

merit." Spoken like a real male chauvinist pig-professor!

With slight variations, this is the general approach of the bourgeoisie. Revolutionists can argue about Chiang's approach to art and literature, but the larger truth was that she was in the front ranks of those in China who made remarkable efforts to bring revolutionary culture to the masses. She and others made the workers and peasants look strong, heroic, confident. That's her real sin. And she made the "beautiful people" look like what they really are and have been through all of history—ruthless exploiters, arrogant, brutal, and disdainful of the masses, ever viewing themselves as the subject of history and, needless to say, the masses as the objects of history.

LOSS OF REVOLUTIONARY INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD

Alas, China as a workers' state, as a People's Republic, has now lost stature in the eyes of revolutionary public opinion with the suppression of the left. When the PRC was voted in at the UN over the objections of the U.S., representatives of delegations from Third World nations, particularly Africans, were seen on television literally jumping with joy as the electronic screen flashed the victorious vote for seating China.

Such applause for the People's Republic is not likely to occur again for a period of time.

SCHLESINGER AND TAIWAN

Symptomatic of the shift in ruling class attitudes vis-a-vis China is the virtual embrace of former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger by both wings of the capitalist establishment after his return from China. Schlesinger seemed happy as a lark as he appeared on ABC television on Oct. 17 to give his version of the struggle in China. He had high praise for Hua Kuo-feng and nothing but hatred and contempt for the left. Hua is "shrewd," "self-assured," and a "moderate," Schlesinger intoned. The left is "small," its influence "negligible."

Naturally, he blamed the left for attempting a coup. The left was "foolish and quixotic for believing it could overpower the moderates."

The New York Times, which on the day following Schlesinger's ouster from the Ford cabinet had condemned him for favoring the retention of an option for the use of nuclear weapons against the

USSR, now seems to be enlightened and even delighted by his unofficial visit to China, which it had virtually ignored until his return from Peking. This organ of high finance and the Sulzberger dynasty is now urging that "significant weight be given to the testimony of former Defense Secretary Schlesinger" (Oct. 18, 1976).

Earlier Schlesinger had hinted that it would be necessary to restore Taiwan to People's China in order to keep the PRC on a collision course with the USSR. Now Schlesinger's conclusion is that "the question of Taiwan is lower on the Chinese priority list than the question of the strength and posture of the U.S. with regard to the Soviet Union."

"Events," says the Times, meaning the suppression of the left, "have disproved the argument that unless the U.S. abandons the people of Taiwan and quickly establishes diplomatic relations with Peking, the radical left will take over in China. The moderates, so far, seem in control."

What the Times is really saying here is that those in the ruling class who have been urging the restoration of Taiwan to People's China were really doing so only because they feared that the continued U.S. strangulation of Taiwan would help the revolutionary left in China's internal struggle. They now think it's no longer necessary.

But it is not so much the "lowering of Taiwan as a priority by the Hua forces" that has made the ruling class circles so happy. It is what they believe to be a new course of the Hua regime in both domestic and foreign policies as a whole that has raised the optimism of the ruling class.

Only time will tell whether the Hua regime is a coalition of the right-wing and centrist elements, what the relationship of forces really is, and the degree of stability it can achieve on the basis of political reaction and repression.

CHINA'S EVOLUTION AND THE WORLD SITUATION

It is vitally important in evaluating the significance of the defeat of the left that we first of all take into account the objective conditions surrounding the Chinese Revolution in the years immediately preceding the Cultural Revolution to the present day.

"An appraisal of the Russian Revolution," said Lenin, "is possible only on the basis of taking into account the entire international situation." It is the international situation, of course, which in the final analysis is decisive.