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11



Chinese Foreign Minister's Speech at United Nations Page 3

Marxist Methods of Leadership (Contributed) Page 10

War Clouds Gather in Europe Page 12  
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# **Chinese Foreign Minister's Speech at United Nations**

Following is a summary of a speech made by Chiao Kuan-hua, Chairman of the Delegation of the People's Republic of China and Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the plenary meeting of the 30th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 26. — Ed.

Chiao Kuan-hua said, "Profound changes have taken place in the international situation since the 29th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

A serious capitalist economic crisis plagues most parts of the world.

All the basic contradictions in the world are further sharpening.

The trend of revolution by the people of the world is actively developing. The Asian, African and Latin American people have advanced valiantly and won a series of significant victories in their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism.

On the other hand, the contention between the two superpowers for world hegemony has become more and more intense. The whole world is in greater turbulence and unrest. Rhetoric about detente cannot cover up the stark reality. The danger of war is visibly growing."

He recalled the great victories won by the three Indochinese peoples and reviewed the new developments of the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism. "The unity and struggle of the Third World countries, extending from the political to the economic sphere, have ushered in a new stage in the revolutionary cause of the people of the world against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism," he pointed out.

"The countries of the Second World," he continued, "have also heightened their struggle against superpower and particularly social-imperialist control, interventions, subversion and threat of force. The trend among the West European countries to get united against hegemonism has continued to grow."

## **SITUATION IN EUROPE**

The Chinese Foreign Minister drew attention to the rivalry between the two superpowers. He said, "The contention between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, extends to all parts of the world. They are intensifying their strife in Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Persian Gulf,

the Indian Ocean, the Pacific, the Atlantic, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

"Strategically, Europe is the focus of their contention. Social-imperialism is making a feint to the East while attacking in the West."

Referring to the fact that the Soviet Union had made use of the European Security Conference to preach its detente theme, Chiao Kuan-hua said that Europe remains in a prolonged state of tense armed confrontation. While chanting "peace and security" in the conference hall, the Soviet Union made moves to aggravate tension outside. Such deeds of expansion coupled with words of detente are a huge mockery of the European Security Conference. The European Security Conference has not altered the basic situation in Europe in the least.

### "ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY"

The Soviet leadership hankers after a so-called "Asian Collective Security System," he went on, pointing out that a superpower was driven out of Indochina. So the purpose of the Soviet Union is not the preservation of Asian security; rather it is to "fill the vacuum" and at the same time divert world attention to Asia to cover up the fact that Europe is the focus of its strategy."

He said, "The idea of a so-called "Asian Collective Security System" peddled by the Soviet leadership is designed to facilitate its contention with the other superpower for hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region and serves as a means by which it seeks to divide and control the Asian countries.

"But the Asian countries, which won their independence after protracted struggles, know well that in order to be masters of their own house they must never let the tiger in through the back door while repulsing the wolf through the front gate." China's attitude towards this stuff of "Asian Collective Security System" is clear-cut: first, we are against it, second, we despise it."

"As Lenin pointed out time and again, imperialism means war. So long as imperialism and social-imperialism exist, war is inevitable . . . since both superpowers are after world domination, the contradiction between them is irreconcilable; one either overpowers the other, or is overpowered. The so-called "balance of power", even if it exists, is only a transient and superficial one . . . With the superpowers contending so fiercely and expanding their armaments so madly, they are bound to go to war against each other some day. This is independent of man's will.

**"The superpowers are the source of a new world war, and the danger of war comes mainly from the wildly ambitious social-imperialism. The frequent meetings between the superpowers and their profuse talk about detente precisely prove that there is no detente, let alone lasting peace in this world. What characterises the**



current world situation is decidedly not an irreversible process of detente but the approaching danger of a new world war.

### IMPERIALISM MEANS WAR

"We hope that the people of all countries will heighten their vigilance and get prepared against the growing danger of a new world war. It is better to be prepared than unprepared. Without preparations one will suffer," the Chinese Foreign Minister warned.

"At present, the factors for both revolution and war are increasing on a world scale. Whether war gives rise to revolution or revolution prevents war, in either case the international situation will develop in a direction favourable to the people. And the future of the world will be bright," he added.

### ANGOLAN QUESTION

Chiao Kuan-hua went on to state the Chinese delegation's views on some of the questions to be considered at the current session. He first dealt with the question of opposing colonialism. He declared that the past year was a year in which the African people continued to win important victories in their struggle for national independence and liberation.

But even before old-line colonialism dies out, the two super-powers have already stepped in. The United States has long supported colonial rule in Africa, and Southern Africa in particular. The Soviet Union flaunting the banner of "socialism", has infiltrated into the African national liberation movement to sow discord and stir up trouble in an attempt to bring the movement within its social-imperialist orbit.

He said that all revolutionary people of the world are saddened by the civil war in Angola. The Soviet leadership disregards the agreement reached among the three Angolan organisations on unity against the enemy and has, through its propaganda media, identified one organisation as revolutionary and censured another as reactionary in a deliberate attempt to create division. Furthermore, it has sent large quantities of arms, including heavy arms, to one of the Angolan organisations. That was how the civil war was provoked in Angola. The other superpower, on its part, has not lagged behind. The situation in Angola is becoming even more complicated.

"From the very beginning China has given her support to the national liberation movement in Angola. We gave military aid to all three Angolan liberation organisations to help them fight Portuguese colonialism.

"Being aware of their differences, we have all along urged them to unite against the enemy. After the agreement on independence was reached between the Angolan national liberation movement and Portugal, we stopped giving new military aid to the three Angolan organisations. Such are the facts, and facts are more eloquent

than words. The Soviet slanders against China can in no way cover up the truth; instead, they serve to lay bare the true features of the Soviet Union, Chiao Kuan-hua stated.

### **"DIALOGUE" IN S. AFRICA**

He pointed out that an excellent situation prevails in Africa. Vorster of South Africa had proposed "dialogue" between the minority white regime of southern Rhodesia and the Zimbabwe national liberation organisations. Through such tactics they intend to disintegrate the national liberation movement and to preserve the reactionary white rule.

The recent Conference of heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity called on the Zimbabwe people to immediately intensify their armed struggle and expressed the determination to fight by every means possible the White racist regimes until their complete elimination.

"We warmly support this correct stand. We have always advocated the use of revolutionary dual tactics against the reactionaries' counter-revolutionary dual tactics. Armed struggle is fundamental; the people's armed forces must be strengthened and not weakened negotiations or no negotiations," he said.

### **KOREAN QUESTION**

On the Korean question, Chiao Kuan-hua pointed out that the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea is the common aspiration of the entire Korean people. However, Korea remains divided today, because the Pak Jung Hi clique supported by the United States, has abandoned the three principles for independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and sabotaged the North-South talks.

The United States, he said, endlessly repeated the myth of a so-called "threat of a southward invasion from the North" concocted by the Pak Jung Hi clique, deliberately played up the tension on the Korean Peninsula and even declared that it would not hesitate to use nuclear weapons there. This was merely intended to create a pretext and deceive the people of the world so that US troops may hang on in South Korea and the division of Korea may be perpetuated.

He pointed that the draft resolution on Korea submitted by the United States, Japan and other countries mentions nothing at all of the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea. Obviously, its purpose is, under the cover of terminating the UN Command, to legalise the presence of US troops in South Korea and create "two Koreas." "It is absolutely unacceptable to us," Chiao Kuan-hua declared.

"The draft resolution on Korea submitted by Algeria, China and other countries proposes that the United Nations Command be

dissolved and all the foreign troops stationed in South Korea under the flag of the United Nations be withdrawn, and that the Korean Armistice agreement be replaced with a peace agreement signed by the real parties to the armistice agreement.

"It also puts forward a series of positive measures to remove the tension between North and South Korea, prevent armed conflicts and promote the normalisation of the situation. This proposal is entirely just and reasonable. It not only meets the eager desire of the entire Korean people but is conducive to the fundamental improvement of the situation on the Korean peninsula and in north-east Asia," he said.

### **MIDDLE EAST**

On the Middle East question, the Chinese Foreign Minister said, "Since the October War, the Middle East has reverted to a state of "no war, no peace". This is the result of the fierce and many-sided contention between the two super-powers carried on against the will of the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

It is mainly the two superpowers that are to be held responsible for this state of affairs . . . Taking advantage of this state of affairs, they contend for spheres of influence, places of strategic importance and oil resources in the Middle East. Taking advantage of the same, they sell munitions in order to reap fabulous profits and alleviate their own economic difficulties. Again taking advantage of this, they test new weapons in preparation for a new war on a larger scale. All this is done at the expense of the fundamental interests of the people in the Middle East."

He emphasised, "what calls for close attention and vigilance now is that a superpower is taking advantage of the present situation to sow discord and attempt to undermine Arab unity. The Arab and Palestinian peoples must never be taken in."

### **DISARMAMENT**

In his reference to the question of disarmament, Chiao Kuan-hua pointed to the fraudulent nature of the Soviet proposal for a 10 per cent reduction of the military budgets of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the use of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries.

The Soviet Union, he said, has so far failed to reveal just how big its real military budget is. "It would probably take several years to get this clear. And who knows how many more before military budgets can truly be reduced as proposed by the Soviet Union?"

He continued. "China's views on disarmament are known to all. We are for disarmament. But it must be genuine and not phoney disarmament. We are against phoney disarmament, and still more against the Soviet attempt to use a disarmament conference as a veil to cover up the truth of its arms expansion and war prepara-



tions.

**"The two superpowers are quickening their pace towards a new world war. At this juncture, a disarmament conference in whatever form will only create illusions of peace, serve to deceive and lull the people of the world and bind the hands of the numerous small and medium countries. This is what we are firmly against."**

On the Soviet proposal tabled at this session of the General Assembly for the "complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests," Chiao Kuan-hua stated, "this is old ware in new wrappings and another of its tricks for maintaining nuclear monopoly

"As regards the Soviet proposal for the prohibition of the manufacture of what it calls new types of weapons even more formidable than nuclear weapons, its aim is none other than to divert people's attention from the immediate issues by talking about remote things. Let it be discussed by those who are prepared to manufacture such weapons. There is no need to bring it up here to scare people."

### QUESTION OF DEVELOPMENT

On the question of development, Chiao Kuan-hua said that there are two conflicting positions. "The position taken by the Third World is for maintaining independence and self-reliance, transforming the old economic order of exploitation of the Third World by a few big powers and establishing a new economic order on the principles of sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit. The other position, taken by the superpowers, stresses "interdependence" or "international division of labour" between the exploiting and the exploited countries in an attempt to preserve the old economic order."

"Are the industrially developed countries and the raw material-producing countries interdependent? Yes, they are. This interdependence has been in existence ever since the emergence of a single world market. The point is what kind of interdependence. It may be said that there is an interdependence between the horse and its rider. But we all know it is the horse that takes the burden and not the rider. As for "international division of labour", it is in essence one and the same as "interdependence." With the emergence of colonialism and imperialism, a new and international division of labour sprang up in the world that converted one part of the globe into a chiefly agricultural field of production serving the other part which was a chiefly industrial field. But to call such cosmopolitan exploitation internationalism is an idea that could only be engendered in the brains of the social-imperialists. Whether or not there is exploitation in the existing international economic relations and whether or not an end should be put to such exploitation — this is a real problem of great importance today."

He told the General Assembly that the Chinese delegation supports the proposals advanced by the Third World countries such



as the integrated programme for commodities, the indexation of prices and the democratisation of the international financial institutions.

Chiao Kuan-hua said that "industrialised countries have put forward a series of concrete proposals allegedly designed to "promote economic development." As a matter of fact, the so-called free market of today has never been free ever since the emergence of monopoly capital. This market is free only for monopoly capital and the industrial powers and not for the developing countries. In the 60s, for example, the prices of oil and many other raw materials were kept so low. Was that determined by supply and demand? No, it was determined arbitrarily, or "freely", if you like, by big monopoly capital. To transform the old international economic order, it is imperative to touch this free market system of gaining profits at the expense of others. Otherwise, no matter how many concrete proposals the superpowers may submit or how much money they may promise. These in essence are nothing but a kind of alms and relief which can at best temporarily mitigate a little the difficulties of the developing countries but will not help them shake off exploitation and control. The root cause of their poverty will still be there. The gap between the poor and rich countries will keep widening."

"The old international economic order was evolved over centuries of colonialist and imperialist plunder and exploitation. It is impossible to thoroughly change it at one stroke. The seventh Special Session of the General Assembly is a continuation of the struggle of the Sixth Special Session. The struggle against exploitation will be a long one. United as one and persisting in our efforts, we developing countries will surely attain our goal," he said.

### **REVIEW OF UN CHARTER**

Concluding his speech, Chiao Kuan-hua stated briefly the Chinese delegation's opinions on the review of the UN Charter (including such things as the expansion of the powers of the General Assembly, the restriction of Security Council powers, the composition of the Security Council and the limiting or abolishing of the veto). "We are in favour of reviewing the Charter and making the necessary amendments," he said. "We believe that a rational solution acceptable to all can be found so long as the nations, big and small, carry on patient consultations and repeated discussions on the basis of the principle of equality for all. If anyone still resorts to deliberate obstructions, that can only help people see more clearly who are champions of the special privileges of the minority. Therefore, we submit that the work of the review of the Charter should be continued."

# Marxist Leadership Methods

(Contributed)

## THE TWO LINE STRUGGLE

**M**MUCH of our leadership in the past, at the Centre, at District level, and at branch level was from the top, being influenced by individualism in our work. This was a reflection of our capitalist society in which we live and these ideas continually permeate our Party. Our leadership tended to be isolated or apart from the Party members and the masses. This weakened democratic centralism and gave rise to parochialism and subjectiveness or one-sidedness in our work. We were in danger of having a collection of individual branches.

Individualism and collectivism are the two opposite aspects of a contradiction. Individualism is still the dominant aspect in this two line struggle which must continue until these two aspects transform themselves, so that the dominant aspect becomes collectivism. This contradiction is the main road-block to establishing a strong centre having strong connections with the branches and the masses. Until this problem is resolved we cannot have a revolutionary party capable in a disciplined way of giving able leadership to the workers in the struggle against revisionism and capitalism.

## THE PLACE OF KNOWLEDGE

**What is knowledge?** The only two kinds of knowledge are knowledge of the struggle for production, knowledge of the class struggle and scientific experiment.

## KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED IN PRODUCTION

Take an architect engaged on the problem of constructing a large building. Can he give satisfactory results without the study of the theory of his craft? Is it possible for this work to be done if he is not good in the field of technical drawing and designing? Can he give adequate leadership to the builders without plans, elevations and specifications? He must be able to collect information from electricians, engineers, building suppliers, etc. and collate this into the building requirements. Should several parts of all this be missing then the objective results will be impaired.

## KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED TO CHANGE SOCIETY

The knowledge required to change society is no less an arduous task than that in the field of production. We must struggle to understand our Marxist classics. Even so if this is all we do then our knowledge is incomplete. We must take part in the practical activities and apply our theoretical reading to real life. We must learn to analyse our practical work, undertake detailed investigation and

study in the course of practical struggle, form generalisations and verify our conclusions by testing them in practice. Only in this way can we equip ourselves for the task. However, can one comrade know everything? Can one branch know everything? Is it not true that individualism limits our objective knowledge of the concrete reality around us? Is it not true that this subjectivism weakens us in the struggle against revisionism and capitalism? Our knowledge must not be the private property of the individual. We must struggle so that this knowledge becomes the property of the collective. By this we mean not just the property of the branch or the district but the property of the centre.

### **NO STRONG CENTRE NO STRONG PARTY**

It is not possible for us to have a strong centre without knowledge of successes, failures, problems and the class struggles being in the hands of the National Centre. Only after this has been done can we be in the position of the National Centre collating this material and sending materials "out to the masses" and so make it possible for us to have a relatively complete knowledge of our objective surroundings. We need collectivism and must struggle against individualism so as to create a strong centre.

### **WEAPONS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM**

If we wish to establish a strong revolutionary movement under the direction of the CPNZ then we must have a means of uniting the small separate groups of workers struggling against capital all over the country, and a means by which we can unite the small number of branches scattered all over the country. Our main weapon is the "People's Voice". Only by reporting all the problems in **these two fields** to the Centre for them to collate can we get materials out to the masses and the Party. This collectivism strengthens the Party. The Centre can report successes and how they were achieved, and this helps another branch having difficulties. Our knowledge through this weapon becomes more complete and we can build the Party and strengthen our connections with the masses. We should see also that the "PV" is our grass roots means by which we apply ourselves to democratic centralism, for the "PV" is our weekly party direction for activity. In a very complete way this is our weapon for "from the masses, to the masses."

### **BRANCH PROBLEMS**

No branch is on its own when it comes to branch problems. Such matters should be reported to the District or Centre. Our Branch had a problem when it was seen that all the young members were arguing and divided. We called a meeting and found out the



trouble. All of them found themselves in difficulties understanding what a broad front or a united front movement was or how it operated. The National Committee member was asked to report this difficulty to the Centre. The result was an article in the "PV" and the "CR". However, after studying these two articles we still have not made progress because they contained very little on the party methods of work in united front work. So another report will have to be made to the Centre for assistance. We are not on our own but if we do not inform the Centre how can they assist us?

### RESOLVE THE CONTRADICTION

It may be in some cases it is a branch leader or national leader who has weaknesses and is not effective in the work. Should this be so then assistance should be given to help change the situation. However, it is the collective that must face up to the responsibility. Basically it is the continual quantitative struggle that will transform poor leadership into strong leadership, and so give us that qualitative change we need for a strong party. Study "rectify the party style of work." See what each and every one of us can do to strengthen the Centre so that this Marxist leadership can be made possible.

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## War Clouds Gather in Europe

— "Peking Review" No. 32, 1975

To avoid any complacency about imperialism meaning war and to have some understanding of why the struggle against hegemonism is so important in today's world, the following article from "Peking Review" has been reproduced.

As far as imperialism is concerned, there are other dangerous aspects such as the intensification of the exploitation of many nations and peoples of the world, the deepening international economic crisis with the increasing burden it places on the peoples and the trend towards counter-revolution and reaction. The increasing contradictions and problems of the imperialists force them to seek a solution in the way that imperialism has always used — by force of arms leading to a general conflict. At the same time, however, the resistance and struggle of the people is aroused everywhere.

If revolution does not make it impossible for these super-powers to continue their desperate struggle for world hegemony then war between them is an inevitable outcome. But a third world conflict will inevitably lead to further millions turning to socialism and the final collapse of both imperialism and social-imperialism.

In 1972, when the curtain rose on the convocation of Conference on Security and Co-operation In Europe (C.S.C.E.), the Soviet revisionists predicted that it would bring a "turning point" in the European situation. Now with the curtain falling on the show, the Soviet press, as is its wont, did not let the opportunity pass without making a fuss about it. "Izvestia" declared on July 21 that in the years since the opening of the conference Europe has been through the trenches of "cold war" to arrive at co-operation." TASS described the results of the C.S.C.E. second stage as having "confirmed the resolve of the European peoples to make the relaxation of world tensions an irreversible process." "The all-European conference," it asserted, "is called to open up a new page of peace in the history of Europe."

Have the Soviet Union and the United States really moved from "cold war" trenches" to "co-operation"? Or have they reinforced their trenches and stepped up their rivalry since they began to meet at the conference? Empty words deceive no-one. The answer to this question can only be found in the objective reality of Europe.

#### **EUROPE — FOCUS OF SOVIET-US CONTENTION**

Europe has always been the strategic focus of the Soviet-US global contention for hegemony. A notable trend in the development of the European situation in recent years is that both super-powers, to consolidate their positions, have strengthened their military buildup in Europe in all aspects. Three-fourths of Soviet troop strength are deployed in Europe. Since 1972 the Soviet Union has increased its military strength there at an annual rate of 5-10 per cent and speeded up arms expansion of its controlled Warsaw Treaty Organisation member states to tighten their "military integration" with the Soviet Union. On the other hand, it has taken a series of political, economic and diplomatic steps under the cover of sham "detente" to disintegrate the Atlantic alliance, undermine West European union so as to weaken and push out US forces from Europe. US imperialism's deep involvement in Indochina created openings for Soviet infiltration and expansion in Europe. But as the years went by, US imperialism was forced to "disengage" itself gradually from the Viet Nam war. Washington began taking one measure after another to pay greater attention once again to Europe. After their Indochina fiasco the US imperialists were compelled to shorten their battle-fronts in this region last May. President Ford, Secretary of State Kissinger and Secretary of Defence Schlesinger followed one another to Western Europe to attend the NATO summit and the meeting of defence ministers where they worked out a series of moves, political and military. At the NATO summit meeting, Ford put forward "six primary tasks" and reiterated that the Atlantic Alliance remained the foundation stone of US foreign

policy. The "foremost objective" of the alliance was to "maintain a strong and credible defence." The NATO defence ministers' meeting, at Schlesinger's urgings, laid down "guidelines" for defence planning in NATO and advanced a "long-range defence concept" to cope with Soviet "challenges." Washington minced no words by saying that global strategic readjustment was being carried out by the United States with a view to protecting Europe and stepping up US contention with the Soviet Union in Europe and its flanks.

### THE SOVIET UNION CLOSES IN

Soviet-US contention for European domination becomes more acute as the one presses on relentlessly while the other regroups its forces to make up for lost time.

Central Europe has always been the heartland of direct confrontation between these two military blocs. To strengthen its military superiority and offensive capability on this battle-front, the Soviet Union has since 1972 not only increased its reserve forces in its western regions so as to reinforce its West European forward positions but also moved large numbers of troops to Central Europe and deployed new airborne units there. The equipment of the Soviet troops stationed in Eastern Europe has been renovated with tactical nuclear arms and conventional arms to enhance their offensive capacity. Western press reports say Soviet armed forces deployed in Central Europe have increased by more than 100,000 men from the autumn of 1971 to the beginning of this year. As compared with the early 1970s, the number of Soviet tactical nuclear warheads and the strength of its divisional artillery in Central Europe have both doubled. Particularly striking is the increase in offensive war means — tanks, armoured personnel and weapons carriers. Soviet and Warsaw Pact military exercises in Central Europe have become more frequent in number and bigger in scale.

The southern and northern flanks of Europe have been in greater turmoil in recent years. Here lie the strategic sea passages to and from the Atlantic Ocean which are hotly contended by the two hegemonic powers in making their way into the heartland of Europe. But they are weak links in the US and NATO defence line in Europe. Capitalising on the US weakness in this line, the Soviet Union for years has been engaged in war preparations and expansion in an attempt to outflank Western Europe.

The Soviet Union has its biggest naval base on the Kola Peninsula, with its eyes glued to Northern Europe. Its naval activity and exercises in Northern Europe have in recent years extended far into the Atlantic passage from the Norwegian Sea and the Baltic. Here the Soviet Union concentrates more than ten divisions, about 1000 aircraft and its two biggest fleets—the Northern Fleet and the Baltic Fleet. After 1972 two new fleets were built here,



one being the allied Baltic Fleet established by the Soviet Union and some Warsaw Pact states, and the other a Soviet standing fleet patrolling the waters off northern Denmark to keep under surveillance NATO warships entering and leaving the Baltic.

Considered as the soft under-belly of the continent, Southern Europe is most bitterly contended by the Soviet Union and the United States. In their expansion in Europe's Southern flank, the Soviet Union has built up in a most striking manner its Mediterranean armada to confront the US Sixth Fleet and serve as a shield for infiltration and expansion in Southern Europe. The Balkan Peninsula has long been a target of Soviet conquest. After the Middle East war of October 1973, the Soviet Union's designs on this area were further revealed, as it left no stone unturned in quest of a "military passage" and sea ports there, and carried out subversion and infiltration in some Balkan countries. The Soviet Union also took advantage of the military coup of July 1974 in Cyprus to gain a foothold in this strategic point of the Eastern Mediterranean in contention with the United States. At the same time, it made use of this crack in NATO's southern flank to drive a wedge into the relations of Turkey and Greece with the United States and NATO. In Italy and Portugal, the Soviet Union is also working overtime to groom pro-Soviet forces and to dig in so as to weaken or squeeze out the United States and NATO.

#### US COUNTER-MOVES

In face of unceasing Soviet efforts for military expansion and political subversion in Western Europe, the United States is maintaining a strong military posture to contend with the Soviet Union in Europe. US Defence Secretary Schlesinger made it quite plain in his defence report to Congress last February that in case of war, Europe would be the armageddon between the United States and the Soviet Union. Consequently, the Pentagon calls for a Europe-oriented US military deployment.

Under this strategic orientation, the United States has in the past few years beefed up its nuclear strength and paid special attention to developing its conventional forces in Europe. To counter the Soviet menace, it has not only stepped up its military preparations in Central Europe, which it considers as "vital to US interests," but also increased counter-moves in the northern and southern flanks of that continent. Last year, it augmented its army aviation forces in Europe to 850 aircraft from the 200 a few years ago. It fielded six of its eight Lance missile battalions in Central Europe, and is expected to reinforce its strength in the Federal Republic of Germany with two armoured brigades before the end of next year. Replacement of older equipment is under way among American units in Central Europe.

Both the United States and NATO have upgraded their naval capabilities in the southern and northern flanks of Europe. They

have frequently staged military exercises in European waters — landing and anti-amphibious manoeuvres, simulated port blockade and mock interceptions of Soviet warships — for the very purpose of checking Soviet naval advance at each step.

More recently, Washington decided to deploy a number of Poseidon submarines and the new, giant nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the Nimitz, to the European theatre of war. Most of the US marines stationed for years in the Pacific region will be moved to the Western front, strengthening the defence posture in western Europe.

Meanwhile, the United States is redoubling its effort to improve its position in southern Europe to rival more effectively with the Soviet Union in that area. The recent south European tour of the US President signalled such a US effort.

At a time when it was locked in rivalry with the other super-power on the northern and southern flanks of Europe, the Soviet Union held a global naval exercise in April, which involved more than 200 ships and a large number of submarines. It was a big show of strength. The exercise put emphasis on waters off northern and Southern Europe and the Atlantic off Western Europe, the main objective being to cut the passage between the United States and Europe and the waterways from the northern and southern flanks of Europe to the Atlantic. This Soviet manoeuvre created a big stir in the United States and West European countries. As a counter-measure, the United States organised a series of naval exercises in these areas immediately afterwards.

### ESSENCE OF THE EUROPEAN SITUATION

Marxism teaches us that when analysing a thing, one must look into its essence and must not be deluded by its surface and false phenomena. From the realities in Europe, where can one find even a shadow of the “irreversible process” of the “relaxation of world tensions”? Wouldn't it be more realistic to say that the process of Soviet-US rivalry in Europe has become ever more “irreversible” since the “European security conference” started?

Facts show that over the past few years since preparations started for the “security conference”, the intensity of Soviet-US rivalry in Europe has increased and their war preparations become more frenzied. In this desperate struggle the Soviet Union generally is on the offensive while its rival the United States, more often than not, finds itself at the receiving end. However, it is this very Soviet Union taking the offensive that has shown such excessive eagerness for the “Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe” and such enthusiasm for hawking “detente” and “security.” Does this not provide food for thought? — (A commentary by Hsinhua correspondent).

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