

New Zealand communists on revolutionary strategy

The following two texts are taken from the publications of the Communist Party of New Zealand, a party which has militantly opposed both Soviet and Chinese revisionism. The first text is part of a document published in the struggle against the Chinese "three worlds theory", in September 1978. The complete text, entitled *Against the New Revisionism*, was a report of the extended plenum of the National Committee of the party. The second text is an agitational article from the party's newspaper, the *Peoples Voice*, from November 10th, 1980.

Together these two texts are representative of both the real advances and the remaining ambiguities in the polemic waged by Marxist-Leninists against the "three worlds theory". The CP of New Zealand opposes the idea of "two-stage revolution" for the advanced capitalist countries. It identifies the New Zealand bourgeoisie as a monopoly capitalist bourgeoisie, and even talks about the international investments of this bourgeoisie. But the CP of New Zealand never identifies this bourgeoisie as *imperialist*. And it ends up analysing the situation in New Zealand and the Philippines as basically the same.

On two stage revolution

Since E. F. Hill began his open interference in the internal affairs of the Communist Party of New Zealand we have pointed out that he was also attempting to impose an opportunist line of two-stage revolution on our Party. What we did not say publicly till now was that this attempt was bound up with the three worlds theory and China's new revisionism.

Firstly, let us restate our own Party's stand, repeated many times in our publications over the years, that New Zealand is a developed capitalist country with a system of state monopoly capitalism, and that it grew up as a bourgeois democracy having no feudal economic relations to get rid of. Thus, the

basic contradiction in New Zealand as a developed capitalist country is that between the working class and the capitalist class, headed by the monopoly capitalist section. Consequently, the working class faces a directly socialist revolution. This also conforms to world development, in an epoch where the world system of capitalism in its imperialist stage is ripe for revolution.

The contradiction between the working class and the capitalist class, as all Marxist-Leninists know, is resolved by socialist revolution. Except in extraordinary circumstances such as occupation by a foreign imperialist army, there is not the slightest need in advanced capitalist countries for any phoney intermediate stage such as an artificially-concocted "revolution" for national independence. The insertion of such a stage is nothing but a justification for collaboration with one's own capitalist class.

This, in fact, is just what the three worlds theory leads to. It requires that all class forces in every country, and internationally, have to be united; in words, against both superpowers, but in practice, only against the Soviet Union.

Thus, parties such as the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist), declaring for the three worlds theory, regard it as their "patriotic" duty to unite with their own "patriotic" capitalist class, and try to deceive the workers with the idiotic fable that their class enemy, the capitalists, will support the workers in a "revolution" for "national independence". Thus, they propagate chauvinism and class collaboration instead of class consciousness.

Various parties and splinter groups in the advanced capitalist countries of Europe and elsewhere have also been declaring for the three worlds theory and two-stage revolution, seeking to influence their countries' working masses to take the road of class collaboration and revisionism.

Because of this trend, our Party publicly reaffirmed its basic line of class struggle and proletarian socialist revolution in the May 22nd issue of the *People's Voice*, although at that time we did not openly criticise the three worlds theory or any Party other than the CPA (ML) which was both openly and secretly attacking us. In our May 22nd statement we said:

"Any attempt to try to insert an intermediate stage between

capitalism and the dictatorship of the proletariat is opportunism and revisionism. The adoption of a line of an intermediate stage of national democratic, people's democratic, or anti-imperialist revolution, however correct for many countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, is nothing but class collaboration in regard to developed New Zealand. It means collaborating with ones 'own' capitalist class, uniting with this class — who are thoroughly pro-imperialist — and sowing illusions among the working class and the masses that their exploiters and class enemy are really their friend and ally, willing to fight under the leadership of the working class and its party for liberation from imperialism!" And further: "The Communist Party of New Zealand follows a consistent line of revolutionary class struggle in New Zealand for the aim of establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat.

"Internationally it unites with the working class of the developed capitalist countries in the revolutionary struggle for socialism and against imperialism and capitalism, particularly against the two imperialist superpowers, the biggest world exploiters, US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism. It fights both in theory and practice to unite the working class of New Zealand with the struggle of the oppressed peoples for liberation from imperialism and their internal reactionaries. It fights also for the widest unity between all peoples against superpower domination and drive to world war.

New Zealand and the Philippines

During his many travels abroad, Prime Minister Muldoon feels nowhere more at home than when in the Philippines. On his last visit there earlier this year (1980 — ed. note), the Philippines Government ordered that a special gold medal be struck to commemorate the great occasion.

It is very fitting that the twin images of Marcos and Muldoon should be stamped on the medal, for in practice they are very much alike. Both swear undying allegiance to the same imperialist power, the United States. Both adopt reactionary political measures to create conditions favourable to this imperialism.

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An economic crisis grips the Philippines as it does New Zealand. Both Governments legislate and enforce the total burden of the crisis on to workers. Rising prices, inflation, stagnating growth and unemployment are features of the crisis as it effects both countries.

From March last year to March 1980, cutbacks in industry in the Philippines caused the sacking of 12,005 workers in metropolitan Manila alone.

The American Chamber of Commerce (which incidentally, has an active branch operating in New Zealand) put pressure on Marcos to enforce a 10-hour day for workers with only half an hour for lunch.

The economy is based mainly on the extraction and export of lightly proces-

sed raw materials needed in the United States. In turn, the US forces the Philippines to import higher priced manufactured goods, thus creating a deficit in the balance of trade.

International financial monopolies based in the United States — the IMF and World Bank — are only too willing to make up the difference, at a price!

The overseas debt of the Philippines amounted to \$9.78 billion in 1979. By June this year it had climbed to \$11.05 billion. It all sounds very familiar, doesn't it?

Inflation is forcing a rapid increase in the price of goods in the Philippines, as it is here. In 1979 the cost of fuel, light and water increased by 31.4 per cent. In February this year, gas prices increased by 50 per cent, kerosene, diesel oil and industrial fuel by 36 per cent.

On August 30 this year oil prices were raised again and officials said that there will probably be another increase before the year is out. The economy is expected to show a growth rate this year of less than 4 per cent, the slowest rate of all the ASEAN countries.

The IMF noted that the Philippines had the highest inflation rate in Asia last year. In January this year, the inflation rate was 23.7 per cent.

Minimum wages in the Philippines in 1979 were lower than those of Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore. The only country in the region with lower wage rates is Indonesia, another favourite of Mul-

"The Communist Party of New Zealand develops its line in conformity with proletarian internationalism and its own practice in revolutionary class struggle. It wages consistent struggle for strict adherence to the basic principles of Marxism and the correct relations between fraternal parties, which includes non-interference in the internal affairs of other parties."

As we have already seen, and shall further demonstrate, it is not we who have thrown overboard "the basic principles of Marxism and the correct relations between fraternal parties" but the Hill group of revisionists in Australia and, standing behind them, the revisionist clique at the head of the CPC who have usurped power in China. Using the bourgeois weapons of intrigue and conspiracy they have attacked and tried to destroy our Party because it would not toe the revisionist line.

We said in our May 22nd statement: "In the present developing crisis of capitalism in New Zealand and abroad, the imperialist bourgeoisie are seeking to smash the Communist Party of New Zealand because it is in the forefront of the struggle in defence of the basic interests of the working class and the mass of the people. The imperialists are being aided by a small gang of petty-bourgeois elements within the Party." And we might well have added, directed by a gang of petty-bourgeois elements from outside, in Australia and China!

doon's.

With high unemployment, low wages and harsh conditions for those working, the health of the people is suffering terribly. In 1979, 83 per cent of all pre-school children examined by health authorities showed signs of malnutrition.

According to the Asian Development Bank, the caloric consumption of Filipino people last year was the lowest in Asia and in 1980 reported as being "not significantly higher than in Bangladesh".

A telling indictment of the Marcos regime is that the minimum wage is one third of what the Government itself defines as being needed to provide for the basic requirements of the people.

So it is in these terrible conditions that people in the Philippines must live. The military dictatorship, headed by Marcos, works in the interests of United States imperialism so that multinational companies, financial and industrial, can make huge profits from cheaply priced labour and abundant cheap supplies of natural resources.

This is the same imperialist power which dominates New Zealand economically, politically and militarily. It would dearly love exactly the same conditions to exist in New Zealand as do in the Philippines.

The local capitalist class and their politicians are putting in some hard work to achieve this end. Compared to only 10 years ago wages, conditions and rights have all declined markedly in direct proportion to the increase in profits and dividends and the increasing trend to fascism.