The Soviet-Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea has met with widespread opposition throughout the world.

During the war of resistance against US imperialism by Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam, revolutionary communists and social imperialists have been fighting for a world free of imperialism. The genuine socialist countries like the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and China gave massive support. Solidarity organisations were set up with the active participation of revolutionary communists in many countries around the world. At the UN third world countries stood side-by-side with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. How things have changed!

Today Vietnam is an aggressor - attacking a small independent socialist country on behalf of the world's other superpower. Inevitably they find themselves no longer the beneficiaries of a support campaign, but a target of international condemnation at every level.

China and the DPRK have vigorously opposed the invasion and supported the armed resistance of the Kampuchean people. In Norway, the "Committee to Support Vietnam", set up during the war of resistance to US imperialism has been dissolved by its members in disgust. Similarly in Sweden, most of the directors of the "Vietnam, Laos Association" have proposed its dissolution, and many members have resigned. In Japan, farmers who had been carrying out a massive campaign to send rice to Vietnam, have abandoned it.

Demonstrations, reminiscent of the old anti-US rallies, are taking place everywhere. In Paris over 1,000 workers, students, and immigrant Kampuchean refugees responded to a call by the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of France, the Revolutionary Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of France, and the Committee of Patriots from Kampuchea in France, and marched in protest through the streets. In Sweden, 1,300 demonstrated in Sergels Square in Stockholm while simultaneously demonstrations were held in six other cities. The Danish Communist Workers Party led a demonstration to the Soviet Embassy in Copenhagen. On January 12th, a torchlight procession through the world was held.

SOVIET-VIETNAM AGGRESSION

SOVIET-VIETNAM INVASION

On December 25th, the Vietnamese authorities unleashed its long-expected full scale invasion of Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia). Few people were caught unawares. The "friendship pact" between the Soviet Union and Vietnam in October; the establishment of a puppet front organisation of Kampuchean traitors (KNUNFS) in the pay of the Soviet Union and Vietnam, in November; the massive arms airlift by the Soviet social imperialists to Vietnam in the second half of 1978; and the militarist speeches of the Vietnamese leaders were clear indicators that the invasion was coming. In the last issue of Class Struggle (Vol.3 No.1) we have already exposed what lies behind the invasion. It is part of the Soviet social imperialists' worldwide expansionist offensive, and part of the Vietnamese authorities' aims of dominating Indo-China.

Now the invasion forces occupy virtually all of Kampuchea's main cities and a puppet government has been installed in the capital, Phnom Penh. Its puppet status was shown, yet again, when the announcements of its existence was made on Vietnam's Radio Hanoi, but it was not announced by KNUNFS' own radio station till several hours later. (Incidentally the puppet radio station operated from Vietnam, and on a frequency vacated by another Vietnamese radio station!)

INVADERS WILL DROWN IN A SEA OF PEOPLE'S WAR

The invasion looked easy. 100,000 Vietnamese and Russian troops have occupied the main cities, but overall the situation is quite different. The Government of Democratic Kampuchea, and the Communist Party of Kampuchea (CPK), have been expecting and preparing for an invasion for months. Kampuchea is a small country, and the Soviet-supplied and directed Vietnamese military machine is massive. For at least five months, the Kampuchean people have been stockpiling food and arms throughout the countryside. They knew that they would not be able to meet the Vietnamese tank, artillery and motorised divisions head on; especially with the added weight of MiG 19s and MiG 21s piloted by Russians giving air cover to the invaders. The Kampuchean Revolutionary Army (KRA) was under orders not to commit itself to full-scale battles against overwhelmingly superior forces. When the invasion came, the KRA forces dissolved. Now they are fighting a vigorous guerrilla war, backed by the overwhelming support of the world's peoples, and the world's other superpower, the Soviet Union.

SIHANOUK CALLS ON U.N.

At a recent meeting the Security Council of the United Nations (UN) debated the issue of the aggression against Kampuchea.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk spoke as the senior representative of Kampuchea. "As the world knows, my country is the victim of a large-scale act of flagrant aggression on the part of Vietnam," he said. He spoke of the past promises by Vietnam, at the time when both the Vietnamese and Kampuchean people were fighting their common enemy of US imperialism, when the Vietnamese leaders promised to support the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of 'fraternal' Kampuchea.

But, he added, as soon as they had both defeated US imperialism, Vietnam decided, cold bloodedly, to embark on an "operation" aimed at annexing Kampuchea.

Laying bare the guilt of the Soviet Union, he pointed out that Vietnam is armed to the teeth by the world's other superpower, the Soviet Union. He angrily denounced the lie that the government has been overthrown by an internal rising. "This war is purely a war of aggression... by Vietnam against little Kampuchea".

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DENOUNCED THROUGHOUT WORLD

- 1,400 strong - marched past the Soviet and Vietnamese embassies in Oslo, Norway, where angry protesters hurled flaming brands at the Soviet Embassy. Soviet and Vietnamese institutions in Oslo have been daubed with slogans. In Rome another thousand attended a rally called by the Italy/Kampuchea Friendship Association, whilst in Florence a simultaneous rally took place. In the Netherlands, Dutch people demonstrated outside the parliament - the Hague. On January 16th, the Revolutionary Communist Movement of Greece, led a demonstration of 700. India and Bangladesh saw several marches and protests in Calcutta, Delhi and Dacca. There were demonstrations in Tokyo, Japan, and at the Vietnamese embassy in Canada. Protest marches against the Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities were held in Belgium, Austria and Portugal.

Romania, Yugoslavia, Pakistan and virtually every third world government have denounced the invasion. The Danish government has suspended aid worth 100 million Danish Kroner to Vietnam saying majority of the Kampuchean people.

The Vietnamese columns are suddenly attacked from behind. Having advanced into the west of Kampuchea, there are new risings again in the east! The people of Kampuchea, led by the CPK and the KRA, are used to this sort of warfare. They drove out the superior forces of US imperialism through such a people's war. This time they are even stronger. They have prepared long for it, and are well equipped. Such wars can go on for a long time, but the longer it goes on, the more the aggressor gets drained. In invading Kampuchea, the Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities have put their heads in a noose; they can be sure that the Kampuchean people will pull the other end of the rope with determination and enthusiasm.

TO CONDEMN INVASION

"Our Government, our army, our people are fighting and will fight to the death against the Vietnamese expansionists and colonialist invaders. We shall never surrender," he said, and concluded by calling on the Security Council to condemn the invasion, saying that they should call on people not to recognise the new puppet "government" that they should demand the withdrawal of all occupying forces - and that all UN agencies and all Governments should halt aid to Vietnam and its puppets.

When the non-aligned countries present proposed a resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea only the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia voted against it. The other 13 countries voted for it, but it was defeated because the Soviet Union used its veto power to block the resolution.

"We will not accept a country attempting to change the political status of another country through military intervention." For their own reasons many European imperialist governments and the US superpower have also condemned the invasion (just as the Soviet social imperialists have supported liberation movements for their own reasons in the past). The Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities are having their masks of "peace", "detente" and "socialism" torn off their true imperialist and expansionist faces in every corner of the globe.

DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF KAMPUCHEA

TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE! DOWN WITH SOVIET-VIETNAMESE AGGRESSION!

Saturday, February 3rd

2.00pm: Picket of Vietnamese Embassy
12-14 Victoria Rd, W8.
There will be a message from Kampuchea.

3.00pm: March to Soviet Embassy

7.30pm: PUBLIC MEETING,
Co-op Hall, 129 Seven Sisters Rd., N7.
Tube: Finsbury Park.
Speakers from Association of Indian Communists (Marxist-Leninist), Bangladesh Workers' Association, Communist Workers' Movement and RCLB.
Organised by RCLB, AIC(ML) and CWI.

CHINA WARNS VIETNAM

For many months now Chinese publications have daily reported incidents on the Chinese border with Vietnam. They range from the occupation of parts of Chinese territory, to the establishment of military installations by the Vietnamese Authorities inside China, to assaults on Chinese border posts, to Vietnamese patrols murdering and beating up Chinese peasants working in their communes, to full blown commando raids on Chinese villages.

On December 24th, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs again handed an official note to the Vietnamese Embassy in Beijing (Peking). After giving details of each incident of encroachment, the note goes on:

"The Vietnamese authorities' frequent dispatches of armed personnel to encroach upon Chinese territory, wantonly shooting at Chinese personnel and killing or wounding Chinese border inhabitants and border guards, have aroused the strongest indignation among the Chinese people. The Chinese Government hereby once again lodges a strong protest with the Vietnamese government. The Chinese government reiterates that the Vietnamese authorities must take seriously China's repeated protests and warnings and should not turn a deaf ear to them. They must stop all encroachments upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and all armed provocations and all criminal acts of killing or wounding of Chinese civilians. Otherwise, the Vietnamese authorities must bear all responsibilities arising therefrom."

The following day, the Chinese paper, the People's Daily, warned the Vietnamese Authorities in its editorial not to see previous attempts by China to handle the matter by peaceful negotiations, rather than retaliation, as a sign of weakness.
Pointing out that the Vietnamese authorities are emboldened and feeling strong by Moscow's support, and there is no doubt that is is the Soviet social imperialists (socialist in words - imperialist in deeds) who are the real behind-the-scenes manipulators, the article warns the Vietnamese authorities not to "seek a foot, after gaining an inch" and adds, "the Vietnamese authorities have gone far enough in pursuing their anti-China course. There is a limit to the Chinese people's forbearance and restraint. China has never bullied and will never bully any other country; neither will it allow itself to be bullied by others. It will not attack unless it is attacked. But if it is attacked it will certainly counter-attack."

The paper stresses that China means what it says. "We state this here and now. Don't complain later that we've not given you clear warning in advance."

There is no sign of the Vietnamese authorities taking this warning to heart. Their daily provocations continue. They will have no one to blame but themselves, if they get the reward they deserve.

The English Language magazine BEIJING (PEKING) REVIEW, produced in China, carried the full text of the People's Daily article and official note to Vietnam, on Vietnam's aggression, in its December 29th issue.

One year subscription - £3.30 from New Era Books.