Cubans rise up against Viet invaders

Vietnam is finding that occupying Kampuchea (Cambodia) is no easy task. The Kampuchean people are fighting a massive guerrilla war against the Vietnamese invasion, described by Kampuchean’s former Prime Minister Norodom Sihanouk as a “German-style blitzkrieg.”

The map of the current fighting is a checkerboard, with Kampuchean guerrillas units engaging the Vietnamese in defiles of the countryside. To the north, Anchau, a national shrine, has been captured. In the northwest, near Thailand, heavy fighting was reported. Predictions by some reporters that Kampuchean troops would be fleeing across the Thai border have proved unfounded. In the southeast, latest reports say the main resupply port of Kompong Som, which Vietnam initially claimed, is back in Kampuchean hands. The rugged Elephant and Cardomom mountains north are developing into major areas of resistance. Vietnamese communication and transport lines are frequently cut.

One month into its invasion the Vietnamese are beginning to experience the same headaches that the US found during its Indochina war. Kampuchean guerrilla units, under direct attack by a numerically superior enemy with overwhelming aircraft and artillery support, have dispersed among the people in the countryside. Then they regroup and concentrate their strength in lightning counterattacks against the less mobile Vietnamese enemy.

Frontline

The Vietnamese government has set up a puppet government in Kampuchea to provide a handy casus belli for its brutal invasion and to make permanent occupation easier. They announced the formation of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation just a month before the invasion began. This fictitious outfit is headed for the same fate as the United States “Vietnamization Plan” of a decade ago.

“Who are the leaders of this so-called front?” asked Sihanouk. “They are perfectly unknown to the Kampuchean people.”

The lack of support among Kampuchean for the Vietnamese puppet government is shown clearly by Sihanouk himself, Ruler of Cambodia until his overthrow by a US-sponsored coup in 1970, Sihanouk had political differences with the noses of development supported by Pol Pot, which came to power when the US was defeated in 1975. Nonetheless, he agreed to act as an international representative for Democratic Kampuchea after Vietnam’s invasion. Even former Kampuchean living in the US who had actively organized against Pol Pot and socialism have denounced the invasion as “Vietnamese annexation and imperialism.”

Chinese leader blasts trail in U.S.

The future. The now discredited “Gang of 4” is used to say, “When the satellite goes up, the red flag comes down to the ground.” They opposed the campaign to modernize China initiated by Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, with the ridiculous logic that this would lead to the downfall of China. One of their policies was to turn China’s schools into arenas for ideological debate, a project based on basic education or research.

Because Teng held strongly to the belief that the United States and the Soviet Union, the Gang of 4 went all to knock him from power, succeeding briefly in 1976. Despite trends indicating that the Gang of 4 began to see that the Gang’s policies were harming China and the socialism they claimed to lead. By 1976, following Mao’s death, the four isolated careerists made desperate grab for complete power. Their failure signalized Teng’s political come-Back. Although the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung did much to help set up the downfall of the gang, he himself couldn’t finish the job. Teng’s leadership provided a rallying point against them.

The current Chairman and Premier, Hua Kuo-feng, and Teng George planned the beginnings of the aggressive modernization effort that eventually led to Teng’s recent US trip.

At most of Teng’s stops he put up with a raggedy crowd of demonstrators. The group, the Revolutionary Communist Party, claims to be the followers of Mao Tse-tung and comrades of the fallen Gang. In front of the White House they waved Mao Tse-tung’s red book, scolded that Teng is bringing capitalism back to China, and ended up in jail when they charged police lines. Indistinguishable from the true followers of Mao Tse-tung, who are developing into major areas of resistance. Vietnamese communication and transport lines are frequently cut.

The proposal Teng made to the US ruling class was for China, Japan, Western Europe, and the US to line up in opposition to the rampant aggressive moves of the Soviets. The Chinese have traditionally aimed their behavior at the “Polar Bear,” his term for superpower hegemony.

As brutal as the US war in South Vietnam, the current aggression poses a new danger to the world. It fits right into the stripes the Soviets have taken in the past year in their drive for global domination. In Ethiopia, Cuban and Soviet troops helped the savage military junta, the Derg, to topple the Eritrean liberation struggle. Coups in South Yemen and Afghanistan brought pro-Soviet governments to power. When the USSE handler of the People’s War in Vietnam, and the US government, mostly in Eastern Europe, have recognized the new puppet government.

INTERNATIONAL OUTCRY

Now the invasion of socialist Kampuchea and the establishment of a counter-revolutionary government there has stirred up a powerful sentiment of opposition to Vietnam and the US.

At the UN Security Council only a veto by the Soviet delegate stopped a resolution demanding an immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea. Neutral and independence-minded countries like India and Jamaica supported the resolution. The US recognized the Democratic Kampuchean delegation.

Fearing they might be next, neighboring Asian countries like Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines have called for the immediate and total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. Only Vietnam, the USSR, and a handful of Soviet dominated governments, mostly in Eastern Europe, have recognized the new puppet government.

Demonstrations in San Francisco (above) and several other cities lambasted the invasion of Kampuchea, Cambodians in this country and Americans who had been active against US aggression in Vietnam organized the actions.