

LO JUI-CHING

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AND THEY CAN CERTAINLY
DEFEAT U.S. IMPERIALISM
TOO**

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS
PEKING

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Speech at the Rally of the People of All Circles in
Peking in Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of
the Victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This was a speech made in Peking on September 3, 1965 by Lo Jui-ching, Member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Vice-Premier of the State Council and Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Lo Jui-ching spoke at a mass rally held in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan.

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Comrades and friends!

Today the people of Peking, the people of the whole country and all the commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army are enthusiastically celebrating the great occasion of the 20th anniversary of victory in the War of Resistance Against Japan.

This victory achieved by the Chinese people under the brilliant leadership of the Communist Party of China and Comrade Mao Tse-tung was a victory of immense historic importance. During the War of Resistance, the anti-fascist people of the world gave powerful support to the Chinese people, while the War of Resistance waged by the Chinese people in turn extended tremendous support to the World Anti-Fascist War. Our victory in the War of Resistance Against Japan was a major victory in the world war against fascism!

For almost a hundred years after the Opium War of 1840, the Chinese people had waged heroic struggles against imperialist aggression, advancing wave upon wave. But none of these struggles was able to end in complete victory. In the War of Resistance Against Japan, the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Comrade Mao Tse-tung, were eventually able to defeat Japanese imperialism after eight years of heroic resistance amid untold difficulties, and won the first great victory in modern Chinese history in their wars against aggression. On the basis of this victory, the Chinese Communist Party led the Chinese people in defeating the Kuomintang reactionaries, who had

brazenly launched the counter-revolutionary civil war with the support and guidance of U.S. imperialism, and in founding the great People's Republic of China. The long-suffering Chinese people stood up like a giant, overthrowing imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, which had weighed them down like three great mountains.

By her victory in the War of Resistance and in the subsequent War of Liberation China, with nearly one quarter of the world's population, was transformed from a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country subject to the bullying and aggression of the imperialist powers into a great socialist country, a mighty stronghold firmly opposing imperialism and supporting the liberation movements of all the oppressed nations and peoples. The triumph of the Chinese revolution drastically changed the world balance of forces as between revolution and counter-revolution. This was another world historic victory in succession to the October Revolution, a historic victory for Marxism-Leninism and for the thought of Mao Tse-tung.

Our victorious experience in the War of Resistance and in China's revolutionary wars as a whole has taught us that the correct way for an oppressed nation in a colony or semi-colony to achieve emancipation is for the party of the proletariat to hold aloft the banner of anti-imperialism and of national liberation, lead the broad masses of the people, form the broadest united front against imperialism and its lackeys on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance, wage self-reliant revolutionary armed struggle, build a people's army of a new type, and put into operation the whole range of strategy and tactics of people's war; it is of particular importance for the party of the proletariat to go deep into the rural areas, establish

revolutionary base areas there, and use the villages to encircle and finally capture the cities until nation-wide victory is achieved.

In his article *Long Live the Victory of People's War!* written in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of victory in the War of Resistance Against Japan, Comrade Lin Piao has given a systematic and penetrating explanation of the rich experience gained by the Chinese people in their more than twenty years of people's war and of Comrade Mao Tse-tung's theory of people's war and its profound international significance. In connection with the present struggles against U.S. imperialism and modern revisionism, he has shown that the Khrushchov revisionists are betrayers of people's war and that people's war waged by the revolutionary peoples is the victorious path for defeating U.S. imperialism and its lackeys. We should all study his article seriously. We relied on people's war to defeat Japanese imperialism and the Kuomintang reactionaries. We must likewise rely on people's war to defeat any war of aggression which U.S. imperialism may launch against us and to defend our socialist motherland and world peace.

In commemorating the great victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan, we must enhance a hundredfold our confidence in our ability thoroughly to defeat U.S. imperialism, and must resolutely fight the Khrushchov revisionists' perfidy in playing up the horrors of war to intimidate the people of the world.

As soon as the German, Japanese and Italian fascists collapsed, U.S. imperialism took over, followed in their

footsteps, and actively pursued a counter-revolutionary global strategy in its vain efforts to dominate the world. The U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war have become still more blatant and blood-thirsty under the present Johnson Administration. The Johnson Doctrine is neo-Hitlerism, neo-fascism; it means aggression and war!

Imperialism, though ferocious in appearance, is not all-powerful in reality and can definitely be defeated. The really invincible forces are those of the people. This truth has been borne out by the Chinese people's victory in the War of Resistance Against Japan. Just as the Japanese and the German and Italian fascists of the 1940s were defeated, so the U.S. imperialists of the 1960s can surely be defeated too.

But is not U.S. imperialism the strongest of all the imperialist powers? Does it not possess atom bombs, which Japanese, German and Italian fascism did not have? Why do we say that the United States, too, can definitely be defeated? The course of history has provided the answer to this question. Compare the conditions under which Japanese, German and Italian fascism unleashed war with those now confronting U.S. imperialism, and the answer becomes quite clear.

We say that U.S. imperialism can definitely be defeated **because, in the first place, the world balance of forces has drastically changed. U.S. imperialism is in a much less favourable position than were German, Japanese and Italian fascism in the past.**

The balance of forces as a whole was temporarily favourable to the fascist aggressors and unfavourable to the people of the various countries when Japanese, German and Italian fascism launched their wars of aggression in the 1930s. The Soviet Union was then the only socialist

country. China was still an extremely poor and backward colonial, semi-colonial and semi-feudal country, our Party was still very weak, and the army it led was barely more than 40,000 strong. Whether we consider the world as a whole or China by herself, the people's cause was going through a period of acute hardship. Abyssinia's war of resistance against Italy failed, and the Spanish revolution was stamped out. Hitler swept across the continent of Europe in a matter of months. In the East, the Japanese fascists not only occupied half of China's territory, but seized almost the whole of the Western Pacific.

But what is the situation today? The socialist countries, whose population has grown from 200 million to more than 1,000 million, form a powerful socialist camp. The national-liberation and people's revolutionary movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America have erupted like volcanoes; country after country and region after region which used to be backyards of imperialist rule have become fronts of anti-imperialist struggle. There have been new developments in the working-class movements in the capitalist countries. The imperialist system is heading for total collapse and the general crisis of capitalism is becoming sharper than ever. In the world arena, the East wind is prevailing over the West wind, the forces of socialism are surpassing those of imperialism, the forces of peace are surpassing those of war, and the revolutionary forces are surpassing the counter-revolutionary forces. The united front against U.S. imperialism today is much broader than the anti-fascist front in the past. The Japanese, German and Italian fascists were utterly defeated in the wars they launched when the balance of forces was temporarily in their favour. How can U.S. imperialism fare better today in provoking and

expanding wars under conditions in which the balance of forces is so unfavourable to it?

We say U.S. imperialism can definitely be defeated also because the United States is now beset by all the revolutionary peoples waging anti-imperialist struggles; militarily speaking, it has become weaker and more helpless in the face of people's war as compared with the predecessors, fascist Germany, Japan and Italy.

When the Japanese, German and Italian fascists started their wars, they enjoyed temporary military superiority and could boast of some "impressive military successes". But U.S. imperialism is now suffering one defeat after another and its much vaunted "naval and air superiority" is no longer of any avail. Today, the United States has only one thing they did not have — the atom bomb. But its nuclear monopoly has long been broken, and its nuclear blackmail is growing less and less effective. The peoples want revolution and liberation, and there is no weapon that can intimidate them. The atom bomb can scare only cowards who have lost their revolutionary will, it cannot scare revolutionary people. Despite the increasing U.S. stock of atom bombs, the flames of anti-imperialist struggles for national liberation have been raging more and more fiercely in Asia, Africa and Latin America in the last twenty years, while U.S. imperialism met with ever more ignominious defeats in its wars of aggression. U.S. imperialism has suffered — and continues to suffer — heavy blows and disastrous defeats in every place where the people have risen to resist its aggression — in China, Korea, Viet Nam, Laos, the Congo (Leopoldville), Cuba, the Dominican Republic, etc. So dismal is its defeat in South Viet Nam that its own press officers have had to admit that for all their air and naval superiority, the

American forces are being defeated "by a few tens of thousands of barefooted Vietnamese peasant guerrillas armed with rifles, hand-grenades and sometimes only home-made knives". They have sorrowfully observed: "We [the United States] could go to the moon, but not to a Vietnamese hamlet without an armed escort."¹ U.S. imperialism has met with ignominious defeats in its war of aggression and it absolutely cannot avoid complete defeat in the future.

The heroic South Vietnamese people are valiantly waging their great war of resistance against U.S. aggression. They are growing stronger and stronger in the course of the fighting; they have reduced the U.S. aggressors to utter helplessness and have thus set a shining example to the people throughout the world in their struggle against U.S. aggression. The defeat of U.S. imperialism in South Viet Nam is a foregone conclusion, which cannot be altered no matter how many reinforcements it sends and whatever new tricks it plays. Only the graveyard awaits the U.S. imperialist forces of aggression. The heroic Vietnamese people will certainly achieve the liberation of South Viet Nam and the reunification of all Viet Nam.

We say U.S. imperialism can definitely be defeated because further the counter-revolutionary military alliances rigged up by the United States are in the process of disintegrating. The contradiction between the inordinate ambitions of U.S. imperialism and its shortage of troops is even more acute than that experienced by its predecessors. The farther it stretches out its claws,

¹ John Mecklin, former director of the U.S. Information Service in Saigon, *Mission in Torment*, New York, 1965, pp. 294 and 311.

the more numerous the nooses round its neck, and the nearer the day when it will be hanged by the people of the world.

Although many contradictions existed among the German, Japanese and Italian fascists in the 1930s, they did manage to form an axis for a time and unleash World War II. However, the aggressive military alliances painstakingly organized by U.S. imperialism since World War II are in an unenviable plight. The Baghdad Treaty, now known as the Central Treaty Organization, has long been non-existent except in name, the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization has become paralyzed, and the member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization are uneasy bedfellows, trying hard to keep up an appearance of unity. U.S. imperialism organized these military alliances under the banner of anti-communism and anti-socialism, but its real aim is, in the first place, to control and seize the middle zone in the vast areas between the United States and the socialist camp. Bound by these treaties, the participating countries have become the first to taste the bitterness of U.S. military control, economic infiltration and political interference. This U.S. policy not only meets with the resolute opposition of the people of these countries but also gives rise to or sharpens the contradictions between U.S. imperialism and the ruling classes of those countries. All this entails the growing disintegration of the aggressive military alliances knocked together by U.S. imperialism.

The present position of the United States in its war of aggression against Viet Nam is a case in point. To quote the U.S. bourgeois press, "We can search the globe and look in vain for the true and active supporters of

our policy.”¹ When the United States launched its war of aggression in Korea, it managed to assemble a U.N. force composed of troops from sixteen countries. Today, only a little over a decade later, it can no longer pull the same trick in Viet Nam.

The imperialists and reactionaries are always conceited and insatiably greedy; they overestimate their own strength and underestimate that of the people. This is their incurable malady. Both Hitler and Tojo turned round to attack new opponents when their troops were already scattered, their battle lines were already far-flung and the war on the existing front was not yet concluded in their favour. They thus hastened their own defeat. These are historical lessons for the imperialists, but they never learn. Isn't U.S. imperialism today going down the old road and committing the same error as its predecessors? U.S. imperialism has less than three million troops all told, yet it is scattering them all over the world. South Viet Nam alone has already proved too hard a nut for it to crack, yet it has extended the war to North Viet Nam and is even attempting to spread it to China. What will this bring about except a speedier defeat? U.S. imperialism's accelerated application of its strategy of "escalation" in the war of aggression against Viet Nam can only speed up its complete defeat.

We say U.S. imperialism can definitely be defeated **also because the people of the world today are awakened as never before, and because it is still more difficult for U.S. imperialism to expand a war by exploiting anti-Communist propaganda and playing on racist sentiments.**

¹Walter Lippmann, *New York Herald Tribune*, April 21, 1965.

In the 1930s the Japanese, German and Italian fascists concocted a host of reactionary theories and shameless lies to fool the people and fan up anti-Communist and racist hysteria, and thus provoked the World War II in which tens of millions of people were slaughtered. But as Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said, "War has educated the people; the people will win the war, and win peace and progress."¹ Through the Anti-Fascist War, the people have come to a better understanding of the Communist Party and socialism. More and more people have turned to the Communist Party and to socialism. People of every colour have come to see through the deceptive nature of racist propaganda more and more clearly. Fascist anti-Communist propaganda and the theory of superior races have met with ignominious defeat.

Today U.S. imperialism still plays the hackneyed tune of U.S. superiority and still repeats the old anti-Communist and anti-socialist platitudes, but fewer and fewer people believe these fabrications. People have come to realize from a mass of evidence that by "anti-communism" the U.S. imperialists mean opposition to all who refuse to be their slaves, who defend their country's independence, sovereignty and national dignity, and who resent U.S. imperialist bullying, interference, control and aggression. The crimes of U.S. imperialism under the banner of "anti-communism" are forcing over 90 per cent of the people of the world to rally against it and are isolating it as never before. In the United States itself, the mass movement openly opposing the Johnson Administration's policies of aggression and war and the

¹Mao Tse-tung, "On Coalition Government", *Selected Works*, Vol. III.

struggle of the American Negroes against tyranny are both unfolding on a scale unparalleled in American history.

The fundamental reason why imperialism is bound to be defeated in its wars of aggression is that it alienates itself from the people and is hostile to them. In the end, whoever is alienated from the people and hostile to them will invariably be defeated, even though sometimes he may hoodwink the people. A small war will cost him a small defeat, a major war will cost him a major defeat, and an all-out war will cost him thorough defeat. This is the irrevocable outcome of any imperialist war of aggression against the people. In the past Japanese and German fascism, swaggering like conquering heroes for a while, failed precisely for this reason. The U.S. imperialism of today is likewise bound to fail for the same reason.

Finally and most important of all, we say U.S. imperialism can definitely be defeated because since World War II Marxism-Leninism has registered tremendous developments and become the mighty ideological weapon of the revolutionary people of our time for achieving liberation.

Victory in China's War of Resistance Against Japan and in the Chinese revolution as a whole was a triumph for the thought of Mao Tse-tung, which integrates the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution. The thought of Mao Tse-tung is Marxism-Leninism creatively developed. The great thought of Mao Tse-tung has developed and become richer in the practice of the Chinese people's revolution and of socialist construction. Not only has it proved itself a science and proved itself the truth in

the practice of the Chinese revolution and construction, it is daily proving itself a science and proving itself the truth in the contemporary world-wide struggles against imperialism, reaction and modern revisionism. The thought of Mao Tse-tung is the asset of all the oppressed nations and peoples and of the proletarian world revolution as well as of the Chinese people's revolution. It is a powerful ideological weapon for combating imperialism and reaction and for combating modern revisionism and modern dogmatism.

The history of the Chinese revolution has shown us that once the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism is integrated with the concrete practice of the revolution in a given country, it engenders infinite strength, enables the revolution to take on a totally new complexion and assures it of victory. One aspect of the historic significance of the debate of the last few years between the two lines in the international communist movement is that it has enabled Marxism-Leninism to spread on an unprecedented scale and has promoted the integration of the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of the people's revolution in every country. This is bound to hasten the destruction of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys! It is bound to hasten the total bankruptcy of modern revisionism! It is bound to hasten the victorious development of the people's cause of world peace, national liberation, people's democracy and socialism, the victorious development of the cause of proletarian world revolution!

Kowtowing to U.S. imperialism's nuclear blackmail, the Khrushchov revisionists are everywhere spreading fear of the horrors of war and of nuclear weapons. They claim that no one who lacks nuclear weapons can ever

expect to defeat a nuclear power in war; that if a single spark of a national-liberation war is not immediately extinguished, it will inevitably touch off a nuclear world conflagration which will destroy the whole globe; and that if the socialist countries firmly resist imperialist aggression, alack and alas, they will see the gains of years of peaceful construction reduced to ashes. In short, the Khrushchov revisionists are forbidding other people to make revolution by threatening them with war and nuclear weapons. Occasionally, they make a gesture of opposition to U.S. imperialism and put up a pretence of helping the people of other countries in their revolutionary struggles. But they play such tricks simply for the purpose of deceiving the people, so as to gain control over their revolutions, subordinate these revolutions to their revisionist line and capitalize on them in their political bargaining with U.S. imperialism. They are simply seeking to live in docile peace, they want to dominate the world jointly with the U.S. nuclear overlord, and to this end they do not scruple to sell out their friends and brothers. Their actions have greatly encouraged U.S. imperialism in its war adventures and have swollen its aggressive arrogance. But since U.S. imperialism cannot frighten the people with its war blackmail, how can the Khrushchov revisionists succeed in frightening them by propaganda about the horrors of a nuclear war? Their actions will neither extinguish the raging flames of the people's struggle against imperialism nor ensure their own security. Like all other revisionists in the past, they can only come to an ignominious end.

In commemorating the great victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan, we must remember the

historical lesson which the Japanese, German and Italian fascists taught us by launching war behind the smokescreen of "peace", and we must redouble our vigilance against the U.S. imperialist plots to launch and expand wars of aggression by means of peace swindles. We must firmly oppose the Khrushchov revisionists' perfidy in trying to deceive the people of the world.

Imperialism has always used the counter-revolutionary dual tactics of war and peace swindles to deal with the oppressed nations and peoples. Since U.S. imperialism today finds itself in a still less favourable strategic position than Japanese, German and Italian fascism, it is meeting with more serious difficulties than they in unleashing and expanding wars. Therefore, it has now become more cunning and, along with its military activities, it has more frequently resorted to peace tactics so as to deceive the people.

History has shown that when unleashing a war of aggression, imperialism invariably invents such pretexts as "defending freedom" or "standing for peace and order", so as to cover up its aggression and hoodwink the people. Did not the Japanese fascists launch their all-out invasion of China under the signboard of establishing "a new order in East Asia"? Did not the German fascists unleash war under the banner of establishing "a new order in Europe"? Since World War II, every U.S. president has repeatedly resorted to the same trick as his predecessors. Johnson blustered that "the U.S. government is history-bound to assume responsibility