

Oppose Revisionist Offensive

On the eve of the formation of a real Marxist-Leninist Communist Party in the USNA, we find the CPUSA leadership, the chief revisionist lapdogs in the USNA, abandoning their position of ignoring the USNA Marxist-Leninists and launching a vicious attack against us on all levels. In particular, we are referring to the address made by the #1 USNA revisionist, Gus Hall, to the Central Committee of the CPUSA which was published in the July 20, 1974, edition of the Daily World. He states:

"While we have not talked much about it there are still some problems in our trade union work that come from the activities of the ultra-left or 'crazies' as they are called by many workers. It is our problem because unfortunately workers very often identify them with us. The fact is that they do great harm to our Party. They are few in number, but in many unions and locals they are still an extremely disruptive force. We must take a firmer stand on these questions. We must do more in exposing their antics. We must do more in exposing our differences with them. We must not be silent partners to antics that basically help the right wing elements in the trade union movement. The simple fact is that we cannot win honest workers in large numbers to our side as long as they think the 'crazies' are somehow or other related to us. We must put an end to practices of closing our eyes - hoping that they will go away."

What is the meaning of this statement? What is its historical significance?

It is clear that by "crazies" the CPUSA leadership is not referring to the October League nor the Revolutionary Union for these latter hold discussions and work together with the rotten CPUSA leadership in order to sabotage the working class movement from within. No, this statement can only refer to the Continuations Committee to organize for the Congress and all honest Marxist-Leninists in general, and to the Communist League, in particular. The new unity which is the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party which will be founded at the upcoming Congress concretizes the polarity between Marxism-Leninism and Revisionism.

Further, we have seen lately that the CPUSA has more and more begun to use Marxist-Leninist terminology in its paper, the Daily World. The above quoted paragraph on the "crazies" is part of the address entitled: "It's Time to Boot Out Labor's Class Collaborators". Here Gus Hall attacks the labor lieutenants, Meany, Abel, and Fitzsimmons. The question arises as to why

the CPUSA leadership is attacking these "class collaborators" at this time? Is it because they see these collaborators as traitors within the working class movement? Of course not! It is clear that the rank and file members of these unions are beginning to make certain demands on these labor lieutenants to defend the interests of the workers. The CPUSA leadership, at least in form, has got to try to appear to be representing the interests of the rank and filers. But what is the real "content" of the CPUSA's program? Hall states that "this mob (Meany-Abel-Fitzsimmons) is the most active anti-detente force." Aha!! The truth emerges! The CPUSA leadership will take sides with anyone who is for detente - Brezhnev, Kosygin, Nixon, Kissinger, Ford, and the rest of the imperialist gang. Clearly this is a deliberate attempt on the part of the CPUSA leadership at making an appearance of moving to the "left". History has shown that every time there has been an upsurge in the class struggle, the CPUSA leadership has taken a step to the "left" in "form", but in "content" has remained the handmaidens of the USNA imperialists.

The CPUSA was born a factional party. In 1929, at the beginning of what was to develop into a great upsurge of the working class, Comrade Stalin blasted the two principal factional groups (Lovestone/Pepper and Foster/Bittelman) for their opportunism and factionalism. Soon after, as a result of the CI criticism, a sharp struggle developed in the Party which resulted in the expulsion of Lovestone and Pepper and later of the Trotskyites. With this, the remaining factional leaders in the Party could claim to have "cleansed" the Party and to have moved to the "left"; however, the factions remained. Due to the fact that the factionalists could not agree as to who among them was to be the new leader of the Party, they came up with Earl Browder as the new leader. While honest rank and filers fought courageously and diligently, the revisionists held a firm hand. The fact that the Party had not purged itself of opportunist elements at all was thoroughly exposed in the early 1940's when Browder called communism "20th Century Americanism". He even went as far as to dissolve the Party in May of 1944. This was certainly a move to hand the working class over to the bourgeoisie on a silver platter at a time when it was becoming more and more restless and needed the leadership and guidance of a Communist Party. The Party's move to purge Browder signaled another appearance of moving to the left. However, it

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should be noted that the Party was reconstituted as a result of the scathing criticism delivered by Stalin and the other comrades of the international communist movement in the form of an open letter from Comrade Duclos, the secretary of the French Communist Party. However, the opportunist elements remaining in the Party only made a pretense of purging the class collaborators. Shortly thereafter, Foster emerged as the leader of the Party, falsely claiming that it was he (and not Stalin and the international communists) who had insisted on the reconstitution of the Party and that he had resolutely fought against its dissolution in the first place. But let us look at Foster's brand of Marxism-Leninism, "The Communist Party upholds the achievements of American democracy and defends the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights against its reactionary enemies who destroy democracy and popular liberties. It uncompromisingly fights against imperialism and colonial oppression, against racial, national and religious discrimination, against Jim Crowism, anti-Semitism and all forms of chauvinism. In the struggle for democracy, peace, and social progress, the Communist Party carries forward the democratic traditions of Jefferson, Paine, Lincoln, and Frederick Douglass, and the great working class traditions of Sylvius, Debs and Ruthenberg. It fights side by side for all who join in this cause."³ Clearly, Foster, with his smooth sophisms, and the newly emerged CPUSA leadership were putting forth a more dangerous revisionist line than Browder's which they were supposedly opposing. In spite of its pretense of moving "left", the Party leadership was continuing along its traitorous path.

Since usurping the leadership of the CPSU the Soviet revisionists, the CPUSA's mentors, have historically adopted similar tricks. Is it not a fact that the ouster of Khrushchev by Brezhnev and Kosygin was nothing but a move of the CPSU to present itself as "left" in appearance? That is their "form", but what is their "content"? The Brezhnev/Kosygin gang has not only continued, but they have deepened and expanded social imperialism.

While the CPUSA gives the appearance of moving "left", the "new left" as represented by the October League, the Guardian, The Revolutionary Union and the Black Workers Congress, have moved more openly to the right. They have launched vicious attacks on the National Continuations Committee and a member organization, the Communist League. Both have been called Trotskyites, agents of the bourgeoisie and the leadership of one organization had the gall to suggest that CL comrades should be shot. Is this any way for communists to conduct themselves? These kinds of attacks serve to

open the door for physical attacks from the state against the whole communist movement. And these people call themselves communists!

It should be made clear that the role of the "new left" in the USNA, historically, has been, and is, to take up the attacks on the Marxist-Leninists for the CPUSA. However, with the increasing strength of the Congress, the CPUSA now realizes that it has sent a "boy to do a man's job". As a result, the Party has served notice that it is taking up this struggle itself. It has even begun to use the term "ultra-left"; a term which has been used by the "new left" in earlier attacks on the CL and later against the NCC.

While the "new left" has previously worked secretly with the Party in the past to sabotage the working class movement, the "open" working relationships between the Party and the "new left" have been established and manifested by their cooperation in the "March to North Carolina" rally and by the collaboration of both in the rank and file movements. This gives a strong appearance of co-optation of the "new left" by the CPUSA. But where else can the "new left" go? There is only one science of the working class and that is Marxism Leninism. Revisionism supports the bourgeoisie. It is clear that the "new left" rejects the former.

Comrades, this attack is a good thing for us. We should welcome it and not run from it. Now, more than ever, it is necessary that we dig ourselves deeper into the working class and expose the CPUSA in practice. The rotten revisionist CPUSA is standing in the way of the development of the revolution. In the past few months we have seen the CPUSA launch a gigantic campaign around the Daily World. The aim of the campaign is to set up a network of agents around the Daily World deep in the working class. We too, must step up our efforts to establish a network of agents deep in the working class and especially among the vanguard of the proletariat. However, the crucial difference is that the ultimate aim of the CPUSA's campaign is to divide the working class and isolate it from the socialist revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat. Isn't it clear that the campaign which the CPUSA has launched into the Negro Nation (a campaign which it terms the struggle against "racism and repression") is an effort to isolate the Negro working class from the struggle against capital, the socialist revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat. Lenin makes it clear that "the first historical objective (that of winning over the class conscious vanguard of the proletariat to the side of Soviet power and the dictatorship of the working class) could not have been reached without a complete ideological and political victory over opportunism and social-

chauvinism..."⁴ Thus, we must sink deeper into the working class and fight the revisionist leadership of the CPUSA in practice, seizing every opportunity to expose their treachery and traitorous actions against the working class.

This move by the CPUSA leadership should be viewed as the result of the correctness of our line. Furthermore, the correctness with which we wage the struggle against the revisionism and opportunism of the CPUSA leadership will inevitably polarize the membership of the CPUSA along the lines of Marxism-Leninism and Revisionism. Out of the old unity that was the CPUSA came many Marxist-Leninists who were either expelled or driven out of the Party by the opportunist, revisionist leadership (though many honest Marxist-Leninists remained in the Party). Then followed the period of disunity (i.e., these Marxist-Leninists were scattered in different groups, such as, the POC and later the CL). However, this disunity was bound to be followed by a new unity on a higher level - this new unity is the Party which we are about to form. One of the main sources of strength in this new unity is the many brave Marxist-Leninists who participated in many long years of struggle against the revisionists within the CPUSA, and who will now participate in forming a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party. We must take the words of Comrade Enver Hoxha to heart and militantly embrace the struggle against the rotten, traitorous CPUSA leadership. "Opportunism and revisionism have always been and remain the ideological and political source of disruption of the unity of the Communist Parties and the communist movement in general. In the course of its history the international communist movement has witnessed a transition from unity to division and from division to a new unity on a higher basis. Victory in the struggle between Marxism-Leninism and Opportunism and revisionism has always been on the side of Marxism-Leninism. After each battle against opportunism and revisionism, the Communist movement has won great historical victories and Marxism-Leninism has been developed and raised to a higher level."⁵

Footnotes:

1. Daily World, July 20, 1974, p. 9.
2. Georgi Dimitrov, Selected Articles and Speeches, Lawrence and Wishart Ltd., London, 1951, p. 172.
3. Quoted from Admiral Kilpatrick's "On the Struggle Against Revisionism", Communist League, 1974.
4. V.I. Lenin, Against Revisionism, Progress Publ., Moscow, 1966, p. 517.
5. Enver Hoxha, The Party of Labor of Albania In Battle with Modern Revisionism, Naim Fasheri Publ, House, Tirana, 1972, p. 186-7.