

The Mao Era in Objects

Big-character Poster: Hong Kong Ta Kung Pao Article

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Poster War Is On

A Determined Fight

Typical of all reactionary rulers in history during their last days, the Hongkong British authorities have shown in the past month that they also have a way of forgetting nothing and learning nothing. They are still living in the dream world of the eighteenth century, when a few gunboats could cow the then Chinese corrupt government, and the Chinese people, under the oppression of the reactionary rulers, were unable to put up an effective fight against foreign encroachment and aggression. Nothing which happened since seems to have left any impression on Trench and his ilk.

They do not even seem to have learnt anything from the shattering blow they had suffered during the HYF workers' 3-hour work stoppage. 'Emergency Decrees' were proclaimed. Posters put up by patriotic Chinese have been torn down or painted over stealthily in the small hours. All they could think of were batons, tear-gas, gunboats and gaols.

But apparently all this has frightened no one. The Struggle Committee has proclaimed all the 'Emergency Decrees' null and void. Bus workers have pledged themselves to put up posters in even greater numbers. New posters went up where there had been none before. Employees in various Hongkong British government departments have vowed in front of Chairman Mao's portrait to make all necessary preparations to smash the Hongkong British imperialist rule anytime at the great call of the motherland and the Struggle Committee. During the first days of June over a million dollars have flowed into the Struggle Fund to bring the total to more than four million. More and more people have taken an active part in the struggle against fascist persecution and the movement has swept through Hongkong, Kowloon and the New Territories. Firm and strong support from the Chinese Government and the Chinese people has heartened the patriotic Chinese here in their strenuous fight. The June 3 editorial of the People's Daily came as a staggering blow to diehards both here and in London. The vain hope that the Chinese Government will restrain its people here has proved to be but a pipedream. The cultural revolution has only heightened the revolutionary spirit of the Chinese people and their compatriots here. The usefulness of Hongkong to China has been exaggerated out of all proportions.

It was the Hongkong British authorities who provoked the fight. But they will be lamentably mistaken if they think they can

A battle for the posters is on.

In defiance of the Hongkong British authorities' ban on posters, Star Ferry workers marched on Monday into Kowloon Godowns, where the Star Ferry offices are housed, and put up a huge poster bearing the slogan: 'Long live the great solidarity between the workers of Kowloon Godowns and Star Ferry!' They also informed the management that they were determined to carry on the just struggle against persecution and would put up more posters.

More than a thousand workers in Kowloon Godowns yesterday staged a half-day work stoppage from 7.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., during which time they held a rally to recall details of the hundred years' oppression of the Chinese people here by British imperialists. After a parade, which lasted almost an hour, the workers proceeded to put up a multitude of posters in the Godowns. Big crowds gathered at the Ocean Terminal and the Star Ferry pier to watch them and many people in the crowds gave their applause.

Tally-clerks stopped work yesterday from 8.00 a.m. to mid-day and the loading and discharging of goods aboard the 35 vessels then in harbour were suspended during that period, while work went on as usual aboard vessels belonging to China Navigation Co.

Posters have appeared in Hongkong Aircraft Engineering Co. at Kaitak for the first time, where a Struggle Committee recently announced its inauguration.

Posters, bigger and in great number than before, were pasted in and outside China Light and Power Co. at noon yesterday. A huge one in front of the company reads: 'Smash British imperialist reactionary rule!'

New posters appeared also at Taikoo Sugar Refinery yesterday after the old ones had been taken down.

Bus Workers of Hongkong and Kowloon have vowed to bring out new anti-persecution posters—in even greater numbers.

In a joint statement released on Sunday, they pointed out: The base action taken by the Hongkong British authorities in taking down the posters was a serious affront to workers of the two bus companies, and to our compatriots in Hongkong and Kowloon. Workers of the two bus companies solemnly affirm: Anti-persecution posters will appear again, and in greater numbers than before.

The statement resolutely announced: More forceful actions will be taken to hit back at the Hongkong British authorities' provocations. Workers of the two bus companies pledged themselves to answer, in unity with Chinese compatriots in Hongkong, to the fight-

call it off at their will or end it with high-handed measures. A determined struggle is on, and the more the Hongkong authorities escalate it, the nearer will be their Doomsday.



One of the GIS' stupid fabrications exposed at the China Products Co. in a poster put up by the company's employees. According to a GIS release, customers shopping at the China Products no longer got their changes back and were forced to give whatever due to them as contributions to the Struggle Fund. At the bottom of the poster, customers are asked to compare the GIS allegation with their own experiences at the China Products.

ing call of our motherland, to carry on an unrelenting struggle aiming at smashing the reactionary rule in Hongkong.

The statement described how police and riot police stealthily went in the night to various bus depots to tear down posters or smear them with black paint. They were in such a hurry that a number of posters were left intact.

According to another report, the police were so nervous that they painted over by mistake some of the anti-narcotics posters put up by the authorities themselves.

Be sure to
read our
next issue
Saturday

TITLE

Poster War Is On

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1967-06-07

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Unknown

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Fei Yiming (Ta Kung Pao)

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