Repression Fails to Stop It

The Iranian people's mass movement has grown even stronger in the face of the regime's dual tactic of savage repression and a steady stream of sham "reforms." On September 8, now called Black Friday by the masses, over 5,000 unarmed demonstrators were gunned down by the Shah's troops in Tehran and thousands more were killed in other cities and towns.

The government hoped that these massacres, along with the imposition of martial law in Tehran and ten other cities and towns, would stop the mass movement and silence the masses. Instead, the movement only increased.

Since October 25, the National University of Iran has been occupied by the students and the mass movement has continued and spread throughout the country.

China Says: Iran's Stability Key Link

After Hua Kuo-feng dodged mass demonstrations by helicopter during his recent visit to Iran, the Chinese revisionists have finally been forced, in Peking Review No. 42, to break their silence on the revolutionary upsurge in Iran. In so doing, they gave a clear example of what the "three worlds" analysis means in practice.

Their article "objectively" reports strikes and demonstrations, with no mention of what the demands or slogans of these actions are. Of course, there is no reportage, let alone denunciation, of the massacres by the Shah.

Instead we read simply that "On September 8 the Iran government proclaimed martial law in 12 cities for six months and started a campaign against price hikes and corruption. It also decided to grant a 12.5 per cent pay increase for all government employees from September 23."

Through its usual method of "objectively" quoting reactionary sources, Peking Review calls attention to Iran's "unsable political situation" and the "superpowers' interference and rivalry in Iran" which are "attempting to control it." Of course the role of the U.S. which already "controls" Iran is not mentioned and instead the article concludes by saying "that Brezhnev and company clearly understood Iran's strategic importance in this area."

Here we have the "three worlds" strategy in all its glory. A mighty revolutionary storm is battering a reactionary regime which is an out-and-out arm of U.S. imperialism. But the regime cannot be overthrown and in fact must be perpetuated because the Shah is part—even a leader—of the "third world" and opposes the "superpowers," i.e. the Soviets. They should have ended their article with the slogans: "Long Live the Progressive Regime of the King of Kings!"; "Support the Reprisal of the People and the Cosmetic Reforms of the Shah"; and "Up With U.S. Imperialism and Down With the (35 Million) Soviet Provocateurs!"

Revisionists

In relation to this, an important task for the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist forces in Iran is the exposure and political isolation of the revisionist, pro-Soviet Tudeh (Masses) Party, which has some lingering respect among the masses going back to the pre-1953 period. (After the CIA coup that returned the Shah to his fascist rule in Iran, the leadership of the Tudeh Party deserted the revolutionary struggle and fled the country, paving the way for its total degeneration into the Iranian branch of the Soviet revisionists.)

Under the guise of "Marxism-Leninism," the Tudeh Party has put forward the utterly reformist line of building a "United Front Against Dictatorship." To achieve the "glorious"—and illusory—goal of ushering in a new era of bourgeois democracy, it is bending every effort to develop ties with influ-

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