

# Man Against Nature

(内部使用)

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## 说 明

本书共收集九篇文章。前四篇是关于大寨大队、大港油田、丹江水库和成昆铁路的报导，生动地反映了在毛主席无产阶级革命路线指引下，我国社会主义建设事业蓬勃发展的大好形势。后五篇由英国作家诺曼·怀默(Norman Wymer)所写，叙述了关于敷设海底电缆、雷达、在撒哈拉沙漠中寻找石油、在阿尔卑斯山中开凿公路隧道以及开辟圣劳伦斯航道等一些资本主义国家的工程建设情况。这几篇文章都写的相当生动，文字也较浅近，对我们学习语言、扩大知识是会有帮助的。

但应该指出，我国的社会主义建设与资本主义国家的工程建设是根本不同的。由于我国社会主义制度的无比优越和毛主席无产阶级革命路线的无比正确，坚持独立自主、自力更生的方针，依靠人民，为了人民，我国社会主义建设能以资本主义国家无法比拟的规模和速度来进行，并能在较短的时间内取得伟大成就。我们在与自然的斗争中，强调以阶级斗争为纲，把生产斗争、阶级斗争和科学实验三者紧密联系在一起，反对“唯生产力论”。相反，资本主义国家兴建一些大型工程，其根本目的都是垄断资本为了从中攫取超额利润，而广大劳动人民并不能得到任何好处。同时，应当指出，在后五篇文章中，作者还宣扬了英雄创造历史的唯心史观，一笔抹煞了作为这些工程创造者的劳动人民的功绩，与我们在社会主义建设中，充分发挥人民群众的积极性和创造性，形成了鲜明的对照。对于后五篇文章中的这一类资产阶级观点，应注意批判。

## (1) Tachai: Educating Peasants with

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(1) Tachai: Educating Peasants with  
Mao Tsetung Thought

\*KUO FENG-LIEN

Visitors to our Tachai production brigade in Shansi province like to climb \*Tiger Head Hill for a bird's-eye view of our land and village. They see staircase after staircase of green \*terraced fields held on the slopes with stone walls. A canal winding around the mountains and an electric pumping station guarantee water for fields which get more than 7.5 tons per \*hectare. \*Hoppers running on five aerial cables lift manure up to the terraces and bring \*quarried stone down

Kuo Feng-lien      Secretary of the Communist  
Party branch of the Tachai production  
brigade 大寨大队党支部书记郭风莲

Tiger Head Hill 虎头山

terraced field 梯田

hectare ['hekta:] 公顷 (合15市亩)

hopper 漏斗; 吊斗

aerial cable 高空索道

quarry ['kwɔri] vt. 采石

for construction.

At the foot of the mountain is our village, easily identified by the \*asphalt road flanked by a \*supply-and-marketing co-op, \*credit co-op, restaurant, bookstore and post office. At the end of the road are our homes—rows of houses, cave-style or brick-and-tile, built on steps cut into the hillside with fruit trees growing in front of them. We can draw water from taps in front of our houses and all homes have electric lights. Our 80 families—about 400 people—have a seven-grade school, clinic, nursery-kindergarten and recreation club within walking distance.

Right next to our homes, though, behind a big willow tree, we have kept several mud cave-dwellings. We have preserved them because we don't want our young people to forget what the old Tachai was like. We lived in low, damp caves like these before liberation, and the landlords often tied peasants to the willow and beat them.

In those days the village's 53 hectares of land lay in 4,000 tiny plots scattered over badly eroded slopes and ravines. Most of this was owned by one landlord and three rich

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asphalt road ['æsfælt] 柏油马路  
supply-and-marketing co-op 供销社  
credit co-op 信用社

peasants. The forty poor and lower-middle peasant families were either their tenants or hired hands. All year long they worried about paying the rent and exorbitant interest on the debts they owed. There was no energy left to try to get better harvests. If they got 50 kilograms of grain on a small piece of land 20 × 30 meters, it was considered a good year.

How did the old Tachai change into today's Tachai? \*Chen Yung-kuei, our old Party branch secretary, says it was because "we work to revolutionize people's thinking". This is our first task in everything we do. Peasants armed with Mao Tsetung Thought worked harder to build socialism. Changes in our thinking translate into changes in our land, our harvests and our village.

### **Bucking the Capitalist Trend**

Chairman Mao says, "Socialist society covers a considerably long historical period. In the historical period of socialism, there are still classes, class contradictions and class struggle, there is the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road, and there is the danger of capitalist restoration. We must recognize the protracted and

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Chen Yung-kuei 陈永贵

complex nature of this struggle. We must heighten our vigilance. We must conduct socialist education. We must correctly understand and handle class contradictions and class struggle, distinguish the contradictions between ourselves and the enemy from those among the people and handle them correctly. Otherwise a socialist country like ours will turn into its opposite and degenerate, and a capitalist restoration will take place. From now on we must remind ourselves of this every year, every month and every day so that we can retain a rather sober understanding of this problem and have a Marxist-Leninist line.”

This is the Party's basic line during the socialist period. Our Tachai Party branch constantly educates its leaders and the brigade members with this concept, urging them to keep to the socialist road in class struggle.

Tachai was liberated in 1945. The next year the peasants received land in the land reform. Chairman Mao had called on everyone to get organized and Chen Yung-kuei and some poor and lower-middle peasants formed a mutual-aid team. In 1952 Chen went to the county Party committee and applied to form a semi-socialist farming cooperative in which the land would be pooled. But for a year the committee withheld its approval.

Impatient with the delay, the Tachai Party branch got the poor and lower-middle peasants together and discussed Chairman Mao's speech, "Get Organized!", particularly this: "Among the peasant masses a system of individual economy has prevailed for thousands of years, with each family or household forming a productive unit. This scattered, individual form of production is the economic foundation of feudal rule and keeps the peasants in perpetual poverty. The only way to change it is gradual collectivization, and the only way to bring about collectivization, according to Lenin, is through cooperatives."

They were sure that a cooperative was the right step to take next. What they didn't know was that the influence of Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line was causing the county Party committee to put off its approval. Liu had been against agricultural collectivization since the first mutual-aid teams appeared. He was for an individual economy and "giving a free hand to hiring labor". He insisted on "a policy to preserve the rich-peasant economy". He even said, "Exploitation should be welcomed." Later he was to order the agricultural cooperatives disbanded on a large scale.

The Tachai Party branch kept insisting on forming a cooperative. Finally in 1953 the county Party committee



approved — but limited it to 30 households. Thirty households! We already had 49 in mutual-aid teams. The Party branch decided to ignore the limit and go ahead with all 49. That year the new co-op brought in a bumper harvest of 1.8 tons per hectare — more than twice what the individual farmers got. More households joined.

After two years we took another step forward in collectivization and advanced to a fully socialist co-op. Our land became collectively owned, individuals' draught animals and farm tools were bought by the co-op.

In 1958 an even bigger and stronger form of collective economy, the people's commune, was formed in China's countryside. Tachai became a production brigade in one of them. We worked even harder to improve production and that year reaped an average of four tons per hectare, five times more than when we farmed individually.

Again, Liu Shao-chi was dead set against the people's communes. When drought and flood hit most of the country in 1959-61, he used these difficulties as a good opportunity to break up the communes. With his encouragement, capitalist trends appeared in the countryside that seriously hurt the

draught animal [dra:ft] 耕畜

socialist economy — free markets, \*private plots, \*small enterprises responsible for their own profit and loss, \*harvest quotas based on individual households. Lin Piao also supported fixing quotas on individual households.

It was a critical time. The Tachai Party branch got the brigade members together to discuss Chairman Mao's statement that "only socialism can save China". They recalled the bitter life of the old society, analyzed the capitalist trend in the countryside and talked about the superiority of socialist collectivization.

During these three hard years, the Tachai people kept firmly to the socialist road. They loaned several dozen tons of their own reserve grain to other brigades in trouble. At the same time they fought the crippling results of bad weather, won good harvests and were even able to sell their surplus grain to the state in all three years. Tachai's stubborn defense of socialism inspired the poor and lower-middle peasants of the other brigades to struggle against capitalist trends in

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private plot 自留地

small enterprises responsible for their own profit  
and loss 自负盈亏

harvest quotas based on individual households

包产到户

their own areas.

In the autumn of 1962 Chairman Mao, at the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, sharply criticized Liu Shao-chi's right opportunist line and warned the nation, "Never forget class struggle." In 1964 he pointed out, "In agriculture, learn from Tachai."

A movement started by Chairman Mao to educate the peasants in socialist thinking was already under way in the countryside. A Liu Shao-chi man in the Shansi province leadership sent a work team to Tachai under the pretext of helping with socialist education. Instead, they tried to frame its leaders on false charges, claiming they had reported higher harvest figures than the brigade had actually reaped. The work team spent days weighing the grain in our storehouse and that distributed to the members. The figures were accurate to the kilogram.

Then the Tachai Party branch and the poor and lower-middle peasants held meetings in which they discussed right and wrong in the light of Chairman Mao's ideas on class struggle. They came out of the meetings more confident than ever that they were on the correct road. They told the work team, "You're here to wreck our brigade, not do revolutionary

work." More and more isolated, the work team finally withdrew quietly.

In 1965 Chairman Mao specifically named the target of the socialist education campaign in the countryside: "Those persons in authority in the Party taking the capitalist road."

The target was the same in the cultural revolution that followed. In the cultural revolution and in the present movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, we have settled accounts with Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and their followers, repudiating their counter-revolutionary revisionist line and their conspiracy to restore capitalism.

### With Our Own Hands

The Tachai Party branch also teaches the brigade members how to use Mao Tsetung Thought in the struggle for production. It encourages us to develop production through self-reliance.

"We cannot lean on others when we make revolution," Chen Yung-kuei often tells us. "We can build a new Tachai only by relying on our own will and our own hands."

When we first formed our co-op in 1953 we drew up a ten-year water and soil conservation plan which included basic improvement of our land. We would turn the slopes into

terraced fields, build fields in the ravines and plant trees on the mountains. We were less than 300 people — with only 50 able-bodied men and women. We had only hoes and \*shoulder poles. Transform the harsh pattern of nature? It seemed an unequal struggle, but we accepted the challenge.

In the winter of 1955 we went to work on \*Wolves' Den, a sharply-sloping ravine 1.5 kilometers long and 6.6 meters wide. By spring we had turned it into terraced fields. That summer a rainstorm swept it all away. We built the terraced fields all over again the following winter. Again mountain torrents washed everything away.

In the winter of 1957 we went to Wolves' Den for the third time, led by our Party branch. This time we increased the number of terraces, curved the retaining walls against the torrents and made them wider at the base. There were 44 walls built with 300-kg. blocks of stone which we quarried in the mountains and carried down with shoulder poles. We filled these terraces with thousands of cubic meters of soil. It took us 27 days in the piercing cold, but the hard work paid off. The walls have withstood many mountain floods since.

shoulder pole; carrying pole 扁担

Wolves' Den 狼窝掌

In ten years and 250,000 workdays we built 200 stone walls and linked up separate plots. We spread soil at least a foot deep in the terraces, deep-plowed it and built it up with manure and \*compost. With water, fertilizer and the soil safely held in, our terraced fields gave us more than 5 tons per hectare in 1962.

Then the next summer we had the biggest flood in a hundred years. Driving rains began in early August and did not let up for seven days. Water crashed down through the ravines, destroyed most of our terraced fields, flattened the crops and wrecked all but two of our houses.

As soon as the rain stopped the Party branch called a general meeting. Chen Yung-kuei stood up and proposed reconstruction through self-reliance. Together with the members he reviewed our ten-year plan and how we had finished it by relying on our own efforts.

“There will always be difficulties in building socialism,” he said. “If we hold out our hands to the state for help now, we will be setting a bad example for the young people. We’ll be encouraging them to ask the state for help every time they are in difficulty. What kind of successors will we be bringing up to carry on the cause of the proletariat?”

compost [ˈkɒmpɒst] 堆肥

The state did send us relief — money, winter clothing, medicine. Three times it came, three times we sent it back. A few bad elements in the brigade called us fools. But when the enemy said we were wrong we knew we were right.

We went ahead to rebuild our land and homes. In the daytime we repaired the fields, made compost, fired bricks. At night we rebuilt our wrecked homes by the light of gas lamps. The winter of 1963 was very cold. One day we were rebuilding fields in a ravine two kilometers from the village. At noon we found our lunches frozen. "If we had had even bits of frozen food in the old days," Chen Yung-kuei said to us young people, "we wouldn't have had to go begging." He talked about the history of his family and the village.

He said there were five "manys" in the old Tachai — many hired out to landlords or rich peasants, many who owed debts, many who had to beg, many forced to sell their children, many who committed suicide. His family of five had nothing to their name. Two hired out to landlords, three went begging. One particularly bad year the landlord they worked for pressed so hard for the debts they owed him that there was no way out but to sell his mother, sister and brother. He and his father went on as hired labor-

ers. When the father was too old to be useful anymore, the landlord kicked him out. He hanged himself. Chen Yung-kuei was left all alone.

The sun was setting. Chen Yung-kuei told us girls, "Go home now and get some rest."

"No," we said, "if you older people can go on working, so can we."

We young men and women formed two \*shock teams and vied for the heaviest work — carrying stones and building walls. "Our boys have iron shoulders," the older people said, "but our girls are made of iron too." After that we were called the "Iron Girls" team.

We finished rebuilding our fields in a year and a half. Soon the new houses — the ones you see today — were also completed. They had an average of one and a half rooms per person, more than we had before.

The year following the big flood, 1964, we averaged 6 tons per hectare of grain. In the ten years since then, we have gone in more and more for scientific farming, gaining experience in \*selecting and breeding good strains, \*close plant-

shock team 突击队

selecting and breeding good strains 选育良种

close planting 密植



ing, \*field management, \*protecting crops from pests and diseases and \*reforming our system of cultivation. We used to grow only one crop a year. Now we interplant low-yield and high-yield crops and reap two harvests a year. We have added wheat and rice to corn and millet.

Electricity came in 1965. With brigade \*accumulation funds, which had been increasing year by year, we bought machines for \*threshing, \*milling and \*grinding. This liberated a large part of our labor force, especially the women, who used to grind the 115 tons of grain we consumed every year by hand.

Most of the heavy transport has been taken over by vehicles and our aerial cables. We send up several thousand tons of manure to the fields every year. Transporting by

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field management 田间管理

protecting crops from pests and diseases 防治病虫害

reforming our system of cultivation 改革耕作制度

accumulation funds 公积金

threshing 打谷; 脱粒

milling 碾米

grinding 磨面