

Detente: "A Mailed Fist in a Velvet Glove" !!

Within the past several months world politics has revolved around the policies of detente. These programs, which have mainly developed from the collusion between the Soviet Union and the USNA, represent a grave threat to world peace. Both superpowers have been using the "peaceful" plans of detente to further their counter-revolutionary interests; USNA imperialism to expand its exploitative position in the world, and Soviet social-imperialism to prepare for a nuclear pre-emptive strike against the People's Republic of China.

The situation in the world today is very similar to the conditions that were present before both World War I and World War II. Everyone is talking "peace" while preparing for war; heads of state are rushing from capital to capital in frantic efforts to gain allies before the storm; old treaties and programs are quickly being sacrificed for the new emerging relationships.

For some time the disastrous policies of the opportunist leaders of the Soviet Union have been exposed to the world by the sharp and correct polemics of the Chinese Communist Party and the Albanian Party of Labor. These exposures have been most threatening to this rotten gang of bandits. Since their rise to power in the Soviet Union, these opportunists have worked singlemindedly to destroy the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the bourgeoisie has mounted a savage attack upon the socialist economic basis, all of which has greatly sharpened the class struggle within the

Soviet Union.

An example of the moves to destroy the economic basis of socialism can be found in the agricultural field. While privately owned land represents only 3% of the total acreage, it accounts for 63% of the total potato crop, 38% of the vegetables, 35% of milk production, 51% of the meat herds and 21% of wool. The Soviets spent as much on importing food last year as importing machinery in the last five years. The tremendous amount of foodstuffs in the hands of private entrepreneurs has caused tremendous anarchy and food shortages. The crisis in agriculture is just one part of the disruption of the Soviet economy by the bourgeois interests. Thus, the opportunist leaders have had to grasp at the straw of detente in order to save their increasingly difficult position.

The sharpening class struggle has moved the Brezhnev clique to carry out a massive purge of the armed forces and of the Communist Party to remove all remaining vestiges of Marxism-Leninism and install faithful lackeys in their place. Arch-fascist Grechko, the Minister of Defense who master-minded the purge of the army, was recently awarded with a seat on the political bureau. The scum was thickened with the appointments of Andropov from the Leningrad section of the political police (KGB) and A. Gromyko, the diplomatic leader of the detente. 8 of the 15 voting members of the political bureau of the party are Brezhnev's allies or his personal appointees.

The People's Republic of China along with Albania have unremittently defended the dictatorship of the proletariat and have been a socialist example that has exposed the betrayal of the Soviet revisionists to the rest of the world. It is from this light that the rising tensions along the Sino-Soviet border must be seen. The restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union is dependent on the destruction of China, the main example of socialism. And the social-imperialists are making obvious preparations for war against the People's Republic of China. Large scale military manoeuvres began last spring with the Soviet troops and the armed forces of the revisionist government of the People's Republic of Mongolia. As far back as February, the Soviet rocket experimentation channeled all but token funds and research into developing the mobile land to land assault missiles, which have already been test fired this summer. It is no accident that the Soviet space flights, sputniks, etc. are lagging where before, they were in the lead. The reason is plain and simple; the Soviet armed forces have shifted in conjunction with the space program to quickly develop tactical and strategic offensive weapons.

It is well known that within two years China will have enough missiles and rockets to effectively counter an attack on its country. This fact, along with the developing economic and political crisis, is compelling the Soviet opportunist leaders to mount an attack on China much sooner than they

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would like.

The preparation for this attack has not been hidden. About 2/5 of the Soviet army, 49 full divisions, along with over 1/3 of its air forces and armored divisions have been shifted to the Chinese border. A British correspondent reported in the Chicago Tribune on Sept. 23 on the situation around the strategic Ussuri River: "On the rivers where the Chinese have nothing more than unarmed motor launches the Russians patrol in rakish gunboats, cannon fore and aft, rocket launchers amidships; helicopters link the frequent wooden watchtowers on the Soviet bank...and in the long winter when the rivers freeze solid, armored cars and personnel carriers take up the patrolling." Over a year ago the Soviet army began pre-induction military training compulsory for all youth between 16 and 18. After completing this training, the Soviet army will supposedly be able to double its reserve.

Over the last 6 months the Soviet navy has shifted its operations from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean to the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. They presently are docking 23 naval vessels in East Pakistan's port of Chittagong. And they have docking rights with India. The Soviet navy is building three new naval bases in the Pacific. They are currently negotiating with the South Korean fascists for docking rights. Further, the revisionists have begun a pro-Soviet Communist party in Taiwan and have asked for docking rights there. Recently, in conjunction with the Indian reactionaries, they built a base on the Andaman Islands which will control the Malacca Straits. Most ships must pass through these straits when traveling between the Indian Ocean and the Far East.

These events are not isolated, but are part of a politically orchestrated manoeuvre on the part of the opportunists to threaten or invade the People's Republic of China. A crucial part of this manoeuvre is the relaxing of military forces and tensions on the western front (Europe). It is here that the Soviet army is still the strongest (58 divisions). Brezhnev knows there can be no successful two-front war, and therefore, he is trying to demilitarize Europe as quickly as possible. Two weeks ago it was announced that 10% of the NATO troops and 20% of the Warsaw Pact troops would be removed. The NATO removals will be USNA forces and the Warsaw removals will be from the USSR. As its part in the detente, the USNA is trying wherever possible to reduce the tensions in Europe (at least on the surface), so as to free Soviet troops for use on the eastern front (China).

But the manoeuvres of the Soviet bandits are not simply limited to the military sphere.

Last December Brezhnev said that the Chinese were fighting "the entire Socialist Community". In August they opened new campaigns of vilification by saying that the People's Republic of China was no longer a socialist state. These are attempts to isolate China and exclude her from the world communist movement. On July 30-31, 1973 Brezhnev called a meeting of the parties of the People's Democratic Republics of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Mongolia to discuss the problems in the "communist world", i.e., China. But the opportunists met the same misfortune they encountered at the attempted world meeting in 1969. Their attempts to condemn China had failed and the conference itself was boycotted by North Korea, North Vietnam, Albania and China. However, presently the Soviet Union is holding a world peace conference, the purpose of which is to 1) gain political support for its detente policies, and 2) brand China as a war monger and anti-peace country. There are some reports that the revisionists hope to call a conference of all the world communist parties to expell and denounce China and Albania. If this conference takes place, it is a sure sign of approaching war.

Recently, the Mongolian government issued a statement accusing the Chinese of political infiltration, border violations, etc. The leader of the Communist Party of Mongolia, Tsedenbal, is a close friend of Brezhnev's and is an arch-revisionist. It appears likely that the Soviet Union will use Mongolia as the excuse to invade the People's Republic of China.

The whole issue of border violations exposes the anti-Communist, anti-working class and counterrevolutionary schemes of the so-called peace loving summit leaders. Directly following World War II, the long and arduous war against fascism that decimated vast sections of the Soviet Union and took the lives of many millions, the Soviet people heeded the leadership of Joseph Stalin and the Bolshevik party to open their borders to the Chinese. Their slogan expressed the real ties of proletarian internationalism between the Soviet and Chinese peoples in their common defense against the forces of imperialism. This slogan simply stated, "Everything for China." This is a far cry from the present line of the social imperialists who are not interested in uniting the working classes and poor peasants of the world under one common banner, but rather push to divide the world into imperialist markets. Under capitalism and its highest stage, imperialism, borders are needed to define markets.

Much discussion in the bourgeois press is being made about the question of the Soviet government "crushing" the pro-Western scientists and writers within the Soviet Union. Nixon is using this issue to

complain that he cannot get the Soviet Union the "most favoured nation" trading status (a reduction of tariffs and trade restrictions). This is a phoney issue. The opportunists did not let Chile stand in the way of detente; the USNA did not let Vietnam stand in the way of detente. Certainly a few bourgeois writers and scientists will not halt the process. Brezhnev must continue to attack these elements because of the pressure from the Soviet working class and because it strengthens his position against the Marxist-Leninists.

While the USNA and the USSR are temporarily working together, discussing many types of disarmament and "peace" missions, each is rearming and building missiles at a rate unprecedented in history. While the Soviet Union has 1,500 land based missiles, the USNA has 1,000; each have about 600 submarine based missiles. The USNA has three bombers for each one of the USSR. However, each country has from 4,000 to 4,500 megatons of nuclear bombs and missiles. 400 megatons of bombs and missiles are enough to destroy 25% of either country.

The policies of detente, while marked with the preparation for war, particularly by the Soviet Union against China, are much more complicated. The USNA, while quickly expanding its position in the world, cannot possibly afford to allow Soviet occupation of China. China is the largest single market in the world. Its population is almost double the population of both the USNA and the USSR. It is the third largest mineral producer in the world, holding 80% of the world's tungsten, perhaps the greatest oil reserves in the world and large amounts of natural gas and antimony. While on the one hand, the USNA wants to use detente to strengthen its hand in Europe and the Middle East and while it would be glad to see China crippled and left prostrate, on the other hand, it cannot afford to allow the Soviet Union to make serious inroads into China.

Schlesinger, present Secretary of Defense and ex-CIA chief, summed up detente perfectly in the Sept. 1, 1973 Christian Science Monitor, when he said, "Detente is a velvet glove - a mailed fist in a velvet glove."

The proletariat must prepare for the prospects of war. The current detente policies are nothing more than the frantic manoeuvrings of the imperialists who are trying to emerge from their economic contradictions with talk and treaties. This has been the case before each of the major imperialist wars, talk peace, prepare for war. The Communist Party of China recently held its 10th Party Congress to unite its forces to defend the dictatorship of the proletariat, to defend socialist China in

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the face of this serious threat to its sovereignty. It is not enough to pay lip service to the courageous Chinese people; real support must take the form of revolutionary action. And history is compelling us to take the only action that can seriously threaten the hegemony of the two super powers, the building of a Communist party to lead the working class into battle to defeat USNA imperialism.

It is critical that the proletariat of the USNA have a vanguard detachment at this difficult time in history. And therefore, every comrade and Marxist-Leninist grouping must redouble their efforts to build the factory circles, develop the route systems, influence the organizations of the class and prepare for the Party Congress. International events, Comrades, are changing very quickly and we must change with them in order to build the Party of a New Type.