

CPUSA(ML):



## What so proudly they hail...

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The U.S. bourgeoisie has made increased calls for U.S. patriotism while whipping up a war hysteria around the events in Iran. Such appeals have not fallen on deaf ears among the phoney "communist" parties that abound in the U.S.! One of the most disgusting responses of thinly veiled support for imperialism was that of CPUSA(ML), one of the main contenders for the PLA franchise in the U.S.

In the December 1, 1979 issue of their newspaper *Unite*, CPUSA(ML) tries to reconcile bourgeois nationalism with proletarian internationalism by squeaking, "We need to demonstrate again the *real internationalist patriotism* [emphasis BL] that brought us to support the Iranians' effort last winter to topple the Shah."

This is out and out social chauvinism, an attempt to promote and justify U.S. patriotism among the proletariat. To CPUSA(ML), the problem is not that the bourgeoisie is whipping up patriotism but whipping up the *wrong kind* of American patriotism. Instead, CPUSA(ML) calls for "real American patriotism". The reason CPUSA(ML) so studiously avoids appealing to the working class on the basis of its *class* interests is simple. CPUSA(ML) is actually appealing to the labor aristocracy, the bribed

upper stratum of the working class to whom patriotism is sacred and inviolable. But to the proletariat, there can be no above class "love of country," as CPUSA(ML) pretends. This is chauvinist, bourgeois ideology, pure and simple, that seeks to ally the proletariat with the bourgeoisie. And CPUSA(ML) is pushing it more loudly these days in a desperate attempt to gain a foothold in the labor aristocracy to prop up its rapidly fading "party".

To the class collaborationist line of patriotism, the Bolsheviks counter with proletarian internationalism. This is the only banner that serves the interests of the proletariat. Centrism, which claims to oppose the social-chauvinist theory of the "three worlds," is, as we have again seen with CPUSA(ML), merely thinly covered social-chauvinism. And CPUSA(ML)'s centrist mask is wearing very thin these days. ★



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## at their twilight's last gleaming...