COMRADE E.F. HILL, Chairman of the Australian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist), published an article entitled “World Peoples Hail China's Liberation Army's 41st Anniversary” in Vanguard on August 8. The article reads in full as follows:

The Chinese people are celebrating the 41st anniversary of the People's Liberation Army. All the oppressed people of the world rejoice with them. They rejoice more because the Liberation Army is an army based upon proletarian internationalism; it serves the cause of the workers of the world.

The Liberation Army is the product of the genius of Mao Tse-tung. Marx, Engels and Lenin were all titanic geniuses. They stood head and shoulders over their contemporaries.

In our times there are great Marxist-Leninists in the world but there is only one genius of Marxism-Leninism. That is Chairman Mao. He stands head and shoulders over his contemporaries.

Recognizing and acting upon this is fundamental to the success of the proletarian revolution.

Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin each paid attention to the question of the army. It is no reflection on them at all to say that none of them systematically developed the theory and practice of the people's army. That was left by historical circumstances to Chairman Mao. It is but one of his many outstanding contributions to Marxism-Leninism.

Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin all analysed the violence of the state machine. They showed that it was an instrument of violence for the oppression of one class by another. Chairman Mao's famous statement that political power grows out of the barrel of a gun, sums it all up.

The guns of the class oppressors must be answered by the guns of the revolutionary working class.

So the Chinese people guided by the genius of Mao Tse-tung built up their own army. Theory and practice formed a mighty unity in the People's Liberation Army. They defeated the far better equipped Kuomintang, Japanese and U.S. imperialist armies.

The experience, theory and practice of the Liberation Army is an inspiration to the liberation struggles today in Vietnam, Burma, Malaya, Indonesia, Latin America, Palestine, Africa. Without the theory and practice and the example of the Liberation Army where would we be?

Without a people's army the people have nothing. The reactionaries want the people to have nothing. They raise a great hue and cry against guns. But they themselves always resort to guns. They want a monopoly of guns. The Liberation Army showed how to break that monopoly. That theory and practice and example are of worldwide importance.

After liberation in China, China's Khrushchev and his supporters set out to restore capitalism. Political power does grow out of the barrel of a gun and the Liberation Army provided the guns of political power of the Chinese workers and peasants. China's Khrushchev vainly tried to wrest those guns from the Chinese workers and peasants and put them back in the hands of the Chinese bourgeoisie and their Kuomintang.

Chairman Mao resolutely insisted that those guns should serve the workers and peasants, that proletarian politics must be in command.

In the most momentous event of our times—the great proletarian cultural revolution initiated, inspired and led by Chairman Mao—the Liberation Army has been a central feature. It has ensured that revolution was made under the dictatorship of the proletariat. It has “served the people.” It is of the people. It has no interests other than those of the Chinese workers and peasants and indeed of the international workers and peasants.

Throughout the proletarian cultural revolution, the genius and prestige of Chairman Mao and the existence, work and example of the Liberation Army created and guided by his thought, have been the decisive factors in the splendid victories now being won by the Chinese people.

The Liberation Army is one of Chairman Mao’s greatest new contributions to Marxism-Leninism. This
creation is of critical importance in the era of the decisive struggle between imperialism and the workers and peasants of the world.

The people of the world must build up their armies guided by the genius of Mao Tse-tung. Without a people's army they will have nothing. But with it they will either have people's power or be on the way to achieving it. They will build up an army that answers Chairman Mao's own description: “This army is powerful because all its members have a conscious discipline; they have come together and they fight not for the private interests of a few individuals or a narrow clique, but for the interests of the broad masses and of the whole nation. The sole purpose of this army is to stand firmly with the Chinese people and to serve them whole-heartedly.”