Do Not Issue Any Slogans Beyond the Eight-Point Program

(January 26, 1949)

Do not issue any additional slogans beyond those in the Eight-Point Program. This applies equally to the military, Party, and government organizations. Among the six slogans you proposed, some are already covered by the Eight-Point Program, such as "Confiscate Bureaucratic Capital." However, many significant elements within the Eight-Point Program were not mentioned in your sixteen proposed slogans, making it incomplete and potentially leading people to question whether these important matters have lost their significance. For instance, the slogan "Implement Land Reform" is inappropriate when applied to vegetable-growing lands near large cities, as rural land reform methods cannot be implemented around major cities. The slogan "Eliminate Feudal Forces" could provoke panic among many old bureaucrats, old military leaders, and numerous landowners and gentry hiding in Beiping, leading them to believe they are the targets.

To: Lin Biao, Luo Ronghuan, Tan Zheng; notify the Beiping Municipal Committee, Tianjin Municipal Committee, and forward to all subordinate units and Central Bureaus, Regional Bureaus, and Front Committees:

Such a reaction would lead to widespread panic, with people hiding assets, making it more challenging for us to gradually utilize taxation or other appropriate measures to bring a portion of their wealth under public control. At this stage, preserving such feudal wealth in large cities without interference is more advantageous.

Regarding the slogans "Carry the Revolution Through to the End" and "March to Nanjing to Overthrow the Kuomintang Reactionaries," they should be limited to internal military education and should not appear as banners in major cities like Beiping and Tianjin, nor as newspaper advertisements. These slogans should also not be used in civic meetings in cities like Beiping and Tianjin before military action on Nanjing has been executed. Using these slogans as such would be tactically unwise, as our Party is preparing negotiations with Nanjing representatives, as outlined in Chairman Mao's January 14 statement, to counter U.S. and Kuomintang peace efforts and to provide an example of a peaceful resolution similar to that in Beiping, if possible.

- (1) to maintain the peace talks, thereby defeating the peace offensive of the US imperialists and the Kuomintang, and strive to follow the example of the peaceful resolution of the Beiping issue to peacefully resolve the problems in Nanjing and other places (if such a possibility exists);
- (2) to protect the lives and property of all the people in all cities;
- (3) to protect national industry and commerce;
- (4) to confiscate bureaucratic capital;
- (5) to protect schools, hospitals, cultural and educational institutions, sports venues and all other public buildings, except for the main war criminals and the most heinous counter-revolutionaries, all the provincial, municipal and county government officials of the Kuomintang; (
- 6) to protect the lives and property of all the people in all cities;
- (7) to protect the lives and property of all the people in all cities;
- (8) to protect national industry and commerce;

Regarding the slogan "Build New Beiping" and other similar slogans, some are considered either hollow and without significant meaning, or already included in the Party's January 14 statement (e.g., the establishment of the New Political Consultative Conference). Therefore, it is sufficient to promote Lin Biao and Luo Ronghuan's Eight-Point Program and Chairman Mao's January 14 statement, without the need for additional slogans. In large cities like Beiping and Tianjin, careful consideration should also be given to the appropriateness of large-character slogans on walls. We believe that distributing printed materials of the January 14 statement and the Eight-Point Program is more effective.

In summary, work practices for large cities cannot simply be transferred from rural practices.

- \*Note 1: Lin Biao, Luo Ronghuan, and Tan Zheng were commanders and political leaders in the Northeast Field Army.\*
- \*Note 2: The Eastern Field Army is referred to as "Dongye."\*
- \*Note 3: The Eight-Point Program was issued in a proclamation from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, attributed to Lin Biao and Luo Ronghuan, on December 22, 1948.\*
- \*Note 4: The Eight-Point Program outlined measures such as protecting citizens' lives and property, safeguarding national industry and commerce, confiscating bureaucratic capital, protecting schools and public institutions, and more.\*