

***LET US INSPIRE THE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE SPIRIT OF
CONTINUOUS REVOLUTION***

Talk to the Senior Officials of the Youth-Work Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and of the Central Committee of the LSWY
October 1, 1971

When discussing the measures for easing the present strain on manpower at the recent enlarged meeting of the Political Committee of the Party Central Committee, the suggestion was made to merge the youth-work departments of the Party Central Committee, and the provincial, city, and county Party committees with the organizational departments. The great leader instructed that if the youth-work departments were dissolved and the organizational departments were made to guide the work of the League of Socialist Working Youth (LSWY), youth work would melt into the great volume of work of the organizational departments and could not be done properly.

Therefore, he disapproved of the idea. Judging from the suggestion for the merger as a measure for reducing the Party structure, our officials do not seem to be clear as yet about the leader's idea and intention regarding youth work.

Young people are the heirs to the revolution and the masters of the future. The training of young people is an extremely important matter bearing on the future of our revolution and the nation's destiny. The leader started his revolution in his early years by educating and rallying young people. He has channelled enormous energy into stepping up youth work, always attaching great importance to the youth movement at every stage of the developing revolution. Because youth work was important, he saw to it that a youth-work department was set up within the Party when founding the Party immediately after the liberation of the country.

It is only when they are constantly stimulated by revolutionary education under the leadership of the working-class Party that young people can grow into true heirs to the revolution and prepare themselves as reliable pillars to shoulder the destiny of the country and nation. If Party guidance of youth work and the revolutionary education of young people are neglected, it will be impossible to train the younger generation into reserves for the revolution or advance the revolution and construction victoriously. Only when Party guidance of youth work is intensified and young people are given revolutionary education can we replace Party ranks ceaselessly with fresh young people and consolidate the mass foundation of the Party by firmly uniting a broad section of youth behind it.

At the recent Sixth Congress of the LSWY the great leader set forth the very important goal of fully preparing young people to carry forward the revolution. To carry out this task is now an essential

requirement of our revolutionary development. Nearly half a century has elapsed since the leader embarked on the road of revolution and pioneered the Korean revolution. In this period the Korean revolution has developed onto a very high stage. The national-liberation revolution, democratic revolution and socialist revolution have been successfully carried out and the building of socialism has made steady headway. As a result, our country, once a backward, colonial, semi-feudal society, has now become a powerful socialist state that is independent in politics, self-sufficient in economy and self-reliant in defence. This is a great victory achieved by our Party and our people through arduous struggle. But the cause of our revolution has not yet been accomplished. We must drive out the US imperialist aggressors from south Korea and reunify the country, continue to advance the revolution and construction until complete victory of socialism has been achieved, and further build the ideal of mankind—a communist society. Success in this historic cause depends on how we prepare the revolutionary successors, the younger generation.

The ideological state of our young people today is very sound. They are all firmly united around the Party and are growing into reliable successors to the revolutionary cause of Juche. But we must not rest content with this and neglect their education. The revolution advances continuously and one generation replaces the other ceaselessly. The younger generation, having grown up happily under our system and having no experience of exploitation or oppression after liberation, are already taking the place of masters in all sectors of socialist construction. The same is the situation with the People's Army in charge of national defence. Even platoon leaders, not to mention the rank and file, are from a new generation who did not participate in the Fatherland Liberation War. Since young people, who have not seen either landlords or capitalists, nor experienced the grim trials of the revolution, are becoming the masters of the revolution, the matter of thoroughly preparing them politically and ideologically is more important than ever before. Party organizations must clearly understand the importance of youth work and devote great efforts to this work.

In order for the younger generation to be firmly prepared as revolutionary heirs they must above all be thoroughly equipped with a revolutionary world outlook.

The standpoint and attitude of people towards the revolution are decided by what sort of world outlook they have. Therefore the establishment of a revolutionary world outlook is the focal point in training people into staunch communist revolutionaries. Only when people are armed solidly with the revolutionary world outlook can they acquire a firm conviction of the validity and victory of the cause of socialism and communism, steadfastly follow the road of revolution and strongly fight against class enemies, including imperialism and all trends of reactionary ideology.

One's youth is an especially important time for acquiring one's revolutionary world outlook. In general the world outlook of a person is shaped in his or her youth. What kind of ideological

education one receives and what kind of world outlook one acquires at this time are important in deciding one's future.

The Juche idea is precisely what our young people must keep as their revolutionary world outlook. It is only when young people are thoroughly equipped with the Juche world outlook that they can look upon the future of revolution with confidence and fight with a firm, revolutionary conviction in all circumstances. We must teach them the principles of the Juche idea in depth so that they accept this idea as their steadfast world outlook and struggle for the revolution and construction guided solely by the Juche idea.

The course of continuous revolution is the course of maintaining and steadily developing the revolutionary achievements already gained. In order to enable the young people to perform their responsibility as successors to the Juche revolutionary cause we must infuse them with an intense love for the socialist system and revolutionary achievements gained by our people at the cost of their own blood and sweat in the arduous struggle. We must teach the young people to protect and defend this system and these achievements staunchly, and fight with devotion to strengthen and develop socialism. Our socialist system established by the leader is the best and most advanced of all social systems. Today in our country all the working people enjoy a valuable and worthwhile life as the masters of their own state and society, leading a happy life free from worries about food, clothing and shelter. Many foreigners who visit our country express their heartfelt admiration and envy, saying that Korea is 'a model country of socialism' and an ideal society which represents the future of mankind. Our young people, however, do not feel in their hearts how great and valuable this happiness of today is because they themselves have never experienced unhappiness. We must give our young people a clear understanding of the advantages of our socialist system and of the ways in which this system was set up, so that they all know how precious this system is and take pride in living under it, firmly defending its achievements and fighting to bring even greater honour to it.

Young people must be educated to play the role of the vanguard and the shock brigades along all fronts of socialist construction.

Faith in socialism and love for the socialist system must find expression in practice, not in words. Our people have created the Chollima speed in socialist construction, a speed that amazed the world. In order for us to continue to step up socialist construction at the speed of Chollima, our vigorous and energetic young people must be at the forefront of socialist construction, and its shock troops. In a hearty response to the call of the Party, our young people have volunteered for the difficult and challenging fronts of socialist construction and displayed their youthful strength and ardour to the full, performing brilliant feats of labour. In our country there are many factories and enterprises named after youth, such as the youth power station and the youth coal mine, all pervaded with the great loyalty and precious sweat of millions of our young men and women. We must make sure that the younger generation follows the example

of their predecessors and performs new exploits in the sacred struggle for the prosperity of the country and for the happiness of the people. Young people must take charge of the most arduous aspects of socialist construction and make a breakthrough there. Our national economy still has a number of branches in which work is toilsome and production and construction are under way in difficult conditions. Unless efforts are put into these sectors to improve their situation, it is impossible to accelerate socialist economic construction vigorously. Since the Sixth LSWY Congress many young people, either in groups or individually, have launched into important construction projects and undertaken difficult, challenging tasks to which they are called by the Party. Those engaged in light labour have gone to do heavy labour, and those in nonproductive or indirect sectors to productive or direct sectors, making innovations there. This is a very good thing. LSWY organizations must continue to intensify political work among the young people and encourage them to volunteer for mining, construction of power stations, railways and reclamation of tidal flats, which are important in carrying out the Six-Year National Economic Plan, and to display their youthful wisdom and valour to the full.

The youth shock-brigade movement is a patriotic movement of the young people to take upon themselves the most difficult and important projects for socialist construction, make a breakthrough there and erect lasting edifices. The youth shock brigade is an excellent school for the revolutionary transformation of young people through labour and organizational life. We must give effective guidance to this movement and ensure that youth shock brigades perform feats of labour in the major construction projects and make an active contribution to preparing young people to become reliable heirs to the revolution.

Young people must be encouraged to take the lead in carrying out the technical revolution as well. To step up the technical revolution is a major way of modernizing the national economy, increasing production rapidly and delivering the working people from difficult and backbreaking labour. It is only when the young people, responsive to all that is new and enterprising, stand in the front ranks in the development of science and technology that new spheres in science and technology can be opened up and the latest achievements be introduced widely to help carry out the technical revolution. Now the LSWY members and other workers of the Huichon Machine-tool Factory and Kusong Machine-tool Factory have set a target of producing 10,000 machine tools by April 15 next year. These machine tools are important to carrying out the technical revolution, and they are launching a vigorous mass technical innovation movement to attain the target. LSWY organizations must see to it that young people take the lead in modernizing technical equipment and mechanizing and automating production by launching a widespread mass technical innovation movement in all sectors of the national economy, thus holding high the torch of technical revolution. Officials must strongly support the innovation proposals and new

ideas of working youth and young intellectuals, and help them create new techniques and new norms through bold, ambitious and courageous thinking.

In order to ensure that young people continue the revolution, we must teach them to fight staunchly against imperialism.

The Korean revolution began with the struggle against imperialism and has continued to develop as a revolution through struggle against imperialism. The struggle against imperialism is ceaseless and it must be carried on from generation to generation, until socialism ultimately emerges victorious throughout the world.

What is of paramount importance in anti-imperialist education is to inspire young people with hatred for US imperialism and Japanese militarism and encourage them to fight determinedly against the enemy's scheming for aggression and war. We cannot firmly defend the socialist system and revolutionary achievements gained at the cost of blood, nor achieve national reunification and the final victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche, unless we intensify the ideological education of young people against US and Japanese imperialism.

US imperialists are the sworn enemy who have made aggression on our country for over one hundred years. Owing to the US imperialists' manoeuvres to keep our nation apart, our country remains divided into north and south, and because of the US imperialists' occupation and domination of south Korea, our revolution is long-drawn-out and arduous. All the sufferings and miseries which the south Korean people are experiencing today are the product of the colonial enslavement policy pursued by the US imperialists in south Korea. All the young people must be given a clear understanding of the crimes committed by the US imperialists so that they resolutely fight against the US imperialist aggressors with bitter hatred for the enemy. We must give the young people a clear idea of the aggressive nature and double-dealing tactics of the US imperialists and prevent them from having any illusion about the imperialists. The recent visit to China by Nixon, the executive head of the imperialist United States, has occasioned varied reactions in the world. Young people need to be given a clear understanding of it. The great leader, in his speech delivered at the Pyongyang Mass Meeting Welcoming Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the head of state for Cambodia, on his visit to our country on the 6th of August this year, pointed out clearly the essence of Nixon's visit to China: It was not the march of a victor, the great leader said, but the journey of the defeated, motivated by a cunning stratagem of the US imperialists to get out of their dilemma. The leader's clear analysis and assessment of Nixon's visit to China are now arousing great repercussions worldwide. The fact that the chief of US imperialism, which has been pursuing a hostile policy towards China ever since the founding of the People's Republic of China, visited a country with which it has no diplomatic relations precisely means a surrender and shows that US imperialism is floundering. US imperialism is now experiencing serious contradictions and crises at home and abroad. Internally, its economic crisis is getting worse and the people's anti-war campaign

is gaining momentum, while externally it is isolated and rejected everywhere around the world and is suffering repeated defeats in its war of aggression in Indochina. The aim of Nixon's visit to China is to improve relations with China and temporarily ease the tension, so that the US can recover its breath and gain some time before stepping up preparations to escalate the aggressive war.

Nixon's visit to China may result in a temporary relaxation of international tensions, but the danger of war remains. A temporary change in the situation will not mean a change in the aggressive nature of imperialism. It is the usual practice of imperialists to put up a sign of 'peace' whenever they are in difficulty, and step up war preparations behind the scenes. The US imperialists are continuing the war of aggression in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and resorting to incessant military provocations in an attempt to unleash another war against our country. Therefore, we must keep up our vigilance and never harbour illusions about the 'peace strategy' of US imperialism.

The Japanese imperialists are our sworn enemy who kept Korea under their colonial rule for nearly half a century and imposed untold suffering and misery on our people. Japanese militarism, which is reviving under the active patronage of US imperialism, is now showing signs of ambition for renewed overseas expansion. That Japanese militarism is reviving is a stark reality. The Japanese militarists drafted plans of aggression, such as 'Operation Three Arrows', 'Operation Flying Dragon' and 'Operation Bull Run' long ago, and have been continually staging aggressive military exercises aimed at attacking Korea, China and the Soviet Union. Our country is the first target of attack by the Japanese militarists in their aggressive schemes. Now the Japanese reactionary ruling circles openly express their ambition for reaggression against our country, saying that if war breaks out in Korea they cannot be indifferent to it. The Japanese militarists' ambition for reaggression and their moves aimed at this are all the more dangerous in light of their conspiracy and alliance with the US imperialists. With the aim of getting themselves out of difficulties resulting from their isolation at home and abroad, the US imperialists advertise the 'Nixon doctrine' and work in a cunning way to realize their aggressive ambitions in Asia by using Japanese militarists as their shock brigade. Since the Japanese militarists are stepping up their manoeuvres for reaggression with the backing of US imperialism, we must thoroughly prepare all our people, particularly our young people, to stand up to them.

In order to defend our socialist motherland and our revolutionary achievements from imperialist aggression, our young people must be poised and ready, not only politically and ideologically but also militarily. A person who is ignorant of military affairs cannot succeed in the revolution. The leader instructed that our young men and women, together with all other people, must defend the motherland and build socialism successfully, holding a rifle in one hand and a hammer and sickle in the other. We must ensure that all

young men and women learn military science diligently and all acquire the necessary military techniques and physical strength to take up arms to fight the enemy in an emergency. National defence is the most honourable and worthwhile duty of young people. Party and LSWY organizations must educate the young to regard service in the People's Army as a sacred duty of a citizen and as the greatest of honours for young people. They must be taught to devote their youth and lives unhesitatingly to the fight for the Party and the leader and for their motherland and people, as the hero Ri Su Bok¹⁸ did. An important matter in the education of the young people at present is to intensify anti-revisionist education.

Today the situation within the international communist movement and around our country requires that ideological education and ideological struggle against modern revisionism be intensified more than ever before. Modern revisionism, though its essence and counterrevolutionary aim are the same as those of revisionism in the past, including the one inside the Second International, is more harmful than the former revisionism, because it has appeared in the government party of the country with long revolutionary records and because it is being enforced as a policy of the party and state. On the plea of developing Marxism-Leninism creatively, the modern revisionists are paralyzing the people's revolutionary spirit by crafty methods. It can be said, therefore, that the struggle against revisionism is in a sense more difficult than the struggle against the aggressive schemes of the imperialists. In order to encourage young people to clearly understand and staunchly fight against the real nature and harm of modern revisionism, we must organize anti-revisionist education among them meticulously and conduct it effectively.

Judging by the way Party and LSWY organizations are conducting anti-revisionist education at present, I must say that in most cases they merely emphasize in general terms that revisionism is bad and so a struggle needs to be launched against it, instead of offering detailed explanation as to what revisionism is, why it is harmful and what the forms are of its expression and harmfulness. If you merely say that revisionism is bad, you cannot give people a clear knowledge of it, nor can you encourage them to launch a vigorous struggle against revisionism in a principled manner. We must conduct anti-revisionist education in depth so as to prevent even the slightest revisionist elements from germinating among us or trickling in from outside. Today the struggle against revisionism is not merely a theoretical question but a vital matter bearing on the destiny of revolution—whether to continue with the revolution or give it up, fight imperialism or yield to it. In some socialist countries today, contemporary revisionists are preaching class cooperation and weakening the state function of dictatorship and party leadership by saying that since the exploiting class and the exploitative system no longer exist after the establishment of a socialist system, then class struggle, proletarian dictatorship and party leadership are not necessary. It is as clear as daylight that if in a socialist society the

class struggle is given up and the state function of dictatorship and party leadership are weakened, then hostile elements and the remnants of obsolete ideas will revive and bring back bourgeois liberalism in all domains of social life, with the result that the cause of socialism itself will be jeopardized. Contemporary revisionists are also grovelling at the feet of the imperialists, scared by their political and economic pressure and their military threat and blackmail, disarming people ideologically by spreading war phobia and bourgeois pacifism and unhesitatingly opposing the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed people. Not only have they given up anti-imperialist struggle but they are actually obstructing the anti-imperialist struggle of other countries, jabbering that if the struggle for national liberation expands, it may develop into an all-out war that will turn into a nuclear war and plunge mankind into a nuclear holocaust. According to them, independence and revolution are good but peace is more valuable.

As the leader has instructed, we can never compromise with imperialism as revisionists do nor flinch from the anti-imperialist struggle by yielding to the imperialist policy of war-blackmail. If we give up the anti-imperialist struggle in the wake of the revisionists, we can neither realize the historic cause of national reunification nor keep the valuable achievements gained through a long-drawn revolutionary struggle. Kneeling down and licking the imperialists' boots is not the way to maintain peace or keep the dignity of the nation. We do not want war, but we are not afraid of it; we are determined to fight the imperialists resolutely when they encroach upon the sovereignty of our country. When our heroic People's Army captured the US imperialist armed spy ship Pueblo, the revisionists asked us to return the ship and the crew immediately, saying that if they were not returned, war would break out. Also when we shot down the US imperialist spy plane EC-121, which had intruded into our territorial space, they grovelled before the US imperialists in a cowardly manner, trembling over a possible breakout of war. But we rose to the occasion, firmly determined that we would retaliate against the enemy for his "retaliation" and return all-out war with all-out war. Thus we resolutely frustrated the war moves of the US imperialists and safeguarded the dignity and sovereignty of the motherland. We must therefore educate the young people along a revolutionary line lest they be affected by the war phobia and war-weariness spread by the revisionists. It is of utmost importance to equip them with revolutionary determination to fight the imperialists whenever the latter attack us.

We must prevent any kind of decadent bourgeois culture or way of life advocated by modern revisionists from infiltrating into the younger generation. These revisionists are championing bourgeois liberalism and introducing a reactionary bourgeois culture and way of life, thus degenerating the young people ideologically and morally. As the leader said, revisionism and the bourgeois way of life are cousins, so to speak. Steeped in the bourgeois culture and way of life promoted by modern revisionists and imperialists, young people will

become egoists who do not care about their society or collective, but are interested only in money? degenerates who dislike struggling and working and who are only after a life of comfort. A vigorous struggle must be launched among the young people against egoism, liberalism and the decadent way of life.

In order to see that young people advance steadily along the road of revolution down through generations unaffected by unsound ideas, we must equip them firmly with the revolutionary thought of the great leader and its embodiment, the Party's lines and policies. Only when they are equipped in this manner can they get the correct understanding of the advantages of socialism, acquire a firm conviction in the victory of the revolution, clearly distinguish the revolutionary stand from an opportunistic stand, and fight solely for the victory of revolution, unwavering in any adversity. We must establish a well-regulated system of education whereby we can thoroughly equip our young people with the leader's revolutionary thought and Party policy, and continue to develop their education in depth by the various forms and methods suited to their state of preparedness and their characteristics.

LSWY organizations must enhance their sense of responsibility and role in the education of young people. There should be no practice of Party organizations ignoring LSWY organizations and even taking upon themselves work that should be done by LSWY organizations on the excuse that the ideological education of young people is important. Their education is the major duty of the LSWY as the proper organization for the ideological education of young people, and the chief educational body for the younger generation is the LSWY organization at all events. Party organizations should provide timely information for LSWY officials as to the instructions given by the leader and Party policies formulated at each period of time so as to enable them to know clearly both the intentions and the orientation of ideological work of the Party and conduct the ideological education of LSWY members accordingly, thus sincerely helping the LSWY work to be carried out according to Party policies. The role of the youth-work departments of Party committees at all levels is important in improving the work of the LSWY and educating the younger generation in a revolutionary way. The youth-work department is the main department directly in charge of Party guidance for youth work. Whether Party leadership in youth work is guaranteed and whether young people are properly educated depends on the role of the youth-work department. The officials of the youth-work departments have to be fully aware of the importance of the task they are entrusted with and make new advances in their work with young people, as expected by the Party.

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