GUARDIAN WANTS ANTI-CHINA BOOKS AT CHINA BOOKS

Has China Books and Periodicals been taken over by a band of narrow-minded tyrants intent on stripping its shelves of revolutionary newspapers?

That's the impression one might get from reading William Gurley's "The Left" column in the June 14 issue of the Guardian.

Gurley, it seems, is upset over the fact that China Books recently made a correct and necessary decision to stop selling Revolution, newspaper of the Avakian anti-China gang, in its bookstores. This is most unfair, he suggests, since all the RCP has done has been to "maintain silence" on "the purge of the 'gang of four.' " The RCP, he explains, is merely "critical of the current government in China and the course being taken to build up China's economy."

Really, Mr. Gurley. It is pretty well known by now that the Avakian bunch are hardly "friendly critics" of China. Official documents from that outfit use the term "fascist" to characterize the Communist Party of China. They slander the Chinese people as backward dupes and sing the praises of counter-revolutionaries.

What do you expect China Books to do, Mr. Gurley? Change its name to "China and Anti-China Books and Periodicals"? To avoid being "sectarian," maybe they could even give over a shelf to the Taiwan clique.

To be fair, we should point out that Mr. Gurley is not merely over-reacting to the "banning" of RCP's "democratic right" to slander China. He is also concerned that newspapers like the Workers' Advocate, Unite! and Bolshevik have also been removed from the shelves, again according to Gurley for simply "criticizing" China's "three worlds theory."

Now, Mr. Gurley, surely you must have read some of these "criticisms." They attack China's leaders as "agents of U.S. imperialism" and denounce all who support the theory of the three worlds. These newspapers, we might add, often leave the realm of political slander in favor of rantings more typical of a megalomaniac ward in a mental hospital.

But all of this is by way of introduction to the Guardian's main point. Gurley ends his little piece by reminding his readers that the Guardian was also "suppressed" in 1976 by China Books, although he tries, just as with the others, to cover up the reason. He notes: "At the time, neither the RCP nor the other now-banned groups would back the Guardian in protesting its banishment."

Is it unfair, Mr. Gurley, for us to read an "I told you so" into this "factual" statement? Actually, it is more than that. It is an unsolicited admission by the Guardian that it has actually been in the vanguard of this united front of anti-China opportunists, Trotskyites and police agents. It played the leading role in being the first "ghost and monster" to jump out, while others lagged behind.

Even now, the Guardian still fights for "unity" of the anti-China opportunists by whitewashing and covering up for those who would smash socialism where it actually exists in this world.