

THE ROBBER WAR AGAINST CHINA

By CYRIL BRIGGS

FACED with the rise of the Soviet Power of the toiling Chinese masses and the progressive collapse of the counter-revolutionary Kuomintang regime, the imperialist powers are engaging in direct armed intervention against the Chinese Revolution on a rapidly increasing scale.

The ruthless mass murder of Chinese workers and peasants begun last September by the Japanese imperialist is being carried on with increasing ferocity by all the imperialist powers. The reactionary attempt to crush the Chinese Revolution, destroy the growing Chinese Soviet Districts, and partition China among the imperialist robbers is on in full swing.

The murderous attacks on the Chinese Revolution and the revolutionary fighters in the Chinese Soviet Districts are being carried out jointly by the imperialists and their Kuomintang militarist tools. The Wall Street Butcher, Chiang Kai-shek is in personal command of the fourth "Communist Suppression" Campaign, recently launched upon the direct and open orders of the Wall Street Government at Washington. But Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang are no longer able to hold back the Chinese Revolution or to stop the steady growth of the power of the central Chinese Soviet Government and the Soviet Districts. The imperialists are forced to come out more openly in direct armed intervention aimed at crushing the revolutionary struggles of the Chinese masses and to perpetuate the frightful conditions imposed upon the toiling masses by foreign imperialism and the native feudal landowners, bankers and militarists.

Rushing Warships

Thus we see the imperialist powers rushing warships to Amoy, South China, when that Fukien Province seaport was facing capture by the Chinese Red Armies of the revolutionary worker-peasant masses. The United States, Japan, Great Britain, France and Italy, all sent warships to Amoy to threaten the revolutionary workers in the town with a blood-bath and to oppose the advance of the victorious Chinese Red Army. Most of these foreign warships are still at Amoy. Under the direction of the imperialists, trenches have been dug around the town and martial law established against the worker inhabitants.

A few weeks ago, the imperialists with brazen effrontery attacked the strike of the Chinese postal workers and attempted to establish a strike-breaking apparatus in Shanghai and other Chinese cities. This vicious

gunboats, said the China Weekly Review on September 6, 1930:

"... in this particular case performed a good service for the Chinese government by helping to drive the Communists out of Changsha. Chief credit for this enterprise apparently belongs to Lieutenant-Commander Tisdale of the Palos who steamed back to Changsha after evacuating the American residents, and who gave the blood-thirsty, Russian-inspired hordes (sic) a dose of their own medicine. Undoubtedly it was Commander Tisdale's retaliation, followed by that of the Japanese, Italians and British, to the machine gun fire of the Communists that wounded six American sailors, that started the evacuation of the Communists from Changsha with the eventual collapse of their Soviet Government which they had established in the city. In this instance the foreign gunboats were on the side of the Chinese government in helping to re-establish order, something which the Chinese Government manifestly was unable to do; hence there has been no outcry on the part of the Chinese authorities at this most recent activity of foreign gunboats in China."

Armed forces of the imperialists are in every Chinese port and large city. During the past few months the South China city of Shanghai has been the scene of the greatest aggregation of battleships and armies since the World War. American, British, French, Italian warships and troops all participated with the Japanese in the bestial butchery of tens of thousands of unarmed Chinese civilians, men, women and children. While the Japanese acted as the spearhead of world imperialism in the ruthless attack on the Chinese Revolution, the representatives of the other imperialist powers stood by applauding and doing everything in their power to crush the heroic resistance of the Shanghai masses and disrupt the defense of Shanghai by the Nineteenth Route Army and the revolutionary workers. Japanese troops were permitted to use the International Settlement, controlled by the United States, Great Britain and Japan, as a military base for their murderous operations, for the wiping out of the densely populated proletarian district of Chapei. The United States was actively engaged both in protecting its desired loot in China from its imperialist rivals and in attacking the Chinese Revolution.

Attack For U. S. Workers

What are the American workers going to do about it? The honor of the international proletariat is in-



Parade of the white-guardist "Russian Regiment" in Shanghai. These mercenaries are used by the imperialist powers in their war of intervention against the Chinese masses and participated in the butchery of Chinese workers in Chapei.

strikebreaking attempt was led by United States Consul General Edwin S. Cunningham.

More recently, on June 8, the U. S. Gunboat "Oahu," operating one thousand miles inland in China (!) on the Yangtze River, opened fire on a body of 2,000 Chinese troops who, disgusted with the shameful treachery of the Kuomintang, had mutinied against the Nanking Government and were on their way to join the armed forces of the Revolution. Two armed British steamers took part in the attack.

Attacks by the imperialist gunboats on the Chinese Red Armies are of the greatest frequency. In 1930, it was the imperialist gunboats which drove the victorious Red Army out of the city of Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, Central China, after the masses in that city had joyously welcomed the Red Army—on the admission of the Reuter News Agency: "the city became a mass of red flags . . ." The U. S. gunboat "Palos" led the imperialist attack on the Red Army and revolutionary workers in Changsha. The foreign involved. The workers of the United

States and Europe must rally to the defense of the Chinese people. We must raise more militantly than ever the demand for the withdrawal of all imperialist troops and warships from China. We must actively resist the robber war against China. We must organize broad united front committees of actions in the shops and on the docks to stop the production and shipment of war munitions against the Chinese people and the Soviet Union. We must conduct a struggle to expose the robber policy of American imperialism.

The Communist International calling upon the world proletariat to act against the imperialist war which has already begun, correctly points out:

"The defense of China, the Chinese Revolution, the Chinese Soviets must stand in the foremost place in the tasks of all Communist Parties. The defense of China's independence from the military division which has already begun is an integral part of the defense of the Soviet Union, the defense of the proletariat of all capitalist countries from the world war."