

Regarding the sentencing of counterrevolutionary elements, different situations may warrant different treatments. (22-01-1951)

From Mao Zedong to Ye Huang Xiaolin and the Central South Bureau:

Received your telegram on January 17th, the situation in Guangdong is now clear, and your deployments are correct. We hope you strive to complete the tasks. Additionally, please pay attention to anti-reactionary work. For any bandit leaders, tyrants, and major agents related to bandit suppression, they can be sentenced to death by military courts of military districts. For counterrevolutionary hardcore elements unrelated to bandit suppression, they should be sentenced to death by the military law department of local courts and military control committees. As for ordinary tyrants and illegal landlords in rural areas, they should be dealt with through peasant struggles, surveillance, and sentencing by people's courts. This three-pronged approach can be carried out rapidly and is relatively appropriate. Guangdong must systematically execute several thousand key reactionary elements to reduce enemy forces and uphold justice. Careful arrangements for implementation are expected.

Mao Zedong

January 22nd