

RESISTANCE



POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE FOR PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION M.L
P.O. BOX 513, TRIBORO STATION, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10035

VOL. 11 NO. 1 FEB. 1980 25¢

USSR SHEDS "SOCIALIST" COVER

The Soviet Union's invasion and occupation of Afghanistan is plain and simply, an imperialist action that merits the condemnation of all freedom and peace loving people in the world. The Soviet Union (SU) birthplace of socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat, is today, as its actions in Afghanistan clearly show, another big imperialist power, a superpower, that attempts to meddle, interfere and control the internal affairs of many nations and peoples of the world.

The invasion of Afghanistan is not the exception to an overall correct line and practice as some claim, but a logical escalation of the SU's imperialist nature. The once proud socialist country competes today for world hegemony with US imperialism and, as every other imperialist power in history, resorts to its military strength to impose its yoke over other nations.

The SU today has its imperialist grip over many countries in Eastern Europe, Cuba, Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea, Angola, Ethiopia, South Yemen and great influence on many others. And they have gotten there using both political, economic, as well as military means. They took Angola using the Cubans as their mercenary force, just as they are doing in Ethiopia. In Kampuchea they are using their Vietnamese lackeys. And now, conscious of their great political and military advantage over their principal imperialist rival, they are using their own forces.

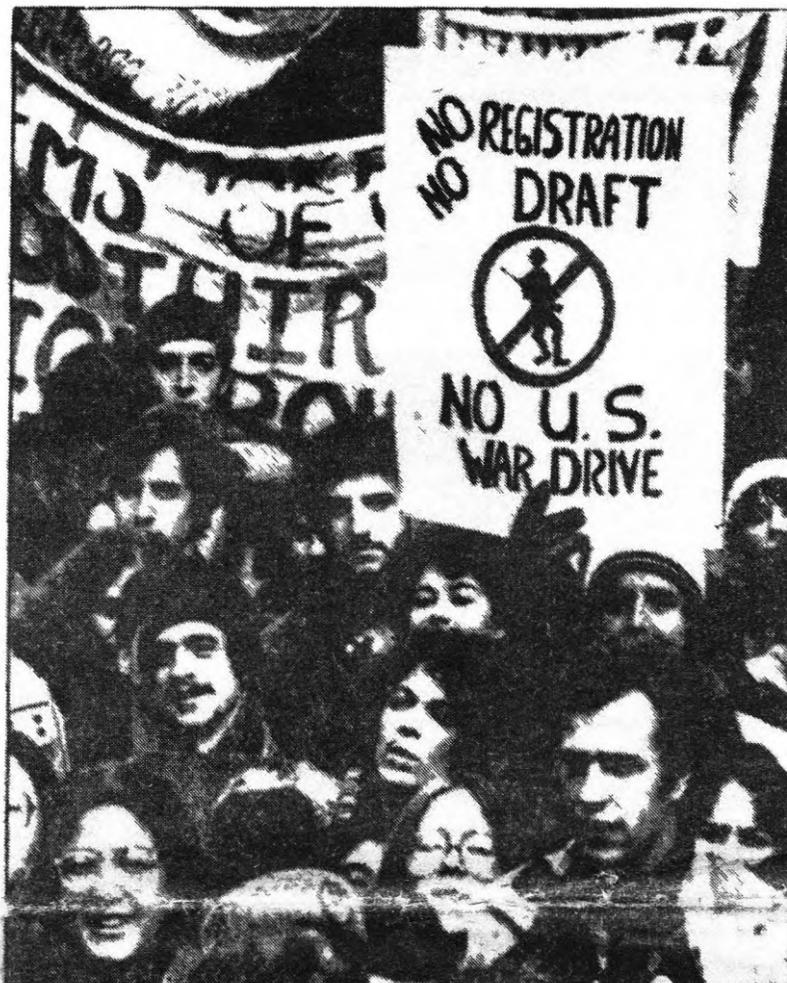
But today's increased Soviet control

over more areas in the world is, at the same time, the initiation of a period in which more and more people, realizing that the SU is not really socialist, will begin to break from their political influence. Even some countries who have traditionally lined up with the SU, fooled by their "aid" and their phoney words about socialism, are beginning to see the light. Many of them voted at the United Nations vote of 104 vs 18, condemning the Afghanistan invasion. At the Islamic Conference too, held in Pakistan last month, 35 Moslem countries unanimously approved a resolution condemning the invasion and demanding the immediate and complete withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. This was a significant and devastating blow at Soviet Union's influence in those countries.

Undoubtedly, the Soviet aggression, with all its negative implications, has its positive aspect in that it strips the SU naked, with its bloody claws showing. It is the SU itself that is ripping off its "socialist" mask, and there is nothing it can do or say to patch it up together again, because as time goes on they become greedier and bolder in their imperialist actions. They are certainly doomed to fail, as the events show.

Unfortunately for the world's peoples, Afghanistan does not represent at all the end of a practice, but rather the prelude of bigger imperialist acts of aggression.

Continues on page 2



Thousands across the country have turned out to protest President Carter's proposed reinstatement of the Draft. The message is clear "NO to imperialist war!"

War Getting Closer, What Must Revolutionaries do?

The prospects of a new imperialist war and what is to be done in relation to it has become the center of attention of world opinion today. The events in Iran (See page 2) and Afghanistan (See page 1) have made the increasing danger of war clear to all. Thus, it is a most urgent duty of communists to establish clearly what are our views on the question of war and the tasks ahead in the struggle for Peace, Freedom, and Socialism.

The question of war and the struggle against it is not new for communists. Under imperialism, wars are inevitable, and the danger of it, although in different degrees always exists. That being the case, we will not take the time now to expand questions like the different kinds of wars, a historical analysis of the first two world wars, etc., but we will concentrate on the present danger of imperialist war and what we consider should be the general program of U.S. communists regarding that danger. We leave then, for another occasion, a lot of very relevant questions that obviously have to be grasped in order to develop a correct Marxist Leninist line on this fundamental question. To avoid possible misunderstandings, we will briefly state our general views on such questions so that the reader can see where we stand.

DIFFERENT KINDS OF WAR

Communists recognize the fact that there are different kinds of war. In brief there are (1) imperialist wars of aggression,

like the one the US waged against Vietnam or like the Soviet Union is waging today in Afghanistan, (2) inter-imperialist wars for the redistribution of the world among the imperialist powers, the First World War and the early stage of the Second World War enter into this category, (3) imperialist wars of aggression against socialist states, like the German invasion of the then socialist Soviet Union (SU), (4) civil wars in which the working class and its allies fight for the overthrow of the bourgeoisie, the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the building of socialism, such as the one we have to wage in the US and has to be waged in all advanced capitalist countries, and (5) wars of national liberation, such as the ones waged by the peoples of the third world (Nicaragua, Zimbabwe, etc.) against the imperialist powers.

WHAT KIND OF WAR ARE WE CONFRONTED WITH

Unless we substitute gymnastics with dialectics, or we become part of the swamp that considers the SU a socialist country, it should be clear that we are confronting the motion towards an inter-imperialist war for the redistribution of the world's market among the two superpowers. Although it is possible for the character of the war to change such was the case of World War II, and if so, communists are to change their positions accordingly, it would be a fruitless exercise in fiction writing to establish our line ba-

sed on what is possible though not happening.

Therefore, it is important that right from the start US communists establish our opposition to the U.S. drive for war, to oppose each and every one of its war preparations, also make clear our opposition to the other superpower and its war preparations. We take no sides in the struggle between the SU and the US. We oppose them both. Obviously, the fact that we are communists within the US, part of the US multinational working class, poses a particular task for us. That is, to concentrate on the exposure and opposition to US imperialism. Only idealists, or people on the lookout for theoretical justifications for class collaborationist stands, can argue in the other direction. Besides being incorrect, making the exposure of the Soviet Union the main task is something that falls on its own weight. Where are the thousands of Americans that want to join the "red army" to fight against the US? We ask this because making the exposure of the SU the main task for US communists presupposes that the American people, instead of being under the influence of the warmongering US bourgeoisie, are being convinced by the revisionist CPUSA and their fellow travellers of the goodness of the SU. But this is not the

While communists oppose the first three types of war and support the latter two, the fact is that each and every war has to be analyzed in its concrete historical con-

text and develop the line accordingly. Thus, in the case of the war in Vietnam, we opposed it, while in the Second World War communists favored the participation of the US in the struggle against the Nazis. Far from it, our task is to convince the American people not to ally with our own bourgeoisie, not to go to war to defend the interests of the big monopolies that run this country.

THE UNITED STATES ARE NOT THE THIRD WORLD

The fact that we are within the US we insist, has a lot to do with the position we are to take on all international issues. In the Third World, the exposure of the Soviet Union is key to move forward the national liberation struggles, to safeguard independence, and to advance in the road to new democracy towards socialism. Many revolutionaries in the third world are not aware of the social-imperialist character of the SU and see it as an ally, not as the enemy that is trying to substitute US imperialism. US imperialism is being exposed in those countries, it has been identified as the enemy.

Therefore, in the third world exposure of the SU, without meaning to become pro US imperialism, has to play a primary role in the tasks of communists. But here, let's repeat it again, independently of the existence of honest forces who

Continues on page 8

Support demands of the Iranian people

The LPR-ML has been active in the struggle in support of the Iranian revolution for many years. We supported the struggle to overthrow the Shah, and since the November, 1979 take-over of the American embassy in Teheran and the taking of American hostages, we have been supporting the just demands of the Iranian people. As part of that work, we have joined the New York Committee to Send the Shah Back to Iran. In order to briefly establish our views on this question, the work we have been involved in and what are the tasks ahead, we are printing an interview with the representatives of the LPR to the New York Committee to Send the Shah Back to Iran. To a great degree the line of questioning responds to the fact that similar questions have been raised to us by people we have come in contact with in doing this work, or by comrades who have written to us.

What is your understanding of the present US-Iran conflict?

The present conflict cannot be seen in isolation from the historical development of relations between the US and Iran. The hostage situation is a by-product of those relations. The US is responsible for many crimes against the Iranian people. They backed the toppling of the democratic government previous to the Shah and brought the Shah to power. All the crimes of the Shah against the Iranian people were committed with the backing of the US imperialism. The Shah got weapons, training for his criminal SAVAK, and all kinds of political, economic and military aid from the US. Thus, the Iranian revolution correctly targeted not just the Shah but US imperialism as well.

But the victory of the 1979 revolution did not end completely the US involvement in Iran. The US tried to undermine the revolution in many ways. They tried to co-opt politicians, initiated a mass media campaign to discredit the revolution, and continued to provide help to the Shah then in exile.

The question of the Shah has to be understood well. The Shah is an arch-crimi-

nal, a Hitler who is responsible for the death of over 100,000 Iranians. Many thousands more are still suffering from the tortures they were submitted to. The Shah robbed billions of dollars from the Iranian people and most of that money is in US banks and corporation holdings. The Iranian masses want that butcher back in Iran to make him pay for his crimes, they also want the wealth back. And the US not only opposes that, but slapped the Iranians on the face by bringing the Shah here under pretext of "humanitarian reasons." The act of direct provocation, a real violation of international law that recognizes the right of nations to extradite criminals, was what precipitated the taking of the embassy. The Iranians were not provoking the US, but rather responding to the US' well thought-out provocations.

What about the hostages? Do you favor their release or not?

Yes, we are for their release and in fact we have been working for this. Although we have no doubts that some of the hostages are not the "diplomatic" personnel they are supposed to be, but CIA operatives, as the Iranians declare, we are for a peaceful settlement of the question. This would be in the benefit of the Iranian people. The

Iranians need to consolidate the revolutionary gains already made, as well as advance their revolution, while being alert to the threats of both superpowers to their sovereignty and self-determination. Conflicts like the present one can be used by international counterrevolutionary forces to attempt the overthrow of the revolutionary government. And undoubtedly, each of the two superpowers count with numerous and still powerful fifth columns in Iran.

On what basis do you see the release? Are you for their unconditional release?

NO way. The release has to be negotiated, and would have to necessarily involve concessions by US imperialism. We have advocated 3 basic points as the solution to the crisis:

- (1) Send the Shah and all his wealth back to Iran.
- (2) US hands off Iran. No military intervention, no economic sanctions, no interference in the internal affairs of the Iranian people.
- (3) End the attacks on the Iranians in the US. Stop all deportation procedures.

The Committee we are part of has these points as principles of unity, although formulated in a different way. The US' acceptance of these demands, which are the basic demands of the Iranian people, themselves, are the basis for the release.

Send the Shah back? How? He is no longer in the US. Are you saying that Carter should order the Panamanian government to extradite the Shah?

We are not asking that, and on the contrary have and will oppose, all attempts by the US government to meddle in the

internal affairs of other countries. It is up to the Panamanians to decide how to proceed. Nonetheless, it would be naive not to understand how the Shah landed in Panama in the first place. Without the backing of the US that would not have happened.

Furthermore, Send the Shah Back is a just demand that can be raised to any government that gives sanctuary to that criminal. The Panamanian people themselves are raising the demand, louder than us, and the same would happen wherever that butcher goes. The Shah is an international criminal and everybody should be on his case.

Is there good political unity in the Committee? What are some of the areas of disagreements?

In relation to the issue at hand, unity is the primary aspect. We all uphold in our practice the principles of unity of the coalition and have been able to, despite differences, present a common front on the issues. On the political line of the Committee, there have been struggles around some questions, but consensus has prevailed.

At the beginning, some forces tried to push an Anti Khomeini stand in the Committee. We, as well as other forces, fought against that tendency and the Committee united in that although we recognize the right of each organization and individual in the Committee to have their own position on the present situation in Iran, we will not tolerate any attacks whatsoever against the present leadership of the Iranian revolution. To allow that, it was correctly summed up, would be to undermine the position of the Iranian people.

Continues on page 6

AFGHANISTAN

Continued from page 1

That is why it is so important for all the people of the world, and especially for revolutionaries, to understand that the SU is not a socialist, but an imperialist country. In the present situation to be a consistent anti-imperialist it is necessary to oppose both superpowers.

AFGHANI PEOPLE FIGHT BACK

The Afghani people are fighting back against the Soviet aggression. It has been confirmed that a series of patriotic organizations have joined in a united front to confront with much stronger opposition the new aggressors. We are to render political as well as material support to that front. In doing so, we are to politically explain various points.

First and foremost, the Afghans are not fighting against communism. They are fighting the Soviet social-imperialists, which is not one and the same thing. The fact that many Afghani patriots, as with patriots of all nationalities around the world, may not understand the real meaning of socialism, nor the real nature of the SU, and identify one with the other, does not alter this one bit.

On the contrary, we are to oppose and expose those who label the Afghani resistance as a CIA front and actively attempt to undermine the support of the American people for their just struggle. This claim is made, on the one hand by the revisionists of the CPUSA, a series of Trotskyite organizations and some neo revisionists like the Philadelphia Organizing Committee, as well as on the other hand by neo Trotskyites "superrevolutionaries" that follow the Albanian line in this country. Independently of their squabbles, all of these forces share in common their disdain for the right of self-determination of the Afghani people, and for that matter, of all the oppressed nations of the world. In this way they also cover for Soviet so-

Those forces that have welcomed the Soviet invasion ("Hail the Red Army",

some say!), or have condemned it but then label as CIA agents the very forces resisting the invasion (the Guardian), are fifth columns of the Soviet revisionists in this country. And they should be exposed as such, whether they do so because they consider the SU socialist, or a "workers state", or because they believe the US is the main enemy of the world's people, or because of any other reasons.

Furthermore, we recognize the right of the Afghani people to accept help in their struggle from each and every quarter that offers them help. That includes US imperialism. We have never vacillated in our support for the PLO despite the fact that they consider the SU an ally and not an enemy. Nor have we stopped our consistent support to the Nicaraguan revolution not withstanding an international policy clearly tilted towards the SU.

The question we always ask ourselves is whether or not the struggles waged by this or that nation, led by this or that group, objectively weakens imperialism. If the answer is yes, we support it. We did so in Iran and Nicaragua against US imperialism, and we do so in Kampuchea and Afghanistan, against Soviet social-imperialism. The Afghani people have the right to determine their own affairs, without any foreign intervention, and we have the responsibility of giving them concrete support to achieve that just aim.

THE US IS NOT SITTING IDLY BY

US imperialism saw in the SU invasion of Afghanistan a golden opportunity to step up its war preparations. Conscious of the fact that they need a support among the masses of American people for their warmongering policies, they have continued with their national chauvinist propaganda developed around Iran.

In his State of the Union speech, the president outlined what is being called the "Carter Doctrine" which is no more and no less than a turn in US foreign policy towards more belligerency and warmongering. Carter's Doctrine smells and spells imperialist war and we are to oppose and defeat it before it is too late. In a nutshell,

Carter calls for all-round preparations against the "Soviet menace". He calls for more arms, more military installations, more CIA covert operations, the reinstatement of the Draft system, and billions more for its war machine.

While speaking of developing more nuclear weapons and war armaments, and starting the registration process that is the preamble to the Draft, US diplomats are busy negotiating the establishment of new military installations in Oman, Egypt, Nigeria and other countries. And not to leave any doubts about his real intentions, Carter declared the Persian Gulf an area "of vital interest for the US" and expressed his disposition to avoid "by any means necessary, including military actions", any attempt of the SU to control that region. Here we have it. Naked imperialism. The Persian Gulf and its oil are treated as if it was an integral part of the US. The Russians going there would be responded to as if they had landed in Manhattan. And the message to the American people is precisely that. The oil in the Persian Gulf is our oil and if the Russians attack it, you have to go and fight them. We definitely oppose this imperialist doctrine and will do everything we can do to obfuscate it. Helping to organize a powerful mass resistance movement to the Draft, at this moment against registration, is one of the ways in which we can carry that opposition out in practice.

THE AID TO PAKISTAN

The question of US imperialism approving the end of the sanction against Pakistan, and the approval of military aid to that third world country, have to be examined in the particulars. Obviously that aid is offered by the US imperialists having its own interests, and not those of the Pakistani people and nation, in mind. That's ABC.

But life is a lot more than ABC. There is a real possibility that the Soviet Union decide to invade Pakistan as its next step in its imperialist drive for world hegemony. It is in the interest of the Pakistani people and of all the peoples of the world that such an aggression is repelled and

defeated.

Some may ask, but if US aid responds to self interest, what about the strings attached? This is a question where we have to understand how contradictions among the enemy can be used in favor of the people. It is certainly not that the US imperialist bourgeoisie has suddenly become good hearted and decided to help Pakistan. In the past, the US was a strong, uncontested, superpower, and was able, through economic control to get its own way in many parts of the world. This situation has changed, and it now finds itself in a considerably weaker position due to many military and political defeats and its internal crisis, plus it finds itself threatened by the Soviet Union. It is thus forced to aid Pakistan, finding it increasingly difficult to get concessions out of countries that are receiving aid from it. Of course, they will never stop trying, but the US bourgeoisie as it becomes weaker, will be forced to grant even more aid and make even more concessions itself, and this is to the benefit of the countries involved.

Further, someone can correctly argue that stopping the Russians is not enough because that would not solve the conditions of oppression and exploitation the Pakistani workers and peasants live in. That is true. But a Soviet take-over would not solve that either. On the contrary, it would make it more difficult. Thus we cannot oppose but support that military aid be granted to Pakistan and demand more.

At the same time we oppose the way in which such aid is being offered. We are for aid to be used to fight the Soviet menace that doesn't bring attached to it a greater dependence on US imperialism. Therefore, we are for the aid to Pakistan while opposing all attempts to use it for greater imperialist domination. When Pakistani president Zia calls that aid mere peanuts and opposes US imperialism meddling in the internal affairs of Pakistan, he is objectively opposing both superpowers and weakening them both. Such a stand is to be supported. At the same time,

Continues on page 3

Koch Attacks Minorities' Right to Education

Again, another crime is in the process of being committed. Again, thousands of Black, Puerto Rican and other oppressed nationality children are the victims. And, again, the arch-racist mayor of New York City, Ed Koch, is the vicious criminal.

What is it now? In his attempt to avoid all the big protests in an election year, (very sly of him!, 1981 is election year for mayors), Koch "balanced" the city budget one year ahead of time. And it is nothing but an all-out attack against national minorities.

All throughout the country, in fact, oppressed nationalities are the most affected victims of the capitalist crisis in the US. The cuts in essential services, the rising prices, the intensified police repression, the KKK attacks, etc., are all symptoms of this crisis that affects the working class, and most heavily its oppressed nationality sectors.

The case of New York City and specifically the cuts in education which we will focus on here, are an example of what's happening in the rest of the country.

SOME FACTS

Although Koch's "balanced" budget means cuts for practically all services, the cuts in education are, in comparison, especially outrageous. For Koch, and the capitalists he represents, children of the oppressed are more expendable than cops. Or any of the services given by the city. Let's see:

1. Within the next two years NYC public schools will have lost 7,000 jobs, 4,000 this year, the majority of which will be teachers and 1,500 of them paraprofessionals. Concretely, this means already crowded classrooms will be even more crowded, an average of 5 less teachers in each school, less attention for each child, and thus, less learning. Besides, the great majority of paraprofessionals are people from oppressed nationality communities, and this concretely means less opportunity for the children to benefit from the aid of people who can better understand their problems and talk in their language, and also, more economic hardships for their families, hardships which invariably are reflected in increased learning problems in the children.

2. Fifty public schools will be closed, 40 of them this year, and 10 in the Hunts Point area in the Bronx. Concretely, this means children will have to walk longer distances from home, or parents will have to pay more transportation in order to take the younger ones, plus, facilities already inadequate for a certain number of children will now have to accommodate even more, thus seriously affecting their learning.

3. \$111 million less will be assigned to public schools in next year's budget. Concretely, this means less books, less paper and pencils, less bilingual and after school programs, less special reading and math programs, less learning materials like visual aids, films, etc., less field trips, less lunch programs, and so on with all the things that are so badly needed right now. And all of this, of course, amounts to one thing: less learning. And considering that right now children often go through the school year without their science books, or without readers and many of the necessary materials, the news of less materials is like depriving of food an already starving child.

Koch's crime against the children is even more savage when we see it in the context of what is currently happening in educational systems. In NYC, 6 out of 10 children are reading below grade level. Added cuts can only worsen this situation. And with a 45% drop-out rate, Koch is only encouraging more youth to hit the streets, since less and less badly needed attention will be given them, less opportu-

nity to really get something out of school.

It is clear that Koch doesn't give a damn about our children's education. Because otherwise, why all the cuts affecting their education, while the Livingston St bureaucracy has been left intact? Why such an imbalance between cuts in education and cuts in everything else in this supposedly "balanced" budget?



Clearly, Koch is out to destroy any chance for education that was left for poor children in the city. He is out to kill what is left of the decentralization laws by strengthening the central (money controlling) board and undermining all efforts by parents and community to have a say in the education of their children. He is out to break any kind of unity between teachers and community by making teaching more and more difficult for teachers, and learning more and more difficult for the children, and then blaming each other for the failures. And finally, he is out to bust the teacher's union and by so doing set a threatening example of what is yet to come for all the other municipal employees who are entering into negotiation with the city precisely at this time in which Koch has decided to "balance" his budget.

KOCH'S RATIONALE

Education of the children is not worth the taxpayers' money, he says. According to his logic less money will not affect the quality of education. "The problem is that teachers don't teach, principals don't do their job, the kids don't want to learn, and the parents don't give a damn", says Koch. So, with his characteristic cynicism and shrug of the shoulders, he puts aside the problems of education and justifies the cuts as logical by pitting everybody against each other and blaming them for the failures, when in reality this is nothing but the product of this rotten capitalist system that puts profits over the needs of the people.

The mayor also alleges that because there has been a 10% decrease in student enrollment in the past several years, this has to be accompanied by cuts in personnel and funds. But what he conveniently "forgets" to mention is that the decreased enrollment is on the one hand, mostly of white middle class children who are either going to private schools or fleeing into the suburbs. And they were located in the "better" neighborhoods and the "better" schools where classes were kept small anyway.

On the other hand, decreased enrollment also reflects deep frustration of parents and children who no longer see a

need to have their children in what is called schools in NYC. Besides, the cost of living has greatly increased in the last several years, which means that schools need more, not less, teachers need more money, and the educational system in general needs more money, in order to start to remedy all the problems being faced now by the children, most of which are

poor and oppressed nationality children are denied their basic democratic rights—the right to a decent education? Why, NONE, of course.

A LOT OF STRUGGLE AHEAD

We cannot stand idly by while these attacks are going on. Already parents in different communities are bracing themselves for the struggle ahead.

This coming May are the elections for local school boards, and here too the struggle can be waged. The campaigns to elect board members responsive to the needs of our children cannot be limited to just that. They can be of great use in exposing the crimes being committed against our children, in struggling against the cuts, and in forging the united front between parents, the community at large and teachers, that is necessary to be successful.

We can't make any concessions on the question of lay offs or cut backs. Our acceptance of even the smallest cuts will mean entering the never ending road of more and more cuts, not only in education but in all other services. And our support for bilingual programs, and more and better educational materials has to be accompanied by our support for more teachers and paraprofessionals, with better working conditions, etc., for them.

There is, in fact, a common interest between teachers and students in that teachers can teach better in smaller classes, with more materials, etc., conditions which in turn, help the children to learn better. This common interest can be transformed into joint action against a common enemy. Similarly, if teachers support the demand for bilingual programs and other services needed by the children, parents and teachers will be able to unite on a concrete basis, more effectively move together against all cuts.

Let's all move forward against the common enemy—the capitalists and their representatives like mayor Koch who are the ones responsible for our children not being able to read, and for their denial of our most basic democratic rights.

**NO MORE LAY OFFS
AND CUTBACKS!
EDUCATION IS A RIGHT,
NOT A PRIVILEGE!
DOWN WITH NATIONAL
OPPRESSION AND RACISM!**

reading many grades below their level—if at all.

NATIONAL OPPRESSION AND RACISM

Mayor Koch is one of the most blatantly racist public officials NY has ever seen. This most recent attack upon NY public school children is another form of the national oppression and racism that goes hand in hand with the capitalist system.

In NY public schools 70% of the students citywide are non white, 80% in Manhattan alone. This means that the brunt of the cuts are hitting the education of oppressed nationality children. It is mostly Black and Puerto Rican children that are going to have less books, more crowded classrooms and poorer quality (is this possible?) lunches. And what difference does it make to Koch, and the capitalists he represents, if

AFGHANISTAN

Continued from page 2

and not less important than this, is our commitment to support the Pakistani people taking up arms to overthrow Zia and establish a free and democratic Pakistan.

OPPOSE BOTH SUPERPOWERS

As the decade of the 80's opens up, there are many storms in the horizon. In their drive for world hegemony the superpowers are bringing the whole world closer and closer to a Third World War. Events seem to indicate that what we are to be confronted with is an inter-imperialist war, a war for the re-distribution of the world. In such a war, the working class and its allies take no sides.

The fact that at this moment the SU is the more aggressive superpower, that the Soviet social-imperialists are on the offensive worldwide, while the US imperialists are on the defensive, that the SU is a rising power in the world scene, while the US is a declining one, are important facts to be taken into considerations in making projections on future world conflicts and in understanding alignment of forces, internationally. They are facts to be considered in understanding contradictions in the ene-

my camp, and especially, in making use of them. These facts are to be considered in mapping out the strategy and tactics in our own revolution. But in the event of an inter-imperialist war between the SU and the US, there is no room for doubts and wavering. We will not spill our blood in defense of the imperialist bourgeoisie but fight for their defeat.

And we, as Marxist-Leninists in the US oppose any view, no matter who proposes it, or under what disguise it comes, that sees as correct to unite with one superpower in a united front against the other. Especially, we call on comrades who by incorrectly assessing the SU alone as the main enemy of the world's people, claim that the US bourgeoisie has become, or is in the process of becoming, part of the united front against Soviet social imperialism. Although we don't discard this as a possibility, today this line has to be defeated and rooted out of the movement because it leads directly to class collaboration. We don't want to see the headlines of a Marxist-Leninist newspaper with the caricature of Uncle Sam saying "We want you, to fight the Soviet Union" ■

KAMPUCHEA SUPPORT WO

A year after the Soviet-backed Vietnamese aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, the heroic Kampuchean people under the leadership of their legitimate government have continued to fight against their aggressors. This just struggle merits our concrete support, both political and material, and is one of the most important anti-imperialist struggles going on in the world today. The Kampuchean people face complete extermination at the hands of the Vietnamese aggressors and this makes the need for material aid—money, food, medicines, clothing, etc., more crucial.

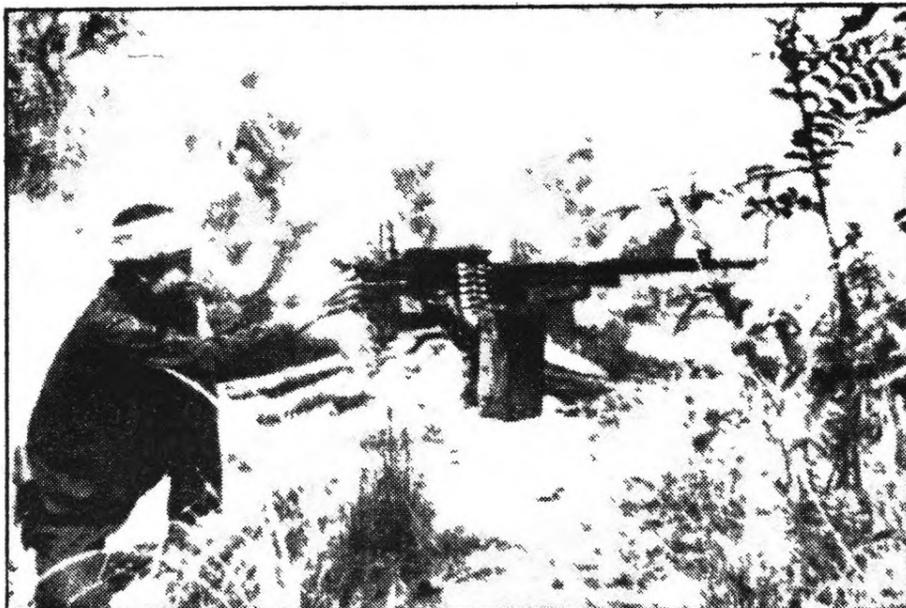
On November 18, 1979 representatives from over 30 countries convened in Stockholm, Sweden for the first International Conference in Solidarity with Kampuchea. Conscious of the urgent need for world wide mass support for the Kampuchean people, delegates traveled from all points of the globe in order to attend this important event. The Conference adopted a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of all Vietnamese military forces from Democratic Kampuchea and for the building of a powerful solidarity movement that will not rest until the independence of Kampuchea is achieved.

The League for Proletarian Revolution (ML) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (MLM) sent representatives as part of the US delegation which also included representatives from the CPML, the LRS (ML), the US-China Friendship Association and North American scholar George Hildebrand. Representatives from national liberation movements like the Pan African Congress (PAC) and delegates from Eritrea, Iran, Ethiopia, India, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Argentina, Laos and Turkey were present. Countries represented were the People's Republic of China, Tunisia, Nigeria, Somalia and Democratic Kampuchea. Many ML organizations from around the world attended, as well as anti-imperialist personages.

Noted Swedish author, Jan Myrdal, who had just recently returned from liberated zones inside Kampuchea showed a film of his journey to various guerrilla bases. The film proved the support by the people for the Kampuchean Revolutionary Army, who enabled Myrdal to enter and

travel inside of Kampuchea, showed the food distribution network set up by the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and training in the guerrilla bases.

Speakers from the PAC, Fadi Meran, gave a solidarity message from 25 members of the PAC who had been inside Kampuchea receiving military training at the time of the Vietnamese invasion. The PAC members had just recently returned



The Kampuchean people are courageously fighting against the Soviet backed Vietnamese occupation, and one day they will kick out these aggressors just as they did US imperialism.

from inside Kampuchea where they had witnessed the invasion and spent 9 months in the guerrilla zones. They were still suffering from malnutrition and malaria, etc., and were not physically able to attend the conference, but sent a solidarity message instead. The message refuted, from their eyewitness account, the slanders against the Government of Democratic Kampuchea (GDK), discussed the gains made by the GDK in socialist construction under the leadership of Pol Pot? they also described the support of the majority of the for the revolutionary forces.

T Dastider, co-chairman of the Bangladesh Gano Front, an influential peasant organization spoke of the growing unity of Asian peoples and countries against imperialism and in support of Kampuchea.

A distinguished professor, Tokumatsu Sakomoto, of the Japan-Kampuchea Friendship Association described the large scale support movement in support of Kampuchea in Japan.

In a joint statement distributed to the Conference participants, the LPR(ML) and the CORES(MLM) put forward their views on the basic tasks of the international movement in support of Kampuchea. We

ven the successful vote at the U N

The arguments we, and others, put forward were Support for the government of Democratic Kampuchea as the sole representative is the **concrete expression** for the defense of the democratic right of nations to independence and territorial integrity. Support for the GDK is part and parcel of the movement to oppose foreign intervention and letting the Kampuchean people decide their form of government.

The recent Havana Conference of Non-Aligned Nations shows that among some 3rd world countries the question of who should represent Kampuchea is not exactly a "settled question." Any relaxation in support, or retreat on this issue, could give ground to the revisionists in their attempt to discredit and unseat GDK representatives in International bodies around the world.

In the same manner, the representatives from CORES and LPR pointed out that as exerting our independent role as communists in the united front to support Kampuchea, we felt it our duty to resolutely defend the Pol Pot government from imperialist slanders, whether from the US or the USSR. We pointed out we have a special duty as revolutionaries in the US to expose the role "our" government has played in the questions of hardships, death, starvation, etc., the Kampuchean people have faced since they liberated themselves from American aggression in 1975. The representative from the Workers Communist Party (ML) from Canada, as well as the KBW from Germany, put forward that as communists the question of Pol Pot must be taken head-on. We made the point that in order to **really** show the importance of opposing the Vietnamese aggression, we must prove that all the misery, death, etc., was a result of the invasion, **precisely** by defending the gains made under the Pol Pot government. Otherwise people will conclude that the Vietnamese have "improved" conditions from Pol Pot's "atrocities" or say what difference does it make they are all just killing each other.

On the character and focus of the support work, many organizations including LPR and CORES, while pointing out the need to build the broadest possible united front and working with all sectors, empha-

Iranian Revolutionaries Support Kampuchea

This is an interview with the representative of the Confederation of Iranian Students to the International Conference in Support of Kampuchea, November 19, 1979

1. What is the viewpoint of the Confederation of Iranian Students on the situation inside Kampuchea?

The C I S being an anti-imperialist, anti-totalitarian student group, has supported and will support all the anti-imperialist movements fighting against imperialism for national independence. It is in this framework that we consider the struggle against imperialism, which in Kampuchea is Soviet social imperialism. We have a clear stand in our 17th Congress, 1976 in Hamburg, toward the Soviet Union. Our stand was that the Soviet Union is an imperialist superpower. From this position we have supported all struggling people, all over the world, who fight against this Soviet Superpower.

From the beginning when the Vietnamese occupation army invaded Kampuchea, we have joined demonstrations to condemn the invasion and support the Kampuchean people's just struggle. We have joined the international conference, first in Paris, now in Stockholm, and sup-

port the activities of the various Kampuchean Friendship Associations. We have collected over \$3,000 for the Kampuchean people and distributed literature. In the future, we're going to continue our support.

This Kampuchean conference was a good step forward. The positive side of it was that despite any differences, we shared an understanding that we all united on two principal things: 1) that the aggressive armies of the Vietnamese occupation troops must withdraw unconditionally, 2) it is the Kampuchean people who must decide their own future, their political system. This was the biggest step, it was a big victory. To unite on this, is a good beginning for work in the future, to mobilize as many people as possible on this issue.

In the past, during the period of American aggression in Indochina, we have been very active. In almost every activity we have participated. We believe this is the same broad movement in support of the Kampuchean people's struggle. We will participate, as before, as much as we can be-

cause the Kampuchean people's struggle is our struggle too.

We will unite with our friends against our enemies and victory is sure to come just as before.

2. What do you see as the role of the Soviet Union in relation to the Kampuchean situation?

Well, it is clear that the Soviet Union has the ambition of world hegemony. The design of the Soviet Union for global hegemony coincides directly with the aims of the Vietnamese government for regional hegemony. This is a part of Soviet strategy for enclosing Europe by fronts. Their plan is to grab all of Southeast Asia and control the Malacca Straits which is very vital to the Western countries.

3. What do you see as the cause of the disease and starvation that the Kampuchean people suffer?

The root cause is the occupation of Kampuchea by the Vietnamese army. The policy of starvation is directed from Hanoi

to exterminate the Kampuchean race. This is because the main support of the resistance movement is the Kampuchean masses, the people. The people are exterminated, in order to stop the resistance movement. This is the same tactic used by the US in its genocidal war of aggression in Indochina. But, the Kampuchean people will surely win as they did earlier against the US.

4. What is your opinion of the fundamental success of the conference in terms of building a broad United Front against the Vietnamese invasion?

On the positive side the conference built the basis for uniting all those that can be united to oppose the intervention in Kampuchea and support the self-determination of the Kampuchean people. Inside Kampuchea the view was agreed upon to support all forces who fight against the intervention and fight for national independence. These two movements to unite the many are very important weapons that can prevent the very extinction of the Kampuchean people who are struggling against foreign aggression.

RK MUST CONTINUE!



sized the need to base the Kampuchea support work in the working class. Gathering support from celebrities, etc., should not take the place of gathering mass support. The Communist League of Germany, for example, has gathered signatures from 23,000 trade unionists based upon the Paris appeal. Some organizations made clear that mass support makes the support work strong and that it is incorrect to lose one's bearings lobbying only for intellectuals and celebrities while ignoring base work.

One very positive aspect of the Conference was the popular exposure of Soviet social-imperialism (SSI), how it's on the offensive internationally and how the struggle inside Kampuchea is key in showing people how to deal with the rising danger of war, and the fact that foreign aggression and a fascist superpower must be dealt blows when it wantonly violates principles of national independence, etc. Speakers pointed out that both WW's started when one great power was allowed unrestrainedly to violate the national independence of small countries. Jan Myrdal, for example, compared Kampuchea to Ethiopia in the late 1930's when invaded by Mussolini who charged Haile Selassie with barbarism, etc., to justify the invasion and when other countries stood by, that facilitated WW II.

Representatives of CORES and LPR exposed the role of both US and USSR. In the case of the US, we pointed out both the dangers of appeasement and of war mongering. It is incorrect for US revolutionaries to support the increased meddling of the US in Southeast Asia supposedly to fight the "Soviet threat", while it is correct to oppose the US giving in to Soviet aggression.

In summing up the Conference, both LPR and CORES see this event as one of great significance worldwide. Many lessons in support work were exchanged among anti-imperialist and Marxist-Leninist forces from many lands. A number of correct resolutions were adopted at the closing which we wholeheartedly support. Attendees left the Conference with a great sense of accomplishment and resolved to implement the resolutions in their own countries. And the whole world saw that indeed the Kampuchean people's struggle enjoys wide support internationally, despite intensifying attacks and slanders by the im-

perialists, social-imperialists and revisionists against their continuing struggle, their revolution and their legitimate government.

CORES and LPR were confident in that among other things, the Conference would help to significantly move forward Kampuchean support work in the US. However, support work here is not developing as it should and could. We say this because people in the US have a special responsibility towards the Kampuchean people. Our own bourgeoisie has had a big role to play in the sufferings of our Kampuchean brothers and sisters, first as the imperialist aggressors who brutally bombed and assailed Kampuchea before they were kicked out by Kampuchean revolutionaries in 1975, and now because of their attacks and slanders and continuing attempts to meddle into Kampuchean affairs. Besides, we are living within an advanced capitalist country which greatly facilitates the possibilities of gathering material aid, as well as the task of waging a broad educational campaign about what is really happening

in Kampuchea and why. And yet, the enormous potential of the US people, who in many ways have shown their willingness to provide material help to Kampuchea, at least in terms of combatting the hunger and disease, is still largely untapped.

As members of the US delegation to the Conference, and as members of the US Kampuchea Support Committee (KSC) we suggest that a national meeting of all groups and individuals involved in the Kampuchea work be called by the National Staff of the KSC in order to sum-up work and correct this situation. We call on all progressive and revolutionary minded people to join efforts to intensify and broaden our educational work, and our gathering of material aid for the Kampuchean people in order to really fulfill our proletarian internationalist duties.

SOVIET VIETNAMESE INVADERS,
OUT OF KAMPUCHEA!
VICTORY TO THE
KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE!



The Kampuchean people surely deserve the American people's support. Demonstrations like the above, supporting their just struggle are needed as well as the gathering of material aid to relieve the hunger and starvation brought on by the Vietnamese.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

The International Conference in Support of Democratic Kampuchea unanimously agrees to:

Vigorously Condemns the brutal occupation of Democratic Kampuchea by Vietnam

Demands the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops—Vietnamese and any other—that are on Kampuchean soil, as well as the withdrawal of all Vietnamese occupants stationed in Kampuchea by Vietnam after the invasion.

Warmly salutes the September 21st decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations to maintain Democratic Kampuchea's seat, and the resolution to demand the withdrawal of the foreign troops in Kampuchea adopted on November 14, 1979.

Demands the right to self-determination of Kampuchean people, free of all foreign influence, subversion or threat. Only in a truly democratic Kampuchea, after the withdrawal of the Vietnamese, can the people of Kampuchea be able to freely decide its political and social system, as well as its institutions.

Calls on all forces who support this resolution to unite efforts in order to mobilize all people who believe in peace, independence and justice into one single force which will support the people of Kampuchea in their struggle against the Vietnamese aggression and invasion, and which will not rest until the last Vietnamese soldier has left Kampuchea and the independence of the people and nation of Kampuchea is guaranteed once again.

Excerpt from

Statement by
MRS IENG THIRITH

Minister for Social Affairs
Head of the Delegation
of Democratic Kampuchea

While daily consenting to the supreme sacrifice, our people and our revolutionary army are clearly conscious of the international stake of their struggle. They realize that they are not only struggling for the survival of the nation of Kampuchea, but also for the defence of peace, security and stability in Southeast Asia, Asia, the Pacific and the world. It is why the ASEAN countries and other countries of Southeast Asia, Asia and the Pacific as well as the overwhelming majority of the countries of Europe, Africa, North America and Latin America, many political organizations, mass organizations of various tendencies and beliefs, and peace and justice loving personages the world over, have granted us their full support and are demanding the same thing. "Let Vietnam withdraw all its forces of aggression from Kampuchea and respect the independence and sovereignty of the Kampuchean people!"

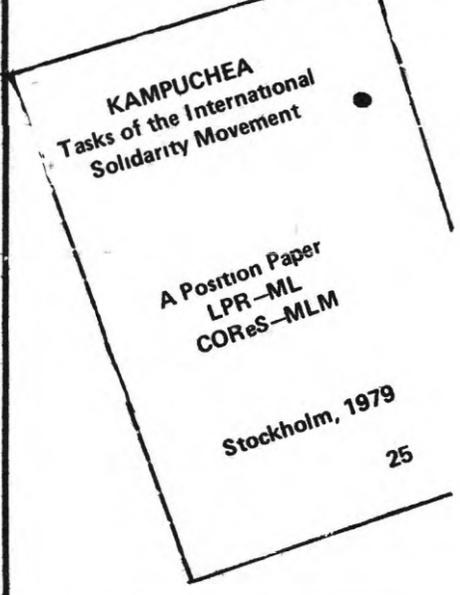
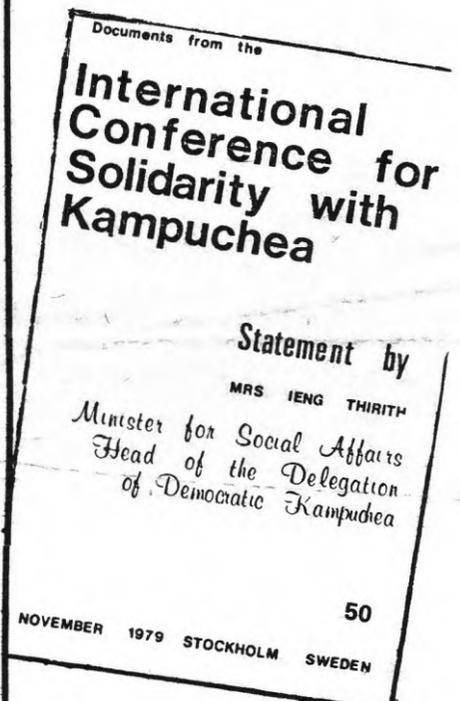
10th Street Bookshop
224 East 10th Street
N.Y., N.Y. 10003

NEW HOURS!
3 PM TO 7 PM

TELEPHONE: 473-8736

We carry the works of

MARX
ENGELS
LENIN
STALIN
MAO TSE-TUNG



Resistance
12 issues - \$5.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
English --- Spanish ---

LPR-ML
P.O. Box 513 Triboro Station
New York, N.Y. 10035

WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY

IWD or IWWD?



Both CORES (MLM) and LPR (ML) agree that we should participate in revolutionary activities and celebrations around women's issues in broad based coalitions and give communist leadership to these IW(W)D is one such celebration. We unite that we should strive to give it a revolutionary character and class content, and that we should struggle to promote working class leadership to the celebration (and to the women's movement in general). However, we are not united as to the name the celebration should have.

Both LPR and CORES recognize that we have fundamental unity on what the

essence of the celebration should be like that it should be a revolutionary celebration addressing the plight of all oppressed women while fighting for the leadership of working class women and placing in the forefront working class demands. We are also united that we should take up the woman question, not just on March 8 each year, but everyday and everywhere. Therefore, our difference is not of principle.

We also recognize that there are many other groups who utilize IWWD or IWD with whom neither organization unites with on important questions. This indica-

tes that although the name is important insofar as it reflects line, we cannot go by the name alone in terms of determining our unity. Since we are united on the essence of the celebration and on how we take up the woman question in practice, we feel that our difference is one that can be resolved by deepening our analysis of why we use one or the other name. At this moment, however, we feel that the difference is not an obstacle to merging but one that we should resolve.

We are printing here a brief explanation of how each of us views the question of IWD or IWWD. We do this consistent with

the line we have been practicing that in order to achieve principled unity it is necessary to put out both our unities and differences in an open and above board manner. Also, that we do this not only before our respective leaderships, but also among our cadres, contacts and the communist movement as a whole. In this way they can actively participate in the struggle for unity, and learn the lessons provided by this process. We welcome criticisms from comrades and friends on both positions and on how we are handling this or any other difference between our two merging organizations.

CORES' POSITION

We use IWD because we see that day as speaking to all women's oppression—and that oppression crosses class lines. On that day we should be speaking to working class women, the secondary reserves which include non-working class women, lower petty bourgeois women and revolutionary women's movement. Speaking only to working women ignores the secondary and indirect reserves, excludes non-working women like students, intellectuals, oppressed nationality non-working women, housewives, women on welfare, etc. Our task is to bring the whole women's movement under the leadership of the proletariat. We don't do that by excluding the non-working women on the only day which is set aside to address the plight of women.

As Lenin Stated

"The Communist women's movement must itself be a mass movement, a part of the general mass movement. Not only of the proletariat, but of all the exploited and oppressed, all the victims of capitalism or any other mastery. We demonstrate thereby that we recognize these needs, and are aware of the humiliation of the women, the privileges of the man. That we hate, yes, hate everything, and will abolish everything which tortures and oppresses women workers, the housewife, the peasant woman, the wife of the petty trader, yes and in many cases the women of the possessing classes. The rights and social regulations which we demand for women from bourgeois society show that we understand the

position and interests of women, and will have considerations for them under the proletarian dictatorship (Lenin, On the Woman Question, pp 89, 91)

The women's movement does not recognize that the source of women's oppression is the bourgeoisie and capitalism, and that the solution is socialism. LPR says the main danger in the women's movement is the liquidation of the leadership of the working class rather than the liquidation of the woman question. But this is not at issue. What LPR is describing is the level of consciousness of the women's movement and the working class on the oppression of women. But what is at issue is how we move the consciousness forward and defeat the opportunist lines. How do we develop the women's movement as a reserve, how do we link the two movements, and how do we strengthen the unity of the working class around the woman question.

CORES sees the way to do that is by addressing ourselves to all women's oppression and its roots. And even though we seek conscious women workers as leadership of the women's movement, we don't think calling the day IWWD will facilitate that strategic task.

Communists are champions of women's liberation as well as the liberation of the working class. When we say we strive for working class leadership of the women's movement, it implies a conscious leadership. It doesn't mean working class women are physically in leadership. That alone won't do it. It is when the consciousness

exists in the working class, among both women and men, as well as within the women's movement, that we are striving for will begin to exist.

We fight for proletarian leadership of the women's movement not by crowding out other demands, but by taking up demands that affect the masses of women and giving a proletarian analysis and solution to the problems of women. In that way the masses of women—students, professionals, office workers, service workers, welfare mothers, etc.—will concretely be won over to the leadership of the women workers and working class.

LPR says that using IWWD links the question of women's oppression to the class question. Not really. The class nature of the woman question doesn't mean that working women suffer the most (In fact, oppressed nationality working women probably do). But instead, it means that only the elimination of class society will women's oppression be ended and in that, women's lot lies with the working class. Using the term working women, even if used in the sense of women workers, doesn't make that link because it's too mechanical, not the same scientific term, and belittles the question of consciousness.

The term working women is not scientifically defined and in fact is only a term that glosses over the class nature of society so that it cannot link the question of women's oppression to the class question. The term working women, as understood by the masses of people in the US at this time, lumps together professional women, office

workers, women workers, and for some includes any woman that does house work, and any woman who gets paid. Use of this term at this time doesn't indicate which segment of working women we are promoting as leadership. At the same time, the name IWWD would not include non-working women of the working class who in fact we do want to promote.

LPR says to use IWD to commemorate the proletarian content of the day. This we can unite with somewhat. But of course that commemoration can be done under either name.

Right now IWD work doesn't achieve what we would want it to achieve because of the low consciousness on the woman question among the masses, and the dominant bourgeois ideology. How are we to resolve the contradiction? By holding events called IWWD and then struggling with the professionals, petty bourgeoisie, office employees, secretaries, etc., who consider themselves women workers to show them why they are not the leadership we are talking about? By struggling with working class women who are not working to show them that IWWD means them too? Isn't that being sectarian, idealist and voluntarist? We want IWD to be a revolutionary holiday that will move our work on the woman question forward—that will unite the class, develop allies and educate and train women workers in the revolutionary struggle for the emancipation of women and the working class. We see this accomplished not through limiting of the name but through a series of tasks.

IRAN

Continued from page 2

and objectively to shake hands with US imperialism. Different from other cities, in the NY demonstration there was no counterrevolutionary picket lines with inscriptions such as "Down with the Shah, Down with Khomeini."

There was also struggle around the position of the Committee on the taking of hostages. Some forces were out to condemn it, others to call it provocations, etc. As in the Khomeini case, the Committee also agreed on the main issue, that is, the fact that US imperialism and not Iran is responsible for the crisis, and we did not pass judgement on the events themselves. The LPR definitely opposes any attempt to condemn the students' take-over of the embassy and the hostages and considers such attacks another way to undermine the Iranian position and a backing of US imperialism.

How do you evaluate the work of the Committee?

Overall, it has been very positive. The line, based on the 3 points above, is correct, and the Committee has been the strongest voice in the area to oppose the

US bourgeoisie in this issue. The demonstration held was the largest in the city, and some good propaganda work has been carried out. One important thing has been the building of unity between the Iranian and the American people, as well as with other third world students that have participated in the activities of the Committee. As a recent development, the Committee took a stand against the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, which shows that the Committee in fact has a good political stand.

On the negative side, the lack of a base in the working class on the part of the Committee and the forces that form it, should be pointed out. In the demonstration, the great majority of people were students, and a lot of emphasis is put on students in all the work. We also see that the Committee is very narrow. Although we can say there has been an honest attempt to build the Committee as broad as possible, the good wishes have not been accompanied with the correct work that leads to the broad spectrum that in fact can be put together in issues like this. Thus, despite attempts to build a real mass committee, we are, on the main, a coalition of left forces from the US M-L anti-revisionist movement and third world student organizations.

What is the Committee to Send the Shah Back to Iran?

It's a committee that sees the need for an alternative to the warmongering and the national chauvinist stances of the US government against Iran. We are out to show that the interests of the American government and the American people are not one and the same, and that the American people did not want the Shah, nor approve the military threats and the economic sanctions against Iran, nor the racist and fascist attacks on the Iranians in the US. We see the holding of demonstrations, teach-ins, debates and the development of written propaganda as some of the ways to pursue our goal.

Back to the question of the hostages: do you think that their release is an imminent thing?

Yes, we have reason to believe that US imperialism, in the very weak position that it's in today, has shown an inclination to compromise. They cannot allow themselves the luxury of continuing with the hostage situation, when the SU has thousands of troops which they used in the invasion of Afghanistan, right in the frontier of that country with Iran. Now, they want to solve this question rapidly in order to

capitalize on the anti Soviet sentiments that have developed because of Afghanistan. And from the Iranian point of view, as said earlier, the solution to the crisis is important in order to focus more on the consolidation of the revolutionary gains and their opposition to both superpowers meddling in their affairs and in other peoples' affairs.

Is there anything concrete in this respect?

Yes. A few days ago the Iranian government made a proposal to the United States that can lead to the release of the 50 American hostages in Teheran. We consider this proposal more than reasonable and a failure of the US government to abide by it would only show again that it is the US, and not Iran, that is to blame for the present crisis. The Iranian proposal asks for "a thorough and proper self-criticism concerning the crimes that the US has committed in Iran in the past quarter century, and the recognition of Iran's rights to obtain the extradition of the Shah and the restitution of his fortune." Such a statement from the US, and the ending of all attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Iran, would bring the release of the hostages. We should demand from the U.S. government the immediate meeting of those just demands. ■

LPR's POSITION

LPR believes that IWWD is a revolutionary celebration of the working class. Its main purpose is to hail the struggles of oppressed women throughout the world and help us move forward the struggle for the emancipation of women. It provides a day in which to sum-up victories and failures in that struggle, and lay out the tasks ahead.

We do not consider the name of the celebration a matter of principle. We can unite and participate with others in celebrations that use either name, based on what their content is. However, we understand that although with some the difference is only in the interpretation given to the name, with others the difference in name reflects a deeper difference in line and approach on the woman question. Further, we believe that the name should correctly reflect the character and content of the celebration. And we believe that IWWD reflects more accurately than IWD the revolutionary character of this day.

The woman question is a class question. This means that the root cause of the oppression of women is in the capitalist system itself, and therefore the emancipation of women is intimately connected with the emancipation of the working class. In fact, although women are oppressed by this system because they are women, independently of whether they are workers, housewives, students or professionals, it is the working class women who suffer the most, especially those of oppressed nationalities. To speak of the emancipation of women then, without referring to socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat as the final solution is plain and simple reformism. As Lenin says:

"The thesis must clearly point out that real freedom for women is possible only through communism. The inseparable connection between the social and human position of the woman and private property in the means of production, must be strongly brought out. That will draw a clear and ineradicable line of distinction between our policy and feminism. And it will supply the basis for regarding the woman question as part of the social question, of the workers' problem, and so bind it firmly to the proletarian class struggle and the revolution."

(Lenin, Conversations with Clara Zetkin)

In an advanced capitalist country like ours, where the women's movement is so infected with the ideology of the bourgeois

feminists, where its leadership is in the hands of the petty bourgeoisie, and where the demands of working class women are pushed into second place, the revolutionary character of the celebration becomes even more critical. Calling for the celebration of a "Women's Day" leaves the content of the celebration wide open. It is not the mere fact of being a woman, it is not all women that we are honoring, but the great majority of them, that is, those that are

sense of the celebration, the main content of it. That is, one which links the oppression of women with the oppression and emancipation of the working class as a whole, one which promotes working class leadership of the women's movement, and one which puts working class women's demands in the forefront, while addressing the plight of all oppressed women.

It is argued that IWD should be used because women's oppression goes beyond



oppressed and are struggling against their oppression. And this oppression falls most of all upon the women working in the factories, the mines, as well as in the offices, and hospitals, and on the wives, mothers and daughters of the workers. IWWD reflects their struggles and sufferings and shows that the oppression of women overall is intimately linked with the struggle and oppression of the working class. This is something that women of the higher classes, who are also oppressed, must learn to recognize, and gain consciousness of the fact that the end of their oppression is in fact linked to the end of all oppression. We must thus help women gain consciousness of the nature of their oppression "and so bind it firmly to the proletarian class struggle and the revolution", as Lenin says.

IWWD celebrations should focus on the struggle and oppression of working class women (focus does not mean exclusively, but it does mean to address the oppression of all women linking up their oppression to the oppression and the struggle of the class). Accordingly, the name given the celebration, should reflect our focus, the es-

clude and thus alienate those other sectors of women. We do not think so. First of all, though it is true that women's oppression goes beyond class lines, women's oppression is not classless, and the March 8th celebration is not classless either. Further, we think that women who believe that their oppression has nothing to do with the oppression of the working class or the capitalist system are in themselves alienated from their own reality. For us to use IWD so that they don't feel "left out" is for us to further alienate them. This would not move them further an inch, but rather keep them back and keep the whole movement back. Secondly, for IWD celebrations in the U.S., and the women's movement in general, the problem is not that they only address working class women, but rather all the way around. They are so broad that they liquidate the class character of the woman question. They fail to link the struggle of women with the struggle of the working class and all oppressed people for socialism. They liquidate working class leadership. And they either liquidate or push to the background the demands most intimately lin-

ked to the oppression of working class women. In fact, the widespread use of IWD is reflective to a great degree of the reformist character of bourgeois feminism and of many IWD celebrations of the past.

Using IWWD, and of course this must be accompanied by an active struggle for revolutionary celebrations showing the class nature of the oppression of women, helps to create consciousness around this question. Our tasks as communists are to, first of all, take up the woman question every day, everywhere. We are to actively take up the woman question in all its aspects, including the struggle for the immediate demands of women in order to concretely demonstrate that we recognize the immediate needs of women and are willing to struggle for them. It would be sham to limit ourselves to giving lip service to the oppression of women on March 8th. By concretely showing that we are staunch defenders of women's rights we gain the confidence of the masses of women. But we must do this, again, everyday and everywhere. Only in this way can we effectively point out the connection and help them recognize that we must fight together, for revolution and socialism.

Secondly, we must fight against all kinds of opportunist deviations in our movement on this question. We have to watch against the "left" error of liquidating the woman question by either not taking it up consistently throughout the year, or by only addressing the plight of working class women, failing to see manifestations of oppression among women outside the working class. We oppose those who only speak of the oppression of the working class, or only speak of socialism without fighting for the immediate needs of women. This is at best a poor understanding of the woman question, and a misinterpretation of the term IWWD.

On the other hand, and most especially, we have to watch against the right error of liquidating the roots of the problem, the class nature of the oppression of women, forgetting to make the connection between that oppression and the struggle for socialism. This is what will "draw a clear and ineradicable line of distinction between our policy and feminism", as Lenin says. This is the error that best characterizes the women's movement in the U.S. today. It is this error of reformism on the woman question that we are combating and it is one of the reasons we are strongly advocating for the revolutionary character of the celebration on March 8th, under the name IWWD. It is one way of firmly binding the proletarian class struggle and revolution, with the struggle for the emancipation of women. ■

Working Class Sheds No Tears for Dead Traitor

George Meany, despicable misleader of the U.S. working class, is dead. You'll pardon us if we don't cry, if we hold the tears the mournful gnashing of teeth in abeyance, and sigh with relief.

Why?, you ask. Well, George Meany was 'beloved', but not by the working class he was sworn to uphold and fight for and which he betrayed countless times. He was beloved by the giants of finance and industrial capital, the Rockefeller, the Duponts, the Mellons, et al. He was beloved by the servants and lackeys of the capitalist class, the hack politicians from Pres Carter to Mayor Koch, Republicans and Democrats, alike.

In his death they saw the passing of a kindred spirit. One involved in the business of selling out workers, of helping the bourgeoisie reap bigger and better profits at the expense of the workers. In their eyes, no compliment for him was too great. You saw the pages of the press plastered with praise for him.

Workers, however, had no cause to

mourn him. While many of us were unemployed, crook Meany was collecting a salary of \$150,000 plus expenses. While many of us were battling police on picket lines, struggling for a better life, traitor Meany was asking president Carter to impose the provision of the Taft Hartley Act to further repress workers! (Miners strike—1978). While many of us were fighting in the streets against the bombing, defoliating and destruction of Vietnam, lackey Meany was urging and supporting the war, helping the capitalists turn a mean profit on the death and mutilation of thousands of American working class youth.

And it does not end here. While the U.S. working class hungered for leadership, for strategy and tactics to fight inflation and unemployment, liar Meany sought to blame the "illegal aliens" for the problems facing the working class—problems caused by his lords and masters of the ruling capitalist class. He sought to create class antagonism and supported vigilante and police riot activities in the border regions with Mexico! And under the thinnest of pretexts, and our very noses, he used

union funds to subvert Latin American governments, a key example being the support he lent the reactionary Chilean truck drivers to undermine the government of Salvador Allende.

But, could it be otherwise? Meany's services to the ruling class were very well paid. Meany doublecrossed workers' interests, towed the capitalist's ideas among the workers and made big efforts to prevent workers from taking militant stands against the oppressors, in exchange for all his luxuries and privileges. He shares, with all the rest of his fellow union big wigs, the dubious "honor" of being part of what we call the labor aristocracy (because they are a clique of aristocrats operating within the ranks of the working class) as agents of the ruling class.

Today, in the U.S., the capitalists can afford to give out these big bribes thanks to the superprofits (profits over and above what is made normally from U.S. workers)

which come from the super-exploitation of workers in third world countries. Surely, George Meany could not be "loved" neither by the U.S. working class, nor

by the workers and oppressed people of the world.

And so on January, 1980, George Meany died. A man who in December, 1956 said:

"It may interest you to know that I am President of this great organization and I never went on strike in my life, never ran a strike, never ordered anyone else to run a strike, and never had anything to do with a picket line."

"In the final analysis, there is not a great difference between the things I stand for and the things that the leaders of the National Association of Manufacturers stand for."

George Meany, crook, traitor, liar and lackey, died. Let us be thankful he is gone. Let us forget him and consign him to the garbage heap of history.

Let us, however, remember his treachery. Let us learn from our mistakes, that we may not have to suffer another so-called "leader" like him again! ■



With slogans like "Stop national oppression and racism!" and "Suspend and prosecute killer cops", the BLACK AND LATINO COALITION AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY has been developing a militant campaign against police killings and

other attacks in Black and Latino communities in New York City. Since its formation, after the murder by police of Luis Baez in Brooklyn, the Coalition has held a number of programs and demonstrations like the one shown above, bringing to the

public's attention the need to struggle against these attacks. Police brutality has been intensifying as a result of the economic crisis and is happening nationwide. In fact, all over the country, coalitions like the BLC have been forming and waging struggle. If you would like to get in touch with the BLC, please call

212-368 0811

The next activity of the BLC will be held on March 1st. It will include accounts by victims of police brutality, a slide show, and speakers and discussion on the work of the Coalition and the struggle against police brutality. The BLC is inviting all interested to attend. Remember

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1980

1 P M

296 E 4th ST (bet B&C)
Manhattan

WAR

Continued from page 1

have been manipulated by the revisionists and have not taken consciousness yet of the true character of the SU, it is the lack of consciousness about what US imperialism is all about that must be our main concern

SUPERPOWERS' CONTENTION IS GEARED TOWARDS WORLD WAR

Since the 60's, the US and the SU have been engaged in a fierce competition for world hegemony. That contention has been manifested in many ways and fields. It has been economic, political and military. It has been in technology. It has been "peaceful" and also violent, although not direct armed conflict between the two superpowers has occurred. Little by little, the SU, who at the beginning was behind the US in every aspect, has been overtaking the US in all fields. In fact, what we have witnessed in the last two decades is the decline of US imperialism and the rise of Soviet social-imperialism. This has placed the SU on the offensive and the US on the defensive.

Indisputably, the SU is the most aggressive of the two superpowers and the main source of war in the world today. While US imperialism was not able to do anything to stop the Iranian and the Nicaraguan revolutions, the SU was able to orchestrate the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, to keep its grip on Angola and Ethiopia using Cuban troops, and now to go out in the open and execute a naked invasion of Afghanistan.

This new balance of forces, made absolutely clear to many by the Afghanistan invasion, brings as a result an increase in the danger of war. The SU has momentum and is hungry for markets, the US is not going to sit idly by and let the Soviets take them all without putting up a fight. Thus we see the development of the two superpowers' strategy and tactics in their goal to defeat the other and become supreme imperialist master of the world.

BREZHNEV DOCTRINE LIMITED SOVEREIGNTY

Explaining the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, Brezhnev states that "the interests of any particular socialist country has to be subordinated to the overall interest of the world socialist community." Although this sounds very fine in words, in deeds that means that the interest of every country under the influence of the Soviets is subordinate to the interests of the Soviet Union's ruling class.

This theory of "limited sovereignty" makes of the SU the international police of "socialist" countries (US imperialism plays that role in relation to the so-called "free" world). Thus, it is OK for the Soviets, or their mercenary troops, to invade any country as long as they do so to protect "socialism." And protecting "socialism" is what supposedly thousands of Cuban troops are doing in Angola and Ethiopia, thousands of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea and Laos and now thou-

sands of Russian troops in Afghanistan

The formula is simple. They place a pro Soviet government in power or establish relations with a government already in power, declare that country socialist and then, as soon as they need to, they have a cordial invitation sent to their "troops" to "protect" the socialist homeland. The cases of Angola, Ethiopia, and now Afghanistan, show what is to be expected of the "natural ally of the oppressed nations of the world."

THE CARTER DOCTRINE THE SAME IMPERIALIST GARBAGE

In his recent State of the Union speech, President Carter laid out the US bourgeoisie's response to the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Using the same concept of "limited sovereignty", but in the US way, Carter says that "An attempt by an outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the US. Such an attack will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force." For Carter, the people of the Persian Gulf region don't count. The US' vital interest (read OIL), is what counts, and nobody from outside that region, with the exception, obviously, of the US, has nothing to do there.

And to show he meant business Carter moved toward major increases in the "defense" budget, the establishment of military facilities, in the development of a mobile rapid deployment force, military aid to Pakistan, the killing of SALT II negotiations, the boycott of Moscow Olympic Games, the embargo of grain and high technology items sales to the SU, the allowing of more cover-up actions by the CIA (remember the bombings of Kampuchea and the overthrow of Allende), and the starting of the registration as a first step towards the re-establishment of the draft. This is, plain and simple, war preparations. And the opposition to the Carter Doctrine, that is to US war preparations, is the main task of US communists in dealing with the war threat.

MAKE THE FIGHT FOR PEACE AND OPPOSITION TO BOTH SUPERPOWERS OUR POINT OF DEPARTURE

Being far away from a revolutionary situation in the US, without a genuine Marxist-Leninist party to lead us in the struggle, and the very little, to say the least, influence of the genuine US Marxists among the American people, are things to be taken account when mapping out our tasks. The correct slogan of "turn the imperialist war into a civil war" would not create the conditions for us to really do so. Neither can the self-proclamation of another "party" help the situation. The US bourgeoisie is driving towards imperialist war, there is a lot of great nation chauvinism and bourgeois patriotism among the American people, large sectors of the working class included, and it is within that framework that we are to act.

We stand for peace. The time is working in favor of the oppressed peoples and nations of the world. The more time it

takes the superpowers to unleash the war, the more time revolutionary and progressive minded people the world over will have to prepare themselves to bury the superpowers in their own war of national liberation.

Being for peace at this moment requires that we oppose both the US and the SU. Opportunists of all shades who talk a lot about peace, but support the SU's imperialist actions around the world don't stand for peace, but for war. They are, objectively, and independently of their will, allying themselves with the SU and helping their war preparations. The same holds true for those in the US who don't oppose in a consistent and concrete way the US war preparations. We are to stand against the military budget, against the establishment of more US military installations in the Third World, against the fabrication of more weapons and the continuations of the arms race, etc. We have already identified three major areas in which we can and should move immediately to build the opposition against the war drive in the US. These are: opposition to the Draft, support the national liberation struggles in the Third World and support and defense of socialist China. Of course, this does not constitute a fully developed plan of action on what form this opposition will take in order to be effective in the real world, and not remain in declarations. But it is definitely a good start.

OPPOSITION TO THE DRAFT

The registration of American youth to serve as cannon fodder in their imperialist war is the foundation upon which American militarism is built. Resistance to the draft has already been aroused spontaneously all across the US, and thousands have demonstrated against it. Of all the aspects of the Carter Doctrine this is the area of greater vulnerability for the bourgeoisie due to the mass sentiments against the draft in this country and the experiences of the Vietnam war. We consider that focusing on the anti-draft movement US communists would have a fertile ground to build opposition to the US war preparations.

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLES

The oppressed peoples and nations of

the Third World are waging the most important battles against superpower hegemony in the world today. The Third World and not the advanced capitalist countries is the stormcenter of revolution today, and support their struggles is a way to weaken both superpowers and to build the strong worldwide united front against both superpowers. In this respect, we have special responsibility and should focus more on those national liberation struggles that are spearheaded against US imperialism.

DEFENSE OF SOCIALIST CHINA

It is the duty of communists the world over to resolutely defend those countries under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Socialist China is such a country and we are to defend it against attacks from all quarters. This is especially important in view of the present international situation in which one of the superpowers, the SU, has troops all along the Chinese border and at the same time is pushing its Vietnamese lackeys to continue their provocations of People's China.

These are in our view the more concrete ways to fight for Peace and against imperialist war in the US today. The discussion on how to build the struggle against draft, in support of national liberation struggles and in support of Socialist China would definitely be a rich and very crucial one. There is not doubt that when each of these struggles are seen as a separate compartment the forces susceptible to be united would vary, and even those that are friends in one issue can become foes or neutral in others. That is why it is our contention that without belittling the importance of a broad united front against the war (this is particularly possible around the Draft and in support of some national liberation struggles), we cannot forget about the most crucial tasks of helping to build a real and effective worldwide united front against both superpowers, and to see the relation between that task and the major and fundamental one of US communists, that is, to organize and lead the working class and its allies in the struggle for the overthrow of the US bourgeoisie, the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the building of socialism in the US. ■

"THE CHARACTER OF THE WAR (WHETHER IT IS REACTIONARY OR REVOLUTIONARY) DOES NOT DEPEND ON WHO THE ATTACKER WAS, OR IN WHOSE COUNTRY THE 'ENEMY' IS STATIONED. IT DEPENDS ON WHAT CLASS IS WAGING THE WAR, ON WHAT POLITICS THIS WAR IS A CONTINUATION OF. IF THE WAR IS A REACTIONARY, IMPERIALIST WAR, THAT IS, IF IT IS BEING WAGED BY TWO WORLD GROUPS OF THE IMPERIALIST, RAPACIOUS, PREDATORY, REACTIONARY BOURGEOISIE, THEN EVERY BOURGEOISIE (EVEN OF THE SMALLEST COUNTRY) BECOMES A PARTICIPANT IN THE PLUNDER, AND MY DUTY AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PROLETARIAT IS TO PREPARE FOR THE WORLD PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION AS THE ONLY ESCAPE FROM THE HORRORS OF A WORLD SLAUGHTER."

V. I. LENIN