

RESISTANCE



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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.

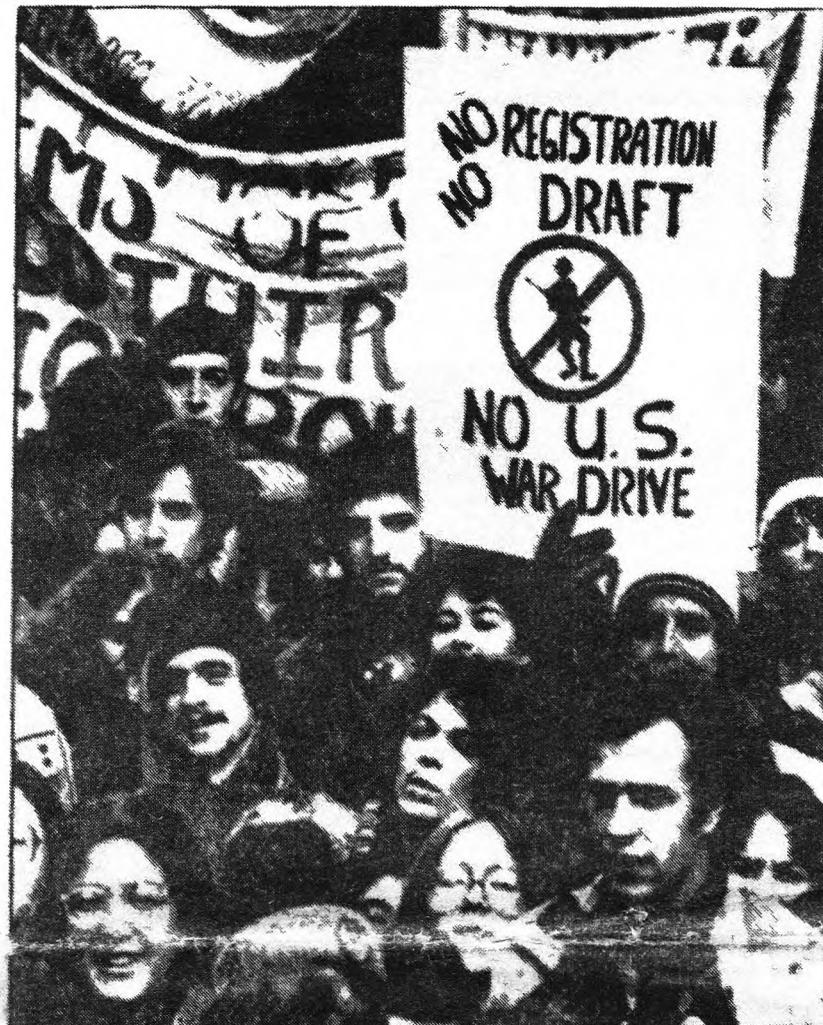
But today's increased Soviet control

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.

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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!"

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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 Afghanis 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 obstatulize 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 stop 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 super powers and weakening them both. Such a stand is to be supported. At the same time,

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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 routed 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" ■