

HAMMER & STEEL NEWSLETTER

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Large shipments of U.S. arms and military forces are in South Viet Nam. U.S. imperialism is waging brutal aggression against the people there.

The U.S. government is violating the Geneva agreement, as well as the U.S. Constitution, by its attack on South Viet Nam.

The French government waged the "dirty war" in South Viet Nam with 200,000 men and lost. The U. S. government has been even dirtier than the former French government using poison chemicals against crops and the peasant population--many women and children have been killed by these chemicals according to Lord Russell and other observers.

There is a sharp split in the imperialist camp which is dramatically demonstrated in Asian policy. The recognition of People's China by France clearly indicates the deepening contradictions between the U.S. government and its "allies".

The strength of People's China has sharply increased internally and abroad. Those who sought to isolate China in Asia and elsewhere are becoming isolated themselves.

The National Liberation Front in South Viet Nam, relying on its own resources and the arms captured from the U.S. invaders, with overwhelming support from the people, has strengthened its military position and demonstrated its capacity to liberate and govern all South Viet Nam.

The Johnson administration, as did its predecessors, claims that the National Liberation Front is an import from some other country. The leadership of the NLF is made up of the best sons and daughters of the Vietnamese people, many of whom fought the French

colonialists for years. The NLF unites all who want to see Viet Nam free from foreign invaders. The NLF uses no planes, tanks or heavy artillery and still wins. Only patriots with tremendous popular support could win battles and rule most of South Viet Nam under such conditions.

The aggression in South Viet Nam has little popular appeal among the common people of the U.S. The lesson of Korea has not been lost. The lies of Rusk, McNamara, Gen. Harkins and Johnson about a quick easy war have been repeatedly exposed by events. The State Department's policy of assassination and coups has disgusted many people in the U.S.

Of great importance is the growing belief among the Negro people that they must support the struggles of other oppressed peoples in Africa and Asia.

More and more Negro people recognize that those who mutilate and murder children in South Viet Nam are the same forces that destroy little Negro girls in a Birmingham church. At home the Wall St. government uses police dogs, fire hoses, clubs, the courts and guns against the Negro people's struggle for self-government and justice. In South Viet Nam the methods of terrorizing the people vary, but the aim is the same--super profits for the handful of billionaires who hold power in the U.S. The victory over Wall St. oppression in S. E. Asia will certainly speed the liberation of the Negro people and all peoples who are fighting new and old colonialism.

The above factors make a defeat for U.S. imperialism in South Viet Nam, and a victory for liberty and peace for all peoples, both possible and necessary.

The Khrushchev clique of renegades, with tongue in cheek, calls for withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam. They simultaneously praise Pres. Johnson as peace loving and reasonable. This two-faced policy is another example of how revisionism is capitulation in practice.

Exposing Khrushchev's treachery and cowardice is essential to peace and justice in S. E. Asia.

The Communist Party leadership in the U.S. has echoed Khrushchev's line. They pretend sympathy for the victims of aggression while heaping praise on the aggressors--the Johnson administration. They try to protect Johnson from criticism on S. Viet Nam by the claim that only Goldwater and forces in the Pentagon are aggressive. The CPUSA leadership calls itself the "responsible left." They are "responsible"--to the needs of U.S imperialism and its government.

The top leadership of the AFL-CIO has a slogan of "more war, more work." This is their answer to automation and millions of unemployed. These labor lietenants of capitalism support the huge war budget. They do not fight for a shorter work week or other relief to the unemployed. Their warmongering policy amounts to disaster for the working class both at home and abroad.

The revisionists are cultivating bourgeois pacifism in left and progressive circles. This is the line of seeking peace by hailing imperialist words and ignoring imperialist deeds. Bourgeois pacifism hails the so-called test ban treaty and fails to utter one word against the U.S. underground testing which poisons the earths surface, contaminates the air and stockpiles new type H-bombs. Bourgeois pacifism does not distinguish between just and unjust wars. Bourgeois pacifists see only that Viet Nam is costly, that "we" are not winning.

There is a basic difference between those who are fighting for peace and the bourgeois pacifists. The former recognize that U.S. imperialism breeds war and must be fought as the main enemy. Bourgeois pacifism denies the existence of U.S. imperialism, pictures individual imperialists as reasonable to cover up the aggressive acts of the war makers.

Labor opportunism and bourgeois pacifism can operate successfully only when there is little or no opposition. CPUSA misleaders such as Gus Hall, James Jackson, etc., help the imperialists with their own direct support and indirectly by their encouragement of bourgeois pacifism and labor opportunism.

Marxist-Leninists in the U.S. should carry out a real struggle for withdrawal of all military forces from Viet Nam. We must develop the tradition of struggle against unjust wars waged by U.S. reaction. Lincoln opposed the Mexican War. Debs fought World War I. Foster, although surrounded for the most part by leaders who proved to be renegades and revisionists, exposed and fought the Korean War. Let every anti-imperialist raise their voice in their union, among the Negro people, the youth and in their mass organizations.

The most serious error would be to underestimate our own strength and overestimate that of the class enemy. In 1950 only a few tens of thousand voiced strong opposition to the Korean War. By 1952 millions questioned the government's policy on Korea.

U.S. imperialism may well try to cover up its defeat in S. Viet Nam by starting another war against North Viet Nam. If every anti-imperialist force unites then the defeat in South Viet Nam can lead to great victories for peace and national liberation. Withdrawal of U.S. military forces in S. Viet Nam can open the door to similar withdrawals in India, S. Korea, Japan, Taiwan. It can lead to recognition of China. It can lead to peace in the Pacific.

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