

## THE SOVIET DRIVE FOR WORLD DOMINATION



Soviet tanks on maneuvers. Their new military equipment gets battle tested in Southeast Asia, the Mideast, and Africa.

The USSR is on the move around the world. Using Cuba and more recently Vietnam as their hitmen, the capitalist rulers of the once-socialist Soviet Union are challenging the US ruling class everywhere. They are seeking to replace America as the dominant power exploiting the wealth of other lands.

In the last year, Vietnam invaded Cambodia, and Cuba aided the savage Ethiopian dictatorship in an all-out offensive against the Eritrean liberation struggle. Pro-Soviet elements staged a coup in Afghanistan, Soviet-armed and Cuban-trained mercenaries invaded Zaire, and North and South Yemen plunged into a bloody border war stirred up by the USSR.

Since the massive Cuban intervention in the Angolan civil war in 1976, the tempo of Soviet-backed aggression has stepped up year by year. At the same time, the USSR has kept up its

talk of detente and world peace, and continues to push for arms limitation deals with the US.

These are the two legs of an overall strategy the Kremlin is following. Its goal is to get in the best possible position, politically, economically, and militarily for the final showdown with the US--a new world war.

The Soviet Union has targeted three critical areas to bring under their influence in the present period.

\* Southeast Asia. The Vietnamese, in desperate need of foreign aid and with one of the largest armies in the world, are a most valuable ally for the USSR. The Soviet goal is to encircle China and isolate Japan by bullying Southeast Asian nations into the Soviet camp or at least paralysis.

\* Southern Africa. Hatred for US-European imperialism here gives the USSR the chance to pose as the revolutionary ally of people struggling for

liberation. They promote splits among African organizations to create, in this resource-rich and strategic area, new Angolas, where local leaders will depend on Cuban troops and Soviet "aid" to stay in power.

\* The Middle East. Control of the Middle East and its vast oil deposits would give the USSR a powerful stranglehold on wealthy industrial Western Europe. Despite being pushed out of Egypt and Somalia, the Soviets have continued to make inroads. Ethiopia and South Yemen straddle the main sea route between Europe and Asia. With loyal junior partners also running Afghanistan, and ties with Iraq, Libya, and other countries in the area, the Soviets are in an excellent position to take advantage of the continuing struggle of the Palestinian people and Arab countries against Israel and popular rebellions against reactionary rulers like the Shah.