

KAMPUCHEA · SUPPORT WORK

A year after the Soviet-backed Vietnamese aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, the heroic Kampuchean people under the leadership of their legitimate government have continued to fight against their aggressors. This just struggle merits our concrete support, both political and material, and is one of the most important anti-imperialist struggles going on in the world today. The Kampuchean people face complete extermination at the hands of the Vietnamese aggressors and thus makes the need for material aid--money, food, medicines, clothing, etc., more crucial.

On November 18, 1979 representatives from over 30 countries convened in Stockholm, Sweden for the first International Conference in Solidarity with Kampuchea. Conscious of the urgent need for worldwide mass support for the Kampuchean people, delegates traveled from all points of the globe in order to attend this important event. The Conference adopted a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of all Vietnamese military forces from Democratic Kampuchea and for the building of a powerful solidarity movement that will not rest until the independence of Kampuchea is achieved.

The League for Proletarian Revolution (ML) and the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (MLM) sent representatives as part of the US delegation which also included representatives from the CPML, the LRS (ML), the US-China Friendship Association and North American scholar George Hildebrand. Representatives from national liberation movements like the Pan African Congress (PAC) and delegates from Eritrea, Iran, Ethiopia, India, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Argentina, Laos and Turkey were present. Countries represented were the People's Republic of China, Tunisia, Nigeria, Somalia and Democratic Kampuchea. Many ML organizations from around the world attended, as well as anti-imperialist personages.

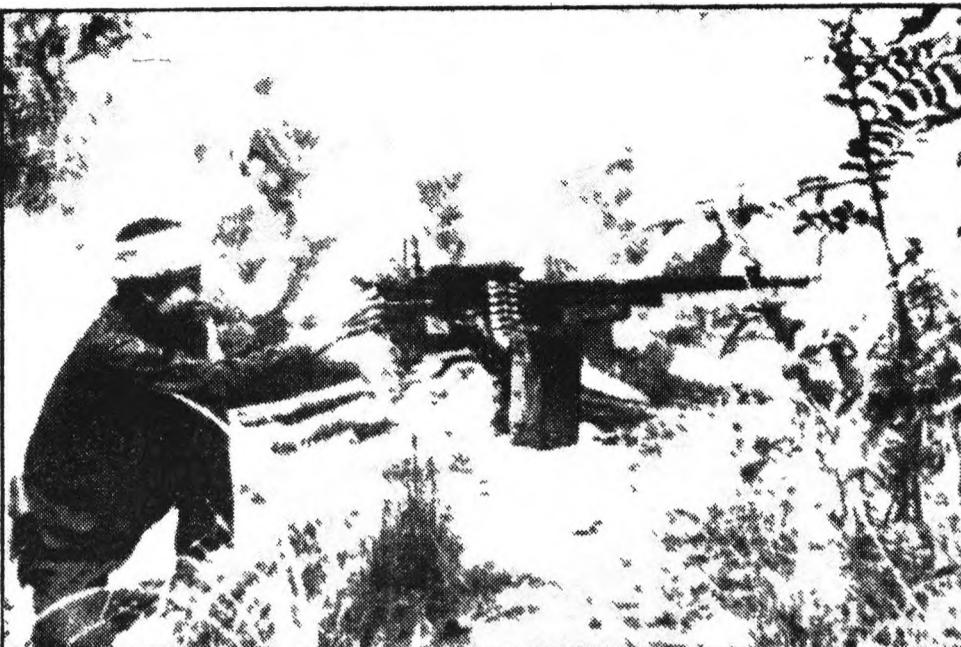
Noted Swedish author, Jan Myrdal, who had just recently returned from liberated zones inside Kampuchea showed a film of his journey to various guerrilla bases. The film proved the support by the people for the Kampuchean Revolutionary Army, who enabled Myrdal to enter and

travel inside of Kampuchea, showed the food distribution network set up by the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and training in the guerrilla bases.

Speakers from the PAC, Fadi Meran, gave a solidarity message from 25 members of the PAC who had been inside Kampuchea receiving military training at the time of the Vietnamese invasion. The PAC members had just recently returned

A distinguished professor, Tokumatsu Sakamoto, of the Japan-Kampuchea Friendship Association described the large scale support movement in support of Kampuchea in Japan.

In a joint statement distributed to the Conference participants, the LPR(ML) and the CORES(MLM) put forward their views on the basic tasks of the international movement in support of Kampuchea. We



The Kampuchean people are courageously fighting against the Soviet backed Vietnamese occupation, and one day they will kick out these aggressors just as they did US imperialism.

from inside Kampuchea where they had witnessed the invasion and spent 9 months in the guerrilla zones. They were still suffering from malnutrition and malaria, etc., and were not physically able to attend the conference, but sent a solidarity message instead. From their eyewitness account, the slanders against the Government of Democratic Kampuchea (GDK), discussed the gains made by the GDK in socialist construction under the leadership of Pol Pot? they also described the support of the majority of the for the revolutionary forces.

T Dastider, co-chairman of the Bangladesh Gano Front, an influential peasant organization spoke of the growing unity of Asian peoples and countries against imperialism and in support of Kampuchea.

stressed the need to combine material aid with the demand for the immediate withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops, the defense of the legitimate government

and the support for the united front efforts of all the Kampucheans that oppose the new invaders. At the conference, both CORES and LPR participated actively in the discussions and work of the committees towards drafting resolutions and exchanging experiences and news.

The representatives of LPR and CORES supported the idea of putting in the resolution of the Conference support for the GDK as the legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people along with many other forces. This idea was eventually put in the final resolution, even though it was not in the draft resolution. Some groups argued that it was no longer necessary gi

ven the successful vote at the UN.

The arguments we, and others, put forward were Support for the government of Democratic Kampuchea as the sole representative is the concrete expression for the defense of the democratic right of nations to independence and territorial integrity. Support for the GDK is part and parcel of the movement to oppose foreign intervention and letting the Kampuchean people decide their form of government.

The recent Havana Conference of Non-Aligned Nations shows that among some 3rd world countries the question of who should represent Kampuchea is not exactly a "settled question". Any relaxation in support, or retreat on this issue, could give ground to the revisionists in their attempt to discredit and unseat GDK representatives in International bodies around the world.

In the same manner, the representatives from CORES and LPR pointed out that as exerting our independent role as communists in the united front to support Kampuchea, we felt it our duty to resolutely defend the Pol Pot government from imperialist slanders, whether from the US or the USSR. We pointed out we have a special duty as revolutionaries in the US to expose the role "our" government has played in the questions of hardships, death, starvation, etc., the Kampuchean people have faced since they liberated themselves from American aggression in 1975. The representative from the Workers Communist Party (ML) from Canada, as well as the KBW from Germany, put forward that as communists the question of Pol Pot must be taken head-on. We made the point that in order to really show the importance of opposing the Vietnamese aggression, we must prove that all the misery, death, etc., was a result of the invasion, precisely by defending the gains made under the Pol Pot government. Otherwise people will conclude that the Vietnamese have "improved" conditions from Pol Pot's "atrocities" or say what difference does it make they are all just killing each other.

On the character and focus of the support work, many organizations including LPR and CORES, while pointing out the need to build the broadest possible united front and working with all sectors, empha-

Iranian Revolutionaries Support Kampuchea

1. What is the viewpoint of the Confederation of Iranian Students on the situation inside Kampuchea?

The CIS being an anti-imperialist, anti-totalitarian student group, has supported and will support all the anti-imperialist movements fighting against imperialism for national independence. It is in this framework that we consider the struggle against imperialism, which in Kampuchea is Soviet social imperialism. We have a clear stand in our 17th Congress, 1976 in Hamburg, toward the Soviet Union. Our stand was that the Soviet Union is an imperialist superpower. From this position we have supported all struggling people, all over the world, who fight against this Soviet Superpower.

From the beginning when the Vietnamese occupation army invaded Kampuchea, we have joined demonstrations to condemn the invasion and support the Kampuchean people's just struggle. We have joined the international conference, first in Paris, now in Stockholm, and sup-

port the activities of the various Kampuchean Friendship Associations. We have collected over \$3,000 for the Kampuchean people and distributed literature. In the future, we're going to continue our support.

This Kampuchean conference was a good step forward. The positive side of it was that despite any differences, we shared an understanding that we all united on two principal things: 1) that the aggressive armies of the Vietnamese occupation troops must withdraw unconditionally; 2) it is the Kampuchean people who must decide their own future, their political system. This was the biggest step, it was a big victory. To unite on this, is a good beginning for work in the future, to mobilize as many people as possible on this issue.

In the past, during the period of American aggression in Indochina, we have been very active. In almost every activity we have participated. We believe this is the same broad movement in support of the Kampuchean people's struggle. We will participate, as before, as much as we can be-

cause the Kampuchean people's struggle is our struggle too.

We will unite with our friends against our enemies and victory is sure to come just as before.

2. What do you see as the role of the Soviet Union in relation to the Kampuchean situation?

Well, it is clear that the Soviet Union has the ambition of world hegemony. The design of the Soviet Union for global hegemony coincides directly with the aims of the Vietnamese government for regional hegemony. This is a part of Soviet strategy for enclosing Europe by fronts. Their plan is to grab all of Southeast Asia and control the Malacca Straits which is very vital to the Western countries.

3. What do you see as the cause of the disease and starvation that the Kampuchean people suffer?

The root cause is the occupation of Kampuchea by the Vietnamese army. The policy of starvation is directed from Hanoi

This is an interview with the representative of the Confederation of Iranian Students to the International Conference in Support of Kampuchea, November 19, 1979.

to exterminate the Kampuchean race. This is because the main support of the resistance movement is the Kampuchean masses, the people. The people are exterminated, in order to stop the resistance movement. This is the same tactic used by the US in its genocidal war of aggression in Indochina. But, the Kampuchean people will surely win as they did earlier against the US.

4. What is your opinion of the fundamental success of the conference in terms of building a broad United Front against the Vietnamese invasion?

On the positive side the conference built the basis for uniting all those that can be united to oppose the intervention in Kampuchea and support the self-determination of the Kampuchean people. Inside Kampuchea the view was agreed upon to support all forces who fight against the intervention and fight for national independence. These two movements to unite the many are very important weapons that can prevent the very extinction of the Kampuchean people who are struggling against foreign aggression.

RK MUST CONTINUE!

sized the need to base the Kampuchea support work in the working class. Gathering support from celebrities, etc., should not take the place of gathering mass support. The Communist League of Germany, for example, has gathered signatures from 23,000 trade unionists based upon the Paris appeal. Some organizations made clear that mass support makes the support work strong and that it is incorrect to lose one's bearings lobbying only for intellectuals and celebrities while ignoring base work.

One very positive aspect of the Conference was the popular exposure of Soviet social-imperialism (SSI), how it's on the offensive internationally and how the struggle inside Kampuchea is key in showing people how to deal with the rising danger of war, and the fact that foreign aggression and a fascist superpower must be dealt with when it wantonly violates principles of national independence, etc. Speakers pointed out that both WW's

started when one great power was allowed unrestrainedly to violate the national independence of small countries. Jan Myrdal, for example, compared Kampuchea to Ethiopia in the late 1930's when invaded by Mussolini who charged Haile Selassie with barbarism, etc., to justify the invasion and when other countries stood by, that facilitated WW II.

Representatives of CORES and LPR exposed the role of both US and USSR. In the case of the US, we pointed out both the dangers of appeasement and of war mongering. It is incorrect for US revolutionaries to support the increased meddling of the US in Southeast Asia supposedly to fight the "Soviet threat", while it is correct to oppose the US giving in to Soviet aggression.

In summing up the Conference, both LPR and CORES see this event as one of great significance worldwide. Many lessons in support work were exchanged among anti-imperialist and Marxist-Leninist forces from many lands. A number of correct resolutions were adopted at the closing which we wholeheartedly support. Attendants left the Conference with a great sense of accomplishment and resolved to implement the resolutions in their own countries. And the whole world saw that indeed the Kampuchean people's struggle enjoys wide support internationally, despite intensifying attacks and slanders by the im-

perialists, social-imperialists and revisionists against their continuing struggle, their revolution and their legitimate government.

CORES and LPR were confident in that among other things, the Conference would help to significantly move forward Kampuchean support work in the US. However, support work here is not developing as it should and could. We say this because people in the US have a special responsibility towards the Kampuchean people. Our own bourgeoisie has had a big role to play in the sufferings of our Kampuchean brothers and sisters, first as the imperialist aggressors who brutally bombed and assaulted Kampuchea before they were kicked out by Kampuchean revolutionaries in 1975, and now because of their attacks and slanders and continuing attempts to meddle into Kampuchean affairs. Besides, we are living within an advanced capitalist country which greatly facilitates the possibilities of gathering material aid, as well as the task of waging a broad educational campaign about what is really happening

in Kampuchea and why. And yet, the enormous potential of the US people, who in many ways have shown their willingness to provide material help to Kampuchea, at least in terms of combatting the hunger and disease, is still largely untapped.

As members of the US delegation to the Conference, and as members of the US Kampuchea Support Committee (KSC) we suggest that a national meeting of all groups and individuals involved in the Kampuchea work be called by the National Staff of the KSC in order to sum-up work and correct this situation. We call on all progressive and revolutionary minded people to join efforts to intensify and broaden our educational work, and our gathering of material aid for the Kampuchean people in order to really fulfill our proletarian internationalist duties.

**SOVIET VIETNAMESE INVADERS,
OUT OF KAMPUCHEA!**

**VICTORY TO THE
KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE!**



The Kampuchean people surely deserve the American people's support. Demonstrations like the above, supporting their just struggle are needed as well as the gathering of material aid to relieve the hunger and starvation brought on by the Vietnamese.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

The International Conference in Support of Democratic Kampuchea unanimously agrees to:

Vigorously Condemns the brutal occupation of Democratic Kampuchea by Vietnam

Demands the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops—Vietnamese and any other—that are on Kampuchean soil, as well as the withdrawal of all Vietnamese occupants stationed in Kampuchea by Vietnam after the invasion

Warmly salutes the September 21st decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations to maintain Democratic Kampuchea's seat, and the resolution to demand the withdrawal of the foreign troops in Kampuchea adopted on November 14, 1979

Demands the right to self-determination of Kampuchean people, free of all foreign influence, subversion or threat. Only in a truly democratic Kampuchea, after the withdrawal of the Vietnamese, can the people of Kampuchea be able to freely decide its political and social system, as well as its institutions

Calls on all forces who support this resolution to unite efforts in order to mobilize all people who believe in peace, independence and justice into one single force which will support the people of Kampuchea in their struggle against the Vietnamese aggression and invasion, and which will not rest until the last Vietnamese soldier has left Kampuchea and the independence of the people and nation of Kampuchea is guaranteed once again

Excerpt from

Statement by

MRS. IENG THIRITH

Minister for Social Affairs
Head of the Delegation
of Democratic Kampuchea

While daily consenting to the supreme sacrifice, our people and our revolutionary army are clearly conscious of the international stake of their struggle. They realize that they are not only struggling for the survival of the nation of Kampuchea, but also for the defence of peace, security and stability in Southeast Asia, Asia, the Pacific and the world. It is why the ASEAN countries and other countries of Southeast Asia, Asia and the Pacific as well as the overwhelming majority of the countries of Europe, Africa, North America and Latin America, many political organizations, mass organizations of various tendencies and beliefs, and peace and justice loving personages the world over, have granted us their full support and are demanding the same thing: 'Let Vietnam withdraw all its forces of aggression from Kampuchea and respect the independence and sovereignty of the Kampuchean people!'



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International Conference for Solidarity with Kampuchea

Statement by
MRS. IENG THIRITH
Minister for Social Affairs
Head of the Delegation
of Democratic Kampuchea

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Tasks of the International Solidarity Movement
A Position Paper
LPR-ML
CORES-MLM

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