



**WE WILL
ALWAYS REMEMBER
PREMIER
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Publisher's Note

Premier Chou En-lai has left us forever, but really he is still with us.

All across China's vast lands, Premier Chou's image is forever etched in the hearts of the 800 million Chinese people. He and the masses are one.

There are so many articles, poems and songs commemorating Premier Chou. But no articles, however many, no poems or songs, however good, could even begin to describe his deeds during the Chinese revolution and construction or his devotion to the cause of communism. His whole life was one of unswerving struggle dedicated to the achievement of these aspirations.

This is a small selection of articles that appeared in the press to commemorate the first anniversary of Premier Chou's death. Most of them are in slightly abridged form. They can in no way express our boundless love and respect for Premier Chou En-lai.

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In Commemoration of the First Anniversary of Premier Chou En-lai's Death

Comrade Chou En-lai was a fine member of the Chinese Communist Party, a great proletarian revolutionary, an outstanding communist fighter and an eminent and long-tested Party and state leader. Loyal to the Party and the people, he resolutely implemented Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and adhered to the basic principles: **"Practise Marxism, and not revisionism; unite, and don't split; be open and aboveboard, and don't intrigue and conspire."**

In carrying out and defending Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, he faced the enemy valiantly, shunned no difficulty or danger, and would not have hesitated to lay down his life for it. He fought resolutely against opportunist and revisionist lines, took a firm and clear-cut stand and never gave in. He was selfless, open and aboveboard, took the interests of the whole into account and staunchly safeguarded the Party's unity and unification.

Under Chairman Mao's leadership, he fought heroically, worked with devotion and dedicated his entire life to the victory of the Chinese people's cause of liberation and communism. His contributions and meritorious deeds are immortal. He won the heartfelt love and support of the Chinese people and the respect of the people of the world. The esteemed and beloved Premier Chou is a brilliant example for the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities in our country to follow.

Sincere Love and Respect for the Great Leader Chairman Mao

Premier Chou had profound proletarian feelings for Chairman Mao. From his experience in the revolutionary struggle, he became deeply

aware that Chairman Mao was the great leader of the Chinese people and that Mao Tsetung Thought is the only correct ideology to guide the Chinese revolution to victory. When that revolution was in danger of dying in its infancy in January 1935, Comrade Chou En-lai resolutely backed Chairman Mao at the historic enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee held in Tsunyi, Kweichow Province, and supported his election as the leader of our Party. In 1943 when the rectification movement was going on throughout the whole Party, Comrade Chou En-lai, in the light of the experience of the two-line struggle inside the Party, explicitly told the whole Party: "Comrade Mao Tsetung's orientation is the very orientation of the Chinese Communist Party! Comrade Mao Tsetung's line is the very line of the Chinese Bolsheviks!" In July 1949, on the eve of the founding of the new China, Comrade Chou En-lai once more pointed out: "We must thank Chairman Mao who has correctly applied the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism to the practice of the Chinese revolution, so forming a tremendous force to defeat the powerful enemies of the Chinese revolution. We call on everyone to learn from Comrade Mao Tsetung in integrating revolutionary theory with revolutionary practice."

Premier Chou ardently loved Chairman Mao all his life and diligently studied his works and other Marxist-Leninist writings. He safeguarded Chairman Mao's leadership, defended his revolutionary line, encouraged the people throughout the country to study his works and propagated Mao Tsetung Thought. Premier Chou often joined the cadres and masses in studying Chairman Mao's instructions and in singing the songs *The East Is Red* and *Sailing the Seas Depends on the Helmsman* with himself conducting. Even when he was seriously ill, he asked an attendant to read to him again and again Chairman Mao's latest directives and the two poems (*Reascending Ching-kangshan* and *Two Birds: A Dialogue*) published on New Year's Day 1976. He set great store by these two poems and kept them beside his pillow. They were still there at the time of his death.

Premier Chou willingly took on the heavy task of handling the day-to-day work in leading the Party, the government and the army, and did everything he could to lighten Chairman Mao's load. Chairman Mao was thus able to devote more of his time and energy to considering major domestic and international affairs, summing up the experience of the Chinese revolution and the international communist movement and enriching and developing the great theory of Marxism-Leninism. On many occasions the Premier's comrades asked him to pay more attention to getting proper rest. "Chairman Mao is our leader who must ponder

major domestic and international affairs," he would reply. "I must do more of the actual work." Chairman Mao knew that Premier Chou slept very little, so whenever he wanted to see him he told his aide not to wake the Premier up if he had gone to bed. But Premier Chou had issued a strict order to his staff: "Wake me up any time the Chairman wants me!" Once in 1971, when he was already 73, he stayed at the Great Hall of the People and worked three days and nights at a stretch. A leading comrade told him: "The Chairman wants you to take good care of your health." Premier Chou replied: "We must take greater care of the Chairman's health."

Premier Chou always regarded Chairman Mao's health and safety as the guarantee for the victory of our Party's revolutionary cause. In August 1945, Chairman Mao went to Chungking for negotiations with the Kuomintang and stayed in the Eighth Route Army Office there. Premier Chou organized tight security measures, and he himself moved into the room opposite the one occupied by Chairman Mao. At a banquet where many people proposed toasts to Chairman Mao, Premier Chou drank the toasts on Chairman Mao's behalf for fear that Kuomintang agents might have poisoned the drinks. Although the Premier himself had become seriously ill in 1972, he continued to show great concern for Chairman Mao's health; together with the doctors he planned suitable treatment for the Chairman. When the Chairman was being treated, the Premier, ill himself, stood by and attended to his needs.

For decades, Premier Chou showed his loyalty to Chairman Mao in all that he said and did. He had the most profound proletarian sentiments for the Chairman. Similarly, Chairman Mao was very considerate of Premier Chou, demonstrating the profound revolutionary friendship between them. When Premier Chou was on recuperation leave in 1963, Chairman Mao especially made a copy of his poem *Reply to Comrade Kuo Mo-jo — to the tune of "Man Chiang Hung"* in his own handwriting for the Premier to express his regard. After Premier Chou became ill in 1972, Chairman Mao always showed great concern about this and often inquired after the Premier's health. On many occasions he gave directions that attention be paid to medical treatment and nursing, diet and rest, and that the Premier should not overwork. Before the convocation of the Fourth National People's Congress in 1975, Chairman Mao gave special instructions that the shortest possible report on the work of the government be prepared so that, in spite of his illness, Premier Chou could deliver it without a break. The great friendship between Chairman Mao and Premier Chou forged in the prolonged revolutionary struggle

was very moving. Premier Chou was Chairman Mao's long-tested close comrade-in-arms.

Firm and Valiant in Fighting the Enemy

Over the decades of revolutionary struggle, no matter how cruel the reign of White terror, how fierce the armed struggle or how acute the face-to-face negotiations with the enemy, Premier Chou always disregarded personal danger. He was resourceful, brave, firm and had full confidence in victory.

The road of the Chinese revolution has been tortuous. When the revolution encountered difficulties, suffered temporary setbacks or was at a critical juncture, Premier Chou was always full of confidence; he never flinched but fought doggedly on. The year 1927 saw the betrayal of the revolution by Chiang Kai-shek who massacred Communists, workers and peasants and plunged the whole country into a reign of White terror. Premier Chou and other comrades led the famous Nanchang Uprising of August 1, 1927 to save the revolution and in doing so fired the first shot against the Kuomintang reactionaries. Their revolutionary adoption of armed struggle repudiated the Right capitulationist line of Chen Tu-hsiu who then controlled the Party Central Committee. Their decision was also a tremendous contribution to the subsequent founding of the great people's army. After the Tsunyi Meeting, Premier Chou assisted Chairman Mao in organizing the Red Army to break the encirclement, pursuit, obstruction and interception by hundreds of thousands of Chiang Kai-shek's troops and surmount numerous difficulties and dangers to bring the 25,000-li Long March to a triumphant conclusion.

Premier Chou was sent on many occasions by Chairman Mao and the Central Committee into areas under Kuomintang rule to fight the enemy in face-to-face negotiations. He never evaded difficulty and danger or feared brute force, but triumphed over the enemy and successfully carried out his mission. As a result of the influence of our Party's policy for a national united front against Japanese aggression, the Sian Incident took place in December 1936. The situation in Sian at that time was very complicated and going there involved great risks. As our Party's plenipotentiary, however, Comrade Chou En-lai went there, and by resolutely implementing the policy laid down by Chairman Mao, he succeeded in forcing Chiang Kai-shek to stop the civil war and bringing about the peaceful settlement of the incident. He thus helped promote the formation and development of a national united front against Japanese aggression and made contributions of historic significance to the revolution at the

critical moment of decision between survival and extinction of the Chinese nation.

Later, Comrade Chou En-lai, as the representative of the Party Central Committee and Secretary of its South China Bureau, was for a long time stationed in Chungking, seat of the Kuomintang government. There he resolutely carried out Chairman Mao's policy of **"persisting in resistance and opposing capitulation," "persisting in unity and opposing a split"** and **"persisting in progress and opposing retrogression"** and the principle of acting independently and combining alliance with struggle in the united front. In spite of constant surveillance by the Kuomintang military and police and with secret agents tailing him everywhere, he conducted himself with complete self-assurance. He worked hard to expand our Party's strength and promote the united-front work, develop the progressive forces, win over the middle forces and combat the die-hard forces.

In January 1941, Chiang Kai-shek suddenly surrounded and attacked the 9,000-odd troops of the New Fourth Army which was moving northward. This act of open perfidy, the Southern Anhwei Incident which shocked the whole country and the world, marked the climax of another anti-Communist onslaught. Breaking through the Kuomintang reactionaries' blockade and obstructions, Premier Chou had two inscriptions he wrote on the occasion published in the *New China Daily* and, at the head of his comrades, took to the streets to distribute the paper. In this way he was able to expose the Kuomintang reactionaries' intrigue of passive resistance against Japanese aggression coupled with active suppression of the Communists. One of the inscriptions Premier Chou wrote was: "Mourn over those who died in the national disaster south of the Yangtze." The other contained 16 Chinese characters which read in effect:

*A great wrong such as history has never known
Is done to one Yeh south of the Yangtze.
Being members of the same household,
Why does one take up the hatchet against the other?*

In 1946, Chiang Kai-shek, with U.S. imperialist backing, threw several million troops into an offensive against the Liberated Areas and triggered off an all-out civil war. This war would ultimately decide which of the two different destinies and two different futures for China would win out. In the spirit of daring to fight and to win, Premier Chou followed Chairman Mao and used his outstanding military talents in helping Chairman Mao direct the nationwide People's War of Liberation which ended with the great victory of the new-democratic revolution.

Combating and Preventing Revisionism, Continuing the Revolution

As the socialist revolution progressed after the founding of the new China in 1949, the bourgeoisie inside and outside the Party mounted one attack after another against the Party. In 1954, the Kao Kang—Jao Shu-shih anti-Party alliance tried to usurp Party and state power. In 1957, the bourgeois Rightists launched a wild attack against our Party and socialism. At the Eighth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held in Lushan in 1959, Peng Teh-huai lashed out at the general line, the Great Leap Forward and the people's communes in a bid to seize power. Taking advantage of the three years of temporary economic difficulties (1959-61), Liu Shao-chi did all he could to bring about a capitalist restoration. During the socialist education movement in 1964, Liu Shao-chi pushed a reactionary bourgeois line which was "Left" in form but Right in essence. Under Chairman Mao's leadership, Premier Chou staunchly defended Chairman Mao's revolutionary line against all these attacks from the bourgeoisie. He fought to oppose and prevent revisionism and persevered in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. In 1957, Premier Chou delivered a report on the work of the government to the Fourth Session of the First National People's Congress. He destroyed the reactionary, fallacious arguments of the bourgeois Rightists by bringing the facts on China's great achievements in socialist revolution and construction against them, and went into action against the bourgeoisie like a true proletarian fighter. At the working conference on the "four clean-ups" movement (in politics, economy, ideology and organization, that is, the socialist education movement) in December 1964, Liu Shao-chi put forward his "Taoyuan experience"* and painted a bleak picture of the new, socialist countryside. At that time, Premier Chou reported on the work of the government to the First Session of the Third National People's Congress in the Great Hall of the People. Dealing specifically with Liu Shao-chi's revisionist trash, the Premier spoke at length on the Party's basic line and

*In 1963 Chairman Mao called on the whole nation to unfold the socialist education movement both in the cities and in the countryside. Liu Shao-chi sent a work team with his wife as its leader to Taoyuan Production Brigade in Funing County, Hopei Province. Pretending to carry out the movement, she and other members of the work team attacked the cadres and poor and lower-middle peasants who persisted in taking the socialist road and shielded a handful of bad elements in an attempt to bring about a capitalist restoration there. Liu Shao-chi and company praised all this as the "Taoyuan experience" and called for it to be popularized throughout the country.

the excellent situation prevailing. The two meetings and the two lines were diametrically opposed to each other.

The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution initiated and led by Chairman Mao himself is a great experience in applying the theory of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Premier Chou, who was in charge of the day-to-day work of the Party Central Committee, faithfully implemented Chairman Mao's strategic plan and every one of his important instructions; he adhered to the basic principles of "three do's and three don'ts," and struggled continuously against the counter-revolutionary activities of Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and the anti-Party clique of Wang Hung-wen, Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching and Yao Wen-yuan who were all practising revisionism, creating splits and engaging in intrigues and conspiracies and sabotaging the Great Cultural Revolution.

In the early period of the Great Cultural Revolution, Liu Shao-chi pushed a reactionary bourgeois line, turned facts upside down, confused right and wrong and suppressed the revolutionary masses. Closely following Chairman Mao's strategic plan, Premier Chou gave clear-cut support to the Red Guard movement. He personally rehabilitated those Red Guards and other revolutionaries who had been labelled counter-revolutionaries as a result of persecution by Liu Shao-chi's reactionary line; he went to the grass-roots units to read big-character posters and braved the rain to participate in mass meetings. Chairman Mao reviewed Red Guard contingents from all over the country on eight occasions; each time Premier Chou gave personal guidance to the organizational and reception work. He made a series of important speeches propagating the enormous significance of the Great Cultural Revolution, calling on the young revolutionary fighters and the masses to keep firmly to the general orientation of struggle, direct their attack against Liu Shao-chi's bourgeois headquarters and thoroughly repudiate his counter-revolutionary revisionist line.

At the Second Plenary Session of the Ninth Central Committee of the Party in 1970, the Lin Piao anti-Party clique unleashed a surprise attack on the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao in a vain effort to seize Party and state power. Under Chairman Mao's leadership, Premier Chou waged a resolute struggle against Lin Piao and company. Lin Piao had plotted a counter-revolutionary armed coup d'etat in 1971. But when his plot failed, he fled on September 13, betraying the motherland and surrendering to the enemy, and died in a plane crash at Undur Khan in Mongolia. Acting on Chairman Mao's instructions, Premier Chou, with the mettle and wisdom of a proletarian revolutionary, promptly and resolutely handled the "September 13" incident, and thus defended

Chairman Mao, the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Mao and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

After the Tenth National Party Congress in August 1973, the "gang of four" intensified their schemes to split the Party, frenziedly opposed Chairman Mao and tried in vain to usurp supreme Party and state leadership, change the Party's basic line, subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat and restore capitalism. They regarded Premier Chou who faithfully implemented and defended Chairman Mao's revolutionary line as the biggest obstacle to the realization of their sinister scheme. So they tried by hook or by crook to attack and persecute the Premier, with the intention of overthrowing him and a large number of leading comrades at the central and local levels in the Party, government and army. Premier Chou adhered to principle and waged a sharp struggle against the gang. Acting behind the backs of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, the "gang of four" went their own way in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, intrigued and conspired and directed their attack against the Premier. In October 1974, they secretly sent Wang Hung-wen to see Chairman Mao, framing charges against Premier Chou and trying to make use of the Second Plenary Session of the Tenth Central Committee of the Party and the Fourth National People's Congress to form their own "cabinet." Chairman Mao immediately denounced this and so the "gang of four's" pipe dream to usurp Party and state power came to naught.

During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, both the Lin Piao anti-Party clique and the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao anti-Party clique worked with all their might to "overthrow all," and provoke "all-out civil war." They frantically persecuted revolutionary cadres, incited the masses to fight each other, stirred up struggles by force or coercion, opposed the Party and created confusion in the army, undermined the revolution and disrupted production. Premier Chou firmly implemented Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. He believed the overwhelming majority of cadres to be good or comparatively good, persevered in **"helping more people by educating them and narrowing the target of attack"** and put into practice the policy of **"learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones and curing the sickness to save the patient"** with regard to those cadres who had committed mistakes. He often urged cadres at various levels to study Chairman Mao's works conscientiously and raise their consciousness of the two-line struggle. He patiently helped those leading cadres who had made mistakes to realize their mistakes and encouraged them to continue the revolution. As for good cadres who were attacked and persecuted by Lin Piao and the "gang of four," he took various measures to protect them. He repeatedly taught the leading cadres to adopt

a correct attitude towards the Great Cultural Revolution, the masses and themselves. He showed concern for the young cadres, patiently educated them and encouraged them to brave storms and face the world. Premier Chou wished to bring about a grand alliance of mass organizations which were divided into two factions and to establish three-in-one revolutionary committees composed of the old, the middle-aged and the young. And so, day in and day out, he received representatives of mass organizations from different regions and departments, earnestly educated and persuaded them to eliminate bourgeois factionalism, stop "civil war," and unite in a common struggle against the enemy. Premier Chou received representatives of many mass organizations not only once but in some cases as many as 20 or 30 times, often talking with them from dusk till dawn the next day. Sleepless nights and overwork made our good Premier's eyes become bloodshot, made him lose weight, made his hair turn grey; he had taken great pains to ensure that the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution initiated and led by Chairman Mao would bear solid fruits.

Premier Chou faithfully carried out Chairman Mao's series of instructions on deepening the socialist revolution in the superstructure and enthusiastically supported the socialist new phenomena. To ensure that there would be successors to the proletarian revolutionary cause pioneered by the revolutionaries of the older generation, he attached great importance to the selection and training of young cadres. He applied the principle of combining the old, the middle-aged and the young in leading bodies, and showed earnest concern and support for the new-born forces that had come to the fore in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Premier Chou gave much thought to the revolution in education. In 1961 when the Communist Labour Academy in Kiangsi met setbacks under Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line, Premier Chou told the academy's leading cadres and students' representatives: "Running a new-type school will not be plain sailing because it means a great revolution in the history of education. It's hardly surprising when there is struggle; in fact, it would be inconceivable for there to be no struggle, or for everything to go very smoothly." He urged them to unswervingly carry out Chairman Mao's instructions and run the school well. During the Great Cultural Revolution, Premier Chou stressed again and again the importance of the educational revolution, pointing out: "The transformation of education is an important link in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Training and educating the younger generation is a matter of far-reaching importance which must not be neglected."

Premier Chou paid great attention to the revolution in literature and art. He frequently urged the literary and art workers to conscientiously study Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art*,

adhere to the orientation of serving the workers, peasants and soldiers and implement the policy of **“letting a hundred flowers blossom; weeding through the old to bring forth the new.”** In 1965 he received members of the Ulanmuchi mobile art troupe of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region who were on a performance tour and encouraged them: “You’ve travelled all over the country and kindled the fire for a literature and art imbued with Mao Tsetung Thought. After your tour you should go back to the pasturelands to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers there.” He gave personal guidance to the creation and rehearsal of the music and dance epic, *The East Is Red*. He watched, gave instructions and even personally revised many modern revolutionary theatrical works and films.

Premier Chou also attached great importance to the revolution in medical and health work. To implement Chairman Mao’s instructions in this field, particularly the June 26th directive* on putting the stress of medical and health work on the rural areas, the Premier time and again instructed the health departments to “orientate their work towards the countryside and the masses,” and “successfully solve the question of preventing and curing disease among the 700 million peasants.” He called on them to make a success of the co-operative medical service, properly combine traditional Chinese medicine with its Western counterpart and create a unified new medicine and pharmacology in China. He encouraged urban medical workers to go to the countryside, instructed health departments to send medical teams to the remote border regions and to areas inhabited by the minority nationalities, and he personally received medical teams to be sent to Tibet, Yunnan, Kansu and other places. He devoted great care to the “barefoot doctors” and their progress. On one occasion when he received representatives of barefoot doctors, he talked with them for eight hours, encouraging them to exert themselves to serve the people.

Premier Chou paid great attention to the revolution on the scientific and technical front. Under his loving care, a perspective plan for developing China’s science and technology was mapped out in 1956, which played a tremendous role in transforming the backwardness of China’s science and technology and enabling the work in this field to meet the needs of national economic development. He repeatedly stressed the need to combine scientific research with production and application, to

*On June 26, 1963 Chairman Mao issued an instruction on medical and health work, in which he seriously criticized the errors of the leadership of the Ministry of Public Health in following the revisionist line, and emphasized that **“In medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas.”**

develop the applied sciences and at the same time to pay attention to basic theory, for only in this way could China catch up with and surpass advanced world levels. Under Premier Chou's personal guidance, China's most up-to-date techniques, which grew practically out of nothing, have been developed at a high speed by the Chinese people maintaining independence and relying on their own efforts.

Premier Chou issued instructions for physical culture work stating that we must persist in putting proletarian politics in command, adhere to the principle of combining physical culture with productive labour, national defence construction and health work and that we must pay attention to promoting mass sports activities, strengthening the ideological remoulding of physical culture and sports contingents, oppose the purely technical viewpoint and "championitis" and reject the bourgeois attitude in sports. The slogan "Friendship first, competition second" that he put forward in accordance with Mao Tsetung Thought has not only become the guideline for sports competition in China but has exerted great influence abroad; it has played a positive role in enhancing friendship between the people and athletes of different countries.

Premier Chou always considered that uniting with, educating and remoulding the intellectuals was an important task. He often educated and encouraged them to integrate themselves with the workers and peasants and, under the Party's leadership, consciously serve socialism. At a conference on the question of intellectuals convened by the Party Central Committee in 1956, Premier Chou made an important report which played a significant role in promoting the ideological remoulding of intellectuals and mobilizing their enthusiasm for socialism. Premier Chou regarded educated youths going to settle in the countryside as a strategic measure for training worthy successors to the proletarian revolutionary cause. This practice would also help build a new, socialist countryside and narrow the three major differences between worker and peasant, between town and country and between mental and manual labour. He gave meticulous care to the young people. He personally called various discussion meetings among educated youths, listened to their opinions, helped solve their difficulties and showed great concern for their progress.

Working Day and Night for Building a Powerful Socialist Country

Premier Chou devoted his energies night and day to the transformation of the backward, "poor and blank" China into a powerful socialist country.

Chairman Mao formulated a Marxist-Leninist line and a set of principles and policies for socialist construction in China. Premier Chou did meticulous organizational work to put Chairman Mao's line, policies and principles into practice. Since the founding of the new China, all the five-year plans for the development of the national economy were mapped and carried out under Premier Chou's personal guidance and organization. He studied the fundamental task of every plan item by item, the speed of development in production, the scale of capital construction and the key projects. In the First Five-Year Plan, the Party's general line in the transition period* was implemented, the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce was completed in the main and a number of key projects of great importance to the national economy were built, thereby laying the initial foundation for the socialist industrialization of our country. The Second Five-Year Plan was fulfilled well ahead of schedule thanks to the implementation of the ideas expounded by Chairman Mao in his *On the Ten Major Relationships* and the joint efforts of the people of the whole country. During the three years of temporary economic difficulties, Premier Chou worked out under the leadership of Chairman Mao the policy of readjustment, consolidating, filling out and raising standards, and organized the people across the country to overcome the difficulties brought on by the Soviet revisionists' disruptive activities and the interference of Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line as well as by natural disasters, thereby speedily restoring and developing industrial and agricultural production. In the period of the Third and Fourth Five-Year Plans, priority was given to building industries in the interior of the country while continuing to develop those along the coast. This ensured that industry was distributed more towards the interior, which was favourable to preparedness against war and a balanced development of the national economy. In the past 20 years and more, the general line of **going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism** and the general policy of **taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor** for the development of the national economy, the strategic idea to **be prepared against war, be prepared against natural dis-**

*The transition period began with the founding of the People's Republic of China and lasted until the basic completion of socialist transformation. The general line and general task of the Chinese Communist Party during the transition period was to bring about the gradual realization of socialist industrialization in the country and of the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce over a fairly long period of time.