

Maoists bow to U.S. imperialists in UN

China withholds support for Puerto Rican independence

The Maoist bureaucracy ruling over the working masses in the People's Republic of China, like its Stalinist rivals in Moscow, has utilized the United Nations, that august den of thieves, not as a tribune to advance the international socialist revolution but only as another arena to pursue the anti-revolutionary foreign policy of "peaceful coexistence" with imperialism.

While the Chinese diplomats in the UN denounce the U.S. and especially "Soviet social imperialism" for fomenting "superpower contention" in the Near East for example, the Chinese government in fact collaborates with the anti-USSR machinations of the U.S. imperialists by refusing to exercise its

veto, as a member of the UN Security Council, against the UN Emergency Force policing the Near East and now enforcing the imperialist-dictated Sinai accords.

Likewise, the Chinese Stalinist bureaucracy every so often comes out like a cuckoo-clock for Puerto Rican independence, but Peking recently demonstrated in the UN that its verbal "support" for Puerto Rican independence is subordinate to maintaining "détente" with the U.S. imperialists and to competing with the bureaucratically degenerated Russian workers state.

In August the UN Decolonization Committee was presented with a Cuba-sponsored resolution on Puerto Rico which called upon the U.S. government

"to refrain from any measure which might obstruct or endanger" the "right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence" and to cease the "persecution" of the independence movement. Even though this mealy-mouthed resolution stopped short of demanding immediate and unconditional independence for Puerto Rico and freedom for the imprisoned *independistas*, and even though no UN action or resolution will force the U.S. imperialists to relinquish their colonial possessions, the U.S. attacked this vaguely pro-independence gesture and warned that any support for the Russian-backed move would be considered an "unfriendly act."

When the resolution finally was placed on the agenda on August 20, the U.S.-led bloc, including Chinese-promoted so-called "anti-imperialist" countries like Iran, squashed it through a motion to table, which passed by a narrow 11-to-9 majority. The Chinese delegation "fought" the U.S. imperialists' campaign by *abstaining in this vote!* The bourgeois establishment *New York Times* (21 August) devoted an editorial to hailing the defeat of the resolution as "a great victory" for the U.S. government and singling out as "noteworthy" the Chinese government's "course of inaction."

The Maoist groups in this country once again have been politically saddled with the onerous burden of a blatant capitulation to imperialism by the Maoist bureaucracy. Like shamefaced political cowards the bombastic Revolutionary Union (now strutting as the Revolutionary Communist Party), the slavish October League and the Puerto Rican Revolutionary Workers Organization dare not even mention the affair.

The *Guardian* crew devoted an editorial as well as an article to the UN action, describing the defeat of the

resolution as a "setback to the Puerto Rican independence movement" and a "disappointment" (*Guardian*, 3 September). But these servile scribes attempt to absolve China's role in ensuring this "setback" by implying in their one sentence comment that the Chinese were not present to intervene: "The delegate from the People's Republic of China did not participate in the vote."

The only Maoist organization in this country to date venturing a justification for the Chinese abstention in the face of imperialist arm-twisting is the *Resistencia Puertorriquena* (RP). In its *Resistencia* (Vol. VI, No. 13) the RP assails the weak-kneed resolution as nothing less than an insidious "revisionist trap" and a "scheme of the social imperialists." Why? The resolution calls upon the U.S. government to recognize "the national liberation movement of Puerto Rico," which the RP warns "in the Cuban-Soviet language means the PSP [Puerto Rican Socialist Party]!" The Chinese delegate, however, justified his abstention by noting "the sharp divisions on the issue"—meaning U.S. pressure—and not by concocting some fictitious "social imperialist scheme" much less by alleging crypto-sponsorship of the pro-Moscow, pro-Peking PSP.

The Stalinist bureaucracies ruling in the place of the Chinese and Russian working class have demonstrated again and again their willingness to sacrifice and betray national liberation struggles for the sake of appeasing imperialism. Until these bureaucratic usurpers are ousted by the working masses in a revolutionary struggle to establish soviet democracy on the basis of the existing revolutionary gains represented by the collectivized property foundations of the Sino-Soviet states, these betrayals of proletarian internationalism can only continue. ■

Collaborators...

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UC is a political vehicle for demonstrating our proletarian internationalist solidarity with the victims of the counterrevolutionary junta in Chile.

The extent and results of the collaboration offered to the Chilean dictatorship by Friedman and Harberger came to light in a *New York Times* article (21 September 1975) which reported that Friedman is "the guiding light" behind the junta's vicious economic "shock treatment." For Chile's workers, the *Times* revealed, "the effects of the shock treatment have been devastating": starvation and mass unemployment.

The relationship between the *gorillas* and the UC Economics Department has been cemented by Harberger, whose long association with the junta's chief economists—two thirds of them UC graduates—and whose U.S. government connections made him an ally both natural and invaluable for the junta. Friedman accompanied Harberger on his third post-coup trip to Chile last March; the two met with generalissimo Pinochet (the junta's head) and with the cabinet, and Friedman gave a special address to 400 armed forces officers.

The advice given by the two top "Chicago Boys" resulted in a radical reorganization of the cabinet in line with Friedman's "shock treatment." Most importantly, Harberger's friend Jorge Cauas was elevated to the post of "Superminister" overseeing finance, economy, agriculture and housing. Serving Cauas and implementing the barbaric "shock treatment" are a battery of Friedman/Harberger-trained "Chicago Boys." (For a complete account, see "Protest Barbaric Chilean Junta's Collaborators," *Young Spartacus*, October 1975.)

SYL nails junta's lackeys

On September 26, three days before the beginning of classes, the SYL put out a leaflet ("Milton Friedman:

'7th Member' of Bloody Chilean Junta") which exposed the junta/Friedman/Harberger connection and called for a demonstration to protest Pinochet's lackeys at UC. Showing the connection between Friedman's reactionary defense of capitalism and his despicable services rendered the junta executioners, the SYL leaflet exposed the hypocrisy and cynicism of this dean among bourgeois ideologues:

"Friedman's best-known book, *Capitalism and Freedom*, claims that the extent of 'free-market relationships' determines the extent of 'freedom.' Friedman is a front-man for the giant monopolies, an 'expert' for their government and an apologist for capitalist slavery. Now it becomes even clearer just what kind of 'freedom' Friedman and other ideological mercenaries of capitalism stand for—the freedom to exploit, the freedom to defend the system of exploitation by means of violence.

"Students who cherish illusions in the capitalist order would do well to ask themselves: what kind of society is it that honors a murderous hypocrite like Friedman? The answer is clear: a society run in the interests of corporate profit, a society whose rulers back reaction in Chile and around the world..."

A second SYL leaflet provided more

detailed information implicating Friedman and Harberger and outlined the SYL's strategy for the campaign: united actions based on agreement solely with the two slogans of the campaign.

The SYL's Trotskyist analysis of the Chilean coup and perspective for aiding the struggle of the Chilean working class were outlined in another leaflet, distributed at the October 3 rally. This leaflet exposed the class character of bourgeois democracy and the bankrupt "popular-front" strategy of Allende and the Stalinists and pointed to the key role of international proletarian solidarity (such as the refusal of California longshore unionists to handle Chile-bound military goods in September 1974, an action actively supported by the SYL) for aiding the Chilean proletariat.

"Chicago Boys" on the hot seat

The SYL built for the October 3 demonstration with intensive leafletting on campus and in the dormitories. The exposé of the junta's "Chicago Connection" caused particular concern among freshmen and newly registered students.

Reflecting campus interest in the question, the *Maroon* (official UC student newspaper) has been filled with

articles and letters on Friedman and the Chilean junta (even the University Religious Counselor denounced Friedman and Harberger!). The paper has carried numerous letters on the SYL and published its own detailed article on the SYL (*Maroon*, 10 October 1975).

A bold SYL poster against Friedman and the junta with the slogan "Drive Friedman Off Campus Through Protest and Exposure!" (reproduced in the October issue of *Young Spartacus*) has also attracted attention and has been appearing in dormitory and classroom windows, facing out. The posters apparently so infuriated the Administration that it ordered the SYL to remove them from walls and buildings on campus, or risk loss of campus recognition. The SYL quickly mobilized student and faculty support for our democratic rights, and the Administration backed down.

The SYL called a planning meeting on September 30 to set up a Committee Against Friedman-Harberger Collaboration with the Chilean Junta which would build for the October 3 rally and other actions. While the reformist Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) and New Left/social-democratic New American Movement (NAM) were conspicuously absent, the campus chapter of the Union of Radical Political Economists (URPE) sent representatives, and a Committee was formed with prominent radical professor Richard Rubinstein as its chairman. Once launched the Committee gained endorsements from other organizations and individuals, including the Spartacist League, YSA, NAM, author and radio commentator Studs Terkel, labor historian Sidney Lens, the president and vice-president of the UC Council of the Service Employees International Union (Local 321) as well as faculty from the UC, Roosevelt University and the University of Illinois/Chicago Circle campus.

At the October 3 rally, students gathered in the center of UC's main quadrangle and heard speakers from the Committee lay bare the activities of the Friedman/junta "Chicago Boy" cabal. Statements by Friedman and Harberger published in the *Maroon*

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