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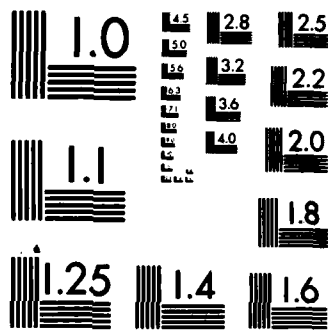
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FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION



MODERNIZATION OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
(CHAPTER 11)

by

H. Huaizhi



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Chapter 11. Guiding Principles for the Modern Construction of the National Defense of our Country

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Since the founding of China, the national defense of this country has been increasingly strengthened and consolidated. With the development of national defense research and national defense industry, the People's Liberation Army of China has been transformed from what was in the past a unitary unto the present armed forces, including the army, navy, air force and the various other army militia combined armed forces, which have effectively carried out the task of guarding the territorial integrity, the the security of the territorial sea and territorial sky of our motherland. Now, our socialist revolution and socialist construction have entered into a new phase of development in which we will realize the modernization of agriculture, industry, national defense and science and technology by the end of this century. In order to realize the modernization of the national defense, not only do we need modern weaponry and equipment, but also people who have faith in the cause of socialism, who have the skillful command of modern military equipment and of the art of war. Therefore, based on the practical situations of our country, we must study and explore the policy and principle which we should comply with in the construction of the modern national defense.

1. Mao Tsetung Military Thought as our Guidance

Mao Tsetung military thought is a scientific theory comprising rich contents. It expounds profoundly the theory of knowledge, methodology of Marxist viewpoints of war, puts forward a whole series of theories, policies and principles regarding how to build up the people's armed forces and how to conduct wars. It has built our armed forces entirely on the basis of Marxism, Leninism and made them become a new type of the people's armed forces that serve the people heart and soul. During the long time practice of constructing the people's armed forces and of leading the

revolutionary wars, Mao Tsetung always relied on the people in the battles of wars, thoroughly developed and perfected the strategy and tactics of the people's wars.

Under the guidance of Mao Tsetung military thought, holding high the banner of armed struggle, we set up the worker-peasant Red Army, established rural revolutionary bases, opened up the way of encircling the cities from the rural areas and of taking over the political power by armed struggle. After eight years of the bloody battle, we defeated the Japanese invaders. In another three years of the Liberation War, we wiped out Chiang Kai-Shek's 8,000,000 troops and founded the great People's Republic of China. After the founding of new China, Mao Tsetung in time raised new theories and tasks for the construction of modern national defense armed forces and for the resistance of invasions by foreign enemies. At the same time, Mao Tsetung also gave a series of important directions concerning the national construction of our country and the strategy for the resistance of invasion by foreign enemies. These directions have made Mao Tsetung thought continue to develop, have guided us to successfully fight against the military invasions of our country by foreign imperialists, social-imperialists and anti-revolutionaries and have defended our great socialist motherland. As practice has proved, Mao Tsetung military thought is the magic weapon for defeating the enemy and the banner of our victory.

The invasions by hegemonists which we are faced with and will fight against will possibly take place in the same practical conditions in China. We will still use the old fashioned military equipment to fight the enemy armed with advanced military equipment. Mao Tsetung thought, therefore, will continue to be of great importance to us. We defeated Chiang Kai-Shek and foreign invaders not because we had better arms, but because we relied on our people. We will continue to rely on our people in the resistance to foreign invasions in the future. Despite the advantage of possessing

advanced military equipment, the foreign invaders will be disadvantaged by far-flung battlefronts from their home countries, with military forces scattered, provisions running short quickly. The more advanced the enemies' military equipment is, the more fuel, transportation, provisions, technical maintenance, etc., are demanded for it. With our field army, local army and militia combined, we will be able to become much stronger. When faced with a sudden attack by an enemy, the field army will take advantage of their stronghold and fight the enemy with the strategy of positional war, mobile war and guerrilla war to block the enemy so as to force them into a long and weary battle. Local army, militias and guerrillas will be all out to start, in an extensive fashion, sabotage operations, ambush wars, mine wars, sparrow wars, and so on, so as to fight and block the enemy's tanks and other military vehicles; cut off their transportation and communications; destroy their equipment for gas and provision supplies. All this will eventually cause the shortage of provisions, gas and military supplies to the enemy. No matter how well armed the enemy is, he will have a hard time carrying out his plans fully. So, Mao Tsetung military thought, especially his people's war theory, will still be the guiding principle in the future. Those who think that under the current circumstances Mao Tsetung military thought no longer works "wonders" and that his people's war theory has been old-fashioned are thoroughly wrong and nihilistic.

With the rapid development of science and technology, however, there have been periodical innovations in military equipment. The constitution of army, the format of war, the method of war, etc., have undergone a series of changes. Some specific principles from Mao Tsetung military thought were put forward under particular historic and economic circumstances, and they were correct and suitable only for the need of military struggle at that particular time. However, since historic conditions have changed now, some of Mao's military principles are no longer

applicable. They need substantiating and revising in accordance with new situations. We must not follow blindly but comprehensively and accurately study Mao Tsetung military thought from the standpoint of dialectical and historical materialism. We must employ Mao's points of view, his theories, taking into account the current situations of our country and the characteristics of modern warfare, in the study of the problems of the future and of our national security construction.

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2. We must follow the strategic policy of defense

Our country is a socialist country. We never seek hegemony, never become a superpower, never want an inch of a foreign land. At the same time, however, we never allow an inch of our land to be taken away by others. The policy which we adopt in strategy is defense. The modern construction of our national security must follow this policy.

There is complete difference between the modern construction of national security of our country and that of hegemonic countries. Their purpose to build up the military strength is for the needs of invasions and expansions. Social-imperialists, especially, have focused on developing offensive weapons. They have also produced ocean weapons and military carriers, for example, long-range bombers, intercontinental ballistic missiles and ballistic missile submarines which they have built as the three most important weapons. Meanwhile, they increase the focus on the study and research of the development of various fighters and tanks as well as helicopter carriers, etc.

The modern construction of the national defense of our country aims at resistance to foreign invasions and the defense of our national defense. Hence, the development of defensive weapons. Take conventional weapons and special weapons, for example, we must lay emphasis on developing the conventional weapons. However,

in order to break the nuclear domination by foreign countries, we must also develop some nuclear weapons and other advanced weapons. As regards the development of current military equipment and weapons of new types, we must concentrate on our present foundation to strengthen and improve the weapons which we possess now so that they can be better equipped for more effective defensive use. We must also strive to develop our national defense research and war industry, manufacture new weapons in order to improve our military equipment and make them rank among the world's best in the shortest possible time.

To carry out the strategic policy of active defense, we must also strengthen battleground construction, battleground defense and form the combination of battleground fortification and permanent shelter fortifications with that of the field army's. At the same time, we need to strengthen the civilian defense project construction in order to be able to wipe out enemies and win our victories in the resistance to foreign invasions.

3. The adjustment of national security construction to the economic construction

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Strong national defense requires a strong economic foundation. Military equipment is one of the most important parts in the modern construction of national defense. Advanced weapons and military equipment not only require advanced science and technology but also are costly to build. So if we do not have advanced agriculture, industry, science and technology, we will have no money, nor means. And to realize the modernization of national defense will only become a castle in the sky.

At present, our country is still backward in economy, science and technology. If we do not take into consideration the present economic conditions of our country and blindly pursue the large scale and high speed for national defense construction, we will be liable to impede the development of our national economy.

If the economic development is hampered, our national defense construction will be a castle in the sky. In order to strengthen the development of modern national defense construction, therefore, we must first of all guarantee the development of our national economy at a high speed. In his "On Ten Relations" in 1956, Mao Tsetung pointed out "the reliable solution is to reduce the defense budget to a suitable percentage to allow for the development of our national economy. Only after the economic construction develops can our national defense hope to make big progress".

The national economy construction of our country is now on the point of adjustment. After a period of time in which adjustments, reforms, consolidations and enhancements are made, our national economy will begin to develop proportionately, steadily and speedily. It will assure the steady growth of our construction of modernization and also will lay a solid foundation for our national defense construction. In the early 60's, there was an adjustment made in the national economy. As a result, the economic situation was improved enormously and the national defense construction was developing effectively. We subsequently made atomic bombs, hydrogen bombs, launched artificial satellites; army, navy, air force and other technological armed forces were strengthened and better equipped. Today, the situation in our country is much better than before. The adjustment in our economy has been effective, the war production system has been cemented on quite a strong foundation, the technology has become more advanced. If we make full use of the present conditions, maintain a good relation between the national defense construction and the national economic construction, our national defense modernization will for sure leap forward rapidly.

Comrade Mao Tsetung once said, "Our development of military equipment will need to undergo three periods. The first period, we used millet and rifles in the Domestic Revolutionary War;

the second period we used millet, airplanes and artillery in the War to Resist U. S. Aggression and Aid Korea; the next period, which will be a new period for development, we will use conventional weapons in addition to special weapons". At present, though our army has been transformed into combined armed forces, most of them are field army and their major military equipment is light weaponry from conventional weapons. The special weapons (missilery-nuclear weapons) are still being tested and researched. So, the modernization of the national security must move forward step by step and period by period. Under the present circumstances and conditions of manpower, financial ability and material capacity, we must have a rational distribution of our national defense resources. We should use our limited funds properly and try to produce weapons that our army needs most as soon as possible. In the meantime, we must actively do research on the production of advanced weapons. The structure and system of our national defense also require rational reforms. This is to make it adjusted with the adjustment, consolidation and reform of our national economy and, also, to make it more scientific. In short, we must be practical and realistic in the construction of our national defense, act according to our ability and strive to realize the modernization of our national defense on the solid foundation of our national economy modernization.

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4. The national defense construction must meet the requirement of people's war

The future anti-invasion wars are the people's wars under the modern circumstances. Since a variety of new military equipment will be in popular use, the suddenness and speediness of wars increase, the situations on battlegrounds can change dramatically and the struggles and fights can be more fierce. Therefore, the national defense construction must meet the requirement of people's wars under the modern circumstances.

First of all, the joint force by field army, guerrilla and militia must be strengthened so as to increase the ability of joint battles. In the future anti-invasion wars, the enemy will have to launch attacks on our country on the strength of a large number of air force paratroops, a lot of tanks, vehicles and armored carriers in order to win a fast victory. With this in light, we must make good use and take advantage of our tri-joint force to carry out people's wars. The powerful field army, cooperated and assisted by the guerrillas, militia and the masses, will conduct effectively the mobile wars so as to resist fierce attacks by the enemy and defeat him in the end. The guerrillas will block the movement of the enemy, help keep our fortifications and weary the spirits of the enemy. The massive militia, depending on the various advantageous fortifications, employing the strategy of guerrilla war, now and then, here and there, counter attack the enemy. In this way in which the field army, guerrillas and militia closely join their forces together, the strategies of movement war, positional war and guerrilla war are used alternately, military struggles joining the struggles of other ways, we will defeat the enemy completely on our big motherland.

In order to bring into full play the power of people's war, we must research and produce military equipment that suits a variety of wars, especially anti-tank military equipment such as anti-tank missiles, light anti-tank firearms and anti-tank mines which the field army and the massive militias use. We must also research and produce the modern anti-tank weapons that are good for long range, precise, powerful, light in weight and easy to operate.

Since the future anti-invasion wars are more complicated and the consummation of man and material power is big, the enemy may launch attacks on us from all directions, transportation, communications may be cut off in some areas. Therefore, in constructing the national defense industry system, we must correctly cope

with the relation between unified planning and adaptation to local conditions, bring into full play the control and local activeness, intensively and step by step establish and develop the central and local industries of the national defense and strengthen the productions of war supplies and reserves. We must build independent and self-adaptable military bases, including bases for guerrillas, in order to meet the requirement of massive wars.

In addition, we must speed the construction of reserve battlegrounds, especially we must make preparations in the strategic focus, important cities and fortifications. We must systematize our battle fortifications fire network, provisions supplies and command systems, etc. All this must meet the need of massive wars. In speeding the construction of reserve battlegrounds, we must at the same time pay attention to the construction of factories, mines, industrial enterprises and farmland, irrigation works in important areas so that the army and the masses are united into a strong force, work and fight side by side, to make the country a wall of bronze and iron.

5. We must follow the policy of independence and self-reliance

Independence and self-reliance have been our party's constant policy. In the construction of modern national defense, we must also adhere to it and rely on ourselves. At the beginning of New China, we were confronted with a complete shambles left by the Kuomintang and the economic sanctions by the imperialists, especially after 1960, by the Soviet social imperialists. They broke agreements, withdrew their specialists and experts, pressed us for payment of debts, and so on. Faced with such extreme difficulties, we carried on the revolutionary spirits of independence and self-reliance, overcame one difficulty after another, and worked hard to make a lot of progress in our national economy.

Though with little knowledge, we learned how to make automobiles. Dependent on ourselves, we have now been able to manufacture airplanes, artillery, tanks, warships, atom bombs, hydrogen bombs, launch our artificial satellites, and intercontinental missiles. Our national defense construction has made remarkable achievement.

Of course, we cannot exclude our revolution and construction from the world. We always call for foreign assistance. We especially need to learn from foreign countries whatever that is useful and advanced for us. The most important way of promoting the development of economy, science and technology is the exchange of economy and technology between nations. Seclusion and blind antiforeignism are wrong. On the premise of independence and self-reliance, we must learn useful things from foreign countries and be selective in introducing into our country advanced technology which we are in urgent need of. In introducing advanced foreign technology, we must stress on raising our own scientific and technological level, training our own experts, arousing the enthusiasm of our scientists and technology specialists and encouraging the spirits of working with stamina and diligence. We must make sure that we combine both foreign advanced science and technology with our own creativity and develop our national defense so as to make it reach to the world advanced level.

6. We must place education in the strategic position

Wars under modern circumstances are triphibeous warfare, joined by a variety of highly modernized armed forces. Their scale, extension of battlegrounds, amount of armed forces, complication of military equipment and difficulty in command are not to be compared with the wars in the past. Therefore, there is much more required for commanders and soldiers alike. At present, the war and technological skills of our army and militia are

still far from meeting the requirement of modern warfare. The same is true of their ability to command and organize as well as their knowledge of science and culture. There is still weakness in our military fields. Unless these problems are solved, we will not be able to build our armed into a modern army. Therefore, we must place education in the strategic position.

During the process of training, we must train our soldiers in a realistic manner. Presently, based on the military equipment available, considering the development in the future, we must focus on the training of strategy, tactics and technical skills of our soldiers in accordance with the massive warfare under the modern military circumstances. We must also stress the training of special military skills and the training of the organization of commanding posts and provisions supplies. At the same time we must carry out the training of "three offensives and three defensives".

During the process of training, we must pay much attention to the training of cadres at all levels. Through academic education, we can have a diversity of specialists and excellent army commanders who know the modern art of military command. According to different people, we must offer different training programs. We must prevent "duplication". When giving a training, we must be hard and serious instead of formalistic.

7. We must strengthen the leadership of the party, revolutionism over modernism

The Chinese Communist Party is the central leader for all the Chinese people. In the new historic period, we must keep to the four basic principles the most important of which is to keep to the leadership of the communist party. The national defense construction cannot be independent from the party leadership.

The national defense modernization is one of the most important parts of our four modernizations plan. It is the grand goal for our whole party, whole army and whole people to pursue. To realize this goal, we must strengthen the leadership of the party. We all must place the national security construction in an important position and do our best to contribute to it.

The primary question of the national defense modernization is how to make our army modernized. Now we are on the turning point of a great new historic era. Our army not only must consolidate, reform and construct itself but also perform the task of constructing and defending the four modernizations. To perform such a glorious but hard duty, we must strengthen and keep to the absolute leadership of the party over the army. Since the birth, our army has kept to the principle of "the party leadership over guns" and to the absolute leadership of the party over the army.

To keep the leadership of the party, the most important thing is to keep to the Marxist leadership of revolutionary line, policy and regulation. Now, our party has called for the whole party, the whole army and the whole people to be united for the modern, highly democratic and highly civilized construction of the powerful socialist country. We must keep to and carry out the line, policy and regulation of the Third Central Party Meeting, keep up our thought and action closely with the strategic changes of the party and politically stand by the central party to make new contributions to the construction and defense of the four modernizations.

To strengthen the party leadership, we must hold the political work as the life for our army, always educate our army with Marxist, Leninist and Mao Tsetung's thought. This is to guarantee the absolute leadership of the party over the army. At present, under the new historic circumstances, we must carry on the excellent tradition of the political work, advocate intensively

the "four haves", "three attentions" and "two unafraids" (namely, have ideal, have morality, have knowledge and have good health; attention to military discipline, attention to courtesy and attention to appearance and bearing; unafraid of difficulties and unafraid of blood shedding and sacrifice). We must do our best to build our army into a civilized army.

To construct our national defense, we must place revolution above modernization. To do this, we must carry on and implement the party's line, policy and regulation, carry out the excellent tradition of the political work and keep the revolutionary spirits of arduous hard life. Only after revolutionization can there be the rapid modernization.

The modernization of the army has to be formalized. Without the formalization there will be no uniform command, uniform institution, uniform system, uniform discipline and uniform training closely cooperated by the various forms of armed forces. If this should be so, there would be difficulty in combining people with technology and bringing into full play their uniform power even though we are equipped with modern weapons. It is because of this, therefore, that formalization is regarded as the indispensable basic condition for the modern construction of the revolutionary army. The party committees of all levels must strengthen the leadership, strengthen political training, strengthen education so as to reform the system of our army for the modernization and formalization construction of our army.

Chapter 12. We must strive to realize the modernization of our national defense

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At present, the whole party, the whole army and the whole people have answered the great call of the central communist party to build our country into a socialist power of modernized agriculture, industry, national security and science and

technology with high democracy and civilization. The realization of the national defense modernization is a strategically significant task, is an urgent need for resisting foreign aggression, protecting hegemonism and defending the construction of the socialist modernization of our motherland. We have full conditions and strong confidence to realize the grand ideal.

First of all, we have the strong leadership of the party which is the primary guarantee of the realization of the national defense modernization. The great Chinese Communist Party is a party long tested, rich in experience and mature in politics. She has the ability to lead the people to overcome one difficulty after another to win the final revolutionary victory. In the past, leading the Chinese people, our party has won the great victory of the New Democratic Revolution. Since the founding of New China, our party has continued to lead the Chinese people to overcome imperialists and hegemonists' threats, subversions, sabotage and military provocations, successfully maintain the independence and security of our great motherland. In addition, she has also successfully turned out country from new democracy into socialism and won the great victory of the socialist revolution and socialist construction. Especially since the Third Central Party Meeting, the whole party has marched in unanimity, shifted the focus gradually onto the socialist modern construction, drawn out the correct political line, organization line and a series of policies, regulations so that our various kinds of work have got on a right track, moving steadily forward. As a result, we have achieved a great deal, politically and economically. Since after summarizing the positive and negative sides of the experiences of our socialist construction, the central party has put forward the policy of construction which is based on our national condition, suitable for economic law as well as for natural law so that our economic construction has got on a steady and effective new track and our people become more gainful. The national defense

construction, like our industry, agriculture, science and technology, has steadily moved forward. Led by the party, our national security construction will win new victories.

The favorable socialist system is the most basic condition for the realization of the national defense modernization. The national defense research and production is a collectivized and socialized labor. It must depend on the mutual efforts made by billions of people from all walks of life. The reason why some advanced national defense projects have developed so rapidly is because of the call by Comrade Mao Tsetung of "Mutual Assistance" and of the personal organization by Premier Chou of the national assistant network, from the top leadership of central ministries to the various lower levels of local offices, uniting such institutions and units as universities, factories, shops, foreign trade bureaus, railways, transportation, post offices, communication, meteorological observatories, etc.. Such a cooperation is hardly possible in capitalist countries because capitalists are profit-grabbing, double-dealing and keep scientific and technological results from each other since their ultimate concern in developing military equipment is to gain highest possible profits. All this must impede the development of science and technology. The socialist system has abolished the limited utilization of science and technology that exists in capitalist countries, opened up a spacious field for the development of science and technology and their applications in the construction of the national defense. From the long-term standpoint, therefore, the national defense construction of our country will surely be able to develop rapidly and catch up with the world advanced level.

Our country is large in land and resourceful for the national defense construction which has already got a secure foundation. At the beginning of New China, with a weak foundation for the national defense, we were only able to produce

simple light weapons. Since 30 years of hard effort, we have have been able to produce a variety of complicated and advanced new weapons, trained a great number of scientists, technical experts, managerial personnel and skilled workers, established the systems of national defense research and war industry and, at the same time, gathered a lot of experience for national defense construction. In recent years, we have successfully conducted tests of atom bombs, hydrogen bombs, launched artificial satellites, intercontinental missiles, became the third country in the world that is able to command the technology of telecommunications via satellites. As long as we fully make use of the present conditions, draw on the experience and lessons of foreign countries, rationally explore and utilize national defense resources, our national defense will progress more rapidly, more steadily and more victoriously.

Our great motherland is one of the four ancient civilizations in the world. The Chinese people have been famous for their diligence, courageousness and creativity on Earth. During many centuries, our science and technology have taken the lead in the world. For example, paper, printing technology, compass and gunpowder were the four major inventions. The Chinese people also made glorious achievements in astronomy, mathematics, physics, medicine, etc., and played an important role in human civilization. It is our national pride. Since the founding of new China, under the leadership of the party, the talent and intelligence of the Chinese people have been brought into full play. The invention of synthetic crystalline bovine insulin by our country has marked our country as among the world's best in the field of biology. The success in research of hybrid rice and various other fields are the world's best, too. We have many reasons to believe that if the whole party, the whole army and the whole people are united together, under the leadership of the party, and work side by side, our national defense modernization will have a bright prospect.

Of course, the realization of national defense modernization will depend on the co-efforts of the whole party, the whole people and the whole army.

As early as 2000 years ago, the great Chinese strategist, Sun Zi, once said: "Warfare is a big national event because it is associated with the survival or death of a nation, therefore, needs earnest study". Likewise, our national defense construction is vital to our nation and people. The Chinese people have always regarded it as their task to be united and strong. The ancient proverb, "It is everybody's duty to contribute to the country", proves that the Chinese people, from generation to generation, have shared that thought.

Economic potentials must be the cornerstone of the modern national defense construction while advanced science and technology must be the guide. Every worker, peasant, cadre, intellectual and scientist must perform his duty conscientiously. To make contributions to the development of the national economy is to complete our duties in the development of our national defense strength. Workers in the national defense research and industry must be aware of the historic duty that they bear on their shoulders, be brave and confident so as to catch up with the advanced science and technology in the world. The commanders and soldiers alike must actively answer the call from the central party, study military science and technology, learn strategy and tactics of warfare and work hard to contribute our wisdom and strength to the national defense modernization of our great motherland.

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