

THE EAST IS RED

On October 1st of this year, the People's Republic of China celebrates its 30th anniversary. Socialist China is an inspiration to workers, the oppressed and progressive people everywhere. That is why millions of people throughout the world, from the anti-imperialist battlefields of South East Asia, Southern Africa and Latin America, from progressive workers and students in the West to anti-revisionist fighters in the Soviet Union and its satellites join with the 900 million people in China in celebrating this great anniversary. Socialist China is the bastion of world revolution. The National Committee of the Communist Workers' Movement of Britain has sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China expressing our confidence in their revolutionary leadership.

"SICK MAN OF EAST ASIA"

"Sick man of East Asia". "Land of Famine". Not so long ago these were terms used to describe China. It was only after long years of bitter struggle against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism that the Chinese people were able to start the struggle to build a new life.

As the great leader of the Chinese revolution and our great teacher, Comrade Mao Zedong said,

"We are all convinced that our work will go down in the history of mankind, demonstrating that the Chinese people, comprising one quarter of humanity, have now stood up.

"The Chinese have always been a great, courageous and industrious nation; it is only in modern times that they have fallen behind. And that was due entirely to oppression and exploitation by foreign imperialism and domestic reactionary governments. For over a century our forefathers never stopped waging unyielding struggles against domestic and foreign oppressors, including the revolution of 1911 led by Dr. Sun Yat Sen, our great forerunner in the Chinese revolution. Our forefathers enjoined us to carry out their unfulfilled will. And we have acted accordingly.

"We have closed our ranks and defeated both domestic and foreign oppressors through the Peoples' war of liberation and the great peoples' revolution, and now we are proclaiming the founding of the Peoples' Republic of China. From now on our nation will belong to the community of the peace-loving and freedom-loving nations of the world and work courageously and industriously to foster its own civilisation and well-being and at the same time to promote world peace and freedom.

"Ours will no longer be a nation subject to insult and humiliation. We have stood up. Our revolution has won the sympathy and acclaim of the people of all countries. We have friends all over the world.

The Chinese revolution is a great epic chapter of mankind's struggle for liberation. In the soul-stirring struggles such as the historic Long March countless revolutionary mar-

tyrs laid down their lives. We cherish their memory. As Comrade Mao Zedong said,

"Let us hold their banner high and advance forward along the path crimson with their blood."

The victory of the Chinese revolution is inseparable from the leadership of Chairman Mao. The song "The East is Red" puts it well,

"Red is the East,
Rises the sun,
China has brought forth a Mao
Zedong,
For the people's happiness he
works,
He is the people's liberator."

NOT PLAIN SAILING

The 30 years of socialist construction in China have not been plain sailing. They have been years of struggle. The reactionary U.S. imperialists imposed a blockade on China which was to last for many years. Soon after the founding of the People's Republic, the Chinese people sent their best sons and daughters to Korea to support the Korean people and defend China and the then-socialist Soviet Union, thus sealing with blood the proletarian internationalist Korean-Chinese friendship.

The Communist Party of China was the first party to see through the revisionist nature of the Soviet leadership headed by Khrushchev. Despite the fact that the revisionists brought great economic, political and military pressure to bear on China, the Chinese people led by Comrade Mao stood firm, defended socialism in China, clarified right and wrong and rallied the Marxist-Leninists of all countries to criticise revisionism and rebuild the international communist movement. Genuine communists of every country owe a great debt of gratitude to Comrade Mao for this, and no slanders from the right or 'left' can deny this.

UPROOTING REVISIONISM IN CHINA

Comrade Mao Zedong also turned his attention to the possibility of revisionism triumphing in China and with the aim of preventing this,

initiated the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in 1966.

Taking advantage of this great movement a new and equally dangerous variant of revisionism, the ultra-leftism of Lin Biao and the Gang of Four emerged to divert and hi-jack the cultural revolution to suit their own counter-revolutionary objectives. This line caused great damage to China and confusion in the international communist movement. Comrade Mao and other veteran revolutionaries like Comrades Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping waged many struggles against them as did millions of heroic communists and people in China. This prepared the conditions to smash Lin Biao in 1971 and the Gang of Four in October 1976, and created the conditions for a new historic advance of the Chinese revolution.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

After Chairman Mao passed away the leadership of the Chinese revolution passed to the outstanding Marxist-Leninist, Comrade Hua Guofeng. Having settled accounts (for the moment at least) with revisionism of both right and 'left', socialist China is now in a position to concentrate primarily on the comprehensive and socialist modernisation of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology.

In the course of working for the four modernisations, the party is also stressing the importance of keeping to the four basic principles of the socialist road, leadership by the Communist Party, the dictatorship of the proletariat and Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong thought. China is earnestly advancing socialist democracy and seems set to prove Lenin's contention that real socialism will be a hundred times more democratic than bourgeois democracy. The socialist legal system is being developed. These are momentous tasks when one considers China's long feudal and bureaucratic tradition.

The achievement of the four modernisations has great importance

for China and the whole world. It will provide a good standard of living for the Chinese people and will show to the world - particularly the third world - the decisive superiority of the socialist system. It will help to gradually narrow the differences between town and countryside and between mental and manual labour. What a road to have been travelled by the "Sick Man of East Asia"!

BASTION AGAINST WAR

Socialist China plays a decisive role on the world stage. Basing itself on proletarian internationalism and upholding the Theory of the Three Worlds, China supports the Marxist-Leninists and liberation fighters of all countries.

China also plays a dynamic role in mobilising all forces in the world to resist imperialism and the superpowers, in particular the most dangerous enemy, Soviet social-imperialism. China fights the warmongers in deed as well as in word, as was shown earlier this year in its successful counter-attack against Vietnamese aggression, encroachment and provocation: China's international line helps the revolutionary struggle in all countries. The existence of socialist China is of great importance to the international proletariat and it is our duty to support it and defend it.

LEARN FROM CHINA

Of course there are vast differences between modern capitalist, Britain and pre-liberation China. But the Chinese revolution provides certain lessons of universal significance. Most important to us at the current stage is that if there is to be a revolution there must be a communist party to lead it.

To quote again from 'The East is Red',

The Communist Party is like the sun,
Bringing light wherever it shines,
Where there's a Communist Party,
There the people win their liberation.

As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Peoples' Republic of China, it is a good time to step up our efforts to build Marxist-Leninist unity in Britain so that one day we can invite our Chinese comrades to join us in celebrating the founding of the Socialist Federal Republic of Britain.

LONG LIVE THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA !
LONG LIVE THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA !
LONG LIVE MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO ZEDONG THOUGHT !

