

the Sadats, Pinochets, Mobutus, and their ilk have even a modicum of faint praise for the PRC.

They are left to rely only on the imperialist states, who in turn are alienated from the mass of the people whom they exploit and oppress. Anyone who has observed the diplomatic position of Washington, Tokyo, London, and Paris can easily see that they have all tilted in favor of the PRC. But this is merely an expression of their congenital hatred for the Soviet Union and for communism generally.

As to whether these imperialist allies can hold together in the face of growing anti-war and anti-imperialist sentiment, that is a considerable hurdle which they have yet to come face to face with.

The initial few days of the war have shown the wide gap that exists between the machinations of the imperialists and the PRC, on the one hand, and the broad mass of the people, on the other. To this must of course be added that all the imperialist newspapers and media constantly, incessantly must drum into the minds of the public that this, after all, is a war between "communist countries." They must utilize this internecine struggle to discredit socialism.

But while doing so, they by the same token make it difficult for themselves to openly choose the side they favor.

The disappointment and disillusionment among the mass of the progressive and class conscious workers that comes with the outbreak of hostilities between two socialist countries will give way to more sober calculation and understanding as imperialism involuntarily makes clear that its objective is not merely to aid China in its aggression, but to facilitate the destruction and ruination of all the socialist countries.

WAR IN LIGHT OF WORLD STRUGGLE

The war against Viet Nam must be seen in the wider perspective of the world struggle of which the anti-Viet Nam invasion may be only the first stage. Our epoch is the epoch of imperialist wars, socialist revolutions, and liberation struggles against imperialism. In a still wider and deeper sense, it is a struggle between the old ancient capitalist system and the new beginnings of a worldwide socialist order. In that sense it is more pertinent than ever to see the struggle from the perspective that the existence of the USSR and the other



Thousands march in New York City against the invasion of Viet Nam. By launching this attack the Deng-Hua regime has completely isolated China from progressive humanity.
WW photo: Greg Dunkel