

***ON THE INTENSIFICATION OF IDEOLOGICAL PROPAGANDA FOR A
REVOLUTIONARY ADVANCE IN THE BUILDING OF THE ECONOMY
AND STRENGTHENING OF OUR DEFENCES***

A Talk to the Officials of the Propaganda and Agitation Department
of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea
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The most important revolutionary task currently facing our Party and people is the full implementation of the decision of the Party Conference on simultaneously continuing to build the economy and strengthen our defences.

The situation in our country is very tense at present. The US imperialists continue to reinforce their aggressive armed force in south Korea and at the same time escalate preparations for war against the northern half of the Republic, and perpetrate constant military provocations. The enemy's manoeuvring to provoke a new war became more flagrant than ever following the sinking of the PCE -56, which violated our territorial waters at the beginning of this year. Fanning the flames of war in Viet Nam, the US imperialists are creating an extremely tense situation in Asia and the rest of the world. There is no knowing when the flames of the expanding war in Viet Nam will spread to our own country.

We must consolidate the foundation of the socialist economy by carrying on our economic construction effectively and, at the same time, direct great efforts to national defence and strengthen our country's defensive capabilities in every possible way. We will then be able to take the initiative in dealing with any enemy attack and defend the security of the country and the gains of the revolution. It is not easy to carry on economic construction and strengthen the national defences simultaneously. In order to implement the line of simultaneous economic construction and strengthening of our defences, the entire people should maintain a state of constant alertness and be ready to rise as one to meet the challenge of making a revolutionary advance on all the fronts of socialist construction.

It might be said that there is no country in the world which does not build its economy and strengthen its defences. However, our Party's line of simultaneous economic development and strengthening of defences is fundamentally different from what is done in other countries. Our Party's line is a revolutionary one, which requires that intense effort should constantly be devoted to the building of the socialist economy and that, at the same time, equal efforts should be directed to upgrading our defences. If we are to attain the ambitious goal of simultaneous socialist economic construction and improving the nation's defensive capacity each of us must do the work of two or three men and production and construction should be pressed forward at a rate which is two or three times higher than the norm. Unless we do this we will not succeed in achieving the ambitious

tasks that face us in the economy and the improvement of our defences.

At today's Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee the great leader severely criticized the fact that no improvements had been made in the efforts to implement the decision of the Party Conference, although many months had passed since the conference. The main cause of the failure to promote a great upsurge of revolutionary activity in the efforts to implement the Party's line of simultaneous economic development and strengthening of our defences lies in the fact that the Party organizations have failed adequately to equip Party members and the working people ideologically, and they have not organized and mobilized them with sufficient energy. The present situation demands that Party members and the working people should demonstrate greater militancy in their lives and work, and display a higher degree of revolutionary spirit than ever. However, this demand is not being met by the Party's ideological work. Instead of educating Party members and the working people in a revolutionary fashion and inspiring them to implement Party policy, the anti-Party revisionist elements who have established a foothold in the field of Party ideological work have spread the virulent venom of such ideologies as revisionist and bourgeois ideologies widely among people and they have failed to promote the Party's policy adequately.

In order to stimulate Party members and the working people to strive wholeheartedly for the implementation of the decision of the Party Conference, we must first make positive efforts to explain and propagate the documents of this conference. The documents of the Party Conference expound the present international and internal situation in full, and explain the principled stand which we should maintain in developing the revolution and economic construction and our immediate fighting tasks. However, the study of these documents was organized and conducted in an off-hand manner with the result that many cadres and Party members are not yet fully aware of the Party Conference's basic message and the decision it reached, and they have not made thorough ideological preparations to deal with any complex situation that might arise. Because they have not correctly understood the revolutionary essence and significance of the line of simultaneous economic construction and strengthening of our defences, some officials work as if they think it all right if only economic construction proceeds, no matter whether the building of defences proceeds or not, while others dither in the face of the difficulties, believing that either economic construction or the strengthening of our defences should be suspended and that it will be too difficult to press ahead with both of them. If we are to bring about a great upsurge in the economy and our defensive capacity, radical improvements must first be made in the Party's ideological work. The Party's ideological work is intended to educate all people to think and act in accordance with the ideas and the will of our Party, and to inspire people to display a high degree of revolutionary enthusiasm in the effort to implement the Party's line and policy.

Only when the Party's ideological work is conducted with militant vigour will a revolutionary spirit be evident throughout the entire Party and the whole of society, and a revolutionary advance be made in the effort to implement the Party's line.

In the Party's ideological work the primary effort must be directed to encouraging all the officials and working people to manifest to the maximum the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort.

The line of simultaneous economic construction and strengthening of our defences is an independent line which is directed towards continually expediting the building of socialism through the efforts of our own people and defending the security of the country and the gains of the revolution from imperialist aggression. In other words, it is a line which provides for us making the revolution to the last through our own efforts, with a rifle in one hand and a hammer or a sickle in the other. Therefore, the line of simultaneous economic construction and improvement of defensive capacity cannot be implemented unless the entire people display in full measure the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort.

Self-reliance and strenuous effort—this is the indomitable revolutionary spirit of the communists determined to carry the revolution through to the last by believing in their own strength and relying on it; it is also the basic principle of their struggle. Only when one is fully imbued with the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort is one able to brave all difficulties with confidence and courage and implement the Party's line to the letter without the slightest vacillation.

Because they possessed the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort, the anti-Japanese guerrillas of the past were able to arm themselves by wresting weapons from the enemy with their bare hands and making Yongil bombs, they were able to fight against the formidable imperialist army of the Japanese aggressor under the most difficult conditions, when they had no state to provide a rear. In a short period of time after the war our people raised up modern factories on the rubble as well as towns and rural communities, demonstrating the heroic mettle of the Korean people. This was possible also because as they fought they had displayed the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort.

Difficulties and trials are inevitable in the course of the revolutionary struggle. The greater the difficulties and trials in the revolutionary struggle, the more fully one must display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort. Under present conditions, when the aggressive moves of the US imperialists are becoming more blatant and the Right and Left opportunism that has appeared in the international communist movement is scheming to extend its influence even to our country, it is essential that Party members and the working people display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and strenuous effort to a higher degree than ever.

We must encourage Party members and the working people to maintain the attitude of the master who is responsible for the

revolution and construction and to achieve through their own efforts all the tasks that face us in building the economy and increasing our defensive capacity, believing in their own strength no matter how difficult the conditions.

In the past the arduous struggle of our people laid a solid foundation for an independent national economy, the potential power of which is very great. If we make effective use of the existing economic foundation and productive potential, we will be able to produce through our own efforts, almost everything that is needed for developing the national economy, improving the people's standard of living and increasing the country's defence capacities. However, at the moment many branches of the national economy are not striving hard enough to make the best possible use of their potential sources and capacities. At some factories, enterprises and construction sites we see that precious equipment is left unused or rendered useless through careless handling and that a large amount of coal, cement and similar material is washed away by the rain and blown away by the wind because it is stacked in a random manner in the open air. The recent Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee criticized the fact that a large amount of manpower is wasted everywhere because labour management is not given sufficient attention, although at present manpower resources in our country are under great strain.

The economic maximization of production is an important principle to which we must adhere in the building of the socialist economy. All the wealth in our society has been created by the hard work of the workers and peasants and the other labouring people; it is meant for the well-being of the people. We must give impetus to the movement for increased production and economy among Party members and the working people, so that they will completely eliminate the practices which lead to waste and be scrupulously economical in the use of a single nail, a single gramme of cement and a single piece of thread, and they will tap reserves extensively to produce and build in greater quantities and more efficiently.

The greatest potential source of an increase in production and economic efficiency lies in technical innovations. Only when the technical revolution is energetically promoted and new technology is introduced into production and construction on a wide scale can the best possible use be made of the natural resources of the country, and a larger amount of better products be manufactured using a smaller amount of raw materials, essential components and manpower, and the various difficult problems that we face in the building of the economy and improving our defences be solved smoothly.

Carrying out the technical revolution requires us to improve creative cooperation among the workers, scientists and technicians and, in particular, to enhance the role of the scientists and technicians by improving the way in which we work with them. At present our country possesses a large force of scientists and technicians who have been educated and trained by our Party. This is a source of great pride for us and a great strength in the dynamic promotion of the building

of socialism. If the revolutionary enthusiasm of the scientists and technicians is stimulated and their creative intelligence is allowed full scope, it will be possible to develop science and technology rapidly in our country and carry forward the building of socialism energetically. During his recent tour of field guidance in South Hamgyong Province, the leader once again earnestly instructed the university teachers of Hamhung City on the need to eliminate flunkeyism and dogmatism, establish Juche on a firm base in scientific research and educational work, and revolutionize the intellectuals in order to make them into genuine intellectuals of the working class. We must make great efforts to revolutionize the scientists, technicians and other intellectuals and integrate them into the working class, and establish the Juche principle in scientific research. In the same way we should encourage our scientists and technicians to cherish an intense loyalty to the Party and revolution and display their revolutionary enthusiasm and creative intelligence to the full so as to make positive contribution to the solution of the scientific and technological problems that we face in building the economy and improving our defences.

In order to stimulate Party members and the working people to a fresh revolutionary upsurge, we must inspire them to develop the Chollima Workteam Movement at a brisk pace.

The Chollima Workteam Movement is a communist education movement designed to make every member of the collective an activist in the building of socialism, and a movement of mass advance designed to accelerate the process of revolution and construction to the utmost by allowing full play to the revolutionary enthusiasm and collectivist spirit of the people. The justness and vitality of the Chollima Workteam Movement have been demonstrated to the full in the practical work of building socialism. Our people were able to achieve miraculous successes in every field of socialist construction because they extensively conducted the Chollima Work-team Movement, which provides a powerful stimulus to the building of socialism.

However, in recent years, due to the obstructive moves of the anti-Party revisionist elements, the Chollima Workteam Movement has lapsed into a sluggish state and is implemented only slackly. The anti-Party revisionist elements spread among the people the revisionist habit of fast living, obstructed the onward revolutionary movement of the masses in various ways, and even criticized and opposed the use of the word Chollima. We must correct the damage caused to the Chollima Movement by the anti-Party revisionists and revitalize the Chollima Workteam Movement as soon as possible.

At the moment the workers of the Ryongsong Machine Factory are vigorously promoting the Chollima Workteam Movement in support of the instructions given on the spot by the leader, who said that their factory must take the lead in the effort to implement the Party's line of simultaneously building the economy and increasing our defensive capacity. Officials in the field of propaganda should organize effective and broad publicity of the example of the workers at

Ryongsong and spread it throughout the country so that the flames of the Chollima Workteam Movement will be kindled swiftly.

In order to bring about a revolutionary upsurge in the building up of our economy and defences, we must wage a determined struggle against inertia and conservatism, just as we did when we achieved the great Chollima upswing of 1957.

Inertia and conservatism still remain the main obstacle to the implementation of the decision of the Party Conference and to our advance. The inaction and conservatism of the officials prevent the producing masses from displaying their creativity to the full, and the successes achieved in production and construction are not as great as they should be.

The urgency of the struggle against inaction and conservatism among officials can be seen from what happened while the national economic plan for this year was being drawn up. When the national economic plan for this year was being drafted some officials attempted to tone it down faltering and pulling back in the face of obstacles. Worse still, they did not even incorporate the workers' resolutions in the plan claiming that this was impossible. Therefore, the national economic plan for this year as originally consolidated by the State Planning Commission projected a very low rate of economic growth, and some production figures in the plan were even lower than those of last year. The leader said that the shortcomings revealed in the drafting of the economic plan were not ascribable to the shortage of raw materials or other essential elements, but that they were an ideological error resulting from the misguided viewpoint of the officials: he saw to it that a strong ideological campaign was initiated among them. As a result of this ideological campaign the national economic plan for this year has been redrafted in an ambitious vein, with targets more than double those of the original one. Although the national economic plan for this year is unprecedentedly ambitious, it is being successfully implemented, thanks to the high spirit and determined efforts of the working class. Many factories and enterprises have fulfilled their plan for the first half of this year ahead of schedule and are now working to fulfil their yearly plan ahead of time for the anniversary of the founding of the Party (October 10, 1945 Tr.).

A radical change is being brought about in cases where passivism and conservatism are being eliminated and work being tackled with daring on a large scale; however, stagnation and stalemate remain in cases where work is not approached with sufficient daring because of inaction and conservatism. An intensive drive should be launched against passivism and conservatism. Revolution is a struggle to liquidate everything that is conservative and outdated and to create the new. One cannot make a revolution unless one possesses the mettle of daring and the dauntless resolve to push onward to the established goal. Only when passivism and conservatism are opposed and work is carried out in a daring manner on a large scale can the spirit of the people be braced and our advance accelerated.

You must wage the struggle against passivism and conservatism in

combination with the struggle to eliminate the evil ideological effects of the anti-Party revisionist elements.

The passivism and conservatism of officials derive from their outdated way of thinking, which is expressed in seeking the easy way out in their work and attempting to live in comfort as far as possible, in placing their own individual interests above those of the Party and the revolution. We cannot put an end to passivism and conservatism unless we eliminate outdated ideas such as bourgeois and revisionist ideas. The minds of some officials still contain a great deal of the venom of evil ideologies, such as the bourgeois and revisionist ideas spread by the anti-Party, counter-revolutionary revisionists. The anti-Party revisionists who established a foothold in the domain of Party ideological work spread bourgeois, revisionist and feudal-Confucian ideas widely among the people, instead of educating Party members and the working people and equipping them with the revolutionary idea of our Party. They slyly schemed to negate the brilliant traditions of the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the historic root of our Party. They also opposed our Party's line of building an independent national economy and its military line of self-reliance in defence, and they spread the corrupt bourgeois way of life and the revisionist fashion of fast living among the people.

Unless we rid ourselves of the evil consequences of the bourgeois and revisionist ideas fostered by the anti-Party revisionists, we shall be unable to educate people and stimulate their revolutionary spirit and establish a militant atmosphere in our society. You must keep Party members and the working people fully informed of the true colours of the anti-Party revisionists and their crimes, as exposed and criticized at the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Party Central Committee, and also of their harmful consequences. You must encourage them to take an active part in the struggle to eliminate bourgeois, revisionist and feudal-Confucian ideas and ensure that the success of the ideological struggle is expressed in renewed efforts in production and construction.

The bringing about of a fresh revolutionary upsurge on all the fronts of economic construction and the improvement of our defences requires the role of Party propaganda workers to be increased still further.

Party propaganda workers are political educators and mentors who familiarize Party members and the working people with the Party's policy, and organize and mobilize them to implement the Party's policy. Only when Party propaganda workers play an effective role as educators and propagandists and agitators will they be able to give people a correct understanding of the essence and requirements of Party policy and help bring about improvements on every front of socialist construction by enlisting their voluntary enthusiasm and creative intelligence.

Party propaganda workers should put an end, once and for all, to a bureaucratic and superficial style of work in the area of ideology. The main shortcoming currently revealed in ideological work is that

officials in charge of this work arbitrarily impose on their subordinates an approach which does not fully suit their situation, and indulge in empty talk divorced from practice, glossing over things and merely keeping up appearance. Superficiality in ideological work comes to resemble a very deep-seated and stubborn chronic disease. Study sessions, lectures and explanatory talks are conducted by the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Party Central Committee, preparing a single lecture plan without taking into consideration the specific features of Party members and the working people, such as their level of education, their political and theoretical qualifications and their revolutionary tasks, and indiscriminately imposing this lecture plan on all domains. The lower echelons parrot the propaganda plan sent down by the higher bodies instead of elaborating the content of this plan to suit the situation of their own regions and work units. In effect propaganda work is restricted to a general emphasis or appeal; it does not actually make any contribution to solving the difficulties arising in real life. Although a lot of time and labour is currently expended on propaganda work, the successes are comparatively small, and this work is failing as a powerful means for educating the masses and inspiring them to implement Party's policy. Propaganda workers deal with people and direct their way of thinking. They should therefore do everything scrupulously, considering every aspect deeply and constantly studying; they must not be travelling talkers who mouth plausible words and simply make a show of themselves. When they organize study sessions, they should not confine themselves to preparing a study plan and sending it down to the lower echelons. They must make a detailed assessment of whether the study plan corresponds to the masses' level of education and mentality, how it is to be conveyed to them and how its spirit is to be implemented in their work and life, and they should continually strive to improve the content and method of study programmes. Propaganda about the Party's economic policy should be conducted effectively. Since study of the Party's economic policy is neglected at present, officials in charge of economic affairs are not fully informed of the instructions the leader has given to their respective sectors and of what they should do and how in order to implement these instructions. Because officials in the economic field are not fully aware of the Party's economic policy, they fail to conduct economic work in accordance with the requirements of Party's policy and falter and hesitate in the face of obstacles. If officials are not fully conversant with Party's policy and do not have a firm belief in it, they cannot manifest devotion and creativity in its implementation and push boldly ahead with their work. You must increase the propaganda effort concerning the Party's economic policy so that cadres, Party members and the working people will be fully aware of the instructions the leader has given to their respective areas and implement them in a revolutionary spirit with no conditions attached, no matter how difficult and complex the circumstances. Agitation for increased production is a powerful means for bringing

into play the full force of the masses, revolutionary enthusiasm and creativity and inspiring Party members and the working people to make collective innovations. You should conduct agitation for increased production energetically, so that revolutionary ardour and militant spirit become evident on every front of economic construction and the defence effort and production is constantly developed and improved.

Propaganda officials are the vanguard workers of our Party on the ideological front. If their political awareness is dull and their understanding of the class point of view is not keen, they will not be able to forestall the ideological and cultural penetration of imperialism and counter the influence of revisionism from outside or staunchly defend the Party and the leader and protect them politically and ideologically.

In the past many of the Party propaganda officials followed the anti-Party revisionists implicitly because they were not fully equipped with the monolithic ideology of the Party and their class awareness was dull. They caused damage to the ideological work of our Party. Party propaganda workers must learn a serious lesson from this.

If propaganda workers are to discharge their responsibility and play their role properly as the propagandists of Party's policy and the political educators of the masses, they must be more fully equipped with the monolithic ideology of the Party, possess a firmer class viewpoint than anyone else and be staunch in defending and implementing the Party line and its policy. Officials who are not qualified politically and ideologically cannot take the lead on the front of the fierce class struggle. You should make determined efforts to completely eliminate the remnants of all manner of obsolete ideologies which still linger in your mind and revolutionize yourselves. In particular, you should take an active part in the struggle to eliminate the evil ideological consequences of the activities of the anti-Party, counter-revolutionary revisionists and thus temper yourselves in the revolutionary crucible of the ideological struggle and completely extirpate all remnants of outdated ideas.

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