COMMUNISM IN CHINA

Chinese Civil War:1945

Nationalists

- Jiang Jieshi
- Southern China
- United States
- Weak support because of inflation and a failing economy
- Corrupt leadership and poor morale

Communists

- Mao Zedong
- Northern China
- Soviet Union
- National liberation
- Strong due to promised land reform for the peasants
- Experienced and motivated guerilla army

COMMUNISTS
TIBET
NATIONALISTS

Results of the Civil War

- 1949, the Communists won
- Peasants were excited about the possibility of owning land
- Mao Zedong declares the country “The Peoples Republic of China”
- Jiang and the Nationalists fled to the island of Taiwan

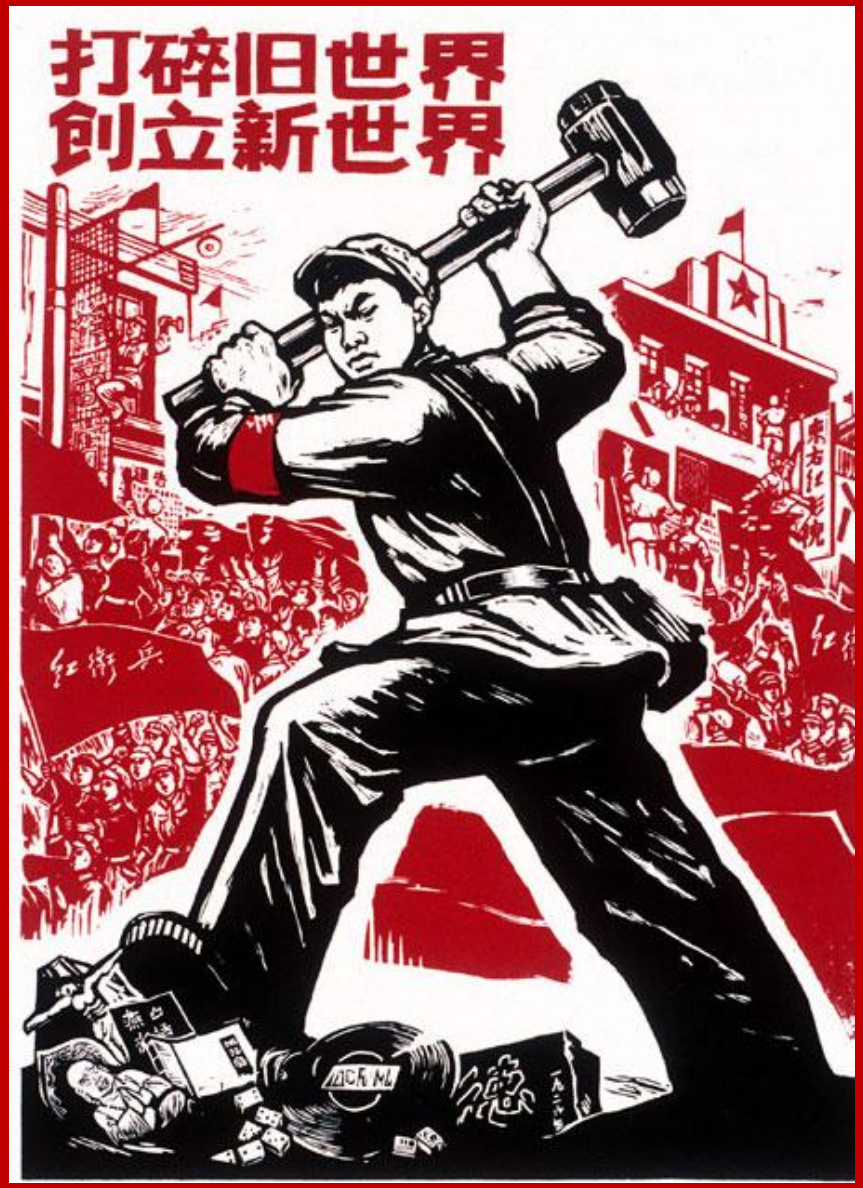
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA
(COMMUNIST)
TAIWAN
(REPUBLIC OF
CHINA-DEMOC
RACY)

Mao Zedong Transforms China

- Mao wanted to quickly strengthen his rule over China's 550 million people
- Communist agenda:
  - Reshape the economy: 80% of the people lived in rural areas, but only 10% controlled the land
  - Mao seized the land and killed over 1 million landlords who resisted
  - He divided the land among the peasants and created collective farms

China's 5-Year Plan

- In 1953, Mao set high production goals for industry
  - By 1957, China's coal, cement, steel, and electricity outputs increased tremendously



The Great Leap Forward

- In 1958, Mao called for a larger set of <u>collective farms</u> called "communes"
- There were 26,000 communes; each commune supported 25,000 people
- The people on each commune ate in the same dining room, slept in dorms, and raised their children in nurseries
- There was no incentive to work because only the state profited from their labor= The Giant Step Backward

Mao's Response to the Failure

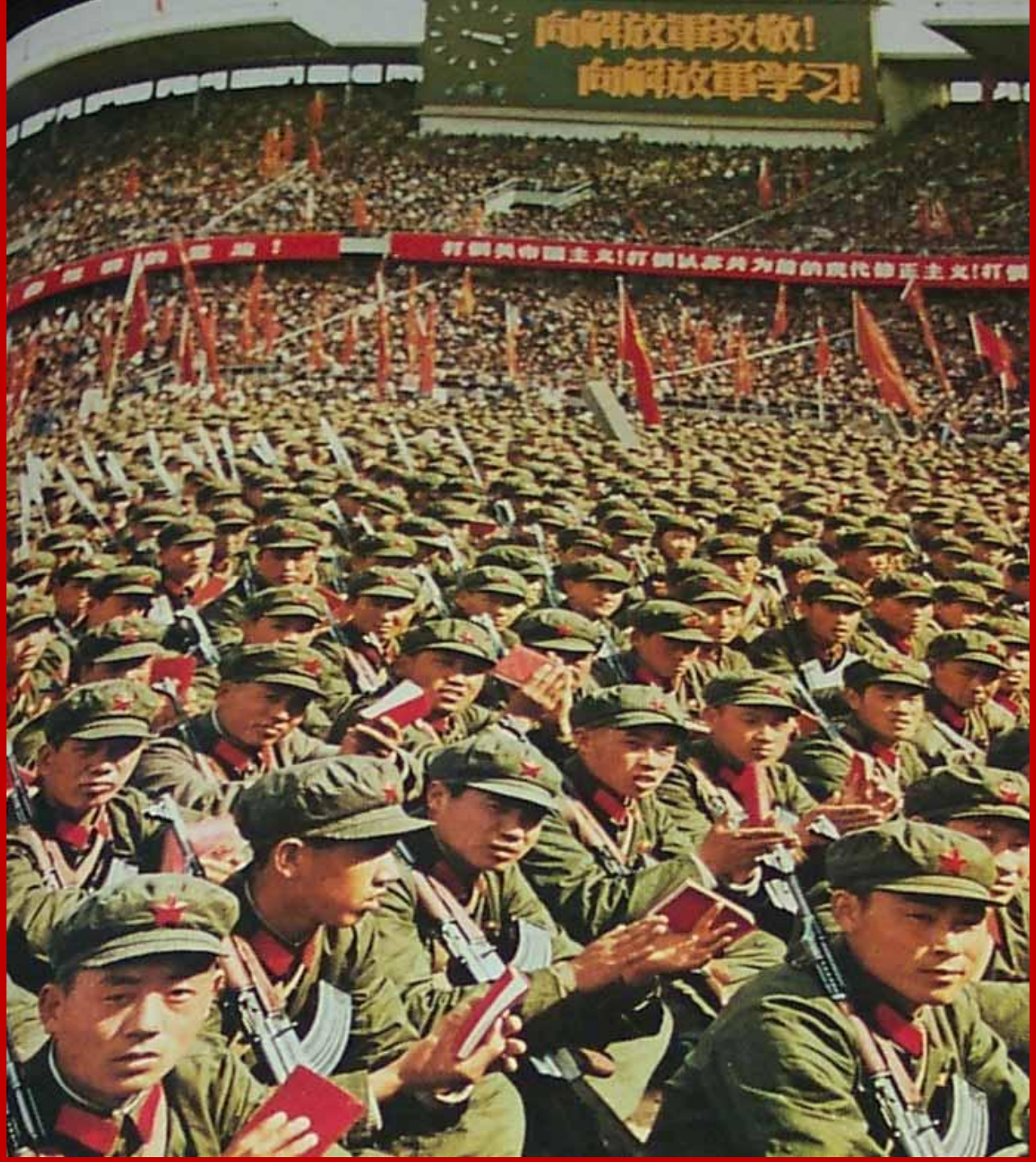
- Mao stepped back from the government
- Families could live in their own homes on the farms
- Factory workers could compete for higher wages
- But, the "Red Guards", a group of high school students revolted and started the Cultural Revolution

The Cultural Revolution

- The goal was to establish a society in which all peasants and workers were equal
- The Red Guards shut down colleges and universities
- Thousands were executed or imprisoned if they resisted
- Farm production slowed so much that eventually the revolution was stopped
- Mao Zedong died soon after on September 9, 1976

China after Mao's death

- The Chinese Premier, Zhou Enlai, invited Americans to participate in a table tennis tournament
- By 1979, under the leadership of Deng Xiapoing, the US and China began trading
- Deng Xiaoping set goals for production in agriculture, industry, defense, and science and technology = the FOUR MODERNIZATIONS


向解放軍致敬!
向解放軍學习!

Massacre in Tiananmen Square

- Deng's leadership allowed more Chinese citizens to be exposed to western ideas
- In 1989, 100,000 students occupied Tiananmen Square and demanded democracy

Massacre in Tiananmen Square

- Deng's leadership exposed Chinese citizens to western ideas
- In 1989, 100,000 students occupied Tiananmen Square and demanded democracy
- They constructed the "Goddess of Democracy"

Massacre at Tiananmen Square

- Tanks and soldiers surrounded Tiananmen Square
- Hundreds of students were killed and thousands were wounded
- The “Tank Man” becomes a symbol of the movement

The Tank Man

Video links to

- The Great Leap Forward http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EDL-JBuxkQ
- The Tank Man
- http://video.pbs.org/video/1146923141/