

5 April 1968

CCC 2

CHICOM NATIONAL AFFAIRS

**MOST BASIC NEED IS CLOSE TIES WITH MASSES**

Peking NCNA Domestic Service in Chinese 0807 GMT 3 Apr 68 B

[PEOPLE'S DAILY Commentator's article: "The Most Fundamental Requirement"]

[Text] Chairman Mao recently taught us: "The most fundamental requirement that a state organ must meet to transform itself is to maintain close ties with the masses."

Newborn revolutionary committees must establish a new revolutionary style of work and maintain the most comprehensive, consistent, and closest ties with the laboring people."

Just as Chairman Mao pointed out, "This is a big event of a fundamental nature under the socialist system. It is conducive to the overcoming of bureaucratism and to the prevention of revisionism and dogmatism. Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line is one of "from the masses, to the masses." Members of the revolutionary committee must sink deep roots among the masses and wholeheartedly serve the people. They must "regard themselves as common people who are serving as 'officials.'" Comrades of the revolutionary committee in the Tuchu Autonomous County, Tsinghai, are doing just that. Imbued with great revolutionary enthusiasm, they brought along with them Chairman Mao's works, carried their knapsacks, climbed mountains and crossed rivers, traveled some 300 miles on foot, and went to mountainous areas which county-level cadres had never before visited to popularize Chairman Mao's latest instructions among the poor and lower-middle peasants and to radiate the warmth of Chairman Mao.

We must learn from them and go to the masses, understand the needs and wishes of the masses, pool the wisdom of the broad masses, sum up and promote advanced experiences, and put into practice on a firm basis Chairman Mao's latest instructions and the party's guidelines and policies. We must solicit the help of the masses, place ourselves under the supervision of the masses, and listen to their opinions and criticisms at all times to raise the level of our thought and improve work. Revolutionary committees at all levels should combine the "three-eight" work style of the PLA, the spirit of the laboring people in working hard, and the party's fine tradition of keeping close contact with the masses so as to turn the committees into revolutionized, militant headquarters.

Workers of the Nanchang General Machinery Works expressed it well when they said: In the past some cadres were very good in the beginning. Their thoughts changed afterward, and they committed serious mistakes. What was wrong? One important reason is that they did not obey Chairman Mao's directives and that they looked down upon, divorced themselves from, and oppressed the masses.

Every member of the revolutionary committees at various levels must keep this lesson in mind, and always regard the maintenance of close ties with the masses as an important hallmark of loyalty to the great leader Chairman Mao, to the great thought of Mao Tse-tung, and to Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and as a significant milestone to distinguish a proletarian political power from the power of the exploiting classes. We must never forget this fundamental requirement.