Chiang tries military encirclement
And a massive economic blockade
Though these attacks caused much difficulty
They forced the Soviets
To learn self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

The smoke and flames
Rising from the piles of old land deeds
Signal the end of landlord exploitation
In the zones of liberation
Poor peasants dividing land
Gathering together to burn the deeds
Condemn the landlord's crimes
The changing changing changing times.

The land is life from deep within
The harvest grows
The martyrs bleed
Life flows
As conception to birth
As thought grows into deed
The peasant bends
Close to the earth
To plant the living seed.

At last at last
The peasants stand
On their own land.





Fifth encirclement by Chiang was strong Communist forces suffered many losses Most of the base areas had to be abandoned.

In breaking through the encirclement
The Red Army had to move out into new land
And what was to become the Long March began.

Resting briefly after capturing the town of Tsunyi Communist leaders held an important meeting Which the Chinese say marked the growth of the Party Up from childhood to maturity Also marks the rise to top leadership of Mao Development of what was to be the winning strategy.

They analyzed the errors of the past
The alliance with Chiang
As well as actions that were hasty or premature
Such as failing to build a political base of support
For large scale military activities
And failing to see that the Chinese revolution
Had to be made in the countryside among the peasantry.
To the countryside the winning direction
Not in quick urban insurrections.

Analyzed the international situation Depression had hit capitalist countries Japanese sought economic salvation
In brutal Chinese colonization.
Japanese government made agreements with Chiang
And soon occupied all of Northeast China
They then attacked Shanghai
Chiang tries to stem resistance there
But it spread wide then he signs
An armistice with the Japanese
Which guaranteed that there would be
No Chinese troops stationed in Shanghai
He also outlawed the resistance movement
But it refused to die and mounted high.

The Communists saw that the Japanese occupation Changed the entire Chinese situation Hated the actions of Chiang to appease And at Tsunyi adopted the slogan Go North to Fight the Japanese.

As the Red Army
Broke through the encirclement
Moving
Moving
Out into new land
The Long March
The Long March
The Long March
The Long March began.



送义会议的光芒

X FRIENDSHIP WITH MINORITY PEOPLES

March
March
March
Trying to get away
From bombing
Marching
Often fighting
Trying to cross the Yangtse River
Going North
Crossed at the city of Sikang
By wearing stolen uniforms of Chiang's troops
And tricking government guards
Into bringing the ferry boat over
Crossed into the province of Szechuan.

China is a country
Of great diversity
Not only geographically
But in terms of humanity
Many national minorities
Peoples who had been oppressed
By the Han people
Who were the majority.

Earlier Communist forces had met The Miao and Shan peoples Through political explanation and negotiation Had won their friendship and support.

In Szechuan
The Black and White Lolos lived
They had never been conquered
Resisted with warfare
The Red Army approached there.

They sent envoys ahead to speak with the Lolos As they captured cities On the edge of Lolo territory They set some imprisoned Lolo chieftains free.

The envoys explained the Communist ideas
On the position of national minorities
Which involved autonomy within a Peoples Republic,
Explained the differences between themselves and Chiang
Gave the Lolos guns to demonstrate the trust between them
Swore blood brotherhood according to Lolo custom.

Some of the Lolos joined the Red Army for the Long March And the army was able to pass quickly through Lolo territory Marching safely gaining needed time on pursuing enemies.





Tatu River links of chain Every link is freedom's name.

Head North leave Lolo land
Reach Tatu River
Small ferries captured
But river at flood tide
For entire army to cross would have been suicide
Too much time as troops of the enemy
Moving quickly from North and South
Bombers were aware of their position.

Hurried military conference
Decide to try to cross at an iron suspension bridge
Named Liu Ting Chiao
Means a march to the West
Failure to cross would mean at best a long detour.

Communist soldiers many barefoot press on Over the tortuous winding trail along the gorge March day night doubletime short breaks See enemy forces following on the other side Push harder the enemy falls behind.

The bridge Sixteen heavy iron chains

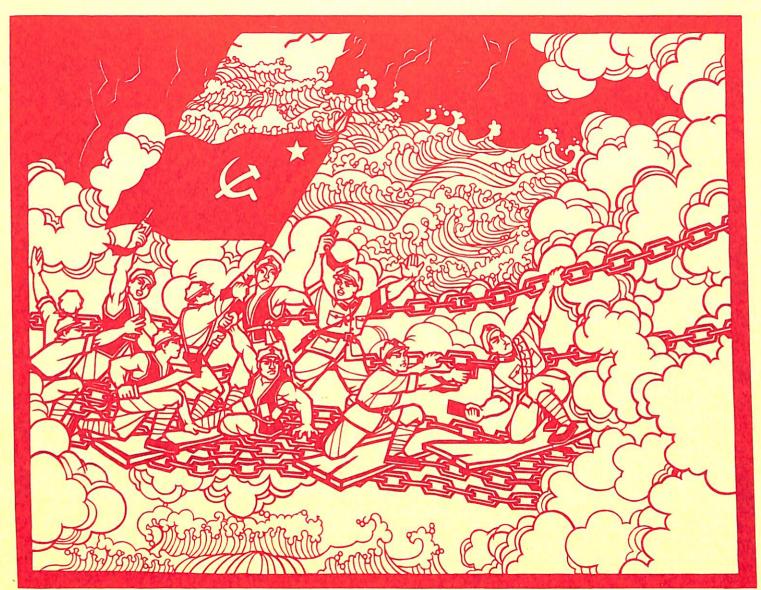
Stretching across for 100 yards
Usually thick wood boards lashed over the chains
So people could walk across
But the boards had been removed by the enemy.

Guards and enemy machinegun nest on other side
But bridge had to be crossed before enemy reinforcements
arrived
One by one 30 young soldiers volunteer

One by one 30 young soldiers volunteer Armed with swords pistols and hand grenades.

Covered by fire from Communist troops
They crawled along the chains
They crawled along the chains to the other side
Only three of them died
Overpowering the guards, who were astonished,
They took the boards
Placed them on the chains and the army crossed
Soon they encountered more troops from the enemy
In the fighting they gained a victory
Moved on in Long March determination
Great Snow Mountain their next destination.

Tatu River links of chain Every link is freedom's name.



Climb Climb

Climb

To 16,000 feet

June but it was cold up there Some of the soldiers from the South

Died from exposure to the cold

Climb Climb

On to Paotung Kang mountain
Desolate and difficult to

Climb Climb

Had to build their own path Over deep mud and rocks

Many soldiers

Two-thirds of the transport animals lost

Sometimes winds so strong

They could only walk in the morning

Some nights soldiers killed By huge rock hard hailstones

Climb Climb More huge mountains

More losses Finally

They entered

A large and fertile valley

Of about 100,000 who had left at the beginning

Of the Long March Over 50,000 had died.

In the valley

They met another group

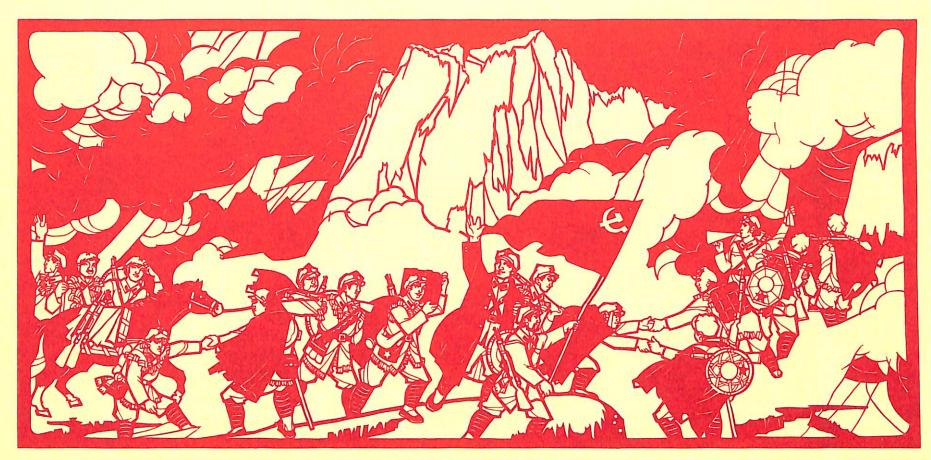
Of about 50,000 Communist troops

Reorganized
Marched on again

North to fight the Japanese.

Party issues a proclamation called Appeal to Fellow Countrymen concerning Resistance to Japan and National Salvation Urges the creation of a united front Of all forces favoring resistance.

And then
The most difficult part
Of the Long March began
Crossing the Great Grasslands.





The Great Grasslands marsh swamp quicksand Constant rain fog winds medical supplies gone Attacks from hostile Mantzu tribes using poison arrows Poison mud blistered legs Little food ate wheat green no firewood. Took ten days to cross, there were many losses.

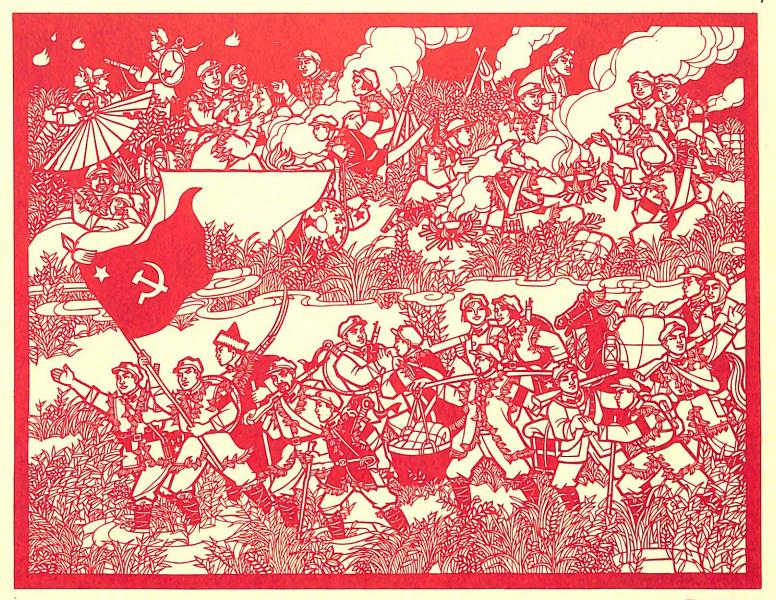
The Great Grasslands cold and hail
Soldiers had to sleep standing up
In pairs or groups of four back to back
Pursuing enemy troops had to turn around
But more enemy troops waiting on the other side
Communists won some fierce battles
Cut through two more enemy lines
Finally met troops from a northern Soviet
Long March ended a year after it had begun
Heroic struggle to survive
Of the original 100,000, only 20,000 left alive.

As the march came to an end Mao took up his pen:

The Red Army does not fear difficulties of the Long March Ten thousand rivers a thousand mountains—easy The Five Ridges merely little ripples Immense Wu Meng Mountain—merely a mound of earth. Warm are the cloudy cliffs beaten by the Gold Sand River Cold are the iron chains bridging Tatu River Joy over Min Mountain—a thousand miles of snow After the Army crossed every face smiled so.

Long March far more than heroic feats and immense difficulty Mao wrote it was the first of its kind in the annals of history A manifesto a propaganda force a seeding machine For 12 months we were under daily reconnaissance Bombing from the skies, on land encircled and pursued We encountered untold difficulties and dangers Yet by using our own two legs we swept across a distance Of 6000 miles through 11 provinces Announcing to some 200 million people in these provinces That the road of the Red Army Is their only road to liberation.

A manifesto
A propaganda force
A seeding machine
Has sown many seeds
Which will sprout
Grow leaves
Blossom into flowers
Bear fruit
And yield a crop in the future.





As the Long March was ending
For other Red Army divisions it was just beginning
Another group
Took 40 days to cross the Great Grasslands
Until finally at the Soviet in North Shensi
They met their comrades clasped hands
The war of resistance against the Japanese began.

Even during the fighting against the Japanese Communists had to contend With constant attacks by Chiang's men.

Often soldiers from Chiang's army were captured
They were treated humanely
Spoken to about the Japanese invasion of their land
Many of them allowed to return to their units
Where they told others the Communists were patriots
Interested in fighting the Japanese
Soon some officers were influenced
And later some whole sections of Chiang's army

Would refuse to fight the Communists or join them.

Chiang used Manchurian troops
For attacks on the Communists in the North
The Communists appealed to them to stop
Denouncing Japanese occupation of Manchuria.

Negotiations between Chou En-lai And the Manchurian general Resulted in a major battle in which Only the units of Chiang's general fought While the Manchurian troops watched.

The Manchurian general
Then ordered by Chiang
To capture the Communist base
Instead
He arranged a peaceful exchange
Giving the Communists
A new capital in Yenan.



陕北会师

XV YENAN

Yenan Work

Hill with high pagoda Work

Yenan Along with the people

Many caves in the sides of mountains Build economic strength

Dry dusty earth Combat the blockade

Yenan Yenan

Capital of Communism Hill with a high pagoda

There they lived in caves

University and training school for revolution

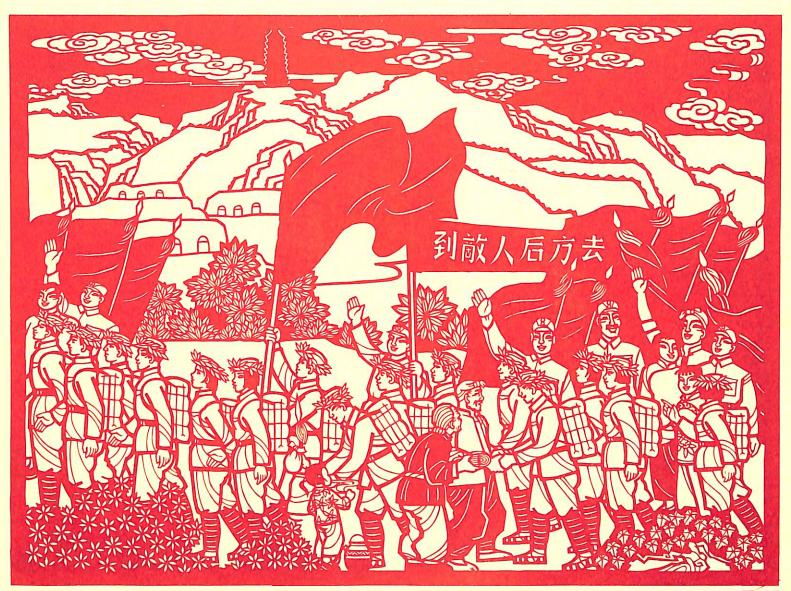
Lived simply Inside the caves resistance raged

A table a chair Dry dusty earth gave birth to revolution

Lived simply Yenan

Be they leaders or ordinary soldiers Pagoda beaconlight spreads wide

Work Revolution becomes truly nationwide





XVI SELF RELIANCE

In Yenan there is a place named Naniwan Very poor region when the Communists arrived Through extraordinary efforts it began to thrive.

Agricultural production greatly increased Crops diversified Spinning wheels and iron forging An economy engaged in constant activity.

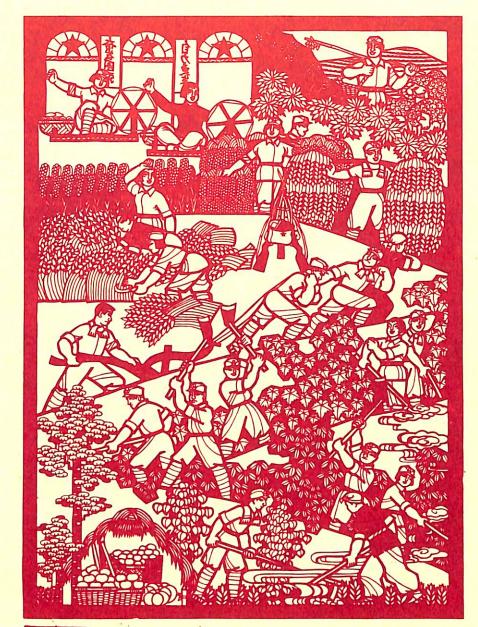
From the beginning soldiers joining with the people In the production drives
Soon reaching relative prosperity
At a time when in the areas controlled by Chiang
There was huge inflation and increasing poverty.

The cooperation of the people and the army In the drive for self reliance
Brought them close together
The army serving not only as fighting units
But as working teams
While many people not in the army
Served as a people's militia

In this way the army became a peoples army Of the kind which Mao had said Would grow to be invincible.

Building self reliance
Establishing a government
Marked another turning point in the revolution
The government involved everyone
Who opposed the Japanese and supported land redistribution.
Many non-Communists were involved.
Many schools and hospitals constructed.

The liberated areas
Themselves a great accomplishment
Bettering the conditions of life
Also serving as a dress rehearsal
For learning the many tasks
Which would be necessary
For unifying the entire country
Sowing seeds in deed
Which would meet the people's needs.





XVII GO TO THE REAR OF THE ENEMY

July 7, 1937
Japanese attack on Marco Polo Bridge
On the outskirts of Peking
Signal for an invasion of all of China
A month of massacres
Rape pillage torture brutalities
Calculated part of Japanese fascist strategies
To suppress the resistance of the Chinese.

Kuomintang army of Chiang fell back Yielding province after province Communist Party issues a manifesto Calling for total military resistance.

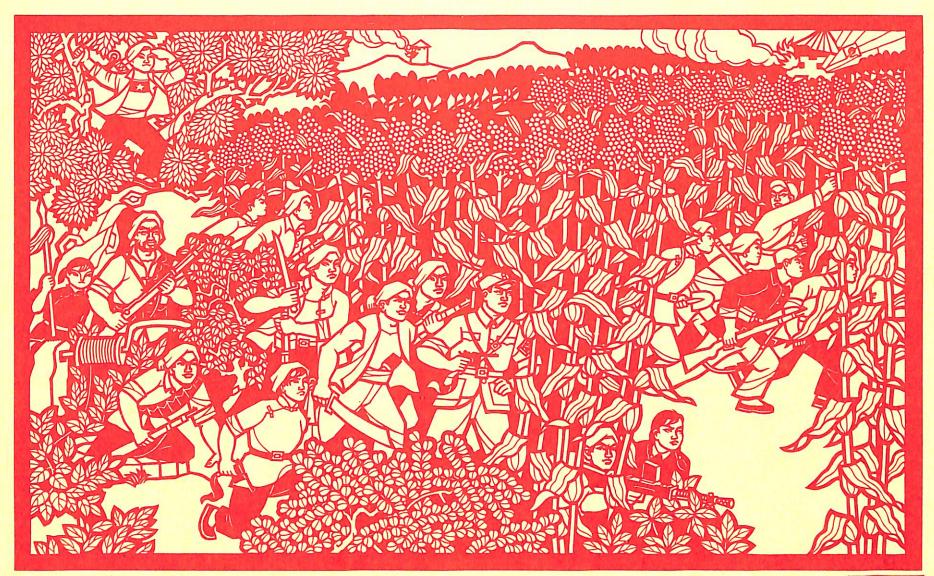
Seeking to mobilize
The entire military might
Of all the Chinese people
The Party proposed
A united front with the Kuomintang
In order to defeat the Japanese.

But in this united front
There was no capitulation as before
Now the Communists

Had their own armies, bases And new methods of waging war.

Communists saw their role
As the establishment of guerrilla bases
Behind enemy lines
While waging extensive guerrilla war
Along the enemy's flanks
As for the united front
They would maintain independence and initiative
No matter how many times
Chiang demanded that they give him
Complete military command
In lessons of blood they had come to understand
The absolute necessity
Of building strength to hold an independent stand.

Widespread organization
Massive mobilization
For guerrilla war began
Bringing popular
Resistance together in
Long and bitter war against Japan.



Long and bitter war against Japan began Amidst debate about how long it would last Some thought the war would soon be past And there would be a quick Chinese victory Others despaired and thought their nation Would soon come under total subjugation.

On the Protracted War by Mao
Examination of strengths and weaknesses
Of Chinese and Japanese forces
And of the world war situation
Predicted that the struggle would be long
Protracted not a quick victory
But to China final triumph would belong.

Propaganda teams
Carry
Carry
Carry
This analysis
To the people
Playing
Decisive role
In national resistance
Carry
Carry

Carry
As the Communist Party
Took primary
Responsibility
For coordinating strategy
During the war
Organizing
Explaining
Telling the people
What was happening
Telling them about Yenan
Speaking of the time beyond
The defeat of the Japanese
Of Communist goals
Of eventual peace.

Propaganda teams
Have you heard?
Carry
Carry
Carry
The word
Unite fight
Time seize
We will defeat the Japanese.



August 1945 the Japanese surrender Chiang immediately begins attacks on the Red Army Even using some Japanese troops Long heroic war of resistance against the Japanese But when will the people of China have peace?

People exhausted by the long war Last thing they wanted was more But there were many years in store before War would cease and there would be peace.

Responding to the peoples need for peace
Communists decided to try to negotiate
An end to the civil war and an agreement was reached
But Chiang again let it all go hang
As his army with large amounts of U.S. aid
Again betrayed the people
Marched North in an attempt to occupy
The liberated areas but in reply
Students and workers held huge demonstrations
To protest this latest abomination.

Student movement in China had a long history The May 4th movement of 1919 Through the years students raise their fists Their struggle often serving as a catalyst. By 1946 students and workers united Behind the slogan "GI's Leave China" Including a nationwide demonstration To protest atrocities By U.S. soldiers in the cities. These atrocities included Rape of Chinese women And running over children.

Huge new wave of student protest in 1947
As Chiang announced government reorganization
The banners say
Stop Civil War Stop Starvation
No Civil War No Dictatorship
Fight for Democracy and Freedom.

The government forbid student strikes
The strikes grew even larger
The government forbid the students
From going to the government in Nanking
To present a petition
Students got there by taking over a train
And driving it themselves
Troops police and undercover agents
Were sent to attack the students
Students stuck to their demands
Sometimes snatched weapons
Out of police hands.



团結就是分量

Chiang leads
A nationwide offensive
Against the Communists
But soon
Communists can begin
A counter-offensive
Crossing the Yellow River
Moving South
Driving a wedge between
Two centers of the enemy
The cities of Wuhan and Nanking.

The offensive by Chiang
Begins to boomerang
As the final stages of the civil war begin
It becomes clear who will win.

Wide new areas liberated
Land reform begun
Communists already control
99% of the territory of the Northeast
And are
Moving South
Driving a wedge between
Two centers of the enemy
The cities of Wuhan and Nanking.

The offensive by Chiang
Begins to boomerang
As the final stages of the civil war begin
It becomes clear who will win.





XXI THE HUAI HAI CAMPAIGN

By 1948 Victory Becomes A certainty Major military campaigns Launched by Red Army In the Huai Hai campaign alone Over 550,000 enemy troops Were put out of action Casualties and mass desertions On the rise As for the first time There were more soldiers In the Red Army Than in the army of Chiang And victory Becomes A certainty.

Guerrilla warfare not a dream Battle bullets dying scream.

Guerrilla war no fantasy Nothing has to be more rooted in reality. Peoples war they cannot beat Guerrilla walks with aching feet.

Guerrilla walks like you my sister brother Step by step with one foot following the other.

Peoples war Peoples war Peoples war

High on every terraced mountain Rises rice of revolution Join us in the harvest We shall win!

An entire people cannot be defeated Even against a technically superior enemy A people can gain victory For it is the peoples spirit and unity Not the guns and bombs which are primary

Huge battles rage Midwife to a new historic stage As victory Becomes a certainty.



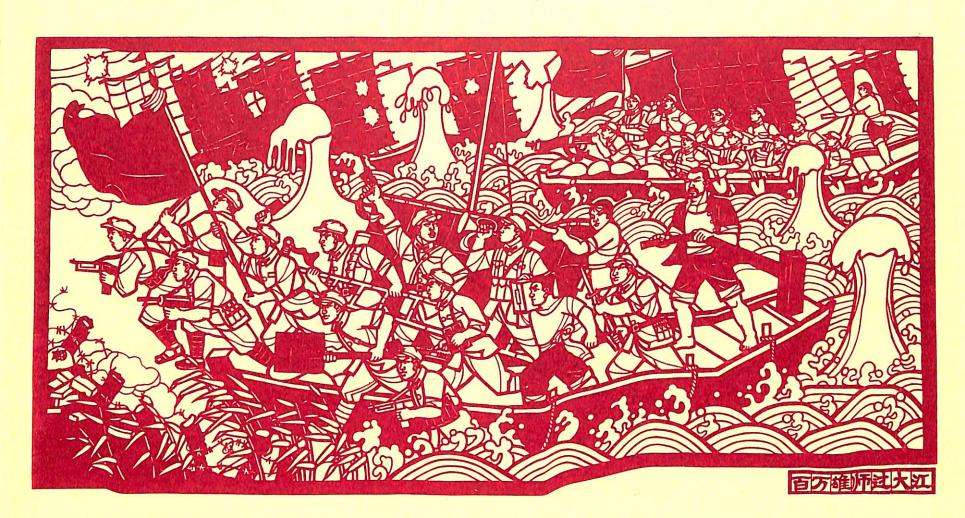
淮海大捷

Peking
And the nearby port of Tientsin
Liberated
In January 1949

As Chiang appeals for peace
To stall for time
U.S. generals and advisors
Trying to talk to both sides
While stepping up war supplies
To Chiang
Internal dissension
In the Kuomintang Party of Chiang
Talks begin in April
Short-lived negotiation
Chou En-lai led
The Communist delegation
An agreement reached at the talks
But Chiang balks
Refuses to accept the agreement.

That same day
The day of the rejection
Nationwide military advance
By Communist forces
Cross the Yangtse River
Using many thousands
Of small fishing boats
Advancing like waves
Across the river
On a several hundred mile front.

The Kuomintang defense collapsed
Soon Nanking fell
Then Shanghai
As advancing
All across China
The Red Army at last achieves
Complete military victory
Soon the leadership of the Kuomintang is gone
Running to the island province of Taiwan
The Party begins plans for the establishment
Of a peoples government.



XXIII THE LIBERATION OF NANKING

Nanking liberated
Brings to mind
Yu Hua Tai the martyr's burial ground
Where those beautiful red stones are found.

Many men and women had fallen
Unprecedented struggle on an immense scale
Enormous changes in people's lives
Many lessons learned burned
Over long years of difficulty
The seeds planted by the Long March
Blossom bear fruit
And the harvest continues.

The great mountains of imperialism and feudalism Removed from China
Struggle against capitalism conducted carefully
With many businessmen being allowed to retain
A portion of their original investment
And the gradual taking over of factories
Often conducted peacefully
Socialism means the abolishment
Of individual ownership of the means of production
And that soon became a reality.

In the countryside
Oppression and misery
Of thousands of years now ended
Land redistribution

Efforts to eliminate the huge differences
Between the city and the country
And eventually organizing peoples communes
Like the one where the people
Who made these paper cuts live and work.

Women heavily oppressed in old China Bound feet forced marriages forced prostitution Began the process of their liberation during revolution That was a tremendous change Huge source of energy and leadership, great contributions.

The use of opium by imperialists to enslave Was ended using a combination Of severe detoxification and Revolutionary political education.

Sun rise sun shine So many accomplishments So many more since 1949.

How proud and happy
The martyrs buried at Yu Hua Tai
The millions who sacrificed
Would be
If they could see
Their people now
The night was long
Red sun now rising strong.



XXIV THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAVE STOOD UP

Celebration
Sunshine
Inauguration
Of the Peoples Republic
October 1st 1949

A few months previously
Mao had written
That there could be
No complacency about victory

Make trouble fail
Make trouble again fail again
That is the logic of the imperialists
Of all reactionaries the world over
In dealing with the cause of the people.

They will never go against this logic.

When we say imperialism is ferocious
We mean that its nature will never change
The imperialists will never lay down
Their butcher knives
They will never become Buddhas

Sunshine People gathering At Tien An Men Square in Peking October 1st 1949

Celebration

There in the square The crimson dawn unfurled Mao issued a message to the entire world His first words His first words Met by a huge approving roar His first words Said it all Met by a huge approving roar After long night Of suffering and war His first words His first words As people sip the tea of freedom From victory cup His first words said it all

THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAVE STOOD UP!

Until their doom.



中国人民站起来

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