European Parties Advance Class Struggle, Battle Modern Revisionism

The following interview was conducted by UNITE! with comrade Barry Webber and Leodaris Rose, Chair and Vice Chair of the Central Committee of the Marxist-Leninist Organization Committee. The comrades recently returned from extensive discussions with various Marxist-Leninist parties and liberation movements in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia.

In our first interview, (UNITE! July 15) we discussed the development of the class struggle in the advanced capitalist countries of Europe. In this interview we will talk about the influence of revisionism in these countries and then present some conclusions about the prospects for revolution there.

UNITE!: What is the role of Soviet social-imperialism in the European countries you visited? ML: It has been the main force of the restoration of capitalism in the U.S.S.R. In the middle 1960's, the Soviet Union has become linked to a social-imperialist power (socialist in words, imperialist in deeds). Now it and the U.S. represent the main forces pushing the people of the world. Certainly this is obvious in Europe. Through C.M.E.A. (Council of Mutual Economic Assistance), and the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet Union aggressively dominates the various revisionist-led countries of Eastern Europe and directs its aggression against the proletariat and oppressed peoples of the entire continent.

With its increasing export of capital and military build-ups and its constant threats and bullying under the guise of "detente" and "balance of forces" the Soviet Union is everywhere revealing its true capitalist and imperialist colors. The proletariat is being harassed to death by the Soviets' socialist pretensions.

UNITE!: What role does Khrushchevite revisionism play in their countries? MLOC: Khrushchevite revisionism is the major form of modern revisionism in the world today, and the greatest danger to the proletariat and revolutionary masses. From this foul nest has sprung all the various varieties of revisionist theories, such as Eurocommunism and the theory of "the three worlds". Fewer parties in western Europe still remain faithful to the Kremlin today, but more important is the ideological influence of class collaboration fostered by Khrushchevite revisionism within the ranks of the proletariat.

In Portugal, the Khrushchevite revisionists outnumber the Marxist-Leninists of the Portuguese Communist Party (Reconstituted) but their numbers do not translate into mass support from the workers. At a recent meeting of the PC(PR) commemorating the 25th anniversary of the death of Joseph Stalin, many older members of the revisionist party attended. This is a clear indication of the great love and respect for Stalin that the revisionist chiefs cannot squelch.

UNITE!: What is the significance of "Eurocommunism"? MLOC: The Eurocommunists, such as Berlinguer of Italy, Marcialis of France and Cabrilho of Spain, and all the likes of them, serve today more than anything to reconcile communists with capitalism. They represent class collaboration, and have nothing to do with the communists of Marx.

In reality, though they appear to have important differences with Moscow, these differences represent minor feuding among thieves. They pursue a common aim with Brezhnev and Tito: to undermine the revolutionary workers’ movement and to prepare the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie. They have achieved some important influence among the masses in Europe, which is the reflection of the great aid they receive from the capitalists themselves, such as the Christian Democrats in Italy.

Even though Cabrilho in Spain has some influence among the masses, the fact that the Communist Party of Spain (ML) distributes clandestinely 130,000 copies of Vanguard Obres is a sure sign of the eventual demise of the Eurocommunists.

UNITE!: Is there support for theory of the "three worlds" of Eurocommunism? MLOC: In every country, there are those who seek to reconcile the proletariat with its own bourgeoisie and try to perpetrate this with some fanciful theories about defending national independence. For example, they support the buildup of NATO, which is aimed first and foremost not at the Soviet Union, but at enabling the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie in Europe to hold back the revolutionary upsurge of the proletariat.

In Scandinavia, because of its long history of rule by social-democracy, the theory of the "three worlds" has achieved some influence. In France, the reactionary Humaniste Rouge, who supports the theory of the "three worlds", has taken to physical attack on the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile, which along with other actions, has only isolated it from the working masses. But in Europe as a whole the theory which preaches to the proletariat to unite with the European bourgeoisie, is condemned as a caricature of Marxism.

UNITE!: What are the prospects for revolution in the capitalist countries of Europe? MLOC: The Marxist-Leninist parties of these countries are taking extremely important steps to prepare the proletariat and its allies for revolution in the struggle against the two superpowers and their own reactionary bourgeoisies. One powerful expression of this is the activity to build the revolutionary trade union movement, working both inside and outside the reformist unions. Powerful united front organizations, organizations of youth, women and workers, work in the bourgeois military and the development of Albanian Friendship Associations — all testify to the advancement of the class struggle.

 Everywhere, we were extremely impressed and encouraged with the Marxist-Leninist parties’ Bolshevik steadfastness and concrete application of Marxist-Leninist principles to the concrete conditions of their own countries. In some countries the class struggle is extremely sharp, such as in Portugal and Spain. In all countries, while the capitalist class is taking desperate measures to try to mislead and divide the proletariat and its allies, profound realignments are taking place in favor of the proletariat and its allies.

The unity and fighting strength of the proletariat is steadily being strengthened, And with the Marxist-Leninist parties taking their rightful vanguard role, there is every reason to recognize that revolution is not just an aspiration or a dream, but a practical question to be taken up and solved in the advanced capitalist countries.

Tito of Yugoslavia (left) and Nikita Khroushchev (right) of the U.S.S.R. set out to restore capitalism in their countries and undermine the international revolutionary movement.

The current leadership of the Communist Party of China has now finished revising its once correct stand towards the Yugoslav traitors. For years, the CPC along with other genuine Marxist-Leninist parties fought against views that promoted Yugoslavia as a socialist country or Yugoslav President Josip Tito as a communist.

But all that has been put aside, and now the CPC lauds praise and eagerly-greets the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. They have gone so far as to promote the view that socialism is strong and growing in Yugoslavia. "The League of Communists of Yugoslavia has established a socialist self-management system suited to the conditions at home, restored the socialist initiative of the working class and promoted the rapid development of the national economy." (Peking Review, No.25, June 23, 1978)

Have things changed so dramatically in Yugoslavia? Have they denounced the capitalist road they went on? No, nothing has changed in Yugoslavia. It is still a capitalist country and the League of Communists is still a revisionist party. It is only changing its name in the position taken by the Chinese Communist Party.

The latest election of Tito and Yugoslavia by the CPC is a sight to the imperialists welcome. It serves the imperialist camp well, because it shows confusion in the ranks of the working class by not differentiating between capitalist and social-democratic forces.

President Tito of Yugoslavia is a long-time enemy of communism.