

Two Main Tendencies

The correlation of forces in Africa is characterised by two main tendencies. On the one hand there is a revolutionary upsurge and on the other hand imperialism is desperately using all the means at its disposal to halt the revolutionary advance in our continent.

In the recent period we have witnessed tremendous successes scored by the peoples of Africa in the struggle for national and social liberation. The revolutionary destruction of Portuguese colonialism and fascism, the heightened struggle in racist and colonialist Southern Africa, the deep revolutionary process going on in Ethiopia, the struggle for self-determination in Western Sahara, the armed resistance against French imperialist troops in Chad and the successes of the progressive forces in the capitalist-oriented states have fundamentally altered the balance of forces in Africa in favour of the revolutionary movements and process.

Of great significance for the world-wide anti-imperialist, anti-capitalist struggle is the increase in the number of progressive states, their maturity and growing links with the socialist community and the adoption by more and more parties and organisations of the ideology of Marxism-Leninism.

Given the important place of Africa in the world capitalist system these successes have had a powerful impact on the socio-economic crisis of the imperialist countries.

In order to reverse this process and to shift the balance of forces in their favour in the context of the failure of the local African class allies of imperialism to stabilise the system of neo-colonialism the NATO powers acting in concert are increasingly resorting to open naked military aggression and intervention in Africa. This was clearly demonstrated in Zaire, Chad and Western Sahara. Operating from and through their military bases in Africa and the Indian Ocean, the reactionary French government operating as the gendarme of imperialism arrogantly intervenes in the internal affairs of African states. Its troops have murdered and wounded hundreds of African people.

The attempts by NATO under the tutelage of US imperialism with the full support of the most reactionary African states to form political military blocs pose a grave threat to peace and progress in

our continent. If set up, these blocs — the decision dictated by Giscard d'Estaing to the African countries regrouped under his auspices at the recent conference in Paris is, in this connection, fraught with dangers for the African peoples and world peace — would be completely subordinated to the world-wide military strategy of imperialism and in clear violation of provisions of the OAU Charter. Undoubtedly the main objective of such reactionary aggressive political military blocs shall be to legitimise imperialist aggression, undermine African unity by provoking and fomenting inner-state conflicts and to destabilise progressive and revolutionary trends and development in our continent.

The African Communists condemn in the strongest possible terms NATO warmongers, their African allies, and in particular the aggressive and racist interventionist policy of the French government.

To stop and defeat the imperialist aggression and manoeuvres requires the greatest mobilisation of the popular masses, strengthening the unity of progressive and democratic forces and co-ordination of united action at the country level, of the continent, and former colonial metropolises, deepening the alliances with the socialist community especially the Soviet Union and the internationalist solidarity of working class, democratic and peace-loving forces throughout the world.

International imperialism with the complicity of Arab reaction has, following the profound revolution in Ethiopia, intensified its activities to control the Red Sea, place it in the service of its aggressive military strategy and thus turn it into a hotbed of conflict of truly international dimensions. Furthermore through the "Red Sea Security" plan international imperialism with the support of reactionary regimes in Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Sudan seeks to either reverse the revolutionary process or if possible overthrow the progressive governments in that region. The Red Sea is an international waterway available to the ships of all countries and it is in the vital interests of the people of that region, Africa and the world that this waterway remains peaceful.

The Communists declare their full support to the just struggle of the Arab peoples and the Palestinian people. They stand for the complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the occupied Arab