

CRUISE MISSILE:

U.S. Ups Ante in Imperialist War!

The Carter Administration has embarked on the full scale production of thousands of pilotless Cruise missiles. It is also considering the stockpiling of neutron bombs capable of killing, without major destruction to buildings, factories and other fixed capital. The bombs will be launched from artillery and by the until-now, non-nuclear Lance missile. Their purpose, says Carter, is for tactical use in Europe against invading troops of the U S S R.

Fired from B-52's or military versions of the 747, in clusters of 20 to 50, the extremely accurate Cruise missiles are strategic weapons that will be released in great numbers along the borders of the U S S R, itself. These new arms, and the decision to by-pass the B-1 bomber, are a marked shift to an even more militant posture on the part of the U S bourgeoisie in its contention with the social-imperialist U S S R. (Continued on page 8)

CRUISE MISSILE

(Continued from page 1)

THE NEUTRON BOMB

The most spectacular splash in the press has been the exposure that the U.S. has been testing and is now ready to produce the neutron bomb. These relatively small bombs minimize blast and heat effects while releasing deadly short-lived radiation that will spread and penetrate buildings and shelters. Though this bomb is said to be directed solely at Soviet troops, the revisionists of the U.S.S.R. have in fact expressed little concern. Unlike the American people they have been fully aware of the neutron bomb all along. Besides, they also know that in the imperialist war, the Soviet Union will be hit. With the logic of all imperialists who simply can not imagine their own defeat, an attack by the neutron bomb is better than other nuclear alternatives. You can always get more wage slaves for the factories once you win.

Although it is strategically unimportant, the neutron bomb does show once again the length the capitalists will go. In their fight for profits and plunder, the imperialists will continue to adopt the most criminal means, and not just against the troops of other imperialist nations. With the inevitable escalation of proletarian revolutionary struggle here and in other industrial countries, we can expect bourgeois use of the neutron bomb on concentrations of the working class in factory zones and residential areas.

Although not generally useful against the dispersed struggles of national liberation movements, the neutron bomb is likely to be used in urban centers. There too, certainly, we can expect its use against the OPEC countries (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) where it will be used by the imperialists to avoid damaging pumping facilities yet quell resistance that would make the wells useless.

advantages to the U.S. They are extremely accurate. They, like the displaced B-1 and the Russian's own Backfire bomber, can fly below the current defense radar networks. Though individually vulnerable, there is presently no known defense against a shot-gun like attack of Cruise missiles where literally thousands are released. With a comparatively low cost of \$1 million each, the administration plans to produce up to 10,000 of them.

An additional benefit for the U.S. military, badly burned by insurrection and insubordination in Indo-China, is that they require no crew. The piloted B-1 bombers with a range of 6000 miles would have required refueling for a round trip to the U.S.S.R. For many B-1 crews this would have meant a kamikaze, no-return mission even if not shot

remotely and the Polaris subs from the depths of the oceans, the B-1 bomber was to carry on the tradition of the heroes who have always won the hearts of the U.S. Congress. These worthies, the heads of the bomber building corporations, and the trade union bureaucrats in the affected industries, have claimed that without the B-1 the U.S. would be in serious jeopardy.

CP(ML) SCOLDS CARTER

Refusing to examine the strategic implications of the Carter decision to concentrate on the Cruise missile, the Communist Party (ML), in a recent editorial, has disgracefully joined the most chauvinist chorus of bureaucrats and corporate owners, in support of the B-1. Although they cite and do not dispute Carter's all too modest claim that the Cruise missile will adequately replace the proposed B-1 bomber, they still conclude that dropping the B-1 is really appeasement. Stating that the U.S. imperialists "remain committed to a course of heightened rivalry with the Soviet social-imperialists", (as if they had much choice!) they go on to say

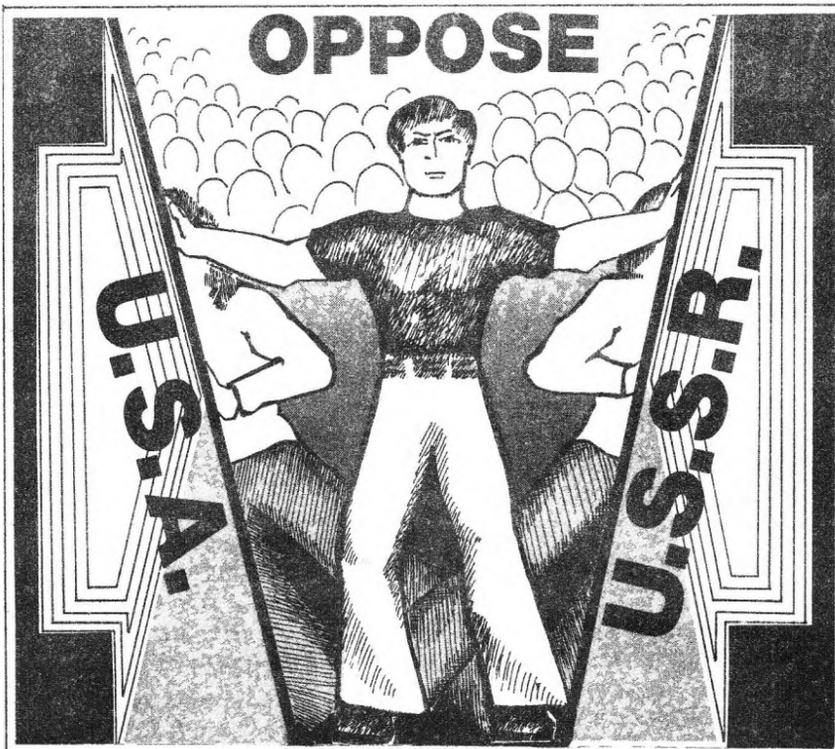
"Carter and his circle, however,

have carried out this rivalry by appeasing Soviet aggression to a great extent. The decision to drop the B-1 bomber must be considered in line with other appeasement policies. The Soviet Union is already putting a similar weapon, the Backfire bomber, into use, thus gaining yet another military advantage over the U.S." (The CALL, Editorial, July 11)

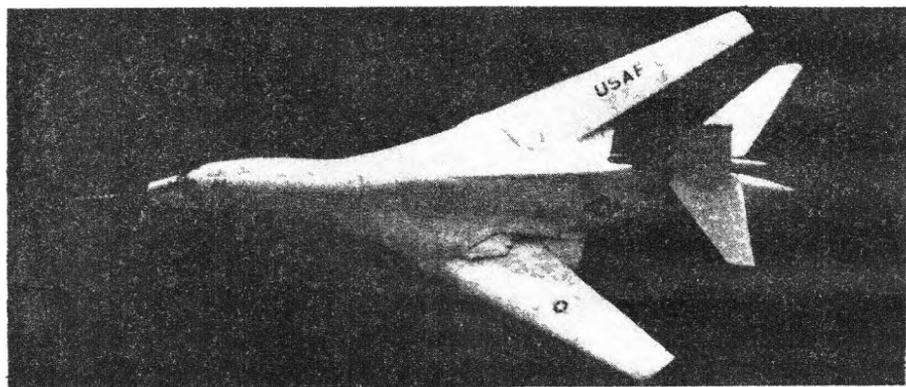
Not once does the CP(ML) suggest that the U.S. Cruise missile represents a leap-frogging over the U.S. B-1 bomber and the U.S.S.R. Backfire stage. Not once do they even note that the U.S.S.R. does not have the Cruise missile and cannot develop it in the near future. By the same logic of the CP(ML), if the absence of the B-1 bomber in the presence of the Backfire means the U.S. is appeasing the U.S.S.R., then, the absence of the Cruise missile in the U.S.S.R. arsenal would have to mean that the U.S.S.R. would be appeasing the U.S.! Obviously the U.S.S.R. is not appeasing the U.S. And the U.S. decision to build the Cruise missile and drop the B-1 is an extremely aggressive action, not appeasement.

But with the CP(ML), logical consistency, much less the correct application of Marxism-Leninism to inform the working class, is not the point. For the CP(ML) it is standard to refer to some ideas of Marxism-Leninism, distort facts, and then draw the conclusions they want without much regard for the relationship of the parts.

The completely mistaken analysis of the CP(ML) in "What's Behind Carter's B-1 Decision?" holds back the preparation of the class for both revolution and war. *Our answer to war and the escalating war preparations of the U.S. and Soviet rulers must be carrying out actions for the overthrow of bourgeois rule, the conquest of political power, not chiding the U.S. bourgeoisie for not arming itself adequately.* In fact, the evidence is that the U.S. bourgeoisie is aggressively building up its arsenal. The working class must expose and oppose the Cruise missiles, and the neutron bombs and all the other weapons that are ultimately directed at the workers and people of the world, not falsely raise the cry of appeasement over the by-passing of the B-1 bomber. ★



IMPERIALIST WAR!



The B-1 Bomber — the last of the piloted bombers has been phased out in favor of the Cruise Missile, a major step forward in U.S. imperialists aggressive war preparations.

THE CRUISE MISSILE

Much more upsetting than the neutron bomb to the U.S.S.R. rulers is the Carter administration's plan to go ahead with the production of the Cruise missile. After the U.S. announcement of this decision, the U.S.S.R. immediately and sharply condemned the U.S. for pushing ahead with another weapons system.

At the present time the U.S.S.R. is unable to copy the U.S. Cruise missile or develop a substitute. For the last several years one of its main goals in the arms talks has been to delay the use of the Cruise missile.

These missiles will provide great

down before unloading. Such orders are not always followed when given in the cause of imperialist aggression.

THE B-1 DECISION

Before deciding to embark on its new strategic plans, the U.S. bourgeoisie had been involved in an on-again, off-again plan to build the B-1 bomber. Though seemingly Number 1, the B-1 bomber was in fact the last of a long line of planes that formed the third leg of American nuclear firepower. The other two are the land-based ICBM's (Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles) and the Polaris subs. With the ICBM's fired



Painting by Tom Lea from WW II