

To: PSC

From: Newspaper Staff (L.A. District)

Re: Developing The Communist Into An Iskra-Type Newspaper

Date: 5-8-77

The line of our organization states that we must take the ISKRA principle as the leading factor, and that THE COMMUNIST serves as our main practical means to implement this principle. The task before us is to take up THE COMMUNIST as a practical tool, centering our practical work around it, and making it our primary means to struggle for unity among Marxist-Leninists and to win the vanguard to communism. To achieve this task, it is necessary to speak to the role of the entire membership in forging our weapon; the role of districts in this task, and the practical steps necessary to make THE COMMUNIST an integral and leading part of all our work.

#### I. Responsibilities of All Comrades

It is necessary first and foremost for all members to recognize the necessity to play an active role in the writing of THE COMMUNIST and development of its content and scope. First, by contributing regularly to THE COMMUNIST, all comrades bring forward their contributions to the development of our line, and their ability to consistently apply our line to any given event. Secondly, with the aid of a proper division of labor, certain comrades can develop their skills and become specialists upon which the entire organization can rely. Thirdly, consistent participation in writing for THE COMMUNIST will help every comrade develop their grasp of our line. As Lenin teaches us: "...the masses will never learn to conduct political struggle until we help train leaders for this struggle, both from among the unlightened workers and from among the intellectuals; and such leaders can acquire training solely by systematically appraising all the everyday aspects of our political life, of all attempts at protest and struggle on the part of various classes and on various grounds." (WITBD' page 199)

Comrades, THE COMMUNIST provides us the means to train such leaders. It is necessary now for our members to take up this weapon and join actively and systematically to develop its content. We cannot stress too much how important such participation is to the systematic ideological development of the membership as a whole. Only in this way will every member be actively participating in the devel

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icipating in the development of our line, and in consolidation around it.

**PRACTICAL STEPS TO BE TAKEN:** It is necessary for each member to have a common grounding and familiarity with the international and domestic situation, as well as the tasks of the organization, etc. For this it is important for every member to regularly read *PEMING REVIEW* and *ALBANIA TODAY*; their local bourgeois press; and the communist press. On this basis, every member should regularly contribute topical exposures on major events. It is also necessary to immediately develop a certain degree of specialization, with some comrades being specifically assigned to regularly contribute on an assigned area. Criticisms and evaluations of each issue of *THE COMMUNIST* should be submitted within the following week after the distribution of the paper. This is so that they can be reviewed by the editorial board in preparation for the next issue. This should be a practical principle which applies to all members. Criticisms and evaluations must be timely and consistent in order to aid in the development of the paper.

In summary the steps are:

- 1) regular observance of the objective situation through reading PR, AT, local bourgeois press, communist press
- 2) regular contributions of topical exposures of major events in the form of articles or short sum-up type reports
- 3) specialization and assignments of certain fields and subjects
- 4) letters of criticisms and evaluations

## II. THE NEWSPAPER STAFF

The priority of the newspaper staff should be to meet within a few days after receiving each issue of the paper to evaluate it and send the evaluation immediately to the editorial board. The newspaper staff would be responsible for the coordination of articles written by their district. This would be done thru channeling information on articles needed with the district. After articles have been assigned, the NS would be responsible for checking on the progress of the articles. Upon completion, articles would be reviewed by the district and NS before being sent to the editorial board. The above process should be applied to each district according to their conditions and in a timely manner. Also, the NS would be responsible for the coordination of criticisms and evaluations of each issue of the paper as they are submitted by

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other district members. As previously mentioned in part I, this should be done promptly, preferably within a week after the paper has been received. Another responsibility of the NS would be distribution and expansion of the paper along with the district as a whole. Correspondence in reference to THE COMMUNIST should be responded to by the NS as directed by the district. Also, the handling and coordination of criticisms and self-criticisms in the district should be done by the NS as directed by the district.

#### SUM-UP

Use of the newspaper as a collective propagandist serves two basic purposes: 1) train ourselves and the workers to respond to political events in a communist fashion. Taking up the task to do comprehensive political exposures will enable every member and our national leadership to learn to do communist proppganda. More specifically, it will enable us to train a core of propagandist who are consistent in principle. 2) Participation in this task by all districts will broaden the scope of THE COMMUNIST.