

Peking Posters Call for Teng's Return, Purge of Remaining Maoists

Reports from Peking since the start of the mass demonstrations Jan. 8 confirm that the anti-Maoist grouping of senior military men and most top party leaders is moving for a decisive showdown with the remaining "former" Maoists on the Politburo and in leading provincial posts. The reports indicate that Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng himself is under attack, apparently for trying to shield the intended purge victims to maintain some independent support for himself.

The demonstrations were ostensibly called to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of premier Chou En-lai, but turned out to be a show of support for the restoration of former deputy premier Teng Hsiao-ping and the purge of those behind Teng's purge last April 7. Teng was dumped two days after mass demonstrations honoring Chou ended in violence, for which he was blamed. The support for Teng's return and the purge of the remaining former Maoists comes from the senior Peking-based and regional military commanders who have been the prime moving force behind the anti-Maoist coup d'etat since the arrest Oct. 7 of the "gang of four"—Mao's widow Chiang Ching and three Politburo associates.

The evidence for this conclusion has come largely from the wallposters plastered all over central Peking since Jan. 7, plus unconfirmed reports of an enlarged Politburo meeting attended by the regional party, and perhaps army chiefs. The fact that none of the Politburo or provincial leaders have made any reported appearances since Jan. 6 makes it likely a top-level meeting is in progress.

"Bring Back Teng"

It appears that the anti-Maoist grouping forced the enlarged meeting to coincide with the Chou anniversary, to use the certain mass response to support their demands. A poster probably instigated by this grouping, was put up on Jan. 7 opening the new phase of the campaign. Under the title "To Straighten Out the Historical Truth That Was Twisted by the Gang of Four," the poster said the "gang of four" had used the April 5 incident to "smear the name of Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping," and charged that the "gang itself had provoked the rioting.

On Jan. 8, a large number of posters began calling for "arrangements (to be made) concerning the question of Teng Hsiao-ping working again" in the words of one. Another poster said that Teng's only "error" had been that he had lacked the strength to dump the Maoists earlier, concluding with "We don't know anyone who struggled harder than him" against the "gang."

A third poster put the question to Hua with an implicitly threatening statement saying "We believe the

Party Central Committee under Comrade Hua Kuo-feng will take a correct decision on this question. We hope the decision will be made quickly and people will be informed quickly so that the hearts of the world may be at peace."

Other posters developed the factional implications a "reversal of verdict" on the April 5 violence. If the incident heretofore labeled "counterrevolutionary" is now to be adjudged a heroic act, then those responsible for putting down last April's violence can be held accountable and disciplined accordingly. One poster made the first mention of deaths associated with the April 5 rioting, saying that "if justice is not done, people in their hundreds of millions will not be reconciled,"—a hint that the whole nation might be mobilized behind the "bring back Teng" movement.

On Jan. 9 the demonstrations and posterizing continued unabated, with an escalation of the demands and charges. Peking's mayor Wu Teh, a Politburo member who rose as a Maoist in the Cultural Revolution, was criticized by name for his role in suppressing the April 5 violence. On Jan. 10, the calls to bring back Teng began naming him prime minister, the post held by Chou En-lai from 1949 until his death last year, and now held by Hua Kuo-feng. One poster said "With Teng as prime minister, Chou En-lai can rest in peace." On another poster, "prime minister" was crossed out and replaced with "chairman."

In probable response to Hua's continued refusal to support completing the Maoists' purge, posters on Jan. 10 attacked by name Liu Chuan-hsin, the Peking city chief of public security charging him with being "responsible under the law for the blood-shedding Tien An Men incident." Hua, as Minister of Public Security, was Liu's immediate boss, and is thus implicated as well.

Hua in the Middle?

The possibility that Hua is vacillating, trying to maintain a "middle" position, was circumstantially supported by two other reports. One was the surprisingly undated news release of a meeting that Hua had recently with an Honduras delegation, accompanied by Politburo member Wang Tung-hsing. Wang's presence was unprecedented. He is the chief of the secret police, a very long-term Maoist who has headed Mao's bodyguard unit. Undoubtedly in danger of purge as well, Wang never performs diplomatic functions. The only immediate explanation for the release was that it was Hua's attempt to stay in the news, and to give the Maoist Wang support.

Second, a retrospective view of the events since Oct. 7 suggests that Hua supported the immediate purge of the top Maoist conspirators because they were wrecking the country and threatened Hua himself, but sought to limit further purges, especially at top levels, in order not to be

forced to rely totally on the Army-Teng grouping for support. That grouping, which now dominates Chinese politics, probably has offered Hua security as Chairman, but only if he plays ball. It would definitely upset the

population if Hua were suddenly deposed. The reported poster campaign seems designed more to warn Hua and urge him to cease blocking Teng's return and support of the Maoists than to prepare for his actual ouster.

Japan's 'Resources Faction' to Send Oil Mission To Saudi Arabia

A top level, 25-member Japanese business delegation will tour Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, and other oil-producing Mideast states in February to set up extensive oil-for-technology agreements, including perhaps the development of a new 5-million-barrel-per-day site in Saudi Arabia. If successful, the mission will include Japan in the kind of development deals that the Europeans and Arabs began months ago, and which have begun to free both from the dollar. The deals will also weaken the power of Rockefeller's allies in the Japanese oil industry, particularly Ataru Kobayashi, chairman of the (Japanese) Arabian Oil Company.

The mission — the first top-level one to the region since 1971 — includes major leaders of Japan's pro-development "resource faction," including Shigeo Nagano, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and of Nippon Steel; Sohei Nakayama, Chairman of the Comprehensive Energy Promotion Committee and senior adviser to the Industrial Bank of Japan, and Hiroki Imazato, Chairman of the Japan Oil Development Co. It also includes the chairmen of the banks and trading companies of Japan's leading zaibatsu groups, Mitsui and Mitsubishi.

In Saudi Arabia, the team will meet with Oil Minister Sheikh Yamani to discuss creating large-scale direct deal oil agreements between Japanese refiners and the Saudi national firm Petromin, bypassing Rockefeller's ARAMCO. In addition, the delegation will request that Japan be permitted to participate in the development of a new field between Gawar fields and Riyadh that could produce up to 5 million barrels per day — equal to Japan's present total consumption. According to the Asahi Shimbun of Jan. 4, "It is reported that Saudi Arabia is giving friendly consideration to the Japanese request."

Asahi notes the major "international repercussions" the agreement would have. Saudi Arabia reportedly will not give anyone the rights to develop the new site until it has settled nationalization of ARAMCO.

The Saudis "will demand Japanese cooperation in other development projects in return for giving oil development rights and direct supply of oil," e.g. petrochemical and port facilities. According to the Asahi, the Mitsubishi group (which finances Rockefeller's chief ally in Japan, current Premier Takeo Fukuda) is "hesitant" about creating development projects there, claiming they are economically unviable. This coheres with the statement of Fukuda's new Minister of International Trade and Industry, Tatsuo Tanaka, that sales of overseas factories are "too generous" and "dangerous," a reversal of the pro-development policies of Takeo Miki, the man Fukuda ousted as Premier. It is expected that the resource faction members on the mission, who backed Miki politically, will push for the development deals.

If successful the mission will undercut the present stranglehold on Japan's access to Saudi oil by ARAMCO and its ally within Japan, Arabian Oil Co. Chairman Kobayashi. Kobayashi, a leading backer of Fukuda with close ties to ARAMCO, Caltex, Chase Manhattan Bank and the CIA, has for years kept Japan's oil refining firms and access to foreign oil under the control of Rockefeller networks. Resource faction leader Nakayama has fought Kobayashi for years, and has had success in some countries but not — up until now — in Saudi Arabia. One official of a resource faction firm told NSIPS that if the Saudi mission is successful, "It will greatly reduce the power of Kobayashi in Saudi Arabia and in the Japanese oil industry as a whole."