

Japan's Actions Give Lie to Claim She Aids Darker Peoples

Tokyo Imperialists Linked With World Imperialism in Suppressing Liberation Struggles of Asiatic Peoples, Looting of China

Editorial Note:—We urge all workers, Negro and white, to read the following article by Comrade Briggs, which should be made the basis for a discussion in all workers' organizations and in the Negro neighborhoods on the present extensive propaganda by Japanese imperialism and its agents among the Negro masses. We further urge that all workers having knowledge of the activities of the Japanese agents among the Negro masses send such information to the "Daily Worker" at once.

By CYRIL BRIGGS

A high-powered propaganda drive is being conducted throughout the country to convince the Negro masses that imperialist Japan is the defender and champion of the darker people against imperialist oppression. Why this campaign? What is its significance? What are the facts on Japanese imperialism in its relation to the liberation struggles of the darker people? These are burning questions clamoring for answer.

This propaganda undoubtedly emanates from Japanese imperialist sources and is supported, more or less, by all sections of the Negro middle-class leadership and particularly by certain elements in the leadership of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Schuyler, Pickens) and the various Garvey grouplets.

The Japanese imperialists and their agents among the Negro people, clearly seek to exploit, in the interest of Japanese imperialism, the rising revolutionary feelings of the Negro masses to take advantage of the difficulties of American imperialism—such as would accrue from a war situation—to strike a blow for their own freedom. This instinct has developed out of bitter experience at the hands of the American white ruling class.

History furnishes ample proof that the Negro masses have nothing to gain (and much to lose) by supporting American imperialism, and thereby strengthening the hands of their oppressors. Have they anything to gain from Japanese imperialism? Is Japan the champion of the darker peoples? What of its brutal suppression of the Korean and Formosan peoples, equalling in stark brutality the record of Belgian imperialism in the Congo? Are not these among the

darker peoples whose interests it claims to "defend" and "champion"? What of its present robber war against the Chinese people?

Does Japan Seek to "Unite" China

The advocates of Japanese imperialism glibly answer that Japan is seeking to "unite" the Chinese people against the robber western imperialist powers, Great Britain, the United States, France, etc. Or, forced to admit Japan's robber aims in China, they say "if Japan does not take over China, the white imperialists will." Under this pretext they shamelessly justify Japan's violent seizure of Manchuria and other Chinese territories. The hideous bombing of civilian populations, the hunting and hanging as "bandits" of Chinese anti-imperialist fighters are likewise condoned under the pretext that Japan is "teaching" the Chinese to fight. But—does Japan really seek to unite China, to "teach" the Chinese to resist imperialist aggressions? Japan's opposition to Chinese unity is clearly stated in the famous Tanaka Document, prepared by the late Premier Tanaka for the then emperor, thus:

"... a more dangerous factor is the fact that the Chinese people may wake up one fine day . . . When we remember that the Chinese are our only purchasers, we must fear that day when China unites and her industry begins to flourish (page 12). We must from



Japanese Imperialist Propaganda

Above is an example of the wide-spread attempts in the press of the Negro reformists to deceive the Negro masses into support of Japanese imperialism in opposition to united revolutionary struggle of all toilers and oppressed peoples against the imperialist bandits, white and colored. The article deals with the proposal to unite the royal houses of Japan and Abyssinia by marriage, as an aid to Japan in its struggle with its imperialist rivals for world trade.

now onwards pursue our own military ends and seize the heart of Manchuria by divers ways, in order to be able on the one hand to destroy the military, political and economical development of China, and, on the other hand, to prevent the permeation of Russian influence. This is the key to our con-

tinental policy."

And does not Japan proceed against the Chinese people on the basis of solidarity with world imperialism, within the frame-work of their irreconcilable contradictions, even while frantically preparing for war with the United States to decide the question of the mastery of the Pa-

Chinese and Japanese Workers Hail Briggs Exposure of Japan

We wholeheartedly endorse the article by Comrade Cyril Briggs exposing the swindle of Japanese imperialism as the champion of the darker peoples.

In the name of the Japanese working-class engaged in heroic struggle against the brutal suppression of their democratic rights, in the name of tens of thousands of Japanese anti-imperialist fighters rotting in the jails of Japan, in the name of countless murdered Chinese workers and of the Chinese masses heroically resisting the aggressions of Japanese and other imperialist bandits and of their blood-hounds the Kuomintang Party and its nationalist government, and successfully building the Chinese Soviet Power, we appeal to our Negro brothers and sisters not to be misled

by the deceptive Japanese propaganda, not to be trapped by misleaders into support of murderous Japanese imperialism, but to rally to the side of the Chinese and Japanese toilers and the world-wide anti-imperialist struggle.

Those who advocate support of Japanese imperialism must be mercilessly exposed. Japanese imperialism is no champion of the darker peoples. It is brutal, predatory. It has sunk its fiendish claws on the darker peoples of Asia.

Japanese imperialism is an ally of oppression of the darker peoples is convincing evidence that Japanese imperialism is no defender nor champion of the darker peoples.

Japanese imperialism is an ally of the imperialist powers of the

Western World in their suppression of the struggles of the darker peoples for equality and freedom. It was Japanese imperialism which aided the British in drowning in blood the heroic revolts of the East Indian masses at Singapore during and immediately after the World War.

Furthermore, the oppressed and exploited masses of Japan are groaning under the heel of the Japanese ruling class. This ruling class recognizes no difference in the color of its victims. Even its own people are not exempted from brutality and deprivation of the most elementary rights, such as freedom of thought (denied under the "Dangerous Thoughts" law) not to mention denial of the right to organize and strike for betterment of their conditions

and control over the looting of China? Is not Japan a party to all international imperialist actions against China? In the march on Peking during the monarchy, in preventing the nationalist armies from occupying Shanghai in 1927, before the betrayal of the Chinese Revolution by Chiang Kai-shek and other nationalist (Kuomintang party) leaders? In the alliance with Great Britain, terminated under pressure of the U. S. rivals of Japan? In the existing secret alliance with France for suppression of the liberation struggles of the Indo-China masses?

Have not former War Minister Araki and other spokesmen of Japanese imperialism presented Japan in the role of the policemen of world imperialism in the Far East, as the advance guard of ALL the imperialists in the attack on the powerful Chinese Soviet districts and on the Soviet Union, which alone has recognized the right of the Chinese people to govern themselves? Did not the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Japanese Association of North America, with headquarters in Seattle, issue an 8-page folder in March, 1931, during Japan's war on Shanghai, explaining the Japanese action as in defense of international imperialism? That pamphlet stated:

"It must be clearly understood that the Japanese naval action in Shanghai was purely for the pro-

tection not only of Japanese lives and property, but also of international interests, just as other powers had frequently undertaken in the same region."

The Japanese imperialists not only defend similar attacks on China by the western imperialists, but boast that they prevented the Chinese masses from driving the white imperialists into the sea:

"As the anti-foreign agitation in Shanghai became worse and foreign lives and properties in the International Settlement were endangered, the Defense Committee, composed of commanders of the forces of the United States, Great Britain, Italy and Japan, declared a state of emergency and an arrangement was made in consultation by the international authorities for its defense."

Thus imperialist Japan adheres to the united front of imperialism against the rising liberation struggles of the oppressed darker peoples! Is this championing the darker peoples? Is it not clear that the main contradictions in the explosive international situation is not between Japan and its imperialist rivals, but between all the imperialist powers, on one hand, and, on the other hand, the revolutionary struggles of the brutally oppressed colonial masses, the workers in the imperialist countries and the triumph of Socialism in the Soviet Union, the bulwark of the world revolution?

One Force Capable of Uniting China

In China there is one force which has shown itself capable of uniting and liberating China. That force is the Soviet power set up by the emancipated workers and peasants over one-fourth of China, with a population of more than 80,000,000 people. The rising Chinese Soviet power has aroused the frantic fear of all the imperialist bandits, including Japan. Japanese imperialists have joined with the rest of the vultures in the bloody onslaughts on the Chinese Soviet Republic. Is it an accident that Japan's imperialist rivals, even in the process of squabbling for the spoils of China, give objective support to Japan in organizing Manchuria into an armed base against the Soviet Union and the Chinese Revolution? That George Bronson Rea, and other American journalists

(Signed) Japanese Bureau of the Communist Party, U. S. A.
Chinese Bureau of the Communist Party, U. S. A.

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Japan Claim of Aiding Darker Peoples Is Lie

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in China, defend the Japanese aggressions, Rea declaring:

"Japan had to move in Manchuria as Britain has moved in India and in Egypt, as the United States has moved in the Caribbean and as France moved in Morocco." And declaims against the rising revolutionary struggles of the Chinese masses:

"There is an ever present fear that the 'stupid people' will discover how they have been enslaved to the military system . . . A prolongation of the present depression with its attendant hunger, cold, and privation may drive these people to desperation, to the point where, like their fellow countrymen in the Yangtze Valley, they will also take to the field in arms against their oppressors. The nucleus of Communist armies are everywhere in evidence throughout Manchuria."

Or that the German fascist Prof. Haertel should defend Hitler's new found ally, Japan, as the embodiment of capitalist order in the Far East, warning that Bolshevism, not Japan, is the threat to robber imperialism in the Far East:

"Such a peril would be created only by the Bolshevisation of Asia, which Japan is foremost in fighting."

Significance of Present Propaganda
The political significance of the

Japanese propaganda among the Negro masses flows out of the present tension in the Far East, the efforts of the U. S. to egg Japan on against the Soviet Union, in the hope of thereby weakening its chief imperialist rival in the Far East and at the same time striking a blow at the main enemy of imperialism, the real champion of the toiling masses of all colors—the proletarian power in the Soviet Union.

In this situation, the Negro misleaders come forward in their usual role of agents and defenders of imperialism. This time it is Japanese imperialism that they champion, but their slogans objectively support world imperialism, including U. S. imperialism, since their advocacy of Japanese imperialism serves to dull the fight of the Negro masses against all imperialism. It is, indeed, designed to weaken the liberation struggles of the Negro masses and to divert them from the necessary unity with all toilers, white and Chinese, and especially with the Japanese toilers who are waging a heroic struggle against their own imperialists and in defense of the Chinese masses and the Soviet Union.

Aid "White Supremacy" Concepts

By putting forward the conception of a war of the races, the Negro misleaders give aid to the conceptions of Lotthrop Stoddard and other white imperialist ideologists of a united front of the whole white population against the darker peoples.

They thereby objectively strengthen the hands of the white imperialists and justify their oppression of the darker peoples. They adopt this conception because it is in line with the whole policy of Jim-crow Negro bourgeois nationalism, of "race loyalty" as opposed to joint revolutionary struggles of all the toilers, white and colored.

It is not a contradiction that George Schuyler, ardent champion of the Firestone interests in Liberia, supports also Japanese imperialism, and seeks to present the proposal to unite by marriage the royal houses of Japan and Abyssinia as in the interests of the African peoples:

"Associated with Japan, the Ethiopian kingdom will doubtless become a power in Africa, albeit similar to Manchuria and Korea."

Who are the champions of the darker peoples? To this question there can be but one answer: the forces which throughout the world are engaged in an energetic, uncompromising and ruthless struggle against the imperialist oppressors and war-mongers. These forces are the Soviet Union, where the national minorities formerly oppressed under tsarist imperialism have been fully liberated; the Chinese Soviet Republic, and the revolutionary movement, led by the Communist parties, throughout the world, raising the slogans of self-determination and unconditional equality for the Negro peoples.