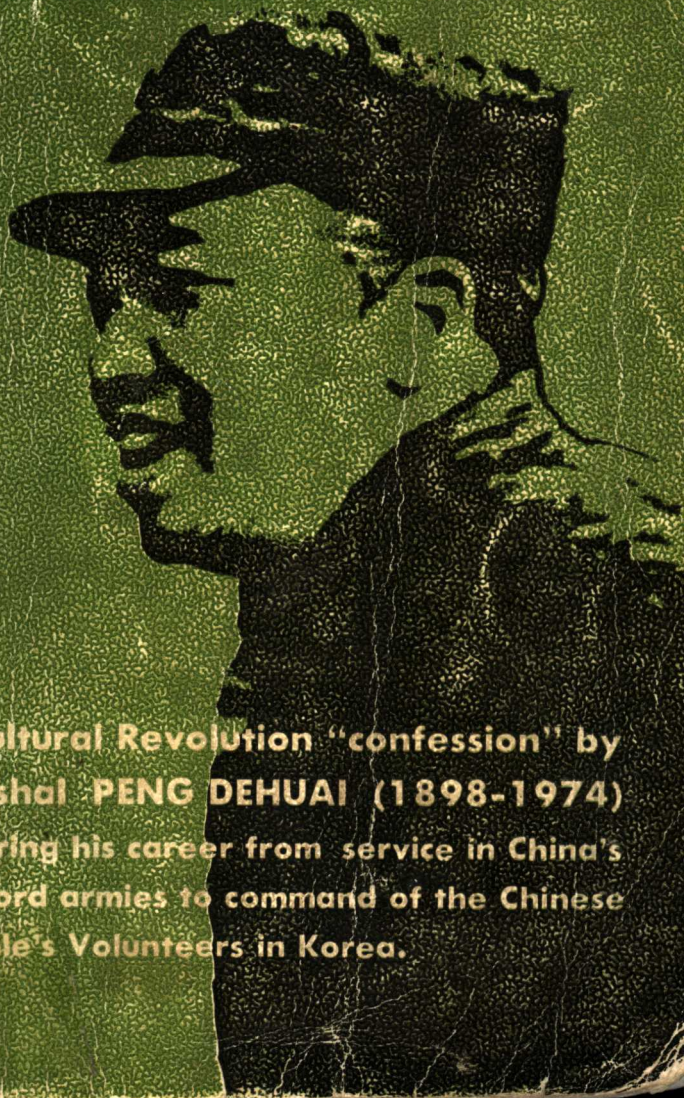


MEMOIRS OF A CHINESE MARSHAL



A Cultural Revolution "confession" by
Marshal **PENG DEHUI** (1898-1974)
covering his career from service in China's
warlord armies to command of the Chinese
People's Volunteers in Korea.

Memoirs of a Chinese Marshal

—The autobiographical notes
of Peng Dehuai (1898-1974)

Translated by Zheng Longpu

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This book presents the memoirs of Marshal Peng Dehuai, the outstanding general who was one of the builders of the Chinese Red Army and who served as Vice-Premier of the State Council and Minister of Defence until mid-1959. The autobiographical notes were written in response to interrogations during the "Cultural Revolution" (1966-76).

In July 1959, Marshal Peng was denounced for a letter he wrote to Chairman Mao Zedong during what is known as the Lushan Meeting, an enlarged session of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. In the letter, Marshal Peng pointed out some of the ultra-left mistakes that occurred during the "Great Leap Forward" in the national economy and in the establishment of the people's communes.

This was followed by the Eighth Plenary Session of the Party's Eighth Central Committee in Mount Lushan, where Peng Dehuai and a few other comrades were condemned as a "Right-opportunist anti-Party clique."

The persecution of Marshal Peng intensified during the Cultural Revolution under circumstances that led to his death on November 29, 1974.

The Cultural Revolution ended in 1976. The Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee of the Party, held in December 1978, reexamined

Marshal Peng's case and reversed the judgement that had been imposed on him. It exonerated him of all charges and reaffirmed his contributions to the Chinese revolution.

This English edition is a translation of *Memoirs of Peng Dehuai*, published in Chinese in December 1981 by the Beijing People's Publishing House. It includes an introduction by the editorial group in charge of compiling the marshal's memoirs and a preface by Yang Shangkun, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Marshal Peng's letter to Chairman Mao at the Lushan Meeting in 1959 as well as a record he made of his last talk with the Chairman in 1965 are printed as appendices.



彭德怀

Marshal Peng Dehuai with
his signature in Chinese

第三次简历材料 彭任怀

开头语

一九七〇年七月二十一日下午，审查委员会两位负责人指示，

我的简历还没重写，一位说，着重入党前后的历任职务，一位说，从八岁写起，不写不行。我在三年受审过程中，已经写过两次简历材料：第一次是，一九五七年七月任日前后杨从贵我家庭环境，旧历任职和在红军以后历任职务，第二次是，一九五八年或一九六八年春，审查我从出生到平江起义这一段还须重写一次。这是第三次了，我说不愿意再写了，因为它毫无用处，也毫无意义。为了服从组织，还是尽最大努力回忆，简要的写上吧。其中当然是重复，尽量缩短吧，把过去未写上的写上去。但六十年的事历要回忆，我不是按国历的。国年，又用公历月日，使回忆容易混乱，如以旧历书使用国历的习惯，是更容易混乱记错。对于我的童年、幼年、少年一段生江经历，反而记忆犹新。遂从八岁

北京电报局印刷厂 出品 六九·一·一

历史打得行军时
管地经日影
第一层又一层
有的一层又要续
白军里我闻风色
下，决定已新
众组织，许多根据

树石，真是环境人心，即如从人，小到大，
新听改为益得改，动树图打墙，一次两次命令都放不下来，
王说，一定要打下新时，打不下新时，请王不罗森路时
不新时，成，任何白时，王才新时，新时，不新时



At the Hunan Army
Officers' Academy (1923)

Back in northern Shaanxi after the successful Eastern Expedition as the head of the Red Army's Anti-Japanese Vanguard Detachment (1936)





At a forward position as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Eighth Route Army during the Hundred Regiments Campaign against Japanese invaders (1940)

Peng Dehuai (second on the left) at the Qinghuabian front in northern Shaanxi as Commander of the Northwest Field Army (March 1947)





Greeting Zhou Enlai at Yan'an Airport on his return from Chongqing in the company of Mao Zedong, Zhu De and Liu Shaoqi (January 1946)

Directing an attack on Yichuan County-seat (February 1948)





Walking to the site of the armistice agreement signing in Kaesong, Korea,
as Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers (July 28, 1953)



Marshal Peng Dehuai as Minister of National Defence on the Tiananmen gate tower in Beijing on National Day in 1955



At the Wu Family Garden in Beijing's western suburbs (1964)

Chatting with people while on an inspection tour in Pingjiang County, Hunan Province (December 1958)



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