

# TUNNEL WARFARE



# *Tunnel Warfare*

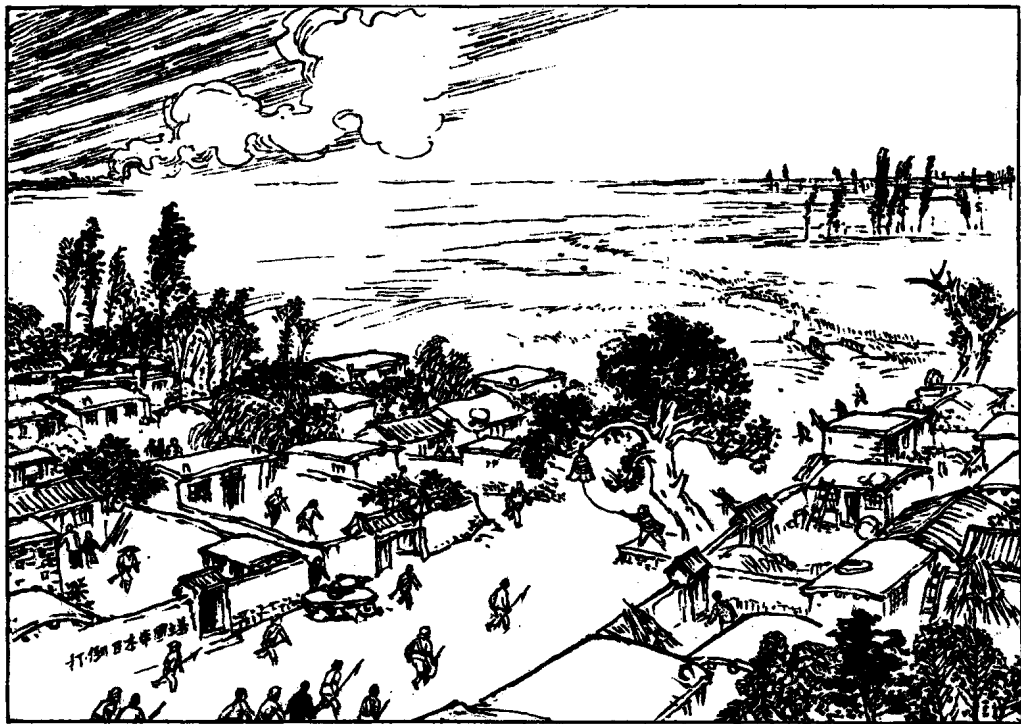
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## **SYNOPSIS**

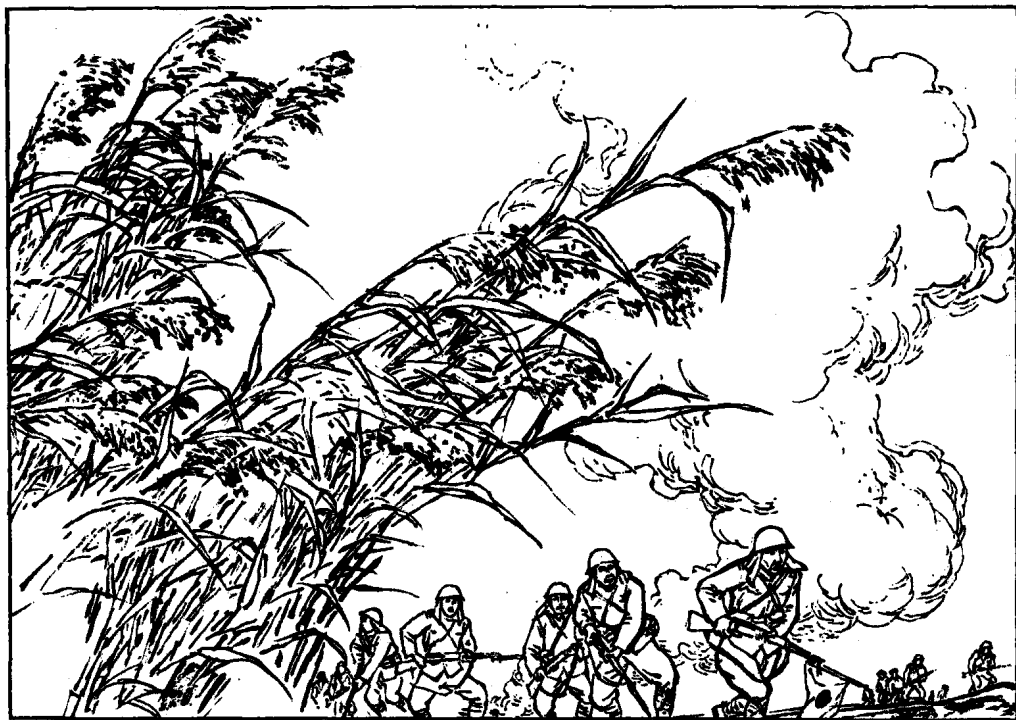
**D**URING China's War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-1945), the Japanese invaders in 1942 launched barbarous "mopping-up" campaigns against the Communist-led base areas in central Hopei Province. But the people there, every man, woman and child, inspired by Chairman Mao's thinking on people's war, joined in the war effort, closely co-ordinating with the Eighth Route Army units to develop guerrilla warfare over a large area, and creating the "tunnel warfare" that has become so well known. Making good use of tunnels, the army and people fought the Japanese aggressors and their local puppets, using various stratagems to wipe out the enemy's effectives. From an inferior force they grew into a strong one, going from the defensive over to the offensive at a time when the enemy was strong and we were weak. In the end the enemy "mopping-up" campaigns were smashed and the aggressors suffered decisive defeats.



1. One early morning in 1942 the old bell sounds from a big locust tree in Kaochia Village, an anti-Japanese base in central Hopei Province.



2. Kao Lao-chung, village Party secretary, has got word that the Japanese at Black Gap gun tower are on the rampage again. He is telling the villagers to evacuate, and the militia to assemble.



3. Large, black clouds darken the sky as the enemy emerge to burn, kill and loot, devastating China's vast plains. This enrages the people.



4. To cover the evacuation, an Eighth Route Army unit under Company Commander Tsui keeps the enemy on the run while the villagers get to safety. Then the Army withdraws.





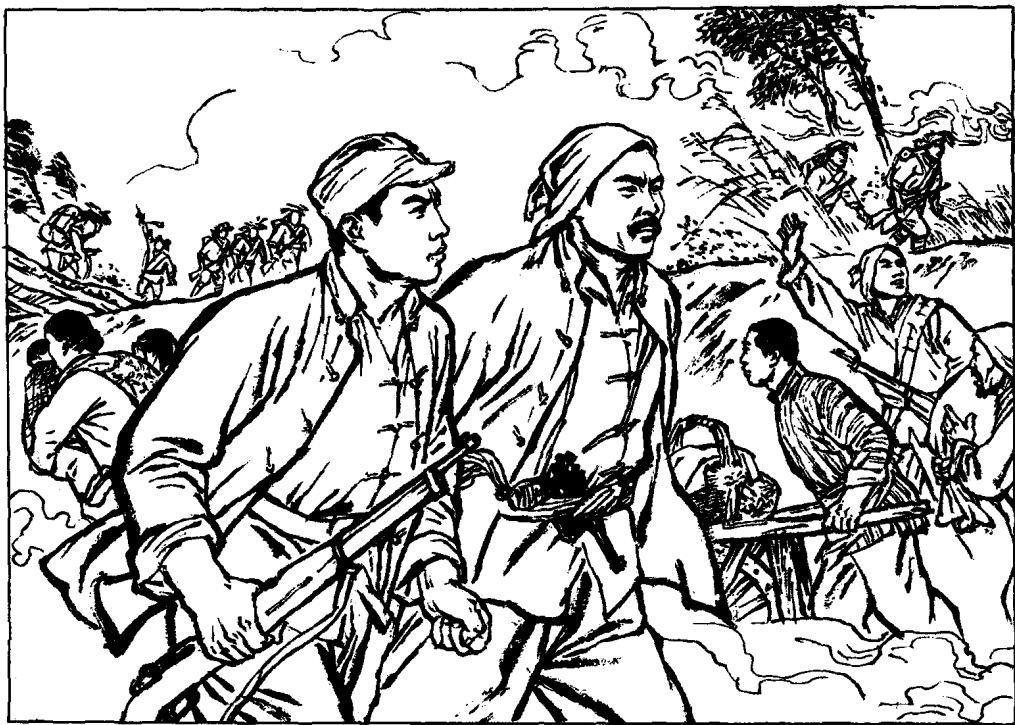
5. Hidden outside the village, the militiamen, who are eager to fight, are told by their militia commander, Kao Chuan-pao, to wait for orders. But Niu-wa is impatient and wants to join the regular troops.



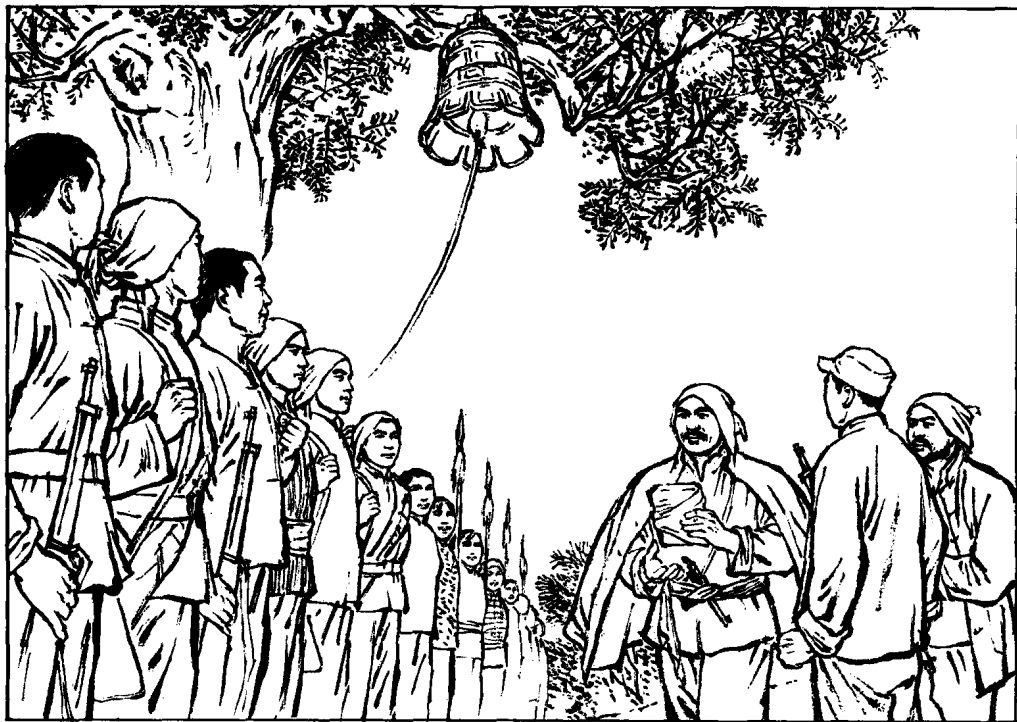
6. Chuan-pao explains, "Don't look down on our militia! We're led by Chairman Mao and work closely with our regular force. If every village has its militia and guns, we'll drive out the Japanese invaders all right!"



7. Their discussion is interrupted by Party branch committee member Lin Hsia with a message for Chuan-pao: "District Leader Chao's come. He asks you to report at once."



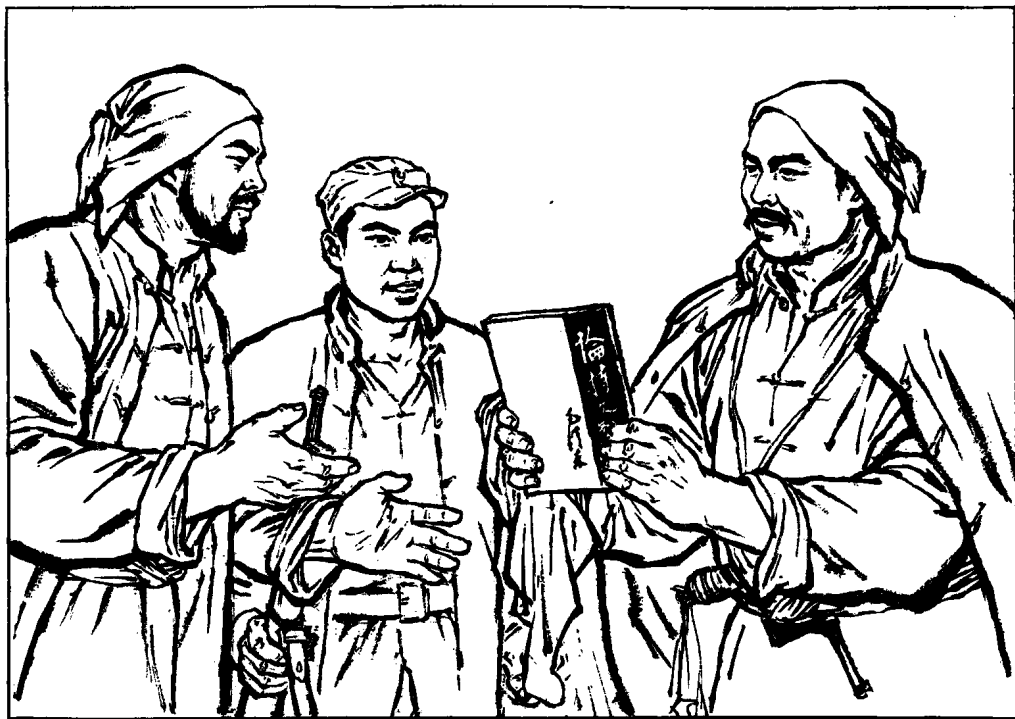
8. "The Japanese around here have all hidden themselves in their 'tortoise shells' for the night," Chao tells Chuan-pao. Then he goes with Chuan-pao to look for the latter's father, Lao-chung, and tell him to assemble the militia and relay instructions.



9. Chao explains the situation and then reads out the district Party committee decisions: Mobilize the masses and rely on them, persist in the struggle till final victory. He takes out a red cloth-wrapped parcel, to which all eyes turn.



10. It is a copy of Chairman Mao's essay *On Protracted War*. This precious book heartens everyone.

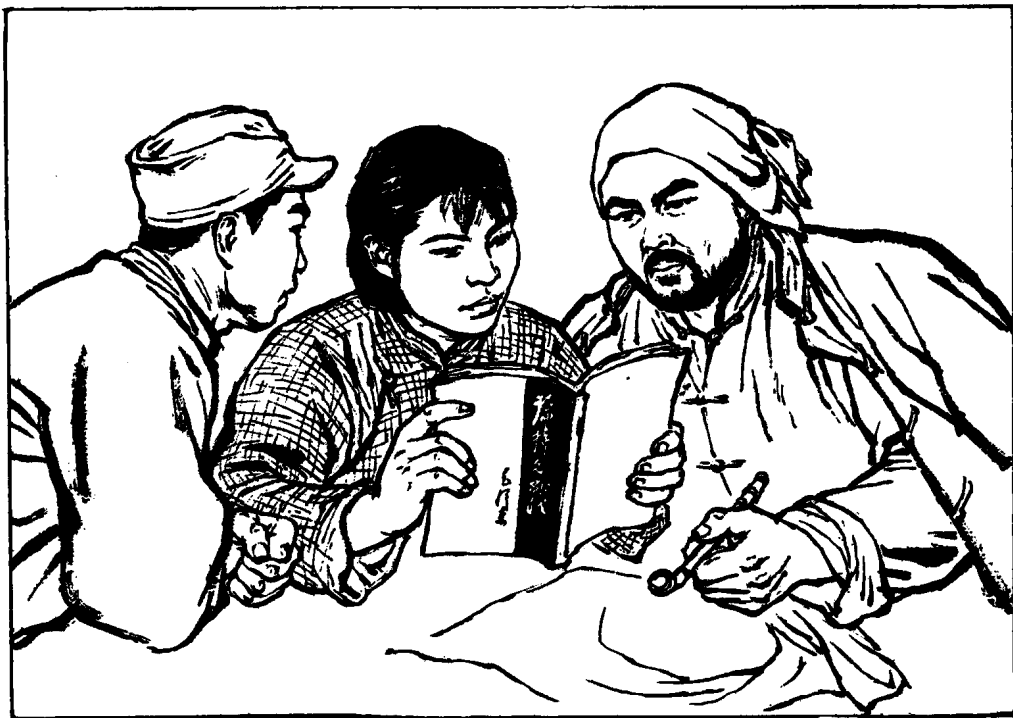


11. "With the thinking of Chairman Mao, even if the sky falls we can find a way out!" says Lao-chung.



12. Lao-chung has studied Chairman Mao's teachings and learned much. He calls a Party branch committee meeting that night at which he says, "Comrades, in times of difficulty we must keep cool heads. Lin Hsia, will you read this for us?"





13. "To win victory, we must persevere in the War of Resistance, in the united front and in the protracted war. But all these are inseparable from the mobilization of the common people."