

1951

Speeches/Documents

Title: Comment on Suppressing and Liquidating Counterrevolutionaries

Author: Mao Zedong

Date: March 30, 1951

Source: Other Chinese Texts: Wansui (1969), p. 8 (excerpt); Wansui (1967a), p. 153 (excerpt). Available English Translations: SW, V, p. 54; JPRS, Miscellany, I, p. 7.

Description: In some areas (p.e. Shangdong) the repression is too light and in other regions the campaign is too severe

In some localities in Shandong there is a tendency toward insufficient fervour, and in some localities there is a tendency toward doing things carelessly. These are two kinds of tendencies that generally exist in all the provinces and municipalities in the country, and attention ought to be given to correcting them in all cases. In particular, the tendency toward doing things carelessly is the most dangerous one. [This is so] because where there is insufficient fervour, it can always be brought up to a sufficient level through education and persuasion, and whether the counterrevolutionaries are executed a few days sooner or a few days later, it does not make much difference. But if things are done carelessly, and people are arrested and executed by mistake there will be very bad repercussions. Please exercise strict control in your work of suppressing counterrevolutionaries; it is imperative for you to be cautious in doing things and to correct any tendency toward doing things carelessly. We absolutely must suppress all counterrevolutionaries, but we also must absolutely not make arrests or carry out executions by mistake.

Comments on Suppressing and Liquidating Counterrevolutionaries (March 30, 1951)

Source: *Wansui* (1969), pp. 8-9. Other Chinese Text: *Wansui* (1967a), p. 153. Available English Translation: JPRS, *Miscellany*, I, p. 8.

At all times, the suppression of counterrevolutionaries ought to be accurate, meticulous, well-planned, and methodical. Furthermore, it ought to be controlled from above.

Whether work has been done well or poorly ought always to be determined by the masses' reaction to it.