

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES AND OPPRESSED NATIONS OF THE WORLD UNITE !

CLASS STRUGGLE

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The following extremely important article is reprinted from the January 16, 1970 issue of the Peking Review. We have published it to serve the struggles of the proletariat and its allies in the United States, and to point out the resolute solidarity that the Chinese people show for the just and heroic struggles of the proletariat and oppressed peoples in the U.S.A. and everywhere in the world. We urge others to reprint it.

UPSURGE OF U.S. REVOLUTIONARY MASS MOVEMENT IN 1960's

The 1960's was a decade of fierce struggle between the American people and the U.S. reactionary ruling circles and a decade of vigorous development of the U.S. revolutionary mass movement.

During these ten years, successive large-scale mass struggles broke out in the United States, which were unprecedented in momentum, magnitude, and development in U.S. history. Rising wave upon wave on a bigger and bigger scale and occurring successively and in coordination, the Afro-American struggle against violent repression, the workers movement, the student movement, and the struggle by different strata of the American people against wars of aggression have sent the reactionary U.S. ruling circles reeling and left them at a loss to what to do.

Starting with the 1964 struggle in Harlem, New York City, the Afro-American violent struggle against repression roared on year after year like a hurricane. By 1968, it had spread to more than 300 large and small U.S. cities. The Black people's struggle sounded a new clarion call for the exploited and oppressed American people to oppose the cruel rule of monopoly capital. With the widening of the war of aggression in Viet Nam by U.S. imperialism, the American people's mass movement against the war also rapidly gained momentum. Two mammoth nationwide demonstrations against the war of aggression in Viet Nam, each with more than a million people participating, broke out in October and November 1969. Meanwhile the U.S. progressive student movement followed suit, sweeping the main universities and many high schools throughout the United States. Strikes, demonstrations, occupation of school buildings, and other forms of struggle occurred everywhere. It was reported that student movement broke out in 524 U.S. colleges and universities in the 1960 academic year. In addition, the American workers strike struggle steadily mounted.

In their struggle, the American people gradually freed themselves from the fetters of "non-violence" and "reformism" and rapidly embarked on the road of using revolutionary violence to oppose counter-revolutionary violence. This was an important indication of their new awakening in the 1960's. The development of the Afro-American violent struggle against repression was particularly swift and vigorous. Since our great leader Chairman Mao issued his "Statement Supporting the Afro-Americans in Their Just Struggle Against Racial Discrimination by U.S. Imperialism" in 1963, the Afro-Americans have become further awakened. Time and again they launched heroic struggles against racial discrimination. In August 1965, the Afro-Americans in the Watts District of Los Angeles rose in struggle against unjustified arrests of young Afro-Americans by the reactionary police. Defying brute force, they seized guns to fight back at some 20,000 armed police in a battle lasting about ten days and nights. In late July 1967, Afro-Americans in Detroit launched a massive struggle against violent repression. Thousands upon thousands of them took up arms to courageously fight nearly 20,000 policemen and troops called out by the reactionary authorities and set fire to more than 1,300 places throughout the city, paralyzing all of Detroit. In April 1968, the Afro-American violent struggle against repression swept well over 100 cities in a week, throwing many major U.S. cities into disorder. In Washington, the nerve center of U.S. imperialism, the valiant Afro-Americans also rebelled against U.S. monopoly capitalist class reactionary rule. Many show-windows of stores owned by white exploiters were smashed and fires broke out in some 100 to 200 places. The Afro-American masses flames of revenge even spread to the vicinity of the heavily guarded White House and the Capitol. The struggle dealt a severe blow to U.S. reactionary rule at home and its policy of aggression abroad. Former U.S. imperialist chieftan Johnson was so shaken up

that he spent several sleepless nights and was compelled to postpone his trip to Honolulu to attend a meeting concerning the aggression in Viet Nam. The U.S. Department of Defence was also forced to announce a temporary suspension in its plan to send reinforcements to south Viet Nam.

Influenced by the Afro-American violent struggle against repression, the student movement and the workers movement became more and more militant. In April 1969, gun-carrying Afro-American students at Cornell University in New York State and Voorhees College in South Carolina, supported by hundreds of white students, occupied school buildings. Students set fire to ROTC ("Reserve Officers Training Corps") buildings in some schools. In their struggle, striking workers again and again fiercely fought against fascist police and scab union bosses.

More and more, the spearhead of the American revolutionary mass movement was pointed specifically at the U.S. social system and the domestic and foreign policies of the reactionary U.S. ruling circles. This was another striking sign of the American people's new awakening. A series of facts in recent years have enabled advanced Afro-Americans, American workers, and students to gradually realize that U.S. aggression abroad and ruthless oppression and exploitation of the people at home stem from the same root cause, and that only by destroying the imperialist system can they win complete emancipation. Consequently they have begun to combine the struggle for their own emancipation with the struggle against U.S. imperialism's reactionary policy and social system. In their struggle, Afro-Americans raised such slogans as "Black Power", "Afro-Americans should fight white racists, not Vietnamese freedom-fighters", "Our battlefield is here." American students also advanced such slogans as "Power to the People", "Revolution by the Young", and "Organize and Smash the State". In November, 1968, thousands upon thousands of American students demonstrated in Washington, New York, Chicago, San Francisco and other U.S. cities, calling upon the reactionary U.S. ruling circles. In January, 1969, when the new U.S. imperialist chieftan Nixon was about to take office, some 10,000 people went into the streets of Washington for a massive demonstration. They carried placards reading "Nixon's the one - No. 1 war criminal" and "Billionaires rule - Nixon's their tool." Beside himself with fear, Nixon had to take refuge behind a bullet-proof "glass cage" to deliver his "inaugural address". This was unprecedented in U.S. history.

In face of the rapidly mounting American peoples movement, reactionary U.S. ruling circles have stepped up the use of their counter-revolutionary dual tactics in a vain attempt to extinguish the flames of the revolutionary mass movement. However, neither political deception nor violent suppression can prevent the American revolutionary mass movement from rolling ahead. Kennedy's "civil rights plan", Johnson's "War on poverty", and Nixon's "new humanism" - all these lies have been discredited. Fascist suppression only more fully expose the vulnerability of reactionary U.S. ruling circles and their desperate struggle.

Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought was disseminated more and more widely among the American people in the 1960's. Some advanced people in the Afro-American struggle began applying Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought to repudiate the "Black Capitalism" advocated by the new U.S. imperialist chieftan Nixon. They pointed out that what the Black people really have to do is smash capitalist rule and end the system of exploitation of man by man. The idea of the merging of the Afro-American movement with the workers movement was being accepted by advanced Black and white workers. During the big strike at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in July 1967 in which Afro-American workers took the lead, 20,000 Black and white workers fiercely fought shoulder to shoulder against fascist police. The number of time Black and white Americans fight shoulder to shoulder in common struggle is increasing daily. Meanwhile, more and more advanced youth have accepted the idea that educated young people must integrate with the masses of workers and farm workers. They have actively joined the American workers movement and tried to apply Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in their struggle.

The vigorous upsurge of the American people's movement in the 1960's was the inevitable result of more ruthless exploitation and oppression at home by the reactionary U.S. ruling circles, the latter's intensification of wars of aggression, and the sharpening of class contradictions in the United States. Because of the frantic squeezing by reactionary U.S. ruling circles, the American people's tax burden will have reached an average of 1,500 dollars per capita in fiscal 1970, more than double the figure ten years ago. U.S. commodity prices have increased by over

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30 per cent compared with ten years ago. Real wages of the American working people dropped steadily, while the number of the unemployed has increased steadily. The high rate of unemployment among Afro-Americans is even more shocking. In the Watts District of Los Angeles, the unemployment rate among Afro-American youth reached 42.9 per cent. This aroused strong dissatisfaction and resistance on the part of the American people. Confronted with a bigger wave of the approaching revolutionary mass movement, the fear-stricken U.S. imperialist chieftan Nixon has to admit that there is a "harvest of dissatisfaction, frustration, and bitter division" in the United States and the American people "less and less believe in government". He added that U.S. imperialism is in a "deeply troubled and profoundly unsettled time" and expressed his fear by saying that the U.S. imperialists will be unable "to control our own destiny."

As early as 1946 our great leader Chairman Mao pointed out that "IT WILL BE PROVED THAT THE U.S. REACTIONARIES, LIKE ALL THE REACTIONARIES IN HISTORY, DO NOT HAVE MUCH STRENGTH. IN THE UNITED STATES THERE ARE OTHERS WHO ARE REALLY STRONG -- THE AMERICAN PEOPLE." The upsurge of the American revolutionary mass movement in the 1960s has vividly borne out Chairman Mao's brilliant thesis. The American revolutionary mass movement is part of the world revolution of our era. It supports and encourages the struggle of the world's people against U.S. imperialism and, at the same time, it has won warm sympathy and firm support from revolutionary people all over the globe. Undoubtedly, the American people will launch a more powerful revolutionary mass movement and will merge with the anti-U.S. struggle of the world's people to form a mighty torrent that will completely submerge monstrous U.S. imperialism.

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Quotations from Mao Tsetung

Riding roughshod everywhere, U.S. imperialism has made itself the enemy of the people of the world and has increasingly isolated itself. Those who refuse to be enslaved will never be cowed by the atom bombs and hydrogen bombs in the hands of the U.S. imperialists. The raging tide of the people of the world against the U.S. aggressors is irresistible. Their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys will assuredly win still greater victories.

To start a war, the U.S. reactionaries must first attack the American people. They are already attacking the American people - oppressing the workers and democratic circles in the United States politically and economically and preparing to impose fascism there. The people of the United States should stand up and resist the attacks of the U.S. reactionaries. I believe they will.

All reactionaries are paper tigers. In appearance, the reactionaries are terrifying, but in reality they are not so powerful. From a long-term point of view, it is not the reactionaries but the people who are really powerful.

In the final analysis, national struggle is a matter of class struggle. Among the white in the United States it is only the reactionary ruling circles who oppress the black people. They can in no way represent the workers, farmers, revolutionary intellectuals and other enlightened persons who comprise the overwhelming majority of the white people.

If there is to be a revolution, there must be a revolutionary party. Without a revolutionary party, without a party built on the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory and in the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary style, it is impossible to lead the working class and the broad masses of the people in defeating imperialism and its running dogs.

We are now in a great new era of world revolution. The revolutionary storm in Asia, Africa, and Latin America is sure to deal the whole of the old world a decisive and crushing blow. The great victories of the Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation are convincing proof of this. The proletariat and working people of Europe, North America, and Oceania are experiencing a new awakening. The U.S. imperialists and all other such vermin have already created their own grave-diggers; the day of their burial is not far off.

POLITICAL POWER GROWS OUT OF THE BARREL OF A GUN.
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This is the first issue of Class Struggle, which is published by the New York Branch of the COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A. (MARXIST-LENINIST). The C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.) is the only political party in the United States of America upholding and creatively applying Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-tung Thought to the situation in the United States of America. The C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.) stands in opposition to revisionism (the so-called "Communist Party"), trotskyism (SWP-YSA, Spartacists, Workers World, Workers League, etc.) and the conciliators of revisionism (Progressive Labor, Ad Hoc Committee, etc.). As stated in the official Declaration of the C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.) issued at its founding:

"The Communist Party of the United States of America (Marxist-Leninist) is the Party of the Proletariat and the vanguard of the working class of the United States of America, the highest form of class organization. The Party exists to lead the proletariat and the working class in revolution. Our objectives are proletarian revolution, the overthrow of the capitalist system, and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. . . . Representatives of the U.S. working class met during the weekend of September 4-5, 1965, at Los Angeles, California, to attend the Founding Conference of the Communist Party of the United States of America (Marxist-Leninist). These representatives were from the Workers Organizing Committee (M.-L.) and the Marxist-Leninists from the P.O.C.." (P.O.C. - Provisional Organizing Committee to Reconstitute the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party in the U.S.A.. The P.O.C. was formed in 1958 by Marxist-Leninist who had been expelled from the revisionist "Communist Party" and others still in the party.)

Class Struggle is a local bulletin issued to aid in the educational and political tasks of the Party in the East Coast region in widely disseminating Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-tung Thought, combatting revisionism and all bourgeois influence and ideology in the ranks of the proletariat, and building mass organizations under the leadership of the Party, as well as building the Party itself. The C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.) nationally issues the New Worker, a monthly newspaper which is the semi-official national publication of the party. We urge all readers of Class Struggle to subscribe to the New Worker, and to support it and the basic immediate task of producing a nation-wide proletarian revolutionary newspaper in the United States.

address all national correspondence and subscriptions for the New Worker to the following address :

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Subscriptions to the New Worker : USA: 3.00 per year, all
institutions and foreign 5.00 per year.

The Party also maintains bookstores nationally, to distribute revolutionary literature, books, pamphlets, periodicals, buttons, posters, etc., from the Peoples Republic of China, the Peoples Republic of Albania, etc. The West Coast facilities of the WORKERS INTERNATIONAL BOOKSTORES are listed above (National Office C.P.U.S.A. (M.-L.)). The East Coast facilities of the WORKERS INTERNATIONAL BOOKSTORE are in Manhattan, New York City at 700 east 9th street, New York 10009, N.Y. (between avenues C and D, open Saturdays and Sundays, from 1 to 8 pm)

Class Struggle will be issued at least once a month. It will be distributed along with the New Worker from the WORKERS INTERNATIONAL BOOKSTORE and from the other bookstores and news-stands where the New Worker is sold. (Downtown: East Side Book Store, Peace Eye Bookstore, midtown : 42nd st. Bryant Park news-stand, uptown : Movement Bookstore Harlem : Liberation Bookstore.)

Class Struggle will carry news of the regular activities of the Party in the East Coast area, including Mao Tse-tung Thought Study Groups, special meetings and other activities. Class Struggle welcomes letters of criticism, questions, and serious discussion on the important tasks ahead for the proletariat and oppressed people in the United States, for the carrying forward of the class struggle and national struggles in the United States of America to the overthrow of U.S. imperialism and the establishment of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

LONG LIVE THE VICTORIES OF PEOPLES WARS IN AFRICA, ASIA, LATIN AMERICA !
LONG LIVE THE VICTORIES OF CLASS WARS IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE !
LONG LIVE MAO TSETUNG THOUGHT, THE MARXISM-LENINISM OF OUR ERA !

POWER TO THE PROLETARIAT !