

ship for many years regarded itself as the leader and inspirer of hope in the revolutionary liberation struggle against imperialism. It sought to be regarded, properly so in its early days, as a beacon light and a bulwark in the struggle for emancipation from imperialist enslavement.

Today the Beijing leadership can only find in the oppressed nations such dubious friends as Sadat, Mobutu, Pinochet, and other puppets of imperialism. With the departure of the Shah and with the revolutionary struggle in Iran having reached truly anti-imperialist and revolutionary proportions, there was nothing left for Deng to do but to berate the Carter administration—for indecisiveness in acting **against** the Iranian Revolution!

Thus popular support of the masses on a world scale, a key element in the original Chinese communist revolutionary strategy, has been lost, scattered to the winds, never to be recovered by the reactionary leadership at the helm of the Chinese state.

But has not Chinese foreign policy, as practiced by Deng and Hua, achieved its objectives in solidifying behind it a U.S.-Japan-NATO alliance? Let us see.

WHY IMPERIALISTS HIDE THEIR ROLE

The invasion is already more than ten days old. What has been the attitude of the imperialist press thus far?

Contrary to the expectations of the Beijing leaders, the bourgeois press on a world scale, and most notably the press of the U.S., Japan, and Western Europe, have not at all responded with loud cheers to the PLA's march into the territory of a sister socialist republic. The imperialist powers, and most conspicuously the U.S., have of necessity had to resort to an orgy of phony neutrality. They have been obliged to hypocritically condemn "both sides"—the aggressor or "transgressor" to use Blumenthal's and Carter's choice phrase, as well as the victim. And why are they indulging in this utterly shameless and false neutrality?

In the first place, they are in deadly fear of world public opinion. They are fearful that the masses of workers and the population generally are not only indifferent to any military adventure on the part of the U.S., but may be downright hostile. The memory of Viet Nam and the Viet Nam debacle fortunately is still alive in the gener-

ation that has had to bear the brunt of the U.S. military disaster.

The false neutrality posture is also to be accounted for by the fear in the ruling circles of U.S. imperialism that, notwithstanding all their complex military alliances in the Middle East, as a result of which direct intervention with U.S. forces was not considered a likelihood, such a possibility must now be reconsidered in the light of the Iranian Revolution. "New military contingencies" involving U.S. forces are again being hatched by the Pentagon and the White House.

Neither in Europe, Latin America, Asia, nor Africa is there really any regime which can publicly support the Deng-Hua aggression against Viet Nam. It is remarkable testimony to the fact that the forces of the anti-imperialist struggle and the forces of the revolutionary class struggle cannot be dismissed, even if the Deng-Hua governing clique have so cavalierly cast them aside. It will be seen later that this is part and parcel of the development that will surely undo them in the end.

IMPERIALISM HAS A DOUBLE AIM

The imperialists, of course, are and have been most eager for the U.S.-China-Japan-NATO alliance against the USSR, Viet Nam, and all the other socialist countries, as well as against the national liberation movements. But that does not at all signify an identity of views or of objectives with China.

This contradiction can only be appreciated if one understands in the first place that it reflects the contradictory character of the relationship between the Beijing reactionary leadership and the progressive character of the PRC as a socialist state, understanding by that term to mean: the public ownership of the means of production, a basically planned economy buttressed with a monopoly of foreign trade, and a regime which has overthrown the bourgeois-landlord ruling class and broken the ties which previously chained it to imperialism.

Viewed in this light, the strategy of imperialism should have been patently clear not only to the Chinese leadership but to the world at large. **The primary aim of imperialism as an exploitative social system, as the mortal enemy of socialism and social progress in general, is and has been not merely to overcome and if possible**