

# PEKING REVIEW

35

August 27, 1965

## Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan

by Mao Tse-tung

The theory of a people's war expounded in this article, which has been republished in the latest issue of *Hongqi*, is today of vital practical importance for the Chinese people and for the people of the whole world in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and, in particular, for the oppressed nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle for liberation.

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Published by: **FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS**, Peking, China

Distributed by: **GUOZI SHUDIAN** (China Publications Centre), Peking, China

*Order from your local dealer or write direct to the*

**Mail Order Department, GUOZI SHUDIAN, P.O. Box 399, Peking, China**

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# PEKING REVIEW

北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE  
NEWS AND VIEWS

August 27, 1965 Vol. VIII No. 35

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Published every Friday by PEKING REVIEW  
Pai Wan Chuang, Peking (37), China  
Post Office Registration No. 2-922  
Cable Address: Peking 2910  
Printed in the People's Republic of China

## THE WEEK

### South Vietnamese Leader Writes to Chairman Mao

The nation's leading newspapers gave frontpage prominence to a letter from Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, to Chairman Mao Tse-tung. The south Vietnamese leader sent similar letters to Chairman Liu Shao-chi, Chairman Chu Teh and Premier Chou En-lai. All the letters were personally handed to Premier Chou on August 12 by Tran Van Thanh, head of the Front's permanent delegation in China.

Thanking the Chinese people for their support to the south Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression, President Nguyen Huu Tho in his letter to Chairman Mao said: "In their patriotic and just war to resist the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their running dogs and win national independence, the people of south Viet Nam are infinitely inspired by the unreserved and invaluable sympathy and support they have received from the Chinese Communist Party and the brotherly Chinese people. Your historic statement of August 29, 1963, concerning the south Viet Nam question is of great significance for the revolutionary cause of the south Vietnamese people. It once again demonstrated the close friendship and militant solidarity between the Chinese and the south Vietnamese people, and has enhanced still more our great strength to defeat the U.S. aggressors."

President Nguyen Huu Tho denounced U.S. imperialism's "unconditional discussions" swindle aimed at misleading world opinion while stepping up its aggression in Viet Nam. "It is the belief of the south Vietnamese people that in spite of the frenzied scheming, deceitful talk and up-to-date weapons and modernized armies of the U.S. imperial-

ists and their lackeys, they will never succeed in subduing the 14 million patriotic south Vietnamese people or weakening their determination to fight and win.

"With the full sympathy and support of the 650 million great Chinese people, of the people of other socialist countries and of all peace-loving peoples of the world, we south Vietnamese people are determined to hold our guns firmly and fight to the last drop of our blood to drive U.S. imperialism out of south Viet Nam, liberate south Viet Nam and reunify the fatherland by peaceful means, thereby making our contribution to the national-liberation struggle and to the defence of peace in Southeast Asia and the world."

### Another Unmanned U.S. Spy Plane Downed

An unmanned U.S. high-altitude reconnaissance military plane was shot down by a Chinese Navy air force unit on August 21 over Hainan Island in south China. This blatant and provocative intrusion follows the one on April 9 when eight U.S. military planes intruded over Hainan Island and one was knocked out of the sky by one of its partners.

Lin Piao, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence, issued an order commending the air force unit for its victory. The order said that this served as a powerful blow to the U.S. imperialists who were now expanding their war of aggression in Viet Nam and intensifying their reconnaissance activities and provocations against Hainan Island. It called on all commanders and fighters to continue to heighten their vigilance, maintain combat readiness, and strike resolutely at any enemy plane that dared to intrude into China's air space.

The wreckage of four U.S.-made U-2 planes of the Chiang Kai-shek gang is now on display at the Mili-

tary Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution in Peking. Thousands of people, including foreign diplomatic envoys and military attaches, have flocked to see the remains of these American spy planes.

### **Tibet to Become Autonomous Region**

The establishment of the Autonomous Region of Tibet on September 1 was decided on at a plenary meeting of the State Council on August 23.

The State Council discussed at the meeting a report on the subject by the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region. It agreed that the first session of the First People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region should take place on September 1 and that the Autonomous Region of Tibet be formally established. This resolution will be submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for ratification.

Elections at the county level in Tibet have been completed, and many counties have already elected deputies to the region's First People's Congress.

### **Congratulating Rumanian Leaders On Their Re-election**

Chinese leaders Liu Shao-chi, Chu Teh and Chou En-lai sent a joint message on August 23 to Rumanian leaders Chivu Stoica and Ion Gheorghe Maurer, congratulating them on their re-election as Chairman of the State Council and Chairman of the Council of Ministers respectively.

The message described the constitution recently adopted by the Grand National Assembly of Rumania as one which "embodies the achievements of the Rumanian people in their revolution and construction and defines in legal form the leading role of the Rumanian working class and its vanguard—the Rumanian Communist Party—in state life." It wished the Rumanian people still greater successes in the building of

socialism and expressed the hope that the fraternal ties between the Chinese and Rumanian peoples would continue to develop.

### **Rumanian Liberation Anniversary**

Chinese Party and state leaders Mao Tse-tung, Liu Shao-chi, Chu Teh and Chou En-lai on August 22 sent greetings to Rumanian leaders Nicolae Ceausescu, Chivu Stoica and Ion Gheorghe Maurer on the 21st anniversary of Rumania's liberation.

The Chinese leaders congratulated the Rumanian people who, "under the leadership of the Rumanian C.P. and Government, adhere to a policy of independence and, imbued with great zeal and united as one, work industriously and have made big achievements in industry, agriculture, science, culture and other fields." They also paid tribute to the Rumanian Socialist Republic and the Rumanian people for their important contributions to the cause of opposing the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war, supporting the liberation struggle of the peoples and defending world peace. "The Rumanian Communist Party and Government have made great efforts in upholding the unity of the socialist camp and defending the principles guiding the relations between the fraternal Parties and fraternal countries." The Chinese leaders expressed the conviction that "the militant friendship between the Chinese and Rumanian Parties and peoples and the relations of friendship and co-operation between the two countries will be consolidated and will develop day by day."

In Peking, Rumanian Ambassador Dumitru Gheorghiu gave a reception on August 23. Tung Pi-wu, Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Teng Hsiao-ping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese C.P.; Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier; and other Chinese leaders attended.

Both Ambassador Dumitru Gheorghiu and Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien who spoke at the reception toasted the growing friendship

between the fraternal peoples of the two countries.

### **Chairman Mao Meets Zambian Guests**

Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Chairman Liu Shao-chi received Zambian Minister of Agriculture E.H.K. Mudenda and members of the Zambian government delegation he led on August 22. The Chinese leaders had a cordial talk with their guests, and gifts from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda were presented to them by Minister Mudenda.

Premier Chou En-lai had met and feted the distinguished Zambian guests three days earlier.

The delegation, the first sent by the Zambian Government since Zambia proclaimed independence in October 1964, arrived in Peking on August 18. That evening, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien gave a banquet in its honour.

Extending his welcome to the visitors, the Vice-Premier paid tribute to the Zambian people for their glorious tradition in opposing imperialism and colonialism and their untiring efforts to eliminate colonial influence and build up their country. "The Republic of Zambia," he said, "follows a foreign policy of non-alignment, opposes imperialism and old and new colonialism and upholds African and Afro-Asian solidarity. It is especially noteworthy that the Zambian people, since their independence, still show concern for the other peoples who are suffering bitterly from colonialism and racialism." Vice-Premier Li reiterated China's consistent stand in its relations with African countries, in providing economic and technical aid to foreign countries and in supporting the African peoples in defending national independence.

Minister Mudenda said that Zambia had always striven for friendly relations with the People's Republic of China. "Our independence movement in Zambia was greatly encouraged by the support of the Chinese people." He told the gathering that Zambia greatly treasured relations with China. He also condemned the

imperialists for their slaughter of the innocent Vietnamese people.

### **Algerian Government Delegation Arrives in Peking**

The Algerian government delegation led by State Minister Rabah Bitat arrived in Peking by air on August 24.

At the banquet given by Vice-Premier Chen Yi on the evening of the Algerian guests' arrival, both the Vice-Premier and Minister Rabah Bitat stated that, together with other Asian and African countries, China and Algeria would do their utmost to make the Second African-Asian Conference a success.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said that the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the people throughout the world was surging to a new high. U.S. imperialism, he said, was heavily besieged by the people everywhere in the world.

Referring to the Second African-Asian Conference, Chen Yi said that the U.S.-led imperialists and their followers were particularly afraid of it. He said: "They are trying by every possible means to undermine the conference in an attempt to make its convening impossible. If they should fail in this, they would then try to disrupt it from within and divert it from its anti-imperialist goal, in order to make it a failure. We must heighten our vigilance against this U.S. imperialist plot." The Vice-Premier stressed that efforts should be made to hold the conference at the scheduled time in Algiers. He also pointed out that it was equally important to ensure its success so as to have it live up to the expectations of the more than 2,000 million people in Asia and Africa.

In his speech, Minister Bitat said: "The most necessary thing for the African and Asian peoples is their solidarity, and we must join our efforts to smash the imperialist intrigues to undermine this solidarity." He praised the friendship between the Algerian and Chinese peoples and said: "Their friendly relations were forged and consolidated in the difficult years of revolutionary struggle. The Algerian people will always

advance together with the Chinese people on the road of revolution."

The Algerian Minister declared that his country "holds that only the Vietnamese people can decide the fate and the future of their own country." He said that Algeria's consistent policy towards all national-liberation movements "is to support and aid them."

### **Guinean Government Delegation In Peking**

Alassane Diop, Guinean Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone, and the Guinean government delegation he led arrived in Peking on August 18. Premier Chou En-lai met and had talks with the Guinean Minister last week.

On August 19, Vice-Premier Po I-po gave a banquet in honour of the delegation. The Vice-Premier spoke of the Guinean people's remarkable achievements in defending national independence and in developing their national economy and culture under the leadership of President Sekou Toure. He expressed the Chinese people's hearty wishes that the Guinean people would achieve still greater successes in the future.

Alassane Diop, in his speech, conveyed the good wishes of President Sekou Toure and the Guinean people to the Chinese people. He said: "After several years of sincere co-operation with China, the Guinean people have been able to value the lofty ideas of the Chinese people, the Chinese Government and Party and to value your unconditional support for the truly progressive forces of the world, particularly of Asia, Africa and Latin America, in fighting against imperialism, old and new colonialism and their lackeys."

### **Congolese (L) Guests Welcomed**

A six-member delegation of the Congolese (L) Supreme Council of Revolution, headed by President Gaston Soumialot, is now visiting China at the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs. More than a thousand citizens in the capital gave the Congolese guests a hearty welcome at the Peking airport when they arrived on August 19.

Gaston Soumialot and his party were honoured on the evening of their arrival at a banquet given by President Chang Hsi-jo of the host organization. At the banquet, Chang Hsi-jo paid tribute to the heroic Congolese (L) people's ardent love of freedom and determination to fight against imperialism. He said: "Holding aloft the banner of Lumumba, the Congolese people have waged heroic and unyielding struggles against aggression by U.S.-headed imperialism and old and new colonialism. They have won the admiration of the people of China and the rest of the world." He expressed the conviction that the Congolese people's patriotic and just struggle would finally triumph.

Gaston Soumialot strongly condemned U.S. imperialist aggression against the Congo (L) and said: "The Congolese people are continuing their struggle. They will fight until they have buried every enemy on their soil." Soumialot also said that his people possessed the powerful weapons of determination and dynamism, and that everybody in his country from twelve years and up had joined the struggle to drive out the enemy. He pointed out that the war fought in the Congo (L) was actually a struggle that concerned the whole of Africa. Thanking the Chinese people for their support, he said that both the Congolese and the Chinese peoples faced a common enemy: imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism.

Premier Chou En-lai met Gaston Soumialot and his colleagues on August 24 and entertained them at a banquet.

### **Condolences on Gallacher's Death**

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in a message on August 19, expressed condolences to the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain on the death of its leader William Gallacher. The message reads:

"Having learnt that Comrade William Gallacher has died of illness, we send you our condolences and request you to convey our sympathy to Comrade Gallacher's family."

# Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan

May 1938

by Mao Tse-tung

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Chairman Mao Tse-tung's famous article "Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan" was reprinted in the latest issue of *Hongqi* (Red Flag) on August 21. In its editor's note, *Hongqi* said:

*"September 3 this year marks the 20th anniversary of China's victory in its War of Resistance Against Japan. We have specially reprinted in this issue Comrade Mao Tse-tung's famous article 'Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan'. The ideas expounded in this article played a great guiding role in China's revolutionary war. In this connection, the Committee for the Publication of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has given the following explanatory note: 'In the early days of the War of Resistance Against Japan, many people inside and outside the Party belittled the important strategic role of guerrilla warfare and pinned their hopes on regular warfare alone, and particularly on the operations of the Kuomintang forces. Comrade Mao Tse-tung refuted this view and wrote this article to show the correct road of development for anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare. As a result, the Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army, which had just over 40,000 men when the War of Resistance began in 1937, grew to a great army of one million by the time Japan surrendered in 1945, established many revolutionary base areas, played a great part in the war and thus, throughout this period, made Chiang Kai-shek afraid to capitulate to Japan or launch a nation-wide civil war. In 1946, when Chiang Kai-shek did launch a nation-wide civil war, the People's Liberation Army, formed out of the Eighth Route and New Fourth Armies, was strong enough to deal with his attacks'.*

*"Today, it is very clear that the theory of a people's war found in Comrade Mao Tse-tung's article is of vital practical importance for the Chinese people and for the people of the whole world in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and, in particular, for the oppressed nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle for liberation".*

Peking Review reprints on the following pages a full translation of this article by Chairman Mao. — Ed.

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## CHAPTER I

### Why Raise the Question of Strategy in Guerrilla War?

In the War of Resistance Against Japan, regular warfare is primary and guerrilla warfare supplementary. This point has already been correctly settled. Thus, it seems there are only tactical problems in guerrilla warfare. Why then raise the question of strategy?

If China were a small country in which the role of guerrilla warfare was only to render direct support over short distances to the campaigns of the regular army, there would, of course, be only tactical problems but no strategic ones. On the other hand, if China were a country as strong as the Soviet Union and the invading enemy could either be quickly expelled, or, even though his expulsion were to take some time, he could not occupy extensive areas, then again guerrilla warfare would simply play a supporting role in campaigns, and would naturally involve only tactical but not strategic problems.

The question of strategy in guerrilla war does arise, however, in the case of China, which is neither small nor like the Soviet Union, but which is both a large and a weak country. This large and weak country is being attacked by a small and strong country, but the large and weak country is in an era of progress; this is the source of the whole problem. It is in these circumstances that vast areas have come under enemy occupation and that the war has become a protracted one. The enemy is occupying vast areas of this large country of ours, but Japan is a small country, she does not have sufficient soldiers and has to leave many gaps in the occupied areas, so that our anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare consists primarily not in interior-line operations in support of the campaigns of the regular troops but in independent operations on exterior lines; furthermore, China is progressive, that is to say, she has a staunch army and broad masses of people, both led by the Communist Party, so that, far from being small-scale, our anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare is in fact large-scale warfare. Hence the emergence of a whole series of problems, such as the strategic defensive, the strategic offensive, etc. The protracted nature of the war and its attendant ruthlessness have made it imperative for guerrilla warfare to undertake many unusual tasks; hence such problems as those of the base areas, the development of guerrilla warfare into mobile warfare, and so on. For all these reasons, China's guerrilla warfare against Japan has broken out of the bounds of tactics to knock at the gates of strategy, and it demands examination from the viewpoint of strategy. The

point that merits our particular attention is that such extensive as well as protracted guerrilla warfare is quite new in the entire history of war. This is bound up with the fact that we are now in the 1930s and 1940s and that we now have the Communist Party and the Red Army. Herein lies the heart of the matter. Our enemy is probably still cherishing fond dreams of emulating the Mongol conquest of the Sung Dynasty, the Manchu conquest of the Ming Dynasty, the British occupation of North America and India, the Latin occupation of Central and South America, etc. But such dreams have no practical value in present-day China because there are certain factors present in the China of today which were absent in those historical instances, and one of them is guerrilla warfare, which is quite a new phenomenon. If our enemy overlooks this fact, he will certainly come to grief.

These are the reasons why our anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare, though occupying only a supplementary place in the War of Resistance as a whole, must nevertheless be examined from the viewpoint of strategy.

Why not, then, apply to guerrilla warfare the general strategic principles of the War of Resistance?

The question of strategy in our anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare is indeed closely linked with the question of strategy in the War of Resistance as a whole, because they have much in common. On the other hand, guerrilla warfare is different from regular warfare and has its own peculiarities, and consequently many peculiar elements are involved in the question of strategy in guerrilla warfare. Without modification it is impossible to apply the strategic principles of the War of Resistance in general to guerrilla warfare with its own peculiarities.

## CHAPTER II

### The Basic Principle of War Is to Preserve Oneself and Destroy the Enemy

Before discussing the question of strategy in guerrilla warfare in concrete terms, a few words are needed on the fundamental problem of war.

All the guiding principles of military operations grow out of the one basic principle: to strive to the utmost to preserve one's own strength and destroy that of the enemy. In a revolutionary war, this principle is directly linked with basic political principles. For instance, the basic political principle of China's War of Resistance Against Japan, *i.e.*, its political aim, is to drive out Japanese imperialism and build an independent, free and happy new

China. In terms of military action this principle means the use of armed force to defend our motherland and to drive out the Japanese invaders. To attain this end, the operations of the armed units take the form of doing their utmost to preserve their own strength on the one hand and destroy the enemy's on the other. How then do we justify the encouragement of heroic sacrifice in war? Every war exacts a price, sometimes an extremely high one. Is this not in contradiction with "preserving oneself"? In fact, there is no contradiction at all; to put it more exactly, sacrifice and self-preservation are both opposite and complementary to each other. For such sacrifice is essential not only for destroying the enemy but also for preserving oneself — partial and temporary "non-preservation" (sacrifice, or paying the price) is necessary for the sake of general and permanent preservation. From this basic principle stems the series of principles guiding military operations, all of which — from the principles of shooting (taking cover to preserve oneself, and making full use of fire-power to destroy the enemy) to the principles of strategy — are permeated with the spirit of this basic principle. All technical, tactical and strategic principles represent applications of this basic principle. The principle of preserving oneself and destroying the enemy is the basis of all military principles.

### CHAPTER III

#### Six Specific Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan

Now let us see what policies or principles have to be adopted in guerrilla operations against Japan before we can attain the object of preserving ourselves and destroying the enemy. Since the guerrilla units in the War of Resistance (and in all other revolutionary wars) generally grow out of nothing and expand from a small to a large force, they must preserve themselves and, moreover, they must expand. Hence the question is, what policies or principles have to be adopted before we can attain the object of preserving and expanding ourselves and destroying the enemy?

Generally speaking, the main principles are as follows: (1) the use of initiative, flexibility and planning in conducting offensives within the defensive, battles of quick decision within protracted war, and exterior-line operations within interior-line operations; (2) co-ordination with regular warfare; (3) establishment of base areas; (4) the strategic defensive and the strategic offensive; (5) the development of guerrilla warfare into mobile warfare; and (6)

correct relationship of command. These six items constitute the whole of the strategic programme for guerrilla war against Japan and are the means necessary for the preservation and expansion of our forces, for the destruction and expulsion of the enemy, for co-ordination with regular warfare and the winning of final victory.

### CHAPTER IV

#### Initiative, Flexibility and Planning in Conducting Offensives Within the Defensive, Battles of Quick Decision Within Protracted War, and Exterior-Line Operations Within Interior-Line Operations

Here the subject may be dealt with under four headings: (1) the relationship between the defensive and the offensive, between protractedness and quick decision, and between the interior and exterior lines; (2) the initiative in all operations; (3) flexible employment of forces; and (4) planning in all operations.

To start with the first.

If we take the War of Resistance as a whole, the fact that Japan is a strong country and is attacking while China is a weak country and is defending herself makes our war strategically a defensive and protracted war. As far as the operational lines are concerned, the Japanese are operating on exterior and we on interior lines. This is one aspect of the situation. But there is another aspect which is just the reverse. The enemy forces, though strong (in arms, in certain qualities of their men, and certain other factors), are numerically small, whereas our forces, though weak (likewise, in arms, in certain qualities of our men, and certain other factors), are numerically very large. Added to the fact that the enemy is an alien nation invading our country while we are resisting his invasion on our own soil, this determines the following strategy. It is possible and necessary to use tactical offensives within the strategic defensive, to fight campaigns and battles of quick decision within a strategically protracted war and to fight campaigns and battles on exterior lines within strategically interior lines. Such is the strategy to be adopted in the War of Resistance as a whole. It holds true both for regular and for guerrilla warfare. Guerrilla warfare is different only in degree and form. Offensives in guerrilla warfare generally take the form of surprise attacks. Although surprise attacks can and should be employed in regular warfare too, the degree of surprise is less. In guerrilla warfare, the need to bring operations to a quick decision is very great, and our exterior-



line ring of encirclement of the enemy in campaigns and battles is very small. All these distinguish it from regular warfare.

Thus it can be seen that in their operations guerrilla units have to concentrate the maximum forces, act secretly and swiftly, attack the enemy by surprise and bring battles to a quick decision, and that they must strictly avoid passive defence, procrastination and the dispersal of forces before engagements. Of course, guerrilla warfare includes not only the strategic but also the tactical defensive. The latter embraces, among other things, containing and outpost actions during battles; the disposition of forces for resistance at narrow passes, strategic points, rivers or villages in order to deplete and exhaust the enemy; and action to cover withdrawal. But the basic principle of guerrilla warfare must be the offensive, and guerrilla warfare is more offensive in its character than regular warfare. The offensive, moreover, must take the form of surprise attacks, and to expose ourselves by ostentatiously parading our forces is even less permissible in guerrilla warfare than in regular warfare. From the fact that the enemy is strong and we are weak it necessarily follows that, in guerrilla operations in general even more than in regular warfare, battles must be decided quickly, though on some occasions guerrilla fighting may be kept up for several days, as in an assault on a small and isolated enemy force cut off from help. Because of its dispersed character, guerrilla warfare can spread everywhere, and in many of its tasks, as in harassing, containing and disrupting the enemy and in mass work, its principle is dispersal of forces; but a guerrilla unit, or a guerrilla formation, must concentrate its main forces when it is engaged in destroying the enemy, and especially when it is striving to smash an enemy attack. "Concentrate a big force to strike at a small section of the enemy force" remains a principle of field operations in guerrilla warfare.

Thus it can also be seen that, if we take the War of Resistance as a whole, we can attain the aim of our strategic defensive and finally defeat Japanese imperialism only through the cumulative effect of many offensive campaigns and battles in both regular and guerrilla warfare, namely, through the cumulative effect of many victories in offensive actions. Only through the cumulative effect of many campaigns and battles of quick decision, namely, the cumulative effect of many victories achieved through quick decision in offensive campaigns and battles, can we attain our goal of strategic protractedness, which means gaining time to increase our capacity to resist while hastening or awaiting changes in the international situation and the internal collapse of the enemy, in order that we can launch a strategic

counter-offensive and drive the Japanese invaders out of China. We must concentrate superior forces and fight exterior-line operations in every campaign or battle, whether in the stage of strategic defensive or in that of strategic counter-offensive, in order to encircle and destroy the enemy forces, encircling part if not all of them, destroying part if not all of the forces we have encircled, and inflicting heavy casualties on the encircled forces if we cannot capture them in large numbers. Only through the cumulative effect of many such battles of annihilation can we change the relative position as between the enemy and ourselves, thoroughly smash his strategic encirclement — that is, his scheme of exterior-line operations — and finally, in co-ordination with international forces and the revolutionary struggles of the Japanese people, surround the Japanese imperialists and deal them the *coup de grâce*. These results are to be achieved mainly through regular warfare, with guerrilla warfare making a secondary contribution. What is common to both, however, is the accumulation of many minor victories to make a major victory. Herein lies the great strategic role of guerrilla warfare in the War of Resistance.

Now let us discuss initiative, flexibility and planning in guerrilla warfare.

What is initiative in guerrilla warfare?

In any war, the opponents contend for the initiative, whether on a battlefield, in a battle area, in a war zone or in the whole war, for the initiative means freedom of action for an army. Any army which, losing the initiative, is forced into a passive position and ceases to have freedom of action, faces the danger of defeat or extermination. Naturally, gaining the initiative is harder in strategic defensive and interior-line operations and easier in offensive exterior-line operations. However, Japanese imperialism has two basic weaknesses, namely, its shortage of troops and the fact that it is fighting on foreign soil. Moreover, its underestimation of China's strength and the internal contradictions among the Japanese militarists have given rise to many mistakes in command, such as piecemeal reinforcement, lack of strategic co-ordination, occasional absence of a main direction for attack, failure to grasp opportunities in some operations and failure to wipe out encircled forces, all of which may be considered the third weakness of Japanese imperialism. Thus, despite the advantage of being on the offensive and operating on exterior lines, the Japanese militarists are gradually losing the initiative, because of their shortage of troops (their small territory, small population, inadequate resources, feudalistic imperialism, etc.), because of the fact that

they are fighting on foreign soil (their war is imperialist and barbarous) and because of their stupidities in command. Japan is neither willing nor able to conclude the war at present, nor has her strategic offensive yet come to an end, but, as the general trend shows, her offensive is confined within certain limits, which is the inevitable consequence of her three weaknesses; she cannot go on indefinitely till she swallows the whole of China. Already there are signs that Japan will one day find herself in an utterly passive position. China, on the other hand, was in a rather passive position at the beginning of the war, but, having gained experience, she is now turning to the new policy of mobile warfare, the policy of taking the offensive, seeking quick decisions and operating on exterior lines in campaigns and battles, which, together with the policy of developing widespread guerrilla warfare, is helping China to build up a position of initiative day by day.

The question of the initiative is even more vital in guerrilla warfare. For most guerrilla units operate in very difficult circumstances, fighting without a rear, with their own weak forces facing the enemy's strong forces, lacking experience (when the units are newly organized), being separated, etc. Nevertheless, it is possible to build up the initiative in guerrilla warfare, the essential condition being to seize on the enemy's three weaknesses. Taking advantage of the enemy's shortage of troops (from the viewpoint of the war as a whole), the guerrilla units can boldly use vast areas as their fields of operation; taking advantage of the fact that the enemy is an alien invader and is pursuing a most barbarous policy, the guerrilla units can boldly enlist the support of millions upon millions of people; and taking advantage of the stupidities in the enemy's command, the guerrilla units can give full scope to their resourcefulness. While the regular army must seize on all these weaknesses of the enemy and turn them to good account in order to defeat him, it is even more important for the guerrilla units to do so. As for the guerrilla units' own weaknesses, they can be gradually reduced in the course of the struggle. Moreover, these weaknesses sometimes constitute the very condition for gaining the initiative. For example, it is precisely because the guerrilla units are small and weak that they can mysteriously appear and disappear in their operations behind enemy lines, without the enemy's being able to do anything about them, and thus enjoy a freedom of action such as massive regular armies never can.

When the enemy is making a converging attack from several directions, a guerrilla unit can exercise initiative only with difficulty and can lose it all too easily. In such a case, if its appraisals and disposi-

tions are wrong, it is liable to get into a passive position and consequently fail to smash the converging enemy attack. This may occur even when the enemy is on the defensive and we are on the offensive. For the initiative results from making a correct appraisal of the situation (both our own and that of the enemy) and from making the correct military and political dispositions. A pessimistic appraisal out of accord with the objective conditions and the passive dispositions ensuing from it will undoubtedly result in the loss of the initiative and throw one into a passive position. On the other hand, an over-optimistic appraisal out of accord with the objective conditions and the risky (unjustifiably risky) dispositions ensuing from it will also result in the loss of the initiative and eventually land one in a position similar to that of the pessimists. The initiative is not an innate attribute of genius, but is something an intelligent leader attains through open-minded study and correct appraisal of the objective conditions and through correct military and political dispositions. It follows that the initiative is not ready-made but is something that requires conscious effort.

When forced into a passive position through some incorrect appraisal and disposition or through overwhelming pressure, a guerrilla unit must strive to extricate itself. How this can be done depends on the circumstances. In many cases it is necessary to "move away". The ability to move is the distinctive feature of a guerrilla unit. To move away is the principal method for getting out of a passive position and regaining the initiative. But it is not the sole method. The moment when the enemy is most energetic and we are in the greatest difficulties is often the very moment when things begin to turn against him and in our favour. Frequently a favourable situation recurs and the initiative is regained as a result of "holding out a little longer".

Next, let us deal with flexibility.

Flexibility is a concrete expression of the initiative. The flexible employment of forces is more essential in guerrilla warfare than in regular warfare.

A guerrilla commander must understand that the flexible employment of his forces is the most important means of changing the situation as between the enemy and ourselves and of gaining the initiative. The nature of guerrilla warfare is such that guerrilla forces must be employed flexibly in accordance with the task in hand and with such circumstances as the state of the enemy, the terrain and the local population, and the chief ways of employing the forces are dispersal, concentration and shifting of position. In employing his forces, a guerrilla commander is like a fisherman casting his

net, which he should be able to spread wide as well as draw in tight. When casting his net, the fisherman has to ascertain the depth of the water, the speed of the current and the presence or absence of obstructions; similarly, when dispersing his units, a guerrilla commander must take care not to incur losses through ignorance of the situation or through miscalculated action. Just as the fisherman must keep a grip on the cord in order to draw his net in tight, so the guerrilla commander must maintain liaison and communication with all his forces and keep enough of his main forces at hand. Just as a frequent change of position is necessary in fishing, so a frequent shift of position is necessary for a guerrilla unit. Dispersal, concentration and shifting of position are the three ways of flexibly employing forces in guerrilla warfare.

Generally speaking, the dispersal of guerrilla units, or "breaking up the whole into parts", is employed chiefly: (1) when we want to threaten the enemy with a wide frontal attack because he is on the defensive, and there is temporarily no chance to mass our forces for action; (2) when we want to harass and disrupt the enemy throughout an area where his forces are weak; (3) when we are unable to break through the enemy's encirclement and try to slip away by making ourselves less conspicuous; (4) when we are restricted by terrain or supplies; or (5) when we are carrying on mass work over a wide area. But whatever the circumstances, when dispersing for action we should pay attention to the following: (1) we should never make an absolutely even dispersal of forces, but should keep a fairly large part in an area convenient for manoeuvre, so that any possible exigency can be met and there is a centre of gravity for the task being carried out in dispersion; and (2) we should assign to the dispersed units clearly defined tasks, fields of operation, time limits for actions, places for reassembly and ways and means of liaison.

Concentration of forces, or "assembling the parts into a whole", is the method usually applied to destroy an enemy when he is on the offensive and sometimes to destroy some of his stationary forces when he is on the defensive. Concentration of forces does not mean absolute concentration, but the massing of the main forces for use in one important direction while retaining or dispatching part of the forces for use in other directions to contain, harass or disrupt the enemy, or to carry on mass work.

Although the flexible dispersal or concentration of forces according to circumstances is the principal method in guerrilla warfare, we must also know how to shift (or transfer) our forces flexibly. When the enemy feels seriously threatened by guerrillas, he will send troops to attack or suppress them. Hence

the guerrilla units will have to take stock of the situation. If advisable, they should fight where they are; if not, they should lose no time in shifting elsewhere. Sometimes, in order to crush the enemy units one by one, guerrilla units which have destroyed an enemy force in one place may immediately shift to another so as to wipe out a second enemy force; sometimes, finding it inadvisable to fight in one place, they may have to disengage quickly and fight the enemy elsewhere. If the enemy's forces in a certain place present a particularly serious threat, the guerrilla units should not linger, but should move off with lightning speed. In general, shifts of position should be made with secrecy and speed. In order to mislead, decoy and confuse the enemy, they should constantly use stratagems, such as making a feint to the east but attacking in the west, appearing now in the south and now in the north, hit-and-run attacks, and night actions.

Flexibility in dispersal, concentration and shifts of position is a concrete expression of the initiative in guerrilla warfare, whereas rigidity and inertia inevitably lead to passivity and cause unnecessary losses. But a commander proves himself wise not just by recognition of the importance of employing his forces flexibly but by skill in dispersing, concentrating or shifting them in good time according to the specific circumstances. This wisdom in sensing changes and choosing the right moment to act is not easily acquired; it can be gained only by those who study with a receptive mind and investigate and ponder diligently. Prudent consideration of the circumstances is essential to prevent flexibility from turning into impulsive action.

Lastly, we come to planning.

Without planning, victories in guerrilla warfare are impossible. Any idea that guerrilla warfare can be conducted in haphazard fashion indicates either a flippant attitude or ignorance of guerrilla warfare. The operations in a guerrilla zone as a whole, or those of a guerrilla unit or formation, must be preceded by as thorough planning as possible, by preparation in advance for every action. Grasping the situation, setting the tasks, disposing the forces, giving military and political training, securing supplies, putting the equipment in good order, making proper use of the people's help, etc. — all these are part of the work of the guerrilla commanders, which they must carefully consider and conscientiously perform and check up on. There can be no initiative, no flexibility, and no offensive unless they do so. True, guerrilla conditions do not allow as high a degree of planning as do those of regular warfare, and it would be a mistake to at-

tempt very thorough planning in guerrilla warfare. But it is necessary to plan as thoroughly as the objective conditions permit, for it should be understood that fighting the enemy is no joke.

The above points serve to explain the first of the strategic principles of guerrilla warfare, the principle of using initiative, flexibility and planning in conducting offensives within the defensive, battles of quick decision within protracted war, and exterior-line operations within interior-line operations. It is the key problem in the strategy of guerrilla warfare. The solution of this problem provides the major guarantee of victory in guerrilla warfare so far as military command is concerned.

Although a variety of matters have been dealt with here, they all revolve around the offensive in campaigns and battles. The initiative can be decisively grasped only after victory in an offensive. Every offensive operation must be organized on our initiative and not launched under compulsion. Flexibility in the employment of forces revolves around the effort to take the offensive, and planning likewise is necessary chiefly in order to ensure success in offensive operations. Measures of tactical defence are meaningless if they are divorced from their role of giving either direct or indirect support to an offensive. Quick decision refers to the tempo of an offensive, and exterior lines refer to its scope. The offensive is the only means of destroying the enemy and is also the principal means of self-preservation, while pure defence and retreat can play only a temporary and partial role in self-preservation and are quite useless for destroying the enemy.

The principle stated above is basically the same for both regular and guerrilla war; it differs to some degree only in its form of expression. But in guerrilla war it is both important and necessary to note this difference. It is precisely this difference in form which distinguishes the operational methods of guerrilla war from those of regular war. If we confuse the two different forms in which the principle is expressed, victory in guerrilla war will be impossible.

## CHAPTER V

### Co-ordination With Regular Warfare

The second problem of strategy in guerrilla warfare is its co-ordination with regular warfare. It is a matter of clarifying the relation between guerrilla and regular warfare on the operational level, in the light of the nature of actual guerrilla operations. An understanding of this relation is very important for effectiveness in defeating the enemy.

There are three kinds of co-ordination between guerrilla and regular warfare, co-ordination in strategy, in campaigns and in battles.

Taken as a whole, guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines, which cripples the enemy, pins him down, disrupts his supply lines, inspires the regular forces and the people throughout the country, is co-ordinated with regular warfare in strategy. Take the case of the guerrilla warfare in the three north-eastern provinces. Of course, the question of co-ordination did not arise before the nation-wide War of Resistance, but since the war began the significance of such co-ordination has become obvious. Every enemy soldier the guerrillas kill there, every bullet they make the enemy expend, every enemy soldier they stop from advancing south of the Great Wall, can be reckoned a contribution to the total strength of the resistance. It is, moreover, clear that they are having a demoralizing effect on the whole enemy army and all Japan and a heartening effect on our whole army and people. Still clearer is the role in strategic co-ordination played by the guerrilla warfare along the Peiping-Suiyuan, Peiping-Hankow, Tientsin-Pukow, Tatung-Puchow, Chengting-Taiyuan and Shanghai-Hangchow Railways. Not only are the guerrilla units performing the function of co-ordination with the regular forces in our present strategic defensive, when the enemy is on the strategic offensive; not only will they co-ordinate with the regular forces in disrupting the enemy's hold on the occupied territory, after he concludes his strategic offensive and switches to the safeguarding of his gains; they will also co-ordinate with the regular forces in driving out the enemy forces and recovering all the lost territories, when the regular forces launch the strategic counter-offensive. The great role of guerrilla warfare in strategic co-ordination must not be overlooked. The commanders both of the guerrilla units and of the regular forces must clearly understand this role.

In addition, guerrilla warfare performs the function of co-ordination with regular warfare in campaigns. For instance, in the campaign at Hsinkou, north of Taiyuan, the guerrillas played a remarkable role in co-ordination both north and south of Yenmenkuan by wrecking the Tatung-Puchow Railway and the motor roads running through Pinghsingkuan and Yangfangkou. Or take another instance. After the enemy occupied Fenglingtu, guerrilla warfare, which was already widespread throughout Shansi Province and was conducted mainly by the regular forces, played an even greater role through co-ordination with the defensive campaigns west of the Yellow River in Shensi Province and south of the Yellow River in Honan Province. Again, when the enemy attacked

southern Shantung, the guerrilla warfare in the five provinces of northern China contributed a great deal through co-ordination with the campaigns of our army. In performing a task of this sort, the leaders of each guerrilla base behind the enemy lines, or the commanders of a guerrilla formation temporarily dispatched there, must dispose their forces well and, by adopting different tactics suited to the time and place, move energetically against the enemy's most vital and vulnerable spots in order to cripple him, pin him down, disrupt his supply lines, inspire our armies campaigning on the interior lines, and so fulfil their duty of co-ordinating with the campaign. If each guerrilla zone or unit goes it alone without giving any attention to co-ordinating with the campaigns of the regular forces, its role in strategic co-ordination will lose a great deal of its significance, although it will still play some such role in the general strategy. All guerrilla commanders should give this point serious attention. To achieve co-ordination in campaigns, it is absolutely necessary for all larger guerrilla units and guerrilla formations to have radio equipment.

Finally, co-ordination with the regular forces in battles, in actual fighting on the battlefield, is the task of all guerrilla units in the vicinity of an interior-line battlefield. Of course, this applies only to guerrilla units operating close to the regular forces or to units of regulars dispatched on temporary guerrilla missions. In such cases, a guerrilla unit has to perform whatever task it is assigned by the commander of the regular forces, which is usually to pin down some of the enemy's forces, disrupt his supply lines, conduct reconnaissance, or act as guides for the regular forces. Even without such an assignment, the guerrilla unit should carry out these tasks on its own initiative. To sit by idly, neither moving nor fighting, or to move about without fighting, would be an intolerable attitude for a guerrilla unit.

## CHAPTER VI

### The Establishment of Base Areas

The third problem of strategy in anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare is the establishment of base areas, which is important and essential because of the protracted nature and ruthlessness of the war. The recovery of our lost territories will have to await the nation-wide strategic counter-offensive; by then the enemy's front will have extended deep into central China and cut it in two from north to south, and a part or even a greater part of our territory will have fallen into the hands of the enemy and become his rear. We shall have to extend guerrilla warfare all over this vast enemy-occupied area,

make a front out of the enemy's rear, and force him to fight ceaselessly throughout the territory he occupies. Until such time as our strategic counter-offensive is launched and so long as our lost territories are not recovered, it will be necessary to persist in guerrilla warfare in the enemy's rear, certainly for a fairly long time, though one cannot say definitely for how long. This is why the war will be a protracted one. And in order to safeguard his gains in the occupied areas, the enemy is bound to step up his anti-guerrilla measures and, especially after the halting of his strategic offensive, to embark on relentless suppression of the guerrillas. With ruthlessness thus added to protractedness, it will be impossible to sustain guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines without base areas.

What, then, are these base areas? They are the strategic bases on which the guerrilla forces rely in performing their strategic tasks and achieving the object of preserving and expanding themselves and destroying and driving out the enemy. Without such strategic bases, there will be nothing to depend on in carrying out any of our strategic tasks or achieving the aim of the war. It is a characteristic of guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines that it is fought without a rear, for the guerrilla forces are severed from the country's general rear. But guerrilla warfare could not last long or grow without base areas. The base areas, indeed, are its rear.

History knows many peasant wars of the "roving rebel" type, but none of them ever succeeded. In the present age of advanced communications and technology, it would be all the more groundless to imagine that one can win victory by fighting in the manner of roving rebels. However, this roving-rebel idea still exists among impoverished peasants, and in the minds of guerrilla commanders it becomes the view that base areas are neither necessary nor important. Therefore, ridding the minds of guerrilla commanders of this idea is a prerequisite for deciding on a policy of establishing base areas. The question of whether or not to have base areas and of whether or not to regard them as important, in other words, the conflict between the idea of establishing base areas and that of fighting like roving rebels, arises in all guerrilla warfare, and, to a certain extent, our anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare is no exception. Therefore the struggle against the roving-rebel ideology is an inevitable process. Only when this ideology is thoroughly overcome and the policy of establishing base areas is initiated and applied will there be conditions favourable for the maintenance of guerrilla warfare over a long period.

Now that the necessity and importance of base areas have been made clear, let us pass on to the

following problems which must be understood and solved when it comes to establishing the base areas. These problems are the types of base areas, the guerrilla zones and the base areas, the conditions for establishing base areas, their consolidation and expansion, and the forms in which we and the enemy encircle one another.

### 1. The Types of Base Areas

Base areas in anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare are mainly of three types, those in the mountains, those on the plains and those in the river-lake-estuary regions.

The advantage of setting up base areas in mountainous regions is obvious, and those which have been, are being or will be established in the Chang-pai,<sup>1</sup> Wutai,<sup>2</sup> Taihang,<sup>3</sup> Taishan,<sup>4</sup> Yenshan<sup>5</sup> and Maoshan<sup>6</sup> Mountains all belong to this type. They are all places where anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare can be maintained for the longest time and are important strongholds for the War of Resistance. We must develop guerrilla warfare and set up base areas in all the mountainous regions behind the enemy lines.

Of course, the plains are less suitable than the mountains, but it is by no means impossible to develop guerrilla warfare or establish any base areas there. Indeed, the widespread guerrilla warfare in the plains of Hopei and of northern and north-western Shantung proves that it is possible to develop guerrilla warfare in the plains. While there is as yet no evidence on the possibility of setting up base areas there and maintaining them for long, it has been proved that the setting up of temporary base areas is possible, and it should be possible to set up base areas for small units or for seasonal use. On the one hand, the enemy does not have enough troops at his disposal and is pursuing a policy of unparalleled brutality, and on the other hand, China has a vast territory and vast numbers of people who are resisting Japan; the objective conditions for spreading guerrilla warfare and setting up temporary base areas in the plains are therefore fulfilled. Given competent military command, it should of course be possible to establish bases for small guerrilla units there, bases which are long-term but not fixed.<sup>7</sup> Broadly speaking, when the strategic offensive of the enemy is brought to a halt and he enters the stage of safeguarding his occupied areas, he will undoubtedly launch savage attacks on all the guerrilla base areas, and those in the plains will naturally be the first to bear the brunt. The large guerrilla formations operating on the plains will be unable to keep on fighting there for long and will gradually have to move up into the mountains as the

circumstances require, as for instance, from the Hopei Plain to the Wutai and Taihang Mountains, or from the Shantung Plain to Taishan Mountain and the Shantung Peninsula in the east. But in the circumstances of our national war it is not impossible for numerous small guerrilla units to keep going in various counties over the vast plains and adopt a fluid way of fighting, *i.e.*, by shifting their bases from place to place. It is definitely possible to conduct seasonal guerrilla warfare by taking advantage of the "green curtain" of tall crops in summer and of the frozen rivers in winter. As the enemy has no strength to spare now and will never be able to attend to everything even when he has the strength to spare, it is absolutely necessary for us to decide on the policy, for the present, of spreading guerrilla warfare far and wide and setting up temporary base areas in the plains and, for the future, of preparing to keep up guerrilla warfare by small units, if only seasonally, and of creating base areas which are not fixed.

Objectively speaking, the possibilities of developing guerrilla warfare and establishing base areas are greater in the river-lake-estuary regions than in the plains, though less than in the mountains. The dramatic battles fought by "pirates" and "water-bandits", of which our history is full, and the guerrilla warfare round the Hunghu Lake kept up for several years in the Red Army period, both testify to the possibility of developing guerrilla warfare and of establishing base areas in the river-lake-estuary regions. So far, however, the political parties and the masses who are resisting Japan have given this possibility little attention. Though the subjective conditions are as yet lacking, we should undoubtedly turn our attention to this possibility and start working on it. As one aspect in the development of our nation-wide guerrilla warfare, we should effectively organize guerrilla warfare in the Hungtse Lake region north of the Yangtse River, in the Taihu Lake region south of the Yangtse, and in all river-lake-estuary regions in the enemy-occupied areas along the rivers and on the seacoast, and we should create permanent base areas in and near such places. By overlooking this aspect we are virtually providing the enemy with water transport facilities; this is a gap in our strategic plan for the War of Resistance which must be filled in good time.

### 2. Guerrilla Zones and Base Areas

In guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines, there is a difference between guerrilla zones and base areas. Areas which are surrounded by the enemy but whose central parts are not occupied or have been recovered, like some counties in the

Wutai mountain region (*i.e.*, the Shansi-Chahar-Hopei border area) and also some places in the Taihang and Taishan mountain regions, are ready-made bases for the convenient use of guerrilla units in developing guerrilla warfare. But elsewhere in these areas the situation is different, as for instance in the eastern and northern sections of the Wutai mountain region, which include parts of western Hopei and southern Chahar, and in many places east of Paoting and west of Tsangchow. When guerrilla warfare began, the guerrillas could not completely occupy these places but could only make frequent raids; they are areas which are held by the guerrillas when they are there and by the puppet regime when they are gone, and are therefore not yet guerrilla bases but only what may be called guerrilla zones. Such guerrilla zones will be transformed into base areas when they have gone through the necessary processes of guerrilla warfare, that is, when large numbers of enemy troops have been annihilated or defeated there, the puppet regime has been destroyed, the masses have been roused to activity, anti-Japanese mass organizations have been formed, people's local armed forces have been developed, and anti-Japanese political power has been established. By the expansion of our base areas we mean the addition of areas such as these to the bases already established.

In some places, for example, eastern Hopei, the whole area of guerrilla operations has been a guerrilla zone from the very beginning. The puppet regime is of long standing there, and from the beginning the whole area of operations has been a guerrilla zone both for the people's armed forces that have grown out of local uprisings and for the guerrilla detachments dispatched from the Wutai Mountains. At the outset of their activities, all they could do was to choose some fairly good spots there as temporary rear or base areas. Such places will not be transformed from guerrilla zones into relatively stable base areas until the enemy forces are destroyed and the work of arousing the people is in full swing.

Thus the transformation of a guerrilla zone into a base area is an arduous creative process, and its accomplishment depends on the extent to which the enemy is destroyed and the masses are aroused.

Many regions will remain guerrilla zones for a long time. In these regions the enemy will not be able to set up stable puppet regimes, however much he tries to maintain control, while we, on our part, will not be able to achieve the aim of establishing anti-Japanese political power, however much we develop guerrilla warfare. Examples of this kind are to be found in the enemy-occupied regions

along the railway lines, in the neighbourhood of big cities and in certain areas in the plains.

As for the big cities, the railway stops and the areas in the plains which are strongly garrisoned by the enemy, guerrilla warfare can only extend to the fringes and not right into these places which have relatively stable puppet regimes. This is another kind of situation.

Mistakes in our leadership or strong enemy pressure may cause a reversal of the state of affairs described above, *i.e.*, a guerrilla base may turn into a guerrilla zone, and a guerrilla zone may turn into an area under relatively stable enemy occupation. Such changes are possible, and they deserve special vigilance on the part of guerrilla commanders.

Therefore, as a result of guerrilla warfare and the struggle between us and the enemy, the entire enemy-occupied territory will fall into the following three categories: first, anti-Japanese bases held by our guerrilla units and our organs of political power; second, areas held by Japanese imperialism and its puppet regimes; and third, intermediate zones contested by both sides, namely, guerrilla zones. Guerrilla commanders have the duty to expand the first and third categories to the maximum and to reduce the second category to the minimum. This is the strategic task of guerrilla warfare.

### 3. Conditions for Establishing Base Areas

The fundamental conditions for establishing a base area are that there should be anti-Japanese armed forces, that these armed forces should be employed to inflict defeats on the enemy and that they should arouse the people to action. Thus the establishment of a base area is first and foremost a matter of building an armed force. Leaders in guerrilla war must devote their energy to building one or more guerrilla units, and must gradually develop them in the course of struggle into guerrilla formations or even into units and formations of regular troops. The building up of an armed force is the key to establishing a base area; if there is no armed force or if the armed force is weak, nothing can be done. This constitutes the first condition.

The second indispensable condition for establishing a base area is that the armed forces should be used in co-ordination with the people to defeat the enemy. All places under enemy control are enemy, and not guerrilla, base areas, and obviously cannot be transformed into guerrilla base areas unless the enemy is defeated. Unless we repulse the enemy's attacks and defeat him, even places held by the guerrillas will come under enemy control, and then it will be impossible to establish base areas.

The third indispensable condition for establishing a base area is the use of all our strength, including our armed forces, to arouse the masses for struggle against Japan. In the course of this struggle we must arm the people, *i.e.*, organize self-defence corps and guerrilla units. In the course of this struggle, we must form mass organizations, we must organize the workers, peasants, youth, women, children, merchants and professional people — according to the degree of their political consciousness and fighting enthusiasm — into the various mass organizations necessary for the struggle against Japanese aggression, and we must gradually expand them. Without organization, the people cannot give effect to their anti-Japanese strength. In the course of this struggle, we must weed out the open and the hidden traitors, a task which can be accomplished only by relying on the strength of the people. In this struggle, it is particularly important to arouse the people to establish, or to consolidate, their local organs of anti-Japanese political power. Where the original Chinese organs of political power have not been destroyed by the enemy, we must reorganize and strengthen them with the support of the broad masses, and where they have been destroyed by the enemy, we should rebuild them by the efforts of the masses. They are organs of political power for carrying out the policy of the Anti-Japanese National United Front and should unite all the forces of the people to fight against our sole enemy, Japanese imperialism, and its jackals, the traitors and reactionaries.

A base area for guerrilla war can be truly established only with the gradual fulfilment of the three basic conditions, *i.e.*, only after the anti-Japanese armed forces are built up, the enemy has suffered defeats and the people are aroused.

Mention must also be made of geographical and economic conditions. As for the former, we have already discussed three different categories in the earlier section on the types of base areas, and here we need only mention one major requirement, namely, that the area must be extensive. In places surrounded by the enemy on all sides, or on three sides, the mountainous regions naturally offer the best conditions for setting up base areas which can hold out for a long time, but the main thing is that there must be enough room for the guerrillas to manoeuvre, namely, the areas have to be extensive. Given an extensive area, guerrilla warfare can be developed and sustained even in the plains, not to mention the river-lake-estuary regions. By and large, the vastness of China's territory and the enemy's shortage of troops provide guerrilla warfare in China with this condition. This is an important, even a primary condition, as far as the pos-

sibility of waging guerrilla warfare is concerned, and small countries like Belgium which lack this condition have few or no such possibilities.<sup>8</sup> In China, this condition is not something which has to be striven for, nor does it present a problem; it is there physically, waiting only to be exploited.

So far as their physical setting is concerned, the economic conditions resemble the geographical conditions. For now we are discussing the establishment of base areas not in a desert, where no enemy is to be found, but behind the enemy lines; every place the enemy can penetrate already has its Chinese inhabitants and an economic basis for subsistence, so that the question of choice of economic conditions in establishing base areas simply does not arise. Irrespective of the economic conditions, we should do our utmost to develop guerrilla warfare and set up permanent or temporary base areas in all places where Chinese inhabitants and enemy forces are to be found. In a political sense, however, the economic conditions do present a problem, a problem of economic policy which is of immense importance to the establishment of base areas. The economic policy of the guerrilla base areas must follow the principles of the Anti-Japanese National United Front by equitably distributing the financial burden and protecting commerce. Neither the local organs of political power nor the guerrilla units must violate these principles, or otherwise the establishment of base areas and the maintenance of guerrilla warfare would be adversely affected. The equitable distribution of the financial burden means that "those with money should contribute money", while the peasants should supply the guerrilla units with grain within certain limits. The protection of commerce means that the guerrilla units should be highly disciplined and that the confiscation of shops, except those owned by proved traitors, should be strictly prohibited. This is no easy matter, but the policy is set and must be put into effect.

#### **4. The Consolidation and Expansion of Base Areas**

In order to confine the enemy invaders to a few strongholds, that is, to the big cities and along the main communication lines, the guerrillas must do all they can to extend guerrilla warfare from their base areas as widely as possible and hem in all the enemy's strongholds, thus threatening his existence and shaking his morale while expanding the base areas. This is essential. In this context, we must oppose conservatism in guerrilla warfare. Whether originating in the desire for an easy life or in overestimation of the enemy's strength, conservatism can only bring losses in the War of Resis-



tance and is harmful to guerrilla warfare and to the base areas themselves. At the same time, we must not forget the consolidation of the base areas, the chief task being to arouse and organize the masses and to train guerrilla units and local armed forces. Such consolidation is needed for maintaining protracted warfare and also for expansion, and in its absence energetic expansion is impossible. If we attend only to expansion and forget about consolidation in our guerrilla warfare, we shall be unable to withstand the enemy's attacks, and consequently not only forfeit the possibility of expansion but also endanger the very existence of the base areas. The correct principle is expansion with consolidation, which is a good method and allows us to take the offensive or the defensive as we choose. Given a protracted war, the problem of consolidating and expanding base areas constantly arises for every guerrilla unit. The concrete solution depends, of course, on the circumstances. At one time, the emphasis may be on expansion, *i.e.*, on expanding the guerrilla zones and increasing the number of guerrillas. At another, the emphasis may be on consolidation, *i.e.*, on organizing the masses and training the troops. As expansion and consolidation differ in nature, and as the military dispositions and other tasks will differ accordingly, an effective solution of the problem is possible only if we alternate the emphasis according to time and circumstances.

### **5. Forms in Which We and the Enemy Encircle One Another**

Taking the War of Resistance as a whole, there is no doubt that we are strategically encircled by the enemy, because he is on the strategic offensive and is operating on exterior lines while we are on the strategic defensive and are operating on interior lines. This is the first form of enemy encirclement. We on our part encircle each of the enemy columns advancing on us along separate routes, because we apply the policy of the offensive and of exterior-line operations in campaigns and battles by using numerically preponderant forces against these enemy columns advancing on us from exterior lines. This is the first form of our encirclement of the enemy. Next, if we consider the guerrilla base areas in the enemy's rear, each area taken singly is surrounded by the enemy on all sides, like the Wutai mountain region, or on three sides, like the north-western Shansi area. This is the second form of enemy encirclement. However, if one considers all the guerrilla base areas together and in their relation to the battle fronts of the regular forces, one can see that we in turn surround a great many enemy forces. In Shansi Province, for instance, we

have surrounded the Tatung-Puchow Railway on three sides (the east and west flanks and the southern end) and the city of Taiyuan on all sides; and there are many similar instances in Hopei and Shantung Provinces. This is the second form of our encirclement of the enemy. Thus there are two forms of encirclement by the enemy forces and two forms of encirclement by our own — rather like a game of *weichi*.<sup>9</sup> Campaigns and battles fought by the two sides resemble the capturing of each other's pieces, and the establishment of strongholds by the enemy and of guerrilla base areas by us resembles moves to dominate spaces on the board. It is in the matter of "dominating the spaces" that the great strategic role of guerrilla base areas in the rear of the enemy is revealed. We are raising this question in the War of Resistance in order that the nation's military authorities and the guerrilla commanders in all areas should place on the agenda the development of guerrilla warfare behind the enemy lines and the establishment of base areas wherever possible, and carry this out as a strategic task. If on the international plane we can create an anti-Japanese front in the Pacific region, with China as one strategic unit, and the Soviet Union and other countries which may join it as other strategic units, we shall then have one more form of encirclement against the enemy than he has against us and bring about exterior-line operations in the Pacific region by which to encircle and destroy fascist Japan. To be sure, this is of little practical significance at present, but such a prospect is not impossible.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **The Strategic Defensive and the Strategic Offensive in Guerrilla War**

The fourth problem of strategy in guerrilla war concerns the strategic defensive and the strategic offensive. This is the problem of how the policy of offensive warfare, which we mentioned in our discussion of the first problem, is to be carried out in practice, when we are on the defensive and when we are on the offensive in our guerrilla warfare against Japan.

Within the nation-wide strategic defensive or strategic offensive (to be more exact, the strategic counter-offensive), small-scale strategic defensives and offensives take place in and around each guerrilla base area. By strategic defensive we mean our strategic situation and policy when the enemy is on the offensive and we are on the defensive; by strategic offensive we mean our strategic situation

and policy when the enemy is on the defensive and we are on the offensive.

### 1. The Strategic Defensive in Guerrilla War

After guerrilla warfare has broken out and grown to a considerable extent, the enemy will inevitably attack the guerrilla base areas, especially in the period when his strategic offensive against the country as a whole is brought to an end and he adopts the policy of safeguarding his occupied areas. It is essential to recognize the inevitability of such attacks, for otherwise the guerrilla commanders will be caught wholly unprepared, and in the face of heavy enemy attacks they will undoubtedly become alarmed and confused and their forces will be routed.

To wipe out the guerrillas and their base areas, the enemy frequently resorts to converging attacks. For instance, in each of the four or five "punitive expeditions" directed against the Wutai mountain region, the enemy made a planned advance in three, four or even six or seven columns simultaneously. The larger the scale of the guerrilla fighting, the more important the position of the base areas, and the greater the threat to the enemy's strategic centres and vital communication lines, the fiercer will be the enemy's attacks. Therefore, the fiercer the enemy's attacks on a guerrilla area, the greater the indication that the guerrilla warfare there is successful and is being effectively co-ordinated with the regular fighting.

When the enemy launches a converging attack in several columns, the guerrilla policy should be to smash it by counter-attack. It can be easily smashed if each advancing enemy column consists of only one unit, whether big or small, has no follow-up units and is unable to station troops along the route of advance, construct blockhouses or build motor roads. When the enemy launches a converging attack, he is on the offensive and operating on exterior lines, while we are on the defensive and operating on interior lines. As for our dispositions, we should use our secondary forces to pin down several enemy columns, while our main force should launch surprise attacks (chiefly in the form of ambushes) in a campaign or battle against a single enemy column, striking it when it is on the move. The enemy, though strong, will be weakened by repeated surprise attacks and will often withdraw when he is halfway; the guerrilla units can then make more surprise attacks during the pursuit and weaken him still further. The enemy generally occupies the county towns or other towns in our base areas before he stops his offensive or begins

to withdraw, and we should encircle these towns, cutting off his grain supply and severing his communications, so that when he cannot hold out and begins to retreat, we can seize the opportunity to pursue and attack him. After smashing one column, we should shift our forces to smash another, and, by smashing them one by one, shatter the converging attack.

A big base area like the Wutai mountain region forms a military area, which is divided into four or five, or even more, military sub-areas, each with its own armed forces operating independently. By employing the tactics described above, these forces have often smashed the enemy's attacks simultaneously or successively.

In our plan of operations against a converging attack by the enemy, we generally place our main force on interior lines. But when we have the strength to spare, we should use our secondary forces (such as the county or the district guerrilla units, or even detachments of the main force) on exterior lines to disrupt the enemy's communications and pin down his reinforcements. Should the enemy stay put in our base area, we may reverse the tactics, namely, leave some of our forces in the base area to invest the enemy while employing the main force to attack the region whence he has come and to step up our activities there, in order to induce him to withdraw and attack our main force; this is the tactic of "relieving the state of Chao by besieging the state of Wei".<sup>10</sup>

In the course of operations against a converging attack, the local anti-Japanese self-defence corps and all the mass organizations should mobilize for action and in every way help our troops to fight the enemy. In fighting the enemy, it is important both to enforce local martial law and, as far as possible, to "strengthen our defence works and clear the fields". The purpose of the former is to suppress traitors and prevent the enemy from getting information, and of the latter to assist our own operations (by strengthening our defence works) and prevent the enemy from getting food (by clearing the fields). "Clearing the fields" means harvesting the crops as soon as they are ripe.

When the enemy retreats, he often burns down the houses in the cities and towns he has occupied and razes the villages along his route, with the purpose of destroying the guerrilla base areas; but in so doing he deprives himself of shelter and food in his next offensive, and the damage recoils upon his own head. This is a concrete illustration of what we mean by one and the same thing having two contradictory aspects.

A guerrilla commander should not think of abandoning his base area and shifting to another, unless it proves impossible, after repeated operations, to smash the enemy's heavy converging attacks. In these circumstances he must guard against pessimism. So long as the leaders do not blunder in matters of principle, it is generally possible to smash the converging attacks and hold on to the base areas in the mountainous regions. It is only in the plains that, when confronted by a heavy converging attack, the guerrilla commander should consider other measures in the light of the specific circumstances, namely, leaving many small units for scattered operations, while temporarily shifting large guerrilla formations to some mountainous region, so that they can return and resume their activities in the plains once the main forces of the enemy move away.

Generally speaking, the Japanese cannot adopt the principle of blockhouse warfare, which the Kuomintang employed in the days of the civil war, because their forces are inadequate in relation to China's vast territory. However, we should reckon with the possibility that they may use it to some extent against those guerrilla base areas which pose a particular threat to their vital positions, but even in such circumstances we should be prepared to keep up guerrilla warfare in those areas. Since we have had the experience of being able to maintain guerrilla warfare during the civil war, there is not the slightest doubt of our greater capacity to do so in a national war. Though, in point of relative military strength, the enemy can throw forces that are vastly superior in quantity as well as in quality against some of our base areas, there remain the insoluble national contradiction between us and the enemy and the unavoidable weaknesses of his command. Our victories are based on thorough work among the masses and flexible tactics in our operations.

## **2. The Strategic Offensive in Guerrilla War**

After we have smashed an enemy offensive and before the enemy starts a new offensive, he is on the strategic defensive and we are on the strategic offensive.

At such times our operational policy is not to attack enemy forces which are entrenched in defensive positions and which we are not sure of defeating, but systematically to destroy or drive out the small enemy units and puppet forces in certain areas, which our guerrilla units are strong enough to deal with, and to expand our areas, arouse the masses for struggle against Japan, replenish and train our troops and organize new guerrilla units. If the enemy still remains on the defensive when these

tasks are under way, we can expand our new areas still further and attack weakly garrisoned cities and communication lines and hold them for as long as circumstances permit. These are all tasks of the strategic offensive, and the purpose is to take advantage of the fact that the enemy is on the defensive so that we may effectively build up our own military and mass strength, effectively reduce the enemy's strength and prepare to smash the enemy methodically and vigorously when he mounts an offensive again.

It is essential to rest and train our troops, and the best time for doing so is when the enemy is on the defensive. It is not a question of shutting ourselves off from everything else for rest and training, but of finding time for rest and training while expanding our areas, mopping up small enemy units and arousing the people. This is usually also the time for tackling the difficult problem of getting food supplies, bedding, clothing, etc.

It is also the time for destroying the enemy's communication lines on a large scale, hampering his transport and giving direct support to the regular forces in their campaigns.

At such times the guerrilla base areas, guerrilla zones and guerrilla units are in high spirits, and the areas devastated by the enemy are gradually rehabilitated and revived. The people in the enemy-occupied territories are also delighted, and the fame of the guerrillas resounds everywhere. On the other hand, in the camp of the enemy and his running dogs, the traitors, panic and disintegration are mounting, while there is growing hatred of the guerrillas and their base areas and preparations to deal with them are intensified. During the strategic offensive, therefore, it is impermissible for the guerrilla commanders to become so elated as to underrate the enemy and forget to strengthen unity in their own ranks and to consolidate their base areas and their forces. At such times, they must skilfully watch the enemy's every move for signs of any new offensive against us, so that the moment it comes they can wind up their strategic offensive in good order, turn to the strategic defensive and thereby smash the enemy's offensive.

## **CHAPTER VIII**

### **Development of Guerrilla War Into Mobile War**

The fifth problem of strategy in guerrilla war against Japan is its development into mobile war, a development which is necessary and possible because

the war is protracted and ruthless. If China could speedily defeat the Japanese invaders and recover her lost territories, and if the war were neither protracted nor ruthless, this would not be necessary. But as, on the contrary, the war is protracted and ruthless, guerrilla warfare cannot adapt itself to such a war except by developing into mobile warfare. Since the war is protracted and ruthless, it is possible for the guerrilla units to undergo the necessary steeling and gradually to transform themselves into regular forces, so that their mode of operations is gradually regularized and guerrilla warfare develops into mobile warfare. The necessity and possibility of this development must be clearly recognized by the guerrilla commanders if they are to persist in, and systematically carry out, the policy of turning guerrilla warfare into mobile warfare.

In many places, such as the Wutai mountain region, the present guerrilla warfare owes its growth to the strong detachments sent there by the regular forces. The operations there, though generally of a guerrilla character, have contained an element of mobile warfare from the very beginning. This element will gradually increase as the war goes on. Herein lies the advantage which makes possible the swift expansion of the present anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare and its rapid development to a higher level; thus the conditions for guerrilla warfare are far superior to what they were in the three north-eastern provinces.

To transform guerrilla units waging guerrilla warfare into regular forces waging mobile warfare, two conditions are necessary — an increase in numbers, and an improvement in quality. Apart from directly mobilizing the people to join the forces, increased numbers can be attained by amalgamating small units, while better quality depends on steeling the fighters and improving their weapons in the course of the war.

In amalgamating small units, we must, on the one hand, guard against localism, whereby attention is concentrated exclusively on local interests and centralization is impeded, and, on the other, guard against the purely military approach, whereby local interests are brushed aside.

Localism exists among the local guerrilla units and local governments, which are frequently preoccupied with local considerations to the neglect of the general interest, or which prefer to act each on its own because they are unaccustomed to acting in larger groups. The commanders of the main guer-

rilla units or of the guerrilla formations must take this into account and adopt the method of gradual amalgamation of part of the local units, allowing the localities to keep some of their forces and expand their guerrilla warfare; the commanders should draw these units into joint operations and then bring about their amalgamation without breaking up their original organization or reshuffling their cadres, so that the small groups may integrate smoothly into the larger group.

As against localism, the purely military approach represents the wrong viewpoint held in the main forces by those who are bent on expanding their own strength and who neglect to assist the local armed units. They do not realize that the development of guerrilla warfare into mobile warfare means not the abandonment of guerrilla warfare, but the gradual formation, in the midst of widespread guerrilla warfare, of a main force capable of conducting mobile warfare, a force around which there must still be numerous guerrilla units carrying on extensive guerrilla operations. These guerrilla units are powerful auxiliaries to the main force and serve as inexhaustible reserves for its continuous growth. Therefore, if a commander of a main force has made the mistake of neglecting the interests of the local population and the local government as a result of a purely military approach, he must correct it in order that the expansion of the main force and the multiplication of the local armed units may both receive due attention.

To raise the quality of the guerrilla units it is imperative to raise their political and organizational level and improve their equipment, military technique, tactics and discipline, so that they gradually pattern themselves on the regular forces and shed their guerrilla ways. Politically, it is imperative to get both the commanders and the fighters to realize the necessity of raising the guerrilla units to the level of the regular forces, to encourage them to strive towards this end, and to guarantee its attainment by means of political work. Organizationally, it is imperative gradually to fulfil all the requirements of a regular formation in the following respects — military and political organs, staff and working methods, a regular supply system, a medical service, etc. In the matter of equipment, it is imperative to acquire better and more varied weapons and increase the supply of the necessary communications equipment. In the matter of military technique and tactics, it is imperative to raise the guerrilla units to the level required of a regular

formation. In the matter of discipline, it is imperative to raise the level so that uniform standards are observed, every order is executed without fail and all slackness is eliminated. To accomplish all these tasks requires a prolonged effort, and it cannot be done overnight; but that is the direction in which we must develop. Only thus can a main force be built up in each guerrilla base area and mobile warfare emerge for more effective attacks on the enemy. Where detachments or cadres have been sent in by the regular forces, the goal can be achieved more easily. Hence all the regular forces have the responsibility of helping the guerrilla units to develop into regular units.

## CHAPTER IX

### The Relationship of Command

The last problem of strategy in guerrilla war against Japan concerns the relationship of command. A correct solution of this problem is one of the prerequisites for the unhampered development of guerrilla warfare.

Since guerrilla units are a lower level of armed organization characterized by dispersed operations, the methods of command in guerrilla warfare do not allow as high a degree of centralization as in regular warfare. If any attempt is made to apply the methods of command in regular warfare to guerrilla warfare, its great flexibility will inevitably be restricted and its vitality sapped. A highly centralized command is in direct contradiction to the great flexibility of guerrilla warfare and must not and cannot be applied to it.

However, guerrilla warfare cannot be successfully developed without some centralized command. When extensive regular warfare and extensive guerrilla warfare are going on at the same time, their operations must be properly co-ordinated; hence the need for a command co-ordinating the two, *i.e.*, for a unified strategic command by the national general staff and the war-zone commanders. In a guerrilla zone or guerrilla base area with many guerrilla units, there are usually one or more guerrilla formations (sometimes together with regular formations) which constitute the main force, a number of other guerrilla units, big and small, which represent the supplementary force, and many armed units composed of people not withdrawn from production; the enemy forces there usually form a unified com-

plex to concert their operations against the guerrillas. Consequently, the problem arises of setting up a unified or centralized command in such guerrilla zones or base areas.

Hence, as opposed both to absolute centralization and to absolute decentralization, the principle of command in guerrilla war should be centralized strategic command and decentralized command in campaigns and battles.

Centralized strategic command includes the planning and direction of guerrilla warfare as a whole by the state, the co-ordination of guerrilla warfare with regular warfare in each war zone, and the unified direction of all the anti-Japanese armed forces in each guerrilla zone or base area. Here lack of harmony, unity and centralization is harmful, and every effort must be made to ensure all three. In general matters, that is, matters of strategy, the lower levels should report to the higher and follow their instructions so as to ensure concerted action. Centralization, however, stops at this point, and it would likewise be harmful to go beyond it and interfere with the lower levels in matters of detail like the specific dispositions for a campaign or battle. For such details must be settled in the light of specific conditions, which change from time to time and from place to place and are quite beyond the knowledge of the distant higher levels of command. This is what is meant by the principle of decentralized command in campaigns and battles. The same principle generally applies in regular operations, especially when communications are inadequate. In a word, it means guerrilla warfare waged independently and with the initiative in our hands within the framework of a unified strategy.

Where a guerrilla base area constitutes a military area divided into sub-areas, each comprising several counties, each of which is again divided into districts, the relationship between the various levels, from the headquarters of the military area and sub-areas down to the county and district governments, is one of consecutive subordination, and every armed force must, according to its nature, be under the direct command of one of these. On the principle that has been enunciated, in the relationship of command at these levels matters of general policy should be centralized in the higher levels, while actual operations should be carried out in the light of the specific circumstances by the lower levels, which should have the right of independent action. If a higher level has something to say about the actual

operations undertaken at a lower level, it can and should advance its views as "instructions" but must not issue hard and fast "commands". The more extensive the area, the more complex the situation and the greater the distance between the higher and the lower levels, the more advisable it becomes to allow greater independence to the lower levels in their actual operations and thus give those operations a character conforming more closely to the local requirements, so that the lower levels and the local personnel may develop the ability to work independently, cope with complicated situations, and successfully expand guerrilla warfare. For an armed unit or bigger formation which is engaged in a concentrated operation, the principle to be applied is one of centralization in its internal relationship of command, since the situation is clear to the higher command; but the moment this unit or formation breaks up for dispersed action, the principle of centralization in general matters and of decentralization in details should be applied, for then the specific situation cannot be clear to the higher command.

Absence of centralization where it is needed means negligence by the higher levels or usurpation of authority by the lower levels, neither of which can be tolerated in the relationship between higher and lower levels, especially in the military sphere. If decentralization is not effected where it should be, that means monopolization of power by the higher levels and lack of initiative on the part of the lower levels, neither of which can be tolerated in the relationship between higher and lower levels, especially in the command of guerrilla warfare. The above principles constitute the only correct policy for solving the problem of the relationship of command.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup>The Changpai mountain range is situated on the northeastern border of China. After the Japanese invasion on September 18, 1931, the region became a base area for the anti-Japanese guerrillas led by the Chinese Communist Party.

<sup>2</sup>The Wutai mountain range is situated on the borders between Shansi, Hopei, and what was then Chahar Province. In October 1937 the Eighth Route Army led by the Chinese Communist Party started building the Shansi-Chahar-Hopei anti-Japanese base area with the Wutai mountain region as its centre.

<sup>3</sup>The Taihang mountain range is situated on the borders between Shansi, Hopei and Honan Provinces. In November 1937 the Eighth Route Army started building the southeastern Shansi anti-Japanese base area with the Taihang mountain region as its centre.

<sup>4</sup>The Taishan Mountain is one of the chief peaks of the Tai-Yi mountain range in central Shantung. In the winter of 1937 the guerrilla forces led by the Communist Party started building the central Shantung anti-Japanese base area with the Tai-Yi mountain region as its centre.

<sup>5</sup>The Yenshan mountain range is situated on the border of Hopei and what was then Jehol Province. In the summer of 1938 the Eighth Route Army started building the eastern Hopei anti-Japanese base area with the Yenshan mountain region as its centre.

<sup>6</sup>The Maoshan Mountains are in southern Kiangsu. In June 1938 the New Fourth Army led by the Communist Party started building the southern Kiangsu anti-Japanese base area with the Maoshan mountain region as its centre.

<sup>7</sup>Experience gained in the War of Resistance proved that it was possible to establish long-term and, in many places, stable base areas in the plains. This was due to their vastness and big populations, the correctness of the Communist Party's policies, the extensive mobilization of the people and the enemy's shortage of troops. Comrade Mao Tse-tung affirmed this possibility more definitely in later directives.

<sup>8</sup>Ever since the end of World War II, the national and democratic revolutionary movement has been surging forward in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In many countries the people, led by their own revolutionary and progressive forces, have carried on sustained armed struggles to overthrow the dark rule of imperialism and reaction. This demonstrates that in the new historical circumstances—when the socialist camp, the revolutionary forces of the people in the colonial countries and the forces of the people striving for democracy and progress in all countries are taking giant strides forward, when the world capitalist system is weakening still further, and when the colonial rule of imperialism is heading for disintegration—the conditions under which the people of various countries conduct guerrilla warfare today need not be quite the same as those which were necessary in the days of the guerrilla warfare waged by the Chinese people against Japan. In other words, guerrilla war can be victoriously waged in a country which is not large in territory, as for instance, in Cuba, Algeria, Laos and southern Viet Nam.

<sup>9</sup>*Weichi* is an old Chinese game, in which the two players try to encircle each other's pieces on the board. When a player's pieces are encircled, they are counted as "dead" (captured). But if there is a sufficient number of blank spaces among the encircled pieces, then the latter are still "alive" (not captured).

<sup>10</sup>In 353 B.C. the state of Wei laid siege to Hantan, capital of the state of Chao. The king of the state of Chi, an ally of Chao, ordered his generals Tien Chi and Sun Pin to aid Chao with their troops. Knowing that the crack forces of Wei had entered Chao and left their own territory weakly garrisoned, General Sun Pin attacked the state of Wei whose troops withdrew to defend their own country. Taking advantage of their exhaustion, the troops of Chi engaged and routed them at Kueiling (northeast of the present Hotse County in Shantung). The siege of Hantan, capital of Chao, was thus lifted. Since then Chinese strategists have referred to similar tactics as "relieving the state of Chao by besieging the state of Wei".

# Open Polemics Are Helpful, They Must Not Be Discontinued

— D.N. Aidit on Current International Problems —

*D.N. Aidit, Chairman of the Indonesian Communist Party (P.K.I.) and Vice-Chairman of the Indonesian Provisional People's Consultative Congress, on August 16 met 50 Afro-Asian and Latin American journalists who were visiting Djakarta. Following are his answers to a number of questions put to him by the visiting newsmen which were released by the P.K.I. Information Bureau. — Ed.*

## Concerning the Question of Open Polemics in The International Communist Movement

In reply to a question about the P.K.I.'s attitude towards the open polemics in the international communist movement, Aidit said that he had gone to Moscow and Peking two years ago to propose to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to stop open polemics and restore the unity between the two Parties. "However, in July 1963, when I was still in Moscow, the C.P.S.U. Central Committee published an open letter to its Party members attacking the C.P.C. and its leaders. When I arrived in Peking, I learnt from the leaders of the C.P.C. that they would answer this open letter of the C.P.S.U.

"In view of the fact that open polemics will continue, I issued a statement on my return to Djakarta two years ago, asking the members of P.K.I. to regard the open polemics as a course of study in Marxism-Leninism and urging them to study the polemics of all Parties and use their judgment to decide which is right and which is wrong. A Communist cannot be a good Communist if he does not use his own judgment.

**"Now Indonesian Communists have benefited from the open polemics, and think that it would be a pity if the polemics were discontinued. From the open polemics the Communists of Indonesia have come to realize what modern revisionism actually is and, as a result, have deepened their understanding of genuine Marxism-Leninism. To read the documents of the polemics is obviously the most effective way of study. Had it not been for the open polemics, we might to this day still fail to really understand what modern revisionism is and consequently have no understanding of genuine Marxism-Leninism. And what is more, if the open polemics had not taken place, we might have become revisionists without ourselves knowing it.**

"During my recent visit to Moscow and Peking, I did not make any proposal for the cessation of the open polemics. I do not think it is necessary or of any use to stop it. Open polemics are not harmful; on the contrary, they are very helpful if a Communist Party

adopts a correct attitude towards them. This is the experience of the P.K.I. Even to this day, the P.K.I. Central Committee and myself are still repeatedly urging P.K.I. members to study the documents of the C.P.S.U., the C.P.C. and all other Parties in connection with the polemics."

## P.K.I. Is for Creative Marxism-Leninism

In reply to a question about what the P.K.I., which in reality had become an inseparable part of the Indonesian NASAKOM (nationalists-religious believers-Communists), thought of the universal theory of Marxism-Leninism, Aidit explained that there were two kinds of Marxists in the world: the creative Marxists and the dogmatic Marxists. "The P.K.I. belongs to the former and is creative. As creative Marxists, the Indonesian Communists apply Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions in Indonesia, including the existence of the concept of NASAKOM.

"In connection with the concept of NASAKOM, President Sukarno has never called on the Communists to become religious believers or nationalists, the religious believers to become nationalists or Communists, and the nationalists to become religious believers or Communists. In his writings in 1962, Bung Karno emphatically declared that what was needed was co-operation, not the merger of the three groupings."

## U.S. Aggressors Must Get Out of Viet Nam

In reply to a question about the settlement of the Viet Nam question, Aidit said that this depended above all on the road taken by the Vietnamese people.

"At present, the Vietnamese people are being attacked by two categories of weapons: bombs and so-called 'peaceful settlement.' The attack by the second category very likely represents a greater danger, if the revolutionaries are not on the alert. What is most heartening is that the Vietnamese people and their leaders are on the alert for this 'peace offensive.'

"The Vietnamese people are resourceful and brave fighters. They will defeat the U.S. aggressors with or without outside aid. Therefore, it is not right for those who have extended assistance to Viet Nam to publicize how enormous that assistance was. What they are required to do is to go on increasing their assistance to Viet Nam. They should at all times bear in mind that their assistance, however enormous, cannot possibly match the assistance which the Vietnamese people extend to those who have assisted them.

**"The Vietnamese people are rendering greater assistance to the struggle against the enemy of the people of the world, namely, U.S. imperialism, than the**

assistance they have received from any people at any time. By their blood and their very lives, they are fighting the enemy of the people of the world — U.S. imperialism. This is definitely greater than the assistance, whether political, moral or material, any people has rendered the Vietnamese people.

"I am of the opinion that the Viet Nam question can be settled only when the United States gets out of Viet Nam."

### Concerning Singapore's Withdrawal From "Malaysia"

In reply to a question concerning Singapore's withdrawal from "Malaysia," Aidit said that this was

a good thing, and to a certain extent a victory for Indonesia's policy of confrontation. "This confrontation is obviously a blow to the imperialists and has forced them to change their tactics. However, we must remain on the alert under all circumstances, because the United States and Britain have resorted and will inevitably resort to various manoeuvres. Indonesia's confrontation is not directed at the name 'Malaysia' but at the imperialist military bases in Malaya, Singapore and North Kalimantan. Indonesia's confrontation will continue as long as the military bases aimed at hindering the Indonesian revolution remain on these territories."

(*Boldface emphases are ours.*)

### Friendship Festival

# Chinese and Japanese Youth At Peking Rendezvous

PEKING'S youth are in a singing mood, humming the years-old Japanese song *Tokyo-Peking*, rehearsing the latest Chinese hit *Youth of China and Japan, Unite*, or, like the young workers of the No. 2 Cotton Mill, composing one themselves with the words:

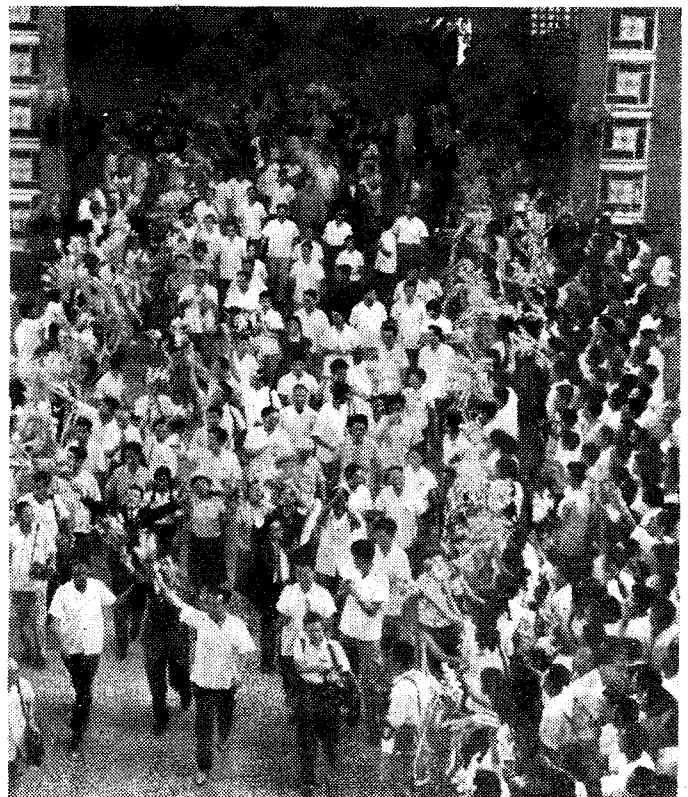
*Welcome, Friends from Japan!  
You win the applause of our looms;  
You can hear fine cotton sing a song to you.  
Blossoms of Friendship are found everywhere in  
our mill...*

The youth of Peking have been busy getting ready for the China-Japan Youth Friendship Festival. With young artists in other parts of the country, they have designed an emblem and flag for the festival as well as huge, colourful and eye-catching posters. Young stamp designers and printers have seen to it that special commemorative stamps were on sale on the festival's eve so that, as they put it, "our Japanese friends will be able to write home with these stamps when they arrive."

In various endeavours, Peking's young men and women have been pitching in to make the festival a roaring success. Those working in the manufacture of fireworks have joined in: "We certainly can entertain our Japanese friends with our traditional fireworks." And so an infinite variety were ready for the open-air party at Zhongshan Park scheduled on the festival's varied agenda. Young ballerinas rehearsed intensively for their two performances to be presented to the visitors from Japan — one on a contemporary Chinese revolutionary theme and the other a classic. No less enthusiastic were older people in the trades whose services are required by the festival. For example, bus drivers, some of them youth themselves, spent hours polishing and getting their vehicles in tip-top shape while the cooks at the Nationalities Hotel where the

young Japanese guests would be staying have mastered the art of Japanese cuisine. Many college students who were on their summer vacation returned to Peking weeks earlier in order to attend the festival.

This end of summer event is something new in relations between the youth of China and Japan. Jointly sponsored by the China-Japan Friendship Association, the All-China Youth Federation and All-China Stu-



Japanese youth cheered at the Peking Railway Station



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## Strengthen Our Friendship and Struggle Together

**M**ORE than 200 youth from various parts of Japan arrived in Peking yesterday for the China-Japan Youth Friendship Festival which will soon begin. To all the young Japanese friends who broke through the Japanese Government's unwarranted obstructions to come to China for the festival, we extend a hearty welcome and we wish the friendship festival complete success.

This is the first time ever that a friendship festival of such great magnitude is to be held in the history of friendly exchanges between the Chinese and Japanese peoples and their youths. The people of China regard the China-Japan Youth Friendship Festival as a gala occasion. From the minute the Japanese youth delegates set foot on Chinese soil, the youth of China have received their friends with flowers, songs of friendship and brotherly affection. The China-Japan Youth Friendship Festival marks a new development in friendly relations between the youth and people of the two countries. Through their joint efforts, the Chinese and Japanese peoples have in recent years overcome all kinds of difficulties, developed economic and cultural ties and friendly exchanges between our two countries and steadily strengthened the friendship and unity between our two peoples. The holding of the festival will add fresh impetus to their friendly relations. We hope that through the festival's rich and varied activities the young friends of the two countries will increase their mutual understanding and deepen their friendship. This is undoubtedly of great significance in bringing about the further development of Sino-Japanese friendship.

To promote friendly relations between China and Japan is the fervent common desire of the Chinese and Japanese peoples. The time-honoured friendship between the two peoples dates back to well over 2,000 years. Today they are engaged in the common struggle to oppose U.S. imperialism and safeguard Asian and world peace. It is precisely these traditional ties of

friendship and the common struggle that firmly bind them together. Of course, the U.S. imperialists and the rabid reactionaries in Japan do not like this friendship. Whenever there is any progress in economic and cultural ties and friendly exchanges between China and Japan, they do all they can to obstruct and sabotage such developments. But Sino-Japanese friendship has developed into a mighty historic current and no force whatsoever can check its advance. We are convinced that, by relying on the persistent struggles of our two peoples and their steady and untrifling efforts, the day will come when all man-made obstacles will be swept aside and Sino-Japanese friendship will burst into bloom even more radiantly and bear still richer fruit.

In the struggle to develop Sino-Japanese friendship, oppose U.S. imperialism and safeguard peace, the youth of China and Japan shoulder a heavy responsibility. Today, the broad masses of youth in Japan have become an active force in the Japanese people's struggle for independence, democracy and peace. Together with their fathers and brothers, they have launched widespread movements to oppose U.S. imperialism's control and enslavement of Japan and U.S. imperialism's aggression against Viet Nam as well as its expanding of the war in Indo-China. The youth and people of Japan will never permit the revival of Japanese militarism, nor allow the U.S.-Japanese reactionaries to force them to wage war against the people of China, Korea or any other country. The heroic and indomitable spirit displayed by the youth of Japan in their patriotic anti-U.S. struggle is something the youth of China should learn from. China's youth are determined to unite closely with the youth of Japan to struggle to the end to defeat U.S. imperialism, the common enemy of the two peoples, and defend Asian and world peace so that the Chinese and Japanese peoples will live in friendship from generation to generation.

*("Renmin Ribao" editorial, August 24, 1965.)*

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dents' Federation, the proposed festival was warmly welcomed by various youth organizations and public bodies in Japan. Many Japanese youngsters were determined to attend, in spite of the many obstacles in their way. The first group of youth representatives arrived in Canton in mid August. They were followed by many more in the next few days, and all had a wonderful time together with the youth of that city before they came to Peking.

On August 23, some 2,000 young people of Peking representing the city's one million youth were on hand at the railway station to meet their Japanese friends; 271 youngsters belonging to 23 delegations of various Japanese youth organizations. Among them were workers, peasants, students, artists, journalists and jurists. Many who joined their hosts in singing friendship songs were members of the Japanese Singing Movement Delegation. There were a number of youth carrying a banner with the characters "Long Live the

Japanese-Chinese Youth Festival." They belonged to the delegation of the Council of the All-Japan Dock Workers' Union, who made the banner with their own handkerchiefs while en route to the capital on the Canton-Peking Express.

The tumultuous welcome reached a climax in the big square outside the railway station where the Japanese friends were engulfed in a sea of Chinese well-wishers. More than 300 young artists presented a number of traditional Chinese dances for their honoured guests. A group of Japanese youngsters in full make-up and costume reciprocated with a fishermen's dance to the accompaniment of a drum and flutes. Colourful balloons were released into the clear blue sky.

While in Peking the Japanese visitors will see the sights, watch Chinese theatrical performances and take part in an assortment of other activities. In addition to Peking, the festival will be held in 14 other cities.

— OUR CORRESPONDENT

# American Negroes' New Revolutionary Storm

**T**HE new storm of the Negro people's struggle against racial discrimination and persecution in the United States has risen to unprecedented heights. The Negroes in Los Angeles staunchly resisted bloody suppression by 20,000 troops and police; they wrote an epic page in the annals of the American Negro movement. In Chicago, too, their struggle against tyranny has developed on an unparalleled scale. In New York, Springfield and other cities, Negro demonstrations against racial discrimination are surging forward. The angry flames of their fight against tyranny are spreading to more and more cities. **The American Negroes' struggle for freedom and democratic rights has entered a new stage.**

This unparalleled upsurge in their struggle shows that the American Negro masses, suffering both racial and class oppression, are experiencing a new awakening. The aim of their struggle has become clearer; their will to struggle has grown more resolute, and their methods of struggle have become sharper. **The 20 million American Negroes, whose level of political consciousness is being enhanced every day, have become an important revolutionary force in the United States, a force that cannot be overlooked. Their unyielding struggle has dealt ever more powerful blows at the reactionary rule of U.S. monopoly capital and has shaken the very foundation of U.S. imperialism.**

## **Oppose Counter-Revolutionary Violence With Revolutionary Violence**

A most important feature of this new awakening of the American Negroes is that more and more of them have come to realize through their experience in struggle that they must oppose counter-revolutionary violence with revolutionary violence. In the Negro movement in the United States, barbarous racist persecution and brutal suppression by the authorities are being met with collective self-defence and counter-attack. This is a new trend. The Negroes in Los Angeles, not hesitating to shed their blood and ready to make any sacrifice, advanced wave upon wave in their heroic struggle against the reactionary troops and police. They showed the growing militant spirit of the American Negroes.

For one hundred years the American Negroes have on countless occasions petitioned and protested, and have tried in all kinds of ways to oppose racial discrimination and win equality and freedom. But, discriminated against, oppressed and exploited, there has been no alleviation of their misery and suffering. Grim reality has taught the broad masses of the Negroes. They have started to cast aside illusions and to go out into the streets and wage resolute struggles. In face

of this daily growing movement, the U.S. ruling circles have cunningly resorted to counter-revolutionary dual tactics in their attempt to hold back and undermine the struggle. Facts have proved that all the "promises," "bills" and "programmes" of Kennedy, Johnson and their like about improving the status of the Negroes are all swindles. Ruthless persecution and suppression have not diminished but greatly increased.

With the hypocritical features of the Johnson Administration being daily more exposed, the masses of the American Negroes have become increasingly resolute in abandoning the road of "non-violence" of the Right-wing leadership in the Negro movement and taking to the road of struggle in "meeting violence with violence." Not long ago the American Negro leader Robert Williams expressed the will of the broad masses of the American Negroes when he said: "...let us not be so naive as to believe that we can conduct a revolution without violence. Let us not be so asinine as to believe that we can appeal to the conscience of a brutal oppressor to the extent that he will voluntarily release our people from almost 400 years of shackles and the dark dungeon of slavery and misery." The recent frenzied and brutal suppression of the Negro people in Los Angeles by the U.S. authorities once again proves the truth of this.

## **Unity With World Revolutionary Struggle**

The American Negroes are linking up their struggle for freedom and equal rights more closely with the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed nations and peoples of the world against U.S. imperialist aggression. This is another important characteristic of the new awakening of the American Negroes. They are coming to see more and more clearly that the U.S. imperialism which oppresses them is the same U.S. imperialism which carries out aggression in every part of the world. The fascist policies which the U.S. ruling circles carry out at home are closely linked with their policies of aggression and war abroad. Some advanced American Negro leaders have already raised the clarion call for struggle: Build a new world free of colonialism, racism, imperialism, exploitation and national oppression! Since the beginning of this year, the American Negroes, while carrying on the struggle to win and safeguard their own rights, have at the same time taken an active part in the widespread struggle in the United States to oppose the U.S. Government's aggression against Viet Nam. The Chicago Negroes in their recent struggle against tyranny explicitly proclaimed: "After years of frame-ups, brutalities and intimidations, the Black people are throwing off control of the same rulers who are making war on people

throughout the world—in Viet Nam, the Dominican Republic and the Congo.” This important development in the American Negro movement marks a big advance in the revolutionary level of their struggle for liberation.

**Chairman Mao Tse-tung, in his statement supporting the American Negroes' just struggle two years ago, said: "The fascist atrocities committed by the U.S. imperialists against the Negro people have laid bare the true nature of the so-called democracy and freedom in the United States and revealed the inner link between the reactionary policies pursued by the U.S. Government at home and its policies of aggression abroad." More and more facts have proved the correctness of this thesis.**

U.S. imperialism has always styled itself the defender of "democracy and freedom" and "law and order." But the misery to which the American Negroes have been condemned clearly shows what kind of "democracy and freedom" U.S. imperialism wants to defend and what kind of "law and order" it wants to establish throughout the world. How can anybody imagine that the U.S. ruling circles which relentlessly persecute and suppress the 20 million Negroes at home can possibly follow a peaceful foreign policy of co-operation with other countries on an equal footing? How can anybody imagine that the implacable enemy of the American Negroes can be the true friend of the people in Africa?

### **Provocation Against People of Africa and the World**

It is clear that just as it practises racial discrimination and oppression at home, U.S. imperialism pursues a policy of aggression against other countries and of enslavement of other nations. Is it not the same Johnson Administration which bloodily suppressed the Negro people in Los Angeles and carried out armed aggression against the Congo (Leopoldville) and subversive and sabotage activities against the Congo (Brazzaville)? Facts prove that the United States is the chief bulwark of racial discrimination, and that U.S. imperialism is the ringleader in the brutal persecution of Negroes and in pursuing policies of national oppression and aggression everywhere in the world. The American Negroes and the people of the world face the same common enemy. **The Johnson Administration's victimization and killing of American Negroes is not only a provocation against the 20 million American Negroes but also a provocation against the 300 million Africans, against all oppressed nations, and against the people of the world as a whole.** The African people and all the people of the world who cherish peace and uphold justice must stand firmly with the American Negroes and the other Americans who oppose racial discrimination, and fight to the end against the U.S. imperialist policies of racial oppression, aggression and war.

The American Negroes' struggle against racial discrimination is an inseparable part of the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed peoples and nations of

the world. Our American Negro brothers who are shedding their blood in the streets of Los Angeles are standing on the same battlefield as and are closely related to the south Vietnamese people who are fighting in the Mekong Delta and the Congolese (L) patriots who are steadfastly carrying on the armed struggle in the jungles of the Congo (L). Every blow dealt and every victory scored by the American Negroes is a blow that weakens U.S. imperialism and a powerful support for the revolutionary struggles of the people in other parts of the world. The revolutionary people of the whole world stand firmly by the American Negroes. The bonds which link them in their common struggle will be strengthened as the Negro movement grows in the United States.

### **Final Victory Is Assured**

The Johnson Administration is sending large numbers of troops and police to bloodily suppress the Negroes' anti-tyranny struggles in Los Angeles, Chicago and other cities. Johnson has raved repeatedly about "relentless" suppression of Negro "violence." The utter brutality of the Johnson Administration reveals its extreme weakness. **It had to dispatch tens of thousands of troops to oppose the Negroes' struggle against tyranny in Los Angeles. Should the revolutionary storm of the American Negroes spread fiercely throughout the whole of the United States, how many more troops has it at its disposal to use as weapons to suppress the revolution?** As the Chinese saying goes: "The roof leaks and the rain pours down day and night without end!" With its policy of aggression abroad suffering defeat after defeat, the badly harassed Johnson Administration is living through increasingly difficult days.

The ruling circles in the United States control the military machine and can use the most brutal methods of terror to suppress the Negroes' struggle. They may gain the upper hand for a time, but they can never subdue the awakened Negroes. On the contrary, their ruthless suppression can only further awaken the masses of the Negro people. **Comrade Mao Tse-tung pointed out long ago: "All reactionaries attempt to stamp out revolution by mass murder and think that the more people they massacre, the weaker the revolution will become. But, contrary to this reactionary wishful thinking, the fact is that the more people the reactionaries massacre, the greater becomes the strength of the revolution and the nearer the reactionaries come to their doom. This is an irresistible law."** The Chinese saying aptly puts it: "Fire cannot kill the prairie grass which will grow again when the spring breeze blows." The tide of the revolutionary struggle of the American Negroes for emancipation cannot be dammed. The road of their struggle may be arduous and tortuous and beset with difficulties and obstacles, but, so long as they strengthen their unity and persist in the struggle, they will overcome all difficulties and emerge victorious in the struggle for complete emancipation.

*("Renmin Ribao" editorial, August 19, 1965.)*

# Stop the Bloodless Murder by U.S. Imperialism

by COMMENTATOR

**T**HE Liaison Mission of the Viet Nam People's Army High Command has denounced strongly the setting up of a U.S. research institute for bacteriological and chemical warfare in south Viet Nam. In its August 21 message to the International Commission, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam exposed U.S. imperialism and charged it with this atrocious crime. The Chinese people are outraged by this new villainy of the Johnson Administration.

Washington's establishment of a bacteriological warfare unit in south Viet Nam was revealed in the foreign press quite a while ago. The Japanese weeklies *Sankei* and *Gendai* recently reported that a "mobile research unit" of the "Medical Laboratory 406 of the U.S. Army Medical Corps" in Kanagawa, Japan, had been sent to south Viet Nam where it "moves from place to place with the field combat forces to carry out its activities." This shows that the U.S. aggressors are using ever more barbarous methods in killing the Vietnamese people.

U.S. imperialism has committed a long list of shocking crimes in Viet Nam, and especially in south Viet Nam. In recent years it has used the most savagely destructive weapons against villages, destroyed crops and vegetation, dropped napalm, sprayed toxic chemicals and even used poison gas to slaughter the people of Viet Nam. As early as April 1961, the U.S. aggressors began launching so-called "chemical mopping-up operations" in south Viet Nam. From August 1961 to May 1964, U.S. aircraft carried out more than 200 missions to spray toxic chemicals over many regions, poisoning 20,000 people, many of whom died as a result; killing tens of thousands of livestock and domestic animals, and destroying over 300,000 hectares of crops. Last June, U.S.-puppet troops sprayed toxic chemicals in Duyen Hai and Cau Ngang Districts of Tra Vinh Province, poisoned more than 30,000 people and destroyed over 30 square kilometres of crops in some ten days. **These monstrous crimes demonstrate that U.S. imperialism is the most savage and brutal aggressor in human history, far surpassing the Hitlerite bandits.** The Johnson Administration has now taken a step further and is going to use bacteriological weapons in its attempt to avert defeat in its war of aggression against Viet Nam. **This means that U.S. imperialism will stop at nothing to realize its aggressive aims.**

It must be noted that, in flagrantly using all kinds of chemical weapons and even sending bacteriological warfare units to south Viet Nam, **U.S. imperialism is not only trying to save itself from defeat on the Viet-**

**namese battlefield, but is also using Viet Nam as a testing ground for chemical and biological warfare.**

Throughout the postwar years U.S. imperialism has been working hard on research and development of chemical and bacteriological weapons. This has long since ceased to be a secret. Some military and administrative bigwigs in Washington don't even bother to conceal their criminal intentions; they have publicly discussed how the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons is the most inexpensive way to fight an aggressive war. As early as April 15, 1960, the *New York Post* disclosed the views held by U.S. Army circles with regard to this type of weapons. They thought, the paper wrote: "It's cheap, it's simple, it covers more ground, it kills more people than bombs, it does the job silently, it defies detection, it permits almost immediate invasion after use whereas nuclear radiation from competing products causes delays. Where can anyone interested in extermination find a better buy?"

It is these calculations which in recent years have motivated that steep rise in U.S. government expenditure to develop chemical and bacteriological weapons. In 1950, appropriations for this purpose totalled 6.5 million U.S. dollars. Now, almost 20 times as much, or 125 million U.S. dollars are being spent each year for this purpose. The American press has revealed that the United States, while developing these weapons in a big way at home with Fort Detrick, Maryland, as the centre, has set up many organizations abroad for the same purpose. "Medical Laboratory 406 of the U.S. Army Medical Corps" in Japan is one of such organizations. This criminal group already played its part in the aggressive war against Korea. Now it has once again stretched out its murderous tentacles — this time to south Viet Nam. **This criminal move by U.S. imperialism is in flagrant violation of international law and human ethics; it is not only an atrocity against the Vietnamese people, but also a grave menace to people all over the world. From this it can be seen still more clearly that U.S. imperialism is the sworn enemy of world peace.**

**This ultimate savagery of chemical and bacteriological warfare, however, will not enable the U.S. aggressors to achieve what they have failed to get by other means.** Neither an arsenal of toxic chemicals, venomous liquids and poison gas, nor an army of fleas, rodents and scorpions can help them stave off defeat. **The bestial crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists will arouse still greater hatred among the Vietnamese people who will hit and punish them still more severely.**

(Abridged "Renmin Ribao" article, August 24, 1965.)

# ROUND THE WORLD

## Indonesian Anniversary

### Ever Onward, Never Retreat!

The hearts of many people were filled with pride on August 17 as the red and white flag was hoisted in Djakarta—the same flag that first flew over the land of the thousand islands to proclaim Indonesia's independence twenty years ago. The Indonesians have achieved a great deal during this short span of history. Their fight against imperialism to preserve their national independence commands the respect and admiration of the freedom-loving people the world over. Last week the Indonesian people celebrated their independence day with joy and confidence. President Sukarno, who two decades ago, had uttered the stirring words "once independent, for ever independent!" voiced a new slogan: "once self-reliant, for ever self-reliant!" and mapped out some new tasks for his compatriots.

Addressing almost one million people in Merdeka Square in the Indonesian capital on independence day, President Sukarno backed the Vietnamese people and denounced U.S. aggression in Viet Nam. Highlights of his speech follow:

**U.S. Aggression in Viet Nam.** President Sukarno said that the "reason" given by the United States for "escalation" of its war in Indo-China was "to prevent Viet Nam from becoming communist." "I have never heard Uncle Ho making any objection to the United States being a capitalist country. Why then should the United States have any objection to Viet Nam becoming a communist country?"

"If we allow the United States aggression against Viet Nam to continue it will constitute a grave danger to the whole order of our international life. For the sake of our own security individually and for the

sake of our security collectively, we, the freedom-loving and peace-loving nations, must oppose this U.S. aggression, and must give our active support to our brothers in Viet Nam."

"To the Government of the United States of America I would like to give the advice that it acknowledge its error and immediately withdraw altogether from Viet Nam and from the whole of Indo-China. It is in vain for it to accuse the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam of 'being unwilling to negotiate,' for if the U.S.A. does not withdraw from Viet Nam, everyone can see that it is precisely the U.S.A. which is not prepared to make a peaceful settlement."

**The Grave-Diggers of Imperialism.** "The twentieth century is the century of the end of imperialism. For too long, imperialism has suppressed us, exploited us, enslaved us and the bells of history have already tolled in the era of building up *par humanica* (peace for humanity—Ed.)!"

"Now all of us, the proletariat, the farmers as well as the other oppressed people, the people whom I call *marhen* (poor people—Ed.) and all the oppressed nations of the world, together, simultaneously, are the grave-diggers of imperialism."

"The mistake of the imperialists and the reactionaries in general is that they underestimate the common people, they underestimate the simple people."

**Non-Alignment Must Be Anti-Imperialist.** "In Indonesia's view, non-alignment must be anti-imperialist. If not, then such non-alignment is in reality already aligned, because it favours imperialism. It is impossible for one to be 'non-bloc' as between imperialism and anti-imperialism or between the colonizer and those fighting the colonizer!"

"Indonesia does not subscribe to 'the theory of the third force' because

Indonesia sees the world divided into only two camps, the revolutionary new emerging forces on the one hand and the reactionary old-established forces on the other."

**On Domestic Questions.** "Indonesia does not wish to be hypocritical about its socialism. Indonesia states positively that its revolution is still at the national democratic stage. The time will come when Indonesia will build socialism."

"The principle of building an economy without foreign monopoly capital has become a principle which is not subject to amendment."

"The situation at home is also good and favourable for us revolutionaries."

"We cannot defend the sovereignty of our state without a people who, if necessary, are given arms—the people including workers, farmers and others who work in the productive sector but who, if necessary, bear arms for a time."

"We should concentrate on the implementation of the three potent principles. We have to remember that all the three principles have to be fulfilled: One cannot be divorced from the others. There cannot be political sovereignty and cultural identity without economic self-reliance and vice versa!"

"We must cleanse the old culture of feudalism, and purge the foreign culture of imperialism. Our culture should be revolutionary. We have achieved a lot within these twenty years. We have passed through the most important stage in our revolution. However, we cannot yet take a rest, we must not feel satisfied with what we have achieved in the past but we have to remain alert in the days ahead; we still have to march onward, march onward, march onward to obtain new successes and victories."

"We must continue, nay, we must further intensify the manipolist (political manifesto—Ed.) offensive, our revolutionary offensive. Heavy and numerous are the tasks ahead of

us. Once free, free for ever! Once self-reliant, for ever self-reliant!"

"We have only one slogan: Ever onward, never retreat!"

### U.S. Search for Cannon Fodder

#### Washington Boomerang

Standard practice for U.S. imperialism has been to make others fight in its own wars of aggression. In south Viet Nam, Taylor's personally devised "special warfare" was based on the concept of "Vietnamese fighting Vietnamese." But because of the rapid disintegration of the hard-hit puppet troops and growing difficulty in pressganging more soldiers — most south Vietnamese refuse to fight for the hated U.S. oppressors — Washington has been attempting to "internationalize" its war in Viet Nam even while compelled to throw in more and more troops of its own.

Nonetheless, as more and more people become aware of the repulsive nature of the U.S. dirty war and move into action to oppose it, Washington's efforts to use other nations to pull its chestnuts out of the fire are beginning to boomerang.

A number of top-ranking American officials have been sent to many capitals in what can be called operation "more cannon fodder." But as Western press reports indicate, the reception for them has been chilly. With the exception of the reactionary Menzies government of Australia and puppet Pak Jung Hi in south Korea, no one is ready to respond.

**Canada.** Despite a personal letter from Johnson, Prime Minister Pearson has declined with a polite no. His office, mindful of public feeling, has officially announced that "there is no intention to provide military assistance (for the U.S.);" and External Affairs Minister Martin declared, "It would be undesirable for Canada to send military forces to Asia."

**South Korea.** Puppet Pak Jung Hi already has an "expeditionary force" shedding blood for his U.S. masters in south Viet Nam. In the six months ending June, 400 out of a

total 2,000 men had been put out of action. Now Pak is dutifully sending another 15,000 men. But with his own position at home not much better than that of his Saigon counterparts, his latest traitorous action is only adding another spark to the south Korean tinder box since popular anger is already seething because of the recent conclusion of the notorious "ROK-Japan Basic Treaty."

**Australia.** Prime Minister Menzies, who was in Washington in mid June, has decided to dispatch another 350 men as a support unit for the badly battered Australian battalion in south Viet Nam. He is also asking for a budgetary increase of 81 million pounds in military expenses. Both these moves have aroused trade union and public protest. The outcry stirred up by a recent Australian Associated Press report describing the Aussies' killings and arson in south Viet Nam — as punishment the reporter has been banned from contact with the battalion — is an example of how the people feel about the dirty war.

**Japan.** U.S. use of Japan as a staging area for its troops and its air bases there for the bombing of south Viet Nam is arousing a nationwide movement against the U.S. imperialist war. The mass demonstrations which greeted Prime Minister Sato when he visited Naha on August 19 revealed that with U.S. war-making in south Viet Nam becoming bloodier and bloodier the Okinawans are getting increasingly tired of Yankee occupation and want the American killers to get out of their homeland.

### U.S. Withdrawal From Congo (B)

#### Flimsy Pretext, Futile Pressure

While foreign delegates from various parts of the world were arriving in mid August to join the Congolese in their national day celebrations, U.S. embassy members in Brazzaville were hurriedly packing. President Massamba-Debat pointed to this as one more instance of American hostility to the Congo.

Ironically enough, these ugly Americans were leaving on Wash-

ington's orders. Flabbergasted by the failure of its July sabotage raids in Brazzaville which revealed U.S. imperialism as the chief culprit, the Johnson Administration added insult to injury by charging Brazzaville with "serious mistreatment" of American diplomats.

What Washington called ill-treatment was really U.S. contempt for Congolese sovereignty. In July, an American diplomat entered the Congo with a visa which was valid only in September. He was ordered to leave. Another was asked to straighten out his expired visa with the authorities. Two Americans were detained and questioned during the July raids when they were found staying in a small hotel without entry permits. Yet these were the three incidents cited by the State Department as examples of offences against the United States!

Instead of apologizing for its crimes and arrogance, the Johnson Administration used a flimsy pretext to put pressure on the Congo and, according to the *New York Times* (August 14, 1965), to serve notice on other nations that "from now on Washington will be far less tolerant of officially inspired indignities against United States diplomats and property abroad." But such arrogance could not frighten anybody. It merely exposed U.S. imperialist mentality: to the Yankee overlords, any country daring to stand up to their bullying commits an unpardonable crime.

Of late, more and more U.S. officials abroad have become *persona non grata* and U.S. embassies targets of attack by local demonstrators. This is a natural reflection of the rising anger of the world's people against U.S. imperialist aggression and intervention. As President Massamba-Debat noted, the people of Brazzaville had exercised restraint. "In any other country," he said, "the American embassy would be reduced to ashes. One can readily know by simply listening to broadcasts around the world that Americans are on bad terms with everybody everywhere."

# ACROSS THE LAND

## Shanghai Youths Doing Well In Sinkiang

**A** PART from those going to the countryside, an increasing number of educated youths from the towns and cities is leaving for the border regions. They are answering the Party's call to devote their youth to building up the border areas, and to steel and prepare themselves to become worthy successors to the revolutionary cause.

Over the past two years, some 50,000 youths in their late teens and early twenties have left their homes in Shanghai, east China's bustling metropolis, for life in sparsely populated Sinkiang in the northwest. They had volunteered en masse when they were told that life and work there would be tough and demanding. Taught and helped by soldier-pioneers of the Sinkiang Production and Construction Corps of the P.L.A., they have quickly settled down to become able workers and farmers. Many of them have been cited for their progress, both political and vocational.

In July this year, Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Chen Yi

went to visit some of those who are working in a state reclamation farm in Shih Ho Tze, a new, flourishing man-made oasis in the desert northwest of Urumchi, capital of the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region. The two leaders went to see for themselves how the young people are getting along, and to give them encouragement and guidance.

Of the eleven youngsters they met, now members of a youth team of the No. 6 Brigade on one of the Shih Ho Tze state farms, nine are members of the Communist Youth League. They told the Premier and Vice-Premier that they were part of a group of 111 youngsters which had arrived from Shanghai last year. They came from various backgrounds. One was the son of a well-known film actor, another of a revolutionary martyr, while a third came of a bourgeois family. Under the guidance of the Party, all are making good progress as independent, self-reliant working youth closely linked in thought and feeling with the nation's labouring people.

The wheat they had helped to sow was being harvested. The cotton they

had a hand in planting and cultivating was doing well. They had helped reclaim 2,700 *mu* of land from the desert. Sun-tanned, smiling and sturdy, they were clearly in love with their new life.

In parting, Premier Chou urged them to be worthy successors to the cause of communism; to hold high the banner of Mao Tse-tung's thinking, study his works, put politics before all else and master agricultural science and techniques, and devote themselves to building up the border regions.

## Ex-Tibetan Serfs Govern Their Land

**A**LL power in the People's Republic of China belongs to the people." To implement that constitutional provision in Tibet, as elsewhere in China, the Communist Party's policy is to train revolutionary cadres from among the working people, in this case, the once poverty-stricken serfs and slaves who had suffered the worst oppression and exploitation and who make up the overwhelming majority of the population in Tibet.

The quelling of the armed revolt staged by the reactionary clique of the upper social strata in 1959 and the carrying out of democratic reform have firmly consolidated the people's democratic dictatorship in Tibet. The former serfs and slaves are now masters of their own destinies. Of the 16,000 Tibetan cadres working at township, county and higher administrative levels, three-quarters are former serfs or slaves. Some 700 Tibetans have been elected chairmen or vice-chairmen of district or county people's governments.

Almost all these ex-serfs or slaves were illiterate when emancipated. Now all have acquired the equivalent of a primary school education and not a few have reached middle school or college standard. Many have joined the Communist Party or the Communist Youth League.

People's rule in Tibet has shown its power in boosting grain and livestock production, industry and trade with a consequent swift rise in the living standards of the people.



Premier Chou meets Shanghai youths in Sinkiang

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