

THE YOUTH MOVEMENT

4th August 1914 — 4th August 1927.

Manifesto of the E. C. of the Y. C. I.

**To young workers and peasants! To young soldiers and sailors
in the capitalist armies and navies!**

Comrades,

Thirteen years after the commencement of the world war, which according to the capitalists and their lackeys, headed by the Social Democrats, was to represent the necessary sacrifice to end war, and nine years after the close of that war we are living in a new atmosphere of war.

Direct intervention in China by European and American troops and the indirect intervention of imperialism by militarist generals and traitors is already a partial war.

The threat of an armed attack on the U. S. S. R. by a coalition of capitalist States under the leadership of Great Britain is becoming more concrete. After the provocation of Peking and London, the assassination of Comrade Voikov, the attacks and plots financed and organised by Great Britain constitute already a form of intervention against the first Workers' and Peasants' Republic, which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary and its march onwards to Socialist construction.

All the "pacifist" phrases of the League of Nations about disarmament are meant simply to deceive the workers. As a matter of fact all the capitalist States are arming and preparing for war.

The example of Austria shows that the reactionary governments are always ready to intervene with armed forces against any serious movement of the workers in another country, not only in China, but in Europe itself. It also shows that the least incident now-a-days, even the slightest, can raise the question of armed intervention and of war which could develop into a general war.

The leaders of the Social Democrats, both Right and Left, the heroes of August 4th, the directors of the Socialist International and its sections, betray today and will betray tomorrow again the cause of the workers. Once again they support the bourgeoisie of the various countries in their predatory war, the proof of their treachery may be found in their attitude in France, in Great Britain, in Germany, in Austria and in all countries. But the workers, even those who up till now have followed the Socialist leaders understand that war is being contemplated against their interests, and are instinctively against imperialist war. All workers — especially young workers — must unite for the revolutionary struggle against the imperialist war, for the defence of the U. S. S. R. and of China. A single and invincible united front must be formed below amongst the masses, and against the chiefs who oppose this.

Young soldiers and sailors!

Solidarise with your brothers of the U. S. S. R. and of China. Solidarise with the workers and peasants of your country who are fighting against war and capitalist oppression, without forgetting your immediate demands. Fraternise with those whom your officers point out as the "enemy".

Young workers, peasants, soldiers and sailors!

Do not forget the declaration of war and the treachery of the Social Democrats on August 4, 1914. Fight against the agitation by demonstrations, strikes, general strikes, against imperialist war, against white terror, against Fascism.

In this month the 20th anniversary of the Stuttgart Conference will be celebrated which recalls the beginning of international organised work against war, against militarism by the revolutionary youth. By participating in large numbers in the demonstrations organised by the Y. C. I. and its Sections, you will also be struggling against war.

But remember that capitalism is war, that only the establishment of Socialism will guarantee peace, only the overthrow of capitalism will prevent war.

If, in spite of your struggle imperialist war should break out, then transform it into a civil war against capitalism.

Down with imperialist war!

For the defence of the U. S. S. R. and the Chinese Revolution!

For the united front of the proletariat!

Forward young people in the struggle against imperialist war!

Executive Committee of the Young
Communist International.