New Zealand Communist Party Statement

• The Czechoslovak working class and people have only one road back to socialism, i.e., the road of revolution against the whole pack of phoney communists in their own country—which includes the followers of both Dubcek and the Soviet revisionist leaders.

The Communist Party of New Zealand in a statement on August 23 severely denounced the Soviet revisionist renegade clique for its monstrous crime of flagrantly dispatching large numbers of troops to carry out the military occupation of Czechoslovakia. The statement, entitled “The Truth About Czechoslovakia,” reads as follows:

The military occupation of Czechoslovakia by Soviet and other satellite forces shows that the Soviet
leaders are in fact, imperialists, not communists. Since Khrushchov they have abandoned socialism and restored capitalism in the Soviet Union. Now they are acting like the capitalists of a big power towards the capitalists of a small power.

The Communist Party of New Zealand told them to their face five years ago that this was the road they were taking. Today’s events prove it.

When the Soviet ruling group took the road of capitalism under Khrushchov, they bullied and bribed the Communist leaders of Czechoslovakia and other Eastern European countries into taking the same road. What has happened is that two sets of renegades have fallen out.

The restoration of capitalism took place in Czechoslovakia under the regime of President Novotny which was ousted earlier this year by Dubcek and his group. But Novotny, while going back to capitalism, was content for Czechoslovakia to remain a Soviet dependency. Dubcek and company wanted to cut completely free from the Soviet orbit and join up openly with Western capitalism.

The groundwork had already been laid for this under Novotny. The step-by-step restoration of capitalism which his group carried out created a new capitalist class in the form of highly paid bureaucrats and “business executives.” And it also gave a new impetus to old capitalist forces which had not by any means been eliminated. These old and new capitalist forces brought Dubcek to power, using the pretext of “democratic reforms” to carry out open counter-revolution.

But the main culprits are the men in the Kremlin. They are representatives of the new capitalist grouping which has usurped power in what was formerly a great socialist state ruled by the working class.

They are not communists but careerists who seek a fat and comfortable living for themselves and the new bureaucratic manager class at the expense of the toiling people.

When Brezhnev and Kosygin supported Khrushchov in turning the Soviet Union back to capitalism they were able to deceive many people by claiming that they were creatively developing the teachings of Marx and Lenin, the great theory of communism known as Marxism-Leninism. What they actually did was to revise this theory out of recognition. Their revision of communist principles split the world communist movement.

The Communist Party of New Zealand stood with China and Albania in opposition to Soviet revisionism. They warned that the Soviet leaders were betraying the workers of the Soviet Union and the world, that Soviet policy would lead back to capitalism, to imperialism. They have been proved right.

Spokesmen and the press of capitalism seek to use the Russian actions to discredit socialism and communism, but any worker with real knowledge will see through this. He will know that the Soviet leaders are phoney communists. Therefore their actions cannot discredit genuine socialism which is flourishing in China and Albania.

The Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia means that the Czechoslovak working class and people are under capitalism—Russian style, instead of capitalism, Western style. They have only one road back to socialism. That is the road of revolution against the whole pack of phoney communists in their own country— which includes the followers of both Dubcek and the Russian leaders.

In due course they will take this road. So will the Soviet people.