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[CHEKIANG DAILY editorial: "Beward of pickpockets who disguise themselves as friends-third commentary on resolutely implementing the important directive from Chairman Mao's
headquarters and the agreement on the revolutionary great alliance"]

[Text] Since Chairman Mao's headquarters ratified the agreement on realizing the revolutionary great alliance in our province, the red storms of the revolutionary great alliance have been gaining strength. The situation throughout the entire province is becoming better and better. However, all reactionary forces on the verge of extinction invariably conduct a last desperate struggle. On the road we are marching to victory, there are thorns everywhere. On the roadside, there are pickpockets who want to seize the fruits of victory while we are off guard. The better the situation, the more the proletarian revolutionaries should remain clear-headed toward the class struggle. They should develop the ability to see through the disguise of the class enemy under all circumstances.

In particular, they should be vigilant against pickpockets disguised as friends. It is not hard to recognize such people if we use Chairman Mao's method of class analysis and carefully observe what is happening around us.

Some people have said that the agreement on realizing the revolutionary great alliance in our province, which was ratified by Chairman Mao's headquarters, does not represent their views and therefore is null and void. Other people have branded comrades who persistently uphold the principle of party spirit as right-deviates who "want to become officials," alleging that these comrades tried to prevent them from carrying out revolution. Still others have clamored that they will struggle resolutely against the veteran rebels who have made mistakes. They have said: "The worst that could happen to us in this struggle is to have ourselves end up as veteran rebels who have made mistakes."

In certain places, the slogan calling for thorough rehabilitation has become very rampant. Some people have even gone so far as to put forward a slogan demanding the thorough criticism and repudiation of what they call the "new bourgeois reactionary line of the proletarian revolutionaries." Moreover, some conservative organizations which had previously been washed away by the historical current and certain groups controlled by bad elements bent on "assaulting, smashing, and looting" are again attempting to rise up. Such groups are recruiting new members in an attempt to set up new strongholds. In other places, peasants have been instigated to desert their production posts and "proceed to urban areas to take part in struggle by force."

Furthermore, some mass organizations are still indulging in "civil war" among themselves. Groundless rumors have been fabricated to vilify PLA units stationed in Chekiang which are holding aloft the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought in support of the left, not any particular faction. Worst of all, documents from the central authorities and speeches by responsible personnel have been forged and used as weapons in attacking the PLA units. In some places, certain persons have clamored for "toppling the revolutionary committees--organs of red political power endorsed by the supreme provincial organ of power in Chekiang."

What are they really after? Each and every revolutionary comrade must think this over calmly. In fact, some views and deeds have been expressed and committed by some of our own comrades under the deceptive influence of factionalism and anarchism. They have been used by renegades, special agents, and diehard capitalist-roaders in the party, as well as landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements, and rightists who are not sufficiently remolded. This has seriously hampered the smooth implementation of important directives from Chairman Mao's headquarters and agreement on forming the great alliance.

Chairman Mao, the great teacher of the proletariat, has taught us: "Never forget class struggle." Comrades imbued with factionalism and anarchism, what is your attitude toward this instruction of Chairman Mao? Have you ever used this concept of classes and class struggle to analyze your own problems in regard to others and their affairs? Are there any pickpockets around us disguised as friends?

Following the rapid advance of the great proletarian cultural revolution, the measures taken by the class enemies for launching counterrevolutionary activities have become more covert, cunning, and insidious. Meanwhile, instead of diminishing, the struggle between the two classes and two lines has intensified more than ever. At present, the struggle between the two classes and two lines in our province is concentrated and reflected in the implementation of the "directive of approval by the CCP Central Committee and the Cultural Revolution Group under the CCP Central Committee on the two documents concerning the formation of the revolutionary great alliance in Chekiang." With the keen smell of a dog, our enemy constantly watches political trends, because they are fully aware that as soon as the directive and the two documents are put into effect, the revolutionary great alliance will succeed beyond doubt. Moreover, they also know that the successful formation of the revolutionary great alliance will bring about their total collapse.

Hence, they disguise themselves as friends, sneak into the revolutionary ranks, and try to influence certain leaders with their ideas and plans. Outwardly they act very cordially toward and show great concern for the leaders, but actually they are using every possible means to prevent and resist the implementation of the directive from the central authorities and the agreements on the formation of the revolutionary great alliance and to undermine the great alliance.

Some of our comrades have blindly followed the enemy in both outlook and action. As a result, they have failed to draw a line between men and devils; they have taken enemies for friends; they have regarded devils disguised in human form as men of great wisdom; they have gleefully jumped at political rumors as soon as they come out; and they have rejoiced at the restoration of their own small groups or at the achievement of more power by their own groups. To achieve their goals, they have mobilized their own members and the masses of the people as well and urged them to resort to force, thus reviving "civil war," injuring class brothers, and undermining state property. Although they have carried out foolish deeds and undermined the revolution, they still look upon all this as an accomplishment.

Now is the time for those comrades imbued with factionalism and anarchism and soffering from political paralysis to awaken. "Do you still want to split your class brothers into this group or that group? Do you want to encourage them to argue, create trouble, and fight among one another?"

"Are you not aware that if the renegades, special agents, the handful of diehard capitalist-roaders in the party, landlords, rich peasants, counterrevolutionaries, bad elements, and rightists succeed in coming back, they will definitely show no mercy?"

If you do not follow them, they will exercise a brutal, fascist dictatorship over you regardless of what groups you belong to.

We must clearly see the new trends and characteristics of the present class struggle and persist in using the concept on classes and class struggle in observing and analyzing everything. We must maintain high vigilance in various work departments, be good at detecting those elements pretending to support the revolution but actually opposing it, and purge them from every front. We should not put on the air of literary men or regard the complicated class struggle with indifference.

The revolutionary great alliance is an irresistible historical current. We resolutely believe that the working class, poor and lower-middle peasants, revolutionary Red Quards, revolutionary cadres, and revolutionary intellectuals are most obedient to Chairman Mao and resolutely opposed to splittism and backwardness. We believe that under the guidance of Mao Tse-tung's thought and on the basis of revolutionary principles, they will achieve more if they are united.

The handful of bad elements who incite factionalism, create splits, and instigate civil war may run rampant temporarily, but they will come to no good end and will not escape the iron fist of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Let us heighten vigilance, sharpen our eyesight, strike down factionalism, strike down anarchism, and chop off the black talons! Proletarian revolutionaries unite!