

CC Instructions on Publicity and Education Work for Implementing a Universal Militia System and Preparing for the Implementation of a Conscription System

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Implementing a universal militia system, especially a core militia system, and preparing for the implementation of conscription, to build a strong national defense reserve force, is an important component of current national defense construction and a crucial condition for the complete regularization of our armed forces. A key to accomplishing this task lies in educating the masses and mobilizing and organizing them to actively participate in national defense construction. Therefore, it is essential to conduct in-depth propaganda and education on national defense construction among the masses, raising their awareness of loving and defending their country, so as to rapidly (yet systematically and in a planned manner) implement a universal militia system, especially a core militia system, and to make ideological and organizational preparations for the implementation of conscription.

To vigorously carry out this propaganda and education work, the Central Propaganda Department has issued the "Outline for Propaganda and Education on Implementing a Universal Militia System, especially a Core Militia System, and Preparing for the Implementation of a Conscription System" (attached). Local Party committees should use this as the basis for propaganda and education among the masses. In areas where land reform has ended and social order has been stabilized, during the winter and spring off-season for farming, in conjunction with production preparations, winter school, and other work, all propaganda forces should be organized and utilized to conduct extensive and in-depth propaganda and education among the masses in an organized, planned, and purposeful manner. This aims to ensure that all people understand the important significance of implementing a universal militia system and a conscription system, making participation in the militia, especially the core militia, a widespread and universal mass movement, and making the slogan "Join the militia, defend the homeland" a slogan and action of the masses themselves. In areas where land reform is underway, the masses should also be educated in a planned manner according to this spirit, and militia should be organized and trained to prepare for this work immediately after the basic completion of land reform. In areas where a universal militia system has been basically implemented, supplementary training is also necessary without exception.

The issued propaganda and education outline may be published in internal Party or military publications, but not in external newspapers or periodicals. For the convenience of propaganda, provincial Party committees or military regions may compile and print popular propaganda materials based on the content and spirit of this outline for cadres and propagandists to use when explaining to the masses. Without revealing strategic intentions or the status of the militia organization, the positive significance of implementing a universal militia system and the achievements and roles of the militia in various activities may be widely publicized in all public newspapers and periodicals, praising militia heroes and role models, and creating a mass movement of "joining the militia to defend the country."

In propaganda and education, it is essential to prevent indiscriminate or irresponsible statements, while also avoiding the tendency to be afraid to speak, to be vague or unclear in explanation, so as to avoid causing unnecessary fear due to misunderstandings among the masses. Special attention should be paid to distinguishing between the two steps: the current implementation of the general militia system, especially the core militia system, and the planned implementation of the conscription system. These steps should not be confused. Emphasis should be placed on publicizing the current steps, while the subsequent steps should be publicized appropriately according to the

level of public awareness. In this way, the patriotic consciousness of the masses can be raised step by step.

Upon receiving this instruction, local Party committees should promptly study and arrange it, formulate specific implementation plans at the provincial level, extend them to the village level, and ensure its effective implementation. They should then report the progress and results of the implementation to the central government.

Appendix:

The Central Propaganda Department's Publicity and Education Outline on Implementing a Universal Militia System, especially a Core Militia System, and Preparing for the Implementation of a Conscription System

(A) Current Situation and National Defense Construction

(I) The Korean War has been raging for over two years. Thanks to the heroic fighting of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army and the Korean People's Army, the resolute struggle of the Chinese and Korean people, and the moral and material support of people worldwide, the just war waged by the Chinese and Korean people against American aggression has achieved a great victory of historical significance. The plan of American imperialism to destroy Korea has suffered a shameful defeat. The enemy has been driven back to the 38th parallel, and the front line has stabilized. From October 1950 to October 15th of this year, the armies of the American aggressors and their accomplices have been annihilated, with over 660,000 troops killed and over 7,300 enemy aircraft shot down or damaged. The inhumane bacteriological warfare waged by the American aggressors has also been crushed. This great victory of the Chinese and Korean people has dealt a powerful blow to the arrogant plan of American imperialism to first occupy Korea and then invade our country, while also disrupting the imperialist steps to provoke another world war, and safeguarding and continuing to safeguard peace in the East and the world.

(II) The enemy's difficulties are increasing, while the Chinese and North Korean People's Armed Forces are growing stronger with each battle. Our army has continuously accumulated experience in modern warfare, gradually mastering positional defense and assault tactics, resulting in high morale and unprecedented combat effectiveness. Simultaneously, our army has begun to establish a powerful special forces force, which is playing an increasingly important role in the war. Since September of this year, in order to inflict greater damage on the enemy, the Chinese and North Korean People's Armed Forces have launched continuous counter-offensive operations, resulting in even more severe losses for the enemy than before. In October alone, our army annihilated 63,000 enemy troops. In the Battle of Shangganling alone, on a position with a total area of only 3 square kilometres, the enemy suffered losses of over 20,000 soldiers and a large amount of equipment.

(III) However, the aggressor-driven US imperialism still refuses to learn from its defeats and continues its aggression against Korea, and is frantically preparing to expand its war of aggression. In the Korean Armistice negotiations, the US has consistently shown a complete lack of sincerity, obstructing and delaying the negotiations in various ways, and even using despicable provocations to undermine the armistice talks (such as shooting our military police in the neutral zone, conducting inhumane bacteriological warfare against us, brutally massacring our prisoners of war, and indiscriminately bombing the Yalu River Shuifeng Power Plant and North Korean cities like Heping City). Although, thanks to our great patience and persistent efforts, a draft Korean Armistice Agreement was reached, the US still insists on its absurd claim of forcibly detaining our prisoners of war on the only remaining issue of prisoner repatriation, in order to obstruct the realization of the

armistice. On October 8th of this year, the US openly rejected our reasonable new proposal on the prisoner repatriation issue, unilaterally announcing an indefinite recess and suspending the armistice negotiations. Recently, the US government delegation manipulated the voting machine at the UN General Assembly to reject Soviet Foreign Minister Vyshinsky's comprehensive proposal for a ceasefire in Korea followed by the repatriation of all prisoners of war. Simultaneously, the US government is pressuring Britain, France, and other countries to continue sending troops to support the war of aggression in Korea. All these facts prove that the US government is deliberately sabotaging armistice negotiations, refusing a peaceful resolution to the Korean issue, and attempting to expand its war of aggression to threaten peace in the Far East and Asia. Therefore, we must continue our efforts to thoroughly thwart the US imperialist conspiracy to expand the war and to strive for the final victory in the Korean War and a peaceful resolution to the Korean issue.

(iv) Imperialism and aggression are inseparable. Regardless of whether the Korean military armistice negotiations will reach an agreement in the future, if the imperialist aggressor forces do not withdraw from Korea and Taiwan and continue to implement their aggressive policies, our country will still be under serious threat. We should not be complacent in the slightest. On the contrary, in order to win the final victory in the War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea, in order to have sufficient strength to deal with and crush the imperialist war plots, in order to defend our great motherland, in order to recover Taiwan, and in order to safeguard peace in the East and the world, we must redouble our efforts to build a strong national defense force.

(V) Building a strong and modern national defense force is the central task of national defense construction at present. To build a modern national defense force, it is necessary not only to have a modern defense industry and modern technology and equipment, but also to have a regular conscription system that is necessary for a modern army, so as to ensure a continuous supply of standing troops and large-scale conscription when necessary. Therefore, implementing a militia system, especially establishing militia backbone regiments, and preparing to implement a compulsory military service system at an appropriate time, are important historical tasks that must be done well at present.

(vi) Article 23 of the Common Program of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference stipulates: "The People's Republic of my country implements a militia system to safeguard local order, establish a national mobilization base, and prepare to implement a conscription system at an appropriate time." At present, bandits in our country have been basically eliminated, the work of suppressing counter-revolutionaries has achieved remarkable results, domestic peace and order have been guaranteed, land reform has been basically completed nationwide, the lives of the people have improved, and their political consciousness has been greatly enhanced. All of this has created favorable conditions for implementing a militia system, establishing militia backbone corps, and then implementing a conscription system at an appropriate time.

(B) Implementing a militia system

(I) The militia—this armed organization of the masses, inseparable from production, played an extremely important role in the long revolutionary war, creating a glorious history of struggle. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the national militia has actively participated in the three major movements of resisting U.S. aggression and aiding Korea, land reform, and suppressing counter-revolutionaries, undertaking important tasks such as eliminating bandits, arresting counter-revolutionaries, and safeguarding local order. Therefore, it has become a powerful assistant to the Chinese People's Liberation Army and an important force in safeguarding local order and consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship.

(II) Currently, the national militia has developed significantly. After implementing the militia system, it will achieve even greater development and will soon become a powerful force of tens of millions of people. The future tasks of the militia are: First, to defend the motherland, undertake the nation's military service and combat mobilization tasks, actively study military, political, and cultural matters, and strengthen physical fitness; Second, to assist the People's Liberation Army and the People's Public Security Forces in maintaining local order, suppressing counter-revolutionary activities, protecting factories, mines, warehouses, transportation, coastal defense, and border defense, and consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship; Third, to unite and help each other, actively participate in and promote cooperative production undertakings, as well as disaster relief, water management, afforestation, and forest protection.

(III) The militia system implemented today differs from the previous principle of "voluntary participation." All male working people aged 18 to 40, without disabilities or mental illness, have the right and obligation to join the militia and defend the country. Wherever a universal militia system is implemented, a system for enlisting and leaving the militia must be established. All young people aged 18 or older will be registered annually at a fixed time. Those who meet the requirements for militia membership will be formally incorporated into the militia organization after education and review; those over 40 years of age will be exempted from their obligation to join the militia and will leave the organization after education and explanation. However, heroes, role models, and activists within the militia, even if over the age limit, may remain in the organization if they are physically strong, work diligently, and resolutely do not wish to leave.

(iv) In order to carry out the great tasks they undertake, the militia must not only study military, political and cultural subjects diligently, but also consciously abide by discipline and the laws and regulations of the People's Government, become model citizens who abide by the law, and actively promote the policies of the People's Government, safeguard the laws and regulations of the country, and fight against all phenomena that endanger national interests and undermine mass discipline.

(C) Establish militia core regiments

(I) Establishing militia core regiments and implementing a core militia system is a central task in the current implementation of the militia system, and it is of paramount importance for strengthening national defense and local security. Therefore, we must devote significant effort to establishing militia core regiments based on the existing militia organization, and ensure its rapid success. This work must become a key focus for the armed forces leadership organs at all levels. In-depth propaganda and education must be conducted among the militia members to make them understand the great significance of establishing militia core regiments, and to mobilize qualified militia members to actively participate in these regiments.

(II) The militia core regiment is the elite part of the militia organization, composed of outstanding members of the militia, and remains a militia organization that does not detach itself from production. All militia members aged 18 to 25 who are politically pure, physically strong, and have sufficient family labor should join the militia core regiment. Militia heroes over 25 years of age and physically strong demobilized soldiers returning to their hometowns may also join the militia core regiment on a voluntary basis. Members of the militia core regiment, except when under the command of the county/district regimental/battalion headquarters during concentrated missions or training, will not be separated from their original militia organization during peacetime education and training.

(III) The significance of establishing militia core groups is as follows: On the one hand, there are still bandits causing trouble in some areas of the country, counter-revolutionaries continuing to carry out

sabotage, and the landlord class has not given up. Under the instigation of the remnants of the US-Chiang Kai-shek gang, they are still trying to make trouble. On the other hand, US imperialism continues to sabotage and delay the Korean armistice negotiations, and is frantically preparing to expand its war of aggression, occupying our Taiwan, and threatening the security of our motherland and the peace of the Far East and the world. Therefore, it is necessary to establish militia core groups and strengthen their military, political, and cultural education in a more organized manner so that they can become the basis for military conscription in peacetime and can respond to conscription and undertake more important military service and combat mobilization tasks when necessary.

(iv) The militia core regiments must more resolutely and systematically become models in carrying out militia tasks:

(1) In carrying out the tasks of protecting local order and consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship, the militia backbone should become the backbone of the militia, cooperate with the People's Liberation Army and the public security forces in relatively concentrated bandit suppression operations, suppress counter-revolutionary riots, and protect the coastal defense, border defense and inland security of the motherland.

(2) In order to win the final victory in the War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea, to defend the great motherland, and to protect peace in the East and the world, every member of the militia backbone regiment must be prepared ideologically. Once the country needs them, they should immediately respond to the call, enlist in the army in an organized manner, and take on the glorious task of killing the enemy, making meritorious contributions, and defending the motherland.

(D) Preparing to implement a compulsory military service system

(I) We will implement a system of compulsory military service at an appropriate time, based on the establishment of a militia system and militia backbone regiments, and adopt a gradual transition approach. The compulsory military service system is established by the promulgation of a military service law by the state, which stipulates the age and duration of military service, as well as the methods of service and discharge. All young and middle-aged adults of legal age have the obligation to enlist in the military and must register; those who meet the requirements will be legally designated as reserves, undergo a certain period of training, and await conscription; those with disabilities, mental illnesses, or other conditions that prevent them from serving in the military will be exempted from their military service obligations according to law; those who are conscripted will serve from the date of enlistment until the end of their service period and will be discharged and return to their hometowns for employment; those who return home after discharge will be legally designated as reserves and await conscription by the state when necessary; those who exceed the legal age will be legally exempted from their military service obligations and will no longer be conscripted.

(II) The conscription system is a reasonable and advanced military service system, suitable for both the needs of national defense and the demands of the people. Because our country belongs to the people, defending the motherland is defending the interests of the people themselves; therefore, serving in the military is the glorious duty of every male citizen. Implementing a conscription system, with everyone taking turns serving, gives each person the opportunity to defend the country and earn merit, which is both fair and reasonable. At the same time, we can accumulate a strong reserve force of trained soldiers, so that if the country is in trouble, we will have sufficient strength and confidence to defeat imperialism that dares to invade our great motherland.

(III) The militia has a long history of struggle, rich experience in struggle, a glorious tradition of joining the army and fighting, and a high level of political awareness. All militia members should actively support the country's implementation of the compulsory military service system at an appropriate time.

(iv) Our country implements a conscription system, which is fundamentally different from the conscription system of capitalist countries. Capitalist countries force their working people to serve in the military in order to oppress the people, maintain their reactionary rule and carry out wars of aggression, and therefore they are opposed by the vast majority of their people. In our country, people serve in the military to protect their own interests, to protect their motherland, and to create a better and happier life, and therefore they are actively supported by the people.

(V) The implementation of conscription is a major reform of our country's military system, and its realization will greatly enhance our national defense capabilities. Therefore, the US and Chiang Kai-shek's gang, along with hidden counter-revolutionaries, will inevitably spread rumors and sabotage. We must be vigilant and promptly thwart the enemy's sabotage plots.