

LIES MASK SOVIET DESIGNS IN KAMPUCHEA-VIETNAM CONFLICT

WHY MOSCOW SLANDERS CHINA

Last week The Call discussed the U.S. imperialist press slander campaign against Kampuchea. In this article, a Chinese journalist refutes Soviet slanders concerning the Vietnam-Kampuchea conflict. The full text is printed in Peking Review No. 4. Following are excerpts from the article.

The Soviet propaganda machine has recently churned out a string of lies to slander China over the Kampuchea-Vietnam armed conflict. A Soviet radio commentary on Jan. 3 alleged that "the worsening relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Kampuchea have obviously been provoked by Peking." The Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* and TASS time and again spread such rumors as, "Many Chinese military advisers have taken part in the military actions on the Kampuchean side."

No one is going to believe these

groundless fabrications, which are therefore not worth refuting. But what deserves attention is that, apart from deliberate animosity towards China, the Soviet Union has an ulterior motive in choosing this very moment to tell and spread such lies with such unusual haste.

A law governing the Kremlin's actions is that, whenever it wants to provoke an international dispute and interfere in it, Moscow invariably tries to create a pretext and often plays the role of a villain bringing suit before his victims in order to divert people's attention away from its own machinations.

[The article goes on to cite the examples of Soviet interference and provocation in the disputes between India and Pakistan, national liberation movements in Angola, and around Cyprus, between Angola and Zaire and most recently in the Horn of Africa—ed.]

It is common knowledge that Moscow has been trying for a long time to establish its hegemony over Southeast Asia and bring the region into its "system of collective security in Asia." Now it is repeating its stock tricks on the question of the Kampuchea-Vietnam conflict.

It is Moscow itself that is stirring up trouble for the sole purpose of bringing unrest to the region, yet it mounts a barrage of rumors in order to vilify China. Its purpose, of course, is to divert people's attention and conceal its strategic aim of establishing domination over Southeast Asia.

The other aim of this deluge of Soviet slanders is to sow discord. It has alleged that "the Peking authorities refuse to be reconciled with the presence of a unified socialist Vietnam...."

This cock-and-bull story is the height of absurdity. As is well known, the Chinese people have always given powerful backing to the Vietnamese people in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and in their struggle for the reunification of their

fatherland....

On the other hand, it is an irrefutable fact that throughout the five decisive years of war waged by the Kampuchean people against the traitorous Lon Nol clique, the Soviet Union had all along sided with the clique and antagonized the Kampuchean people. It smeared their war of national liberation as "fratricidal war" and, working hand in glove with the Lon Nol clique, it clandestinely tried to rig up a "third force" in that country to sabotage the revolution of the Kampuchean people. The Soviet government maintained diplomatic relations with the puppet Lon Nol regime right up to the last day of the traitorous clique....

Soviet lies and slanders, however, have a positive use: they help heighten the vigilance of the people of Indochina and elsewhere in Southeast Asia against the Soviet Union. The people are waiting to see what further acts the Soviet hegemonists are going to commit in an attempt to capitalize on the armed conflict between Kampuchea and Vietnam.

'OUR ARMY WAS BORN IN THE PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE'