

# "New" WVO China Line Covers Reformism Old Dog-matists Turn New Tricks

Great storms are gathering on the horizon. With imperialism caught in the throes of a profound economic and political crisis, world war looms ever closer, and earthshaking events are already taking place from the revisionist reversal in China to the revolutionary storms in Iran.

In the face of this growing turmoil many forces, especially among the petty bourgeoisie, calling themselves "revolutionaries" and "communists" seek to take advantage of the situation to promote their own ends and, more importantly, drawn by their own spinelessness and vacillation, they increasingly seek refuge under the wing of the bourgeoisie.

A case in point is the Workers Viewpoint Organization (WVO)—a little dogmatist sect, whose leaders have slinked around pushing a combination of narrow reformism and stultifying dogmatism for years. WVO is able to see far enough ahead to see a new world war between the U.S. and the USSR rapidly approaching. In the face of this their simple reformism just doesn't cut it—it has no future. Instead they have to combine their reformism with more and more openly kissing up to the U.S. imperialists with an openly social-chauvinist (defend the U.S. and its allies against the "real enemy", the USSR—all under the guise of pseudo-"communism") line.

A unique if superficial feature distinguishing WVO from similar types,

rebuttal of Soviet aggression has the effect of showing the world's peoples and oppressed countries that Soviet social-imperialism can be stopped. It served to puncture the Soviet social-imperialists' arrogance and show that it cannot carry on aggression unopposed."

What a valiant and progressive action China has taken, one would infer! We are presented with a picture of China as an independent "3rd world" country taking the Soviets head on—a righteous blow against imperialism. But conveniently, there is no mention in the entire article of the role of the U.S. in the con-

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flict, whose approval in advance of China's attack was barely disguised.

With a stroke of their pen, WVO has made their argument absurdly simple, and exposed their allegiance to U.S. imperialism at the same time. They attempt to "update" the 1963 Chinese "Proposal Concerning the General Line of the International Communist Movement" saying, "Today with the new alignment of forces due to the rise of Soviet social-imperialism, we would say (the struggle of the people of the world should be aimed—RW) against the two superpowers, the main enemies of the peoples of the world, and the

ment no longer holds water. Teng and his buddies keep up the facade of "socialism" in justifying their "Soviet main danger" treachery, but WVO doesn't even care about such details. They just carry on with the business of capitulating to the U.S. So as not to blow their cover, WVO must at least make a show of opposing the Chinese revisionists. Here's what they say:

"So while China is driving a powerful blow against Soviet social-imperialism, it is doing so for different class reasons than proletarian internationalism. It is aimed at strengthening

the national bourgeoisie in power." Just what are these "different class reasons" they're talking about? Aren't they in fact the "class reason" of a Chinese comprador bourgeoisie—a batch of national traitors as well as traitors to socialism—that has currently hitched its wagon to the U.S. imperialists? While, as noted, it is true that regardless of its intentions the bourgeoisie of a "third world" country can objectively oppose imperialism in a particular action or stance, WVO has again totally avoided (conveniently left out) the real role China actually played as a front man for the U.S.

In fact, they end up as loyal opposition to reaction—attacking the revisionism of Teng and Hua in words while actually upholding their actions in service to the U.S. imperialists. They end up with straight up social-chauvinism—using all the phony "socialist" rhetoric they can muster to cover up the actual imperialist maneuvering by the U.S.

The stand they take is similar in many ways to the stand *The Guardian* newspaper (a so-called "independent"

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radical weekly) takes toward the Soviet Union (even though there are differences in that the Soviet Union is an imperialist superpower and China is not). *The Guardian* also pretends to criticize the Soviet revisionists while supporting much of what they are all about and covering for their imperialist actions like in Angola. They say that while the Soviets do some bad things, at least they oppose U.S. imperialism. Both *The Guardian* and WVO's logic is the logic of those bent on justifying plunder by any means no matter how blatant.

In the same issue of their newspaper we find another stunning example of WVO's unprincipled pragmatism (whatever seems to work, do it, and don't ask questions). The contortions it must go through to serve its various opportunist aims are downright stunning. They run an article titled "Zimbabwe: This is the year of the people's storm" with the slogan "Victory to the Patriotic Front" across the top of the page.

Now this is interesting indeed. After having been treated to a defense of the "Soviet main danger" crap, here we find no analysis of the role of the Soviets in Africa and certainly no "Soviet main danger" line at all. It's all rah-rah Patriotic Front, no mention that especially Nkomo of ZAPU (part of the Patriotic Front) has been tight with the Soviet imperialists, who offer arms and supplies to the Patriotic Front in an attempt to turn these organizations into pawns in their plans to grab control of Zimbabwe, just as they did in Angola. This convenient omission is made to serve their current kissing up to Black nationalists and Pan-Africanists in order to opportunistically "get" more Blacks around their sect.

### "Vulgar Practical Men"

WVO's pitiful dogma seems reserved for the depths of their inner sanctum. In practice, we find as Mao put it "vulgar practical men" who shamelessly bow to whatever suits their opportunist needs. And for all their attempts to assume the mantle of Mao Tsetung, they certainly were late bloomers in taking a stand against the rightist coup in China against Mao's line.

For months, WVO leaders not only refused to say anything publicly regarding the earthshaking events in China after Mao's death; they upheld China as a socialist country and did absolutely nothing during Teng's visit to the U.S. In fact, they attacked the RCP for exposing Teng's visit and China's en-

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like the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist, is their recent flimsy attempt to wrap themselves in the revolutionary mantle of Mao Tsetung, claiming to be upholders of Mao Tsetung Thought and Mao's jailed revolutionary comrades the so-called "Gang of Four", denouncing Teng Hsiao-ping and Hua Kuo-feng's revisionist coup in China. After long silence they have finally come out openly with this position in the last couple of months.

This turns out to be at best a very shoddy attempt as we shall soon see. They have only gone through this pro-Mao charade to cover their shameless social-chauvinism (of the U.S. brand) and to satisfy the nationalist allegiances among the small number of Chinese-Americans who are part of their base.

Let's face it, to anyone who honestly yearns for revolution, Mao is where it's at. His very name stands for revolution and WVO hopes to capitalize on it. But you don't have to look too far to see just how shallow and phony their opposition is to Teng, Hua, and especially U.S. imperialism.

### "Forgetting" U.S. Imperialism

In their April 1-15, 1979 newspaper they lay out their views on China's foreign policy, the recent China-Vietnam war in particular. This piece very clearly shows their social-

*Soviet Union being the main danger and main source of war.*" (emphasis ours—RW) This is a currently popular line among opportunists, "revolutionaries" eager to safely tail the U.S. capitalists: the real danger, the real source of war comes from the Soviets, not from the clashing drives of both the U.S. and Soviets for world domination. How simple it is to go from this to WVO's summation:

"It is the duty of communists in all countries to be vigilant and not to fall into the trap of supporting Soviet social-imperialism—we must take a clear stand in support of China's counterattack against Soviet backed aggression by Vietnam."

Never mind that China is an underling of U.S. imperialism and that China's Vietnam invasion served U.S. interests. After all they opposed the Soviets. It could be pointed out that the U.S., too, opposes the Soviets. Perhaps we should throw our support behind NATO—after all, it opposes Soviet imperialism. So here we have it—a mere hop and a short step from the sorry picture of so-called "communists" supporting the U.S. war machine. Instant opportunism—a great service to the U.S. bourgeoisie.

And we'd like to ask the twisted "theoreticians" of WVO just how they can justify this "Soviet main danger"

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opportunist-chauvinism in support of the U.S. bourgeoisie deliberately attempting to coverup the role of U.S. imperialism in the war. Of course the issue is interspersed with statements upholding Mao Tsetung and denouncing Teng and Hua for the revisionist dogs they are. But when we get to the bottom line around the China-Vietnam war, what do they have to say?

"China's action clearly is against imperialism. This is the immediate and principal aspect of China's successful counter-attack against the Soviet-inspired provocations by Vietnam... China's tactically sharp armed

formulation when the only situation in which it can possibly have any validity at all is if a socialist country (such as China under Mao) is directly threatened by one of the superpowers more than the other. Even there it is wrong to automatically say that this superpower is the main enemy in the world. Mao saw that the Soviets were the main danger to China. But this fact can provide a cover for opportunists inside the socialist country and around the world to rely on and actually cave in to the "lesser" imperialist danger. But now China, as WVO is forced to admit, has been taken over by revisionists. So even this argu-



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# WVO

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bourgeoisie in attacking socialism," and "demoralize" the masses, making them lose faith in the possibilities of socialism working.

How upholding Mao as the greatest revolutionary of our time is spreading anti-communism is hard to fathom, especially when the enemy was going wild in attacking him and revolution in general. But actually this is quite consistent for the hopeless reformists of WVO. The masses can't possibly understand such matters as revisionist coups, says WVO. No, they should just be concerned with the bread and butter issues and whatever social-chauvinist drivel WVO spews out in service to the Red, White and Blue. Fortunately, the

masses are a thousand times more able to understand the world and transform it than these self-serving cement-brained hacks in leadership of WVO.

And just to prove there is no limit to their pragmatism, after opposing the Mao Memorials as well as attacking the Party's call to take up the banner of Mao and join the RCP's Mao Tsetung Enrollment; after it turned out that there were actually people out there who dug Mao and came forward to become revolutionaries heeding the Party's call, WVO gives us a fine example of political pickpocketry. We read in their latest newspaper an announcement of their own Mao Tsetung Enrollment!

For all of WVO's attacks on genuine revolutionaries for being pragmatist...pragmatist...pragmatist, it is in fact they who perfectly fill the bill. They have raised this club re-

peatedly—and now "mysteriously" find their own head covered with welts.

There are no doubt many in WVO who are finding it increasingly difficult to reconcile WVO's claims to have the correct line while in practice carrying out a pragmatic, reformist and social-chauvinist line. Behind WVO's thin cover lurks a loyal opposition to the capitalists—reflecting the petty bourgeoisie squeezed by imperialism,

but cringing at the rising revolutionary struggle of the masses of people. To these hacks it is this rising tide that must be channeled down the dead end reformist road. And with world war on the horizon it is the growing struggle that must be harnessed to serve the imperialist aims of the bourgeoisie and provide a shelter for the likes of WVO to hide under. ■

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