leSe to the NEWS

by PHYLLIS SCHL.AFLY
Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002
Phone: 618-462-5415

RELEASE: September 21

DEATH OF MAO

When Mao Tse-tung died recently, the radio stations in Taiwan interrupted their programs with an announcement that began, "We have good news to report."

Taiwan's reaction was truthful. The outpouring of praise for Mao all over the world was a flood of hypocrisy. It is good news for the world that the man who murdered more people than any criminal in all history has finally passed from this earth.

The estimates by scholars of the number of people killed by the Mao regime in Communist China range from 34 million to 6:; million far more than Stalin or Hitler. Mao and his apologists tried to disguise his actions behind such pretty phrases as "agrarian reform," the "Great Leap Forward," and the "Great Proletarian Revolution," but it was bloody terrorism just the same.

Communism was enforced on the Chinese people by mass public trials at which assembled crowds, whipped up to a frenzy by planted agitators, demanded death without mercy, and then cheered the mass executions. Eyewitnesses reported trucks carrying the doomed, hd.nds tied behind their backs, "like pigs going to slaughter," with the spectators applauding.

What kind of people were the victims of these public executions? The Communists called them r1andlords," but a "landlord" was anyone who farmed his little plot with two water buffalos instead of one.

Mao believed in the desirability of struggle and the necessity of violence. Detailed accounts were published and broadcast in order to maximize the disciplinary effect on the people.

{more}

From t.tw very bt g;lm1ing, the Mao system in.olu<led slave labCJr. In 1955 a United Nations report listed 20 to 25 million in regular slave labor camps and another 12.5 million in corr ctive labor cawp .

This is in aJdition to the scores of millions of paoplg drafte to work on Mao Tse-tung' B art,t tr:ary O1,u f tupid schemes. *Irl* 1 ;159 ht:i "Jccided to lead the w!:Itttr of thf, ,;ire, t :riv1.r rf;; in tr e .outh of Chh..a to the arid north. TtHis oi' millio:rru, o.f peo{11G: wer J *H:t* to ,llorlr on th:t::, project without any scientific blueprint. Tho rt.:,sult was i?' disai":ltrous alkeliz,ation oi the most useful t-ir,:JwiJl,,1; huH1 o:f *fa:v* r,'.orth ruiJ Chin. I'uHi to st%lrt importing wl':W«)i t.

In, ,::11 l hi:;;tory there lws nevi1r lieetA :,tt<.\i'.I thor.1bht cori.trol ?<2 t-Trio imposed on en.i.na. In 1957 under e. campaign bi!:0 c::illP.rl 1'Ir, t -8 H1m,.,r1.:1. Flowers bloom, he encourag ct others to speak out with inJeprua<lent j;I('•,::s. 'iOU\H) \:i(ff£ :foolish f':!:IOug:h to do it. It WH8 Just H ru 1, f'iao to hl<tn::i.ti:fy tho1-1c who J!'H?.:,.H:led to br,, discipl i:ilt d into total n0.r1..f'.o:no.ity.

In Communist China, the men and women dress alike, look alike, cut their hair alike, labor as beasts of burden alike. In many book-stores, every single book for sale was written by Mao Tse-tung. When President Nixon made his famous trip to China, I remember an enter-prisin ; ti'.:'!levision reporter who interviewed i1 young woman ¢1rHl .2: k€:t"1 her what she and her boy friend did for fun on a date. She replied, "we read the writings of Chairman Mao."

Not only is Mao's China a land of political terror and economic failure, it is a cultural wasteland. It has not produced a single first-class work of literature or art.

Yet, Mao was the man about whom President Ford said, "It's tragic that a man of his great remarkable ability and skill and vision foresight has passed away."

!1hf• only good th:i.ng the Maoists hav,e ever dO!lf;?- :if, to a:unou.nn<t) thnt no fore:i.gners would be invited to attend the :funeral. We can be th:rink:ful thfit they spared us the i:ndigni ty of having Pre.,,;idE-nt ron.{ r;H:·nt! an /un rica:n to mour11 for Mao.

(end)