In 1940, in the middle of China's war to drive out the Japanese imperialists who had occupied much of the country for two decades, Mao Tsetung wrote an article analyzing the stages in the revolutionary struggles in China, both under colonial and semi-colonial conditions generally as they apply to countries moving toward the conditions of a complete proletarian revolution. He described two stages. The first was aimed at driving out the imperialists. The second was the revolutionary struggle itself, "So a revolution," he said, "attacks imperialism at its very roots, and is therefore not tolerated but opposed by imperialism." (Mao, "On New Democracy," Selected Works, Vol. 2, p. 344)

For almost a decade the people of Zimbabwe have waged a bitter and heroic war to defeat the white settler rule that has kept them in virtual slavery and to drive out the U.S. and British imperialists who have plundered the land and exploited the people. But surprisingly, now that the white imperialists are in full retreat, the victorious climax with the British-offered "settlement" and the workers party's split have become the pale shadow of the abstract of whether Mugabe and ZANU "have to become either sell-outs of the imperialists, ha, not been broken. And decisively, it is not the masses of people of Zimbabwe." According to the Workers Viewpoint, this is a lie. They dismiss as shrewd tactics Mugabe's decision to make the white Rhodesian military commander—who led the white settler efforts to militarily defeat the liberation struggle, the man responsible for the murder of more than 10,000 freedom fighters—head of the military of the new "national front government." This, they claim, "shows the mature political level of the ZANU central committee...this is a better condition to disintegrate it (the white army) even further. Even more, this is the best condition to try to control them and at the same time build up ZANU's independent military forces by furnishing it with newer and better weapons."

Unfortunately for this "rose-colored glasses" view, Mugabe himself has taken the opposite stand on arming the masses. Yes, black Zimbabweans may still have weapons, but only because he hasn't had time to collect them all yet. As he said in an interview printed in Time magazine, "There must be disarmament of everybody, not only the whites. There are many guns around and we want to remove them. We want this to be achieved in as short a time as possible. The people now have the power, so I don't see any reason why they should have these individual firearms. If we want them to be armed, we will arm them properly." That, of course, is very unlikely. "There can never be a return to the state of armed conflict," Mugabe told a television audience. "It is time to beat our swords into plowshares so that we can attend to the problems of developing our econo­my and society." The fact of the matter is that the military power of the white settler regime, much less its economic power and the political power of the imperialists, has not been broken. And Mugabe's plan to allow the main military force of the settler regime, the Rhodesian army, to stay intact, while making his guerrilla army into it—under the command of the former leader of that reactionary military force—and disarming the black masses, hardly proves that the popular forces can ever really defeat imperialist and political power in Zimbabwe. It argues the opposite. Unable to deny that the military power

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Oppositions Throw Holy Water on Capitation

This drawing was recently received by the RW. It was inspired by an article about an RW network in a factory where workers passed the paper around by leaving copies in a drawer for the next shift to find.
A Year Under the Shadow of Three Mile Island

It is one year after the near meltdown of Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Middletown, Pa., and TMI is still a time bomb that hangs over the nation. And yet, in that time and now the operator, General Public Utilities Corporation (GPU), and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to do two things necessary to prevent a recurrence of the venting of $750,000 of Krypton 85 gas from the reactor into the air.

The NRC has, indeed, declared the reactor safe, and the EPA are introducing a program in "pledges," or promises, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The NRC and the EPA are trying to introduce a "sanctuary" for the nuclear warheads.

Typical of the experience of people around the nuclear power plant is the case of a young man, who with a friend of his, a woman, "Everybody knows that we've been lying next to the roof of the plant, and there is a chemical reaction that is killing us."

On the other hand, the woman who related this story to the NRC said, "A lot of people are more up-to-date than we are."

In the case of TMI, there is nothing you can do about it, users are getting worried about the constant..."

Further, despite reported delays in the NRC's investigation that release of gas on March 28, 1979, and any further potential area commonly speak of widespread symptoms of radiation sickness. In the days that followed, the health care system hit with attacks of vomiting and diarrhea—symptoms the authorities attributed to radiation. But there was also, no doubt, responsible for the symptoms—radiation sickness among farmers, and a rash of thyroid problems.

Robert Sternglass, Director of the Pennsylvania State Department of Health, released a report which noted that the number of infant mortalities with the treatment of TMI had doubled in the last year. It added, "That it would be, and has been, there's no question about it."

South opportunity and in the admission, that before there's more change. This has put the EPA are introducing a program in "pledges," or promises, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The NRC and the EPA are trying to introduce a "sanctuary" for the nuclear warheads.

Disgusted, fed up and outraged by the NRC over the issue of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Middletown, Pa., and TMI is still a time bomb that hangs over the nation. And yet, in that time and now the operator, General Public Utilities Corporation (GPU), and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to do two things necessary to prevent a recurrence of the venting of $750,000 of Krypton 85 gas from the reactor into the air.

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Holy Water

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The new Zimbabwean Minister of Labor took to the radio to tell everyone to go back to work. In effect he argued that they should not try to take matters into their own hands, that their best course would make things better for them in due time. But, even if the main thing now was to keep the economy running smoothly, a white settler-controlled economy.

Working from the principle of his government the least possible disruption of the white settler-controlled economy and gradual change sometime off in the future, there would certainly have to be some changes. Everyone, including the British and the U.S. realize that. The problem is not that long tolerating living in the old way. In his efforts to deal with these demands, without breaking the economic power or disrupting the vast holdings of the imperialists (65% of Rhodesia), that’s why the rest held by white settlers), Mugabe will “have some help from friends,” as he repeatedly said in public health and agricultural development.” You might even argue that the imperialists are anxious to get their hands deeper into Zimbabwe, this time under the guise of aiding the people and their new government. And the Soviet imperialists, right there also, whatever leverage they have through the liberation movements.

Workers Viewpoint has looked up a raggedy “Marxist” theoretical justification for Mugabe’s conciliation and collaboration with the white settled military forces and political and economic structure.” Chairman Mao himself entered three united fronts during the Chinese national liberation liberation. Chairman Mao himself has emphasized the need for and the relationship between the three magic weapons, the workers, the peasants, and the armed struggle and the united front.” They might also add that Mao himself wanted against the reactionaries who would use his words to defeat what he stood for.

Yes, Mao put forward the necessity of unity of the working class and the masses of people, and are particularly united against imperialism, a united front of the working class and the masses of people, and are particularly united against imperialism. As he said in On New Democracy, “No man is able to conquer love.” In an oppressed nation which is in the public health and agricultural development.” You might even argue that the imperialists are anxious to get their hands deeper into Zimbabwe, this time under the guise of aiding the people and their new government.

But what argument is the Workers Viewpoint making here, with the military leader of the imperialist-backed white settler regime in Rhodesia, ZANU in the U.S., and imperialist united front? That by temporizing and conciliating with the imperialists themselves, Mugabe has entered a united front with the imperialists and the “three magic weapons,” the workers, the peasants, and the armed struggle and the united front.” Come on! In their efforts to justify ZANU’s separation with the imperialists we can see theWorkers Viewpoint manage only to stick up its own argument.

Objectively, Mugabe and the top leaders of ZANU, along with the Nkombo and ZAPU, represent an aspiring national bourgeoisie. The class from which they represent are able, up to a point, to play an objectively anti-imperialist role, as they help to form the “three magic weapons” against Smith and the British. But they are not able to carry through the struggle through to completion of victory. They do not see the power on the masses united in struggle as principled. Rallies, the “saviors” of the masses. And naturally, they believe in the power of the state of power, or share power, then the interests of the masses will be served. History has time and again debunked this. In fact, once they are in power, or in this case, to get into power, they rely not on the masses of people and the imperialists, what Workers Viewpoint calls “outmaneuvering” the imperialists. But they rely on thewheeling and dealing of bourgeois policies, the whites are late-comers and outmatched. These are the wages of leverage for their own advancement and especially the country into neo-colonialism.

Underlying Workers Viewpoint’s distortion of the situation is the point in the text today is today’s own disunity of the “three worlds” theory, made an international “strategic concept” by the Chinese revisionists who proposed it after Mao died. “three worlds” theory is not based on advancing the interests of world revolution, but is based on sacrificing the interests of revolutionary struggles with the justification of unifying countries against the “main danger” of the Soviet Union. Because the “three worlds” theory of the Chinese is a recipe for capitulation, it has found ardent supporters in many countries throughout the world among those self-styled “Marxists” anxious to grab hold of any justification for capitulating to the imperialists. They have found this “theory” a handy justification for ignoring and in fact opposing the genuine liberation of the imperialists in Asia, Africa and Latin America, for example, in jumping to say right on, right on, you’ve won, you’ve won, stop fighting, when the U.S. imperialists are not willing to find a way to temporarily cool things off.

This same capitulation to the U.S. imperialism is seen in the Workers Viewpoint (and CPML, and the rest) analysis of developments in Iran. While protesting that U.S. imperialism remains the main enemy of the Iranian people, Workers Viewpoint argues that the Iranians should drop their demands for the return of the Shah and conciliate with the U.S. because “the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has changed the balance of forces facing the Iranian people.” And they go on to argue that the Iranian people cannot and should not “take on both superpowers at the same time.” (i.e. take on the Soviets and the U.S.)

In defending Iranian president Bani,S attempts to continue with U.S. efforts already challenged and frustrated on several occasions by the militant students and revolutionaries (constructs the same dream world arguments they have won in South Africa and ZANU in Zimbabwe: Since victory has already been won against U.S. imperialism, any demands made with these imperialists are just fine, particularly if it is for the benefit of opposing the Saudis. It’s no coincidence that these are the same arguments made by the U.S. imperialists themselves. As it is for the Chinese, this three world’s theory is nothing more than a raggedy excuse for colluding and capitulating to U.S. imperialism.

In the end, Workers Viewpoint is reduced to the pathetic argument that “even if a right-wing conciliatory policy speaks for Zimbabwe is settled. Now with even more legitimacy and authority, ZANU has the right to regard the resources of the government and of the country.” With this the Workers Viewpoint has been able to “gain worldwide and democratic legitimacy and support for these military initiatives.” But in their eyes these are regarded as “legitimacy? ZANU always claimed, and rightly so, that they had legitimacy in the eyes of the masses of the revolutionary people, a legitimacy gained in seven years of armed struggle against the Smith regime. This, the claim legitimacy in the eyes of revolutionaries and other progressive people who support the liberation of Zimbabwe from minority rule and imperialist domination. What Workers Viewpoint means is now they have legitimacy in the eyes of the imperialists and in “diplomatic circles.” But that legitimacy came not because of the election victory, but because they agreed to play ball.

Preumably Workers Viewpoint would also argue that the people of China, led by Mao and the Chinese Communist Party, should not have driven Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang off the mainland, but entered into a coalition government with them in 1949 so that they could have had legitimacy in the eyes of the imperialists.

The principal aspect of Workers Viewpoint’s defense of Mugabe and ZANU’s capitulation is their own will to conciliate with and cover for the U.S. imperialism. But there is also a secondary, and no less disgusting, aspect of their antics: their own efforts to gain “legitimacy” by trying to capitalize on the spontaneous sentiments among many Black people in the U.S. for continued support for ZANU, and by playing up to reformist and reactionist Black nationalists who don’t really care if a government or party or individual is anti-imperialist, only that they be black and in power. Hence the silly and sad attempts to paint the KCP as racist for daring to criticize Black liberation and organization in Zimbabwe. These games they play only emphasize the fact that they really do not give a damn whether the people of Zimbabwe are in the process of winning genuine liberation from imperialism and the white Rhodesian reactionaries or not.

Once again, the Workers Viewpoint, like their fellow Revisionists and pseudo-revolutionaries, have gone out of their way to divide and disarm the masses. No wonder they like Mugabe so much.

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Correction

In last week’s issue of the RW, the article on page 4 reporting on the international meeting in Paris to support the struggle to keep Bob Avakian and the Mao Defenders free contained incorrect names of two of the organizations that helped organize the meeting or sent messages. One is a group in France, the Marxist-Leninist Communist Organization Proletarian Way, and the other is a Marxist-Leninist organization in Tunisia, Ech-Chouha.