Spring Thunder Over Southwest China

THE proletarian revolutionary rebels in Kweichow I Province, who have forged a great alliance, have seized vital Party, political, financial and cultural power from the handful of persons in the provincial and municipal committees of the Communist Party who were in authority and took the capitalist road. This is the first peal of spring thunder echoing in the skies over southwest China in the cold days of winter! We hail it as a tremendous victory for Mao Tse-tung's thought in Kweichow Province! This victory dealt telling blows at the handful of persons within the Party in the whole of southwest China who are in authority and taking the capitalist road. It will set off a chain reaction, enabling the proletarian revolutionaries in the southwest area to advance, riding the winds and breaking the waves, in their struggle to seize power.

The experience of the Kweichow proletarian revolutionaries in the struggle to seize power has provided fresh evidence of the need to establish provisional organs of power supported by the masses in the course of this struggle. Such organs form the core of leader-ship for the great alliance of the proletarian revolutionaries; they are the proletarian authority. Having both prestige and capability, they exercise unified and centralized leadership over the struggle to seize power. This is an important guarantee for the victory of the struggle.

The experience of the Kweichow proletarian revolutionaries in seizing power has provided fresh evidence of the need for the organs of power, as the core of leadership for the great alliance of the proletarian revolutionaries, to put forward in the course of the struggle to seize power a clear-cut political programme which proceeds from the reality of the local situation and pools the revolutionary demands of the people. The proclamation issued by the Kweichow Proletarian Revolutionary Rebel General Headquarters is just such a programme. The five calls that it makes to the people of the province are indeed excellent!

At the crucial moment in the decisive battle waged by the proletarian revolutionaries against the handful of persons within the Party who are in authority and taking the capitalist road, all revolutionary cadres should follow Chairman Mao's instructions and firmly carry out the proletarian revolutionary line represented by him. They must show the mettle, the daring and courage, of the proletarian revolutionaries. They must step out before the masses, raise their hands and loudly proclaim their views, and go personally to the fore-front of the struggle, integrate themselves with the revolutionary masses and fight shoulder to shoulder with them. Only in this way can the broad masses be mobilized and a mighty proletarian revolutionary force with centralized leadership and organizational discipline be organized, and the struggle for the seizure of power accomplished triumphantly.

Kweichow will be changed completely. Kweichow is advancing. The seizure of power is only the beginning of this complete change. We wish the proletarian revolutionaries in Kweichow a victorious advance along the bright road of Mao Tse-tung's thought!

"I ask the great earth and the boundless blue Who are the masters of all nature?"

We are! We are! We the proletariat!

Our most respected and beloved leader Chairman Mao has put out a fighting call; Shanghai, Shansi and Tsingtao have set examples for us and now Kweichow has provided another example. Proletarian revolutionary comrades everywhere, let us unite on the basis of the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung and seize power from that handful of persons within the Party who are in authority and taking the capitalist road! All power to the proletarian revolutionaries!

("Renmin Ribao" editorial, February 1.)