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PEOPLE'S DAILY Commentator's 19 March article: "Not for Position, But for Revolution"]

[Text] Peking--The great teacher Chairman Mao teaches us: "We communists do not aspire to be officials; we want to make revolution. We all must possess a thorough revolutionary spirit and we must not be divorced from the masses for a single moment."

The forming of a revolutionary committee is but the completion of the first stage of a 10,000-mile journey. The struggle between the two classes, two roads, and two lines continues under new forms. The difficult road the revolution must traverse still lies ahead. Therefore, a revolutionary committee should be armed with the thought of Mao Tse-tung and be a strong command headquarters for grasping revolution and stimulating production.

How can we consolidate the newborn revolutionary committees and smash the counterattacks and offensives launched by the class enemy? Chairman Mao says: "If we are at one with the people, if we rely on them, have faith in them, and resolutely believe that the creative capabilities of the masses are inexhaustible, we can overcome any and all difficulties. No enemy can overthrow us; on the contrary, the enemy will be overthrown by us."

If the members of revolutionary committees at various levels want to make revolution they must never forget Chairman Mao's teaching to always trust the masses, rely on them, and integrate with them. They must be willing pupils of the masses. If one aspires to an official position, he will inevitably despise the masses, put on bureaucratic airs, place himself above and become divorced from the masses. Therefore, the question of what attitude to adopt toward the masses--whether one should or should not keep close ties with the masses--is a problem concerning one's fundamental position, not a question of general mental attitude. It is a question of whether one wants, or does not want, to make revolution; a question of whether one is loyal to Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought, and Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

The class enemies live in great fear that our cadres will achieve unity with the masses, breathe the same air, share the same fate, and fight together. Arrogance and complacency among our cadres are weak links through which the class enemies drive their wedge to disrupt relations between the cadres and the masses. If members of revolutionary committees become too proud because of their victories, if they are content to rest on their laurels, they will inevitably be separated from the masses and thus provide the class enemy with the opportunity to attack. We must be highly alert against this.

The point constantly stressed by the Ichun municipal revolutionary committee of Heilungkiang Province in its move to vigorously grasp ideological revolutionization among the leading group is to guard against arrogance, prevent change, and adopt a correct attitude toward the masses. Their method is worth noting. The great proletarian cultural revolution has greatly promoted the excellent tradition put forth by Chairman Mao of having faith in, relying on, and maintaining close relations with the masses. If this tradition is maintained and developed, newborn revolutionary committees will be more vigorous and all-conquering.