
* TRUE SOLIDARITY OR SHAM SOLIDARITY *
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TROTSKYITE, BERTRAND RUSSELL PEACE FOUNDATION AND
VIETNAM " SOLIDARITY " CONFERENCE

(Lord) Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, has been held, over the last few years, in high prestige among the peace-loving people in many countries, for his outspoken condemnation of the U.S. aggression in Vietnam and other oppressed peoples like the Dominicans, and his bold disapproval of and his disassociation from the Labour Government's support to the U.S. policies in Vietnam.

His messages of support to the various international conferences, which were attended by some of the directors of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation; and his correspondence with Mr. Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister expressing his full agreement for " a world front against U.S. imperialism " , have, not unnaturally, reinforced his prestige.

Mr. Ralph Schoenman, a director of the Russell Foundation, at a public meeting in London on December 20, 1965, on the occasion of the foundation of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, called for support, help and cooperation for the projected national conference for solidarity with Vietnam, followed by an international conference with similar aims.

This call for solidarity with Vietnam and struggle against U.S. imperialism was wellcome by all those who have been disgusted with the Labour Government's subservience and collusion with the U.S. President Johnson's policies of aggression and the Wilson's " Commonwealth peace " hoax serving these policies.

This call for solidarity was also welcome by all those who recognise the right of the Vietnamese people to wage armed resistance to the U.S. imperialist aggression and that as long as U.S. and its satellite troops remained in violation of the Geneva Agreements, any proposals, with all good intentions, for " cease-fire and negotiations " with the U.S. aggressors, only served the Johnson's "peace" swindles and his blackmail of the Vietnamese people by his barbarous bombing raids and the U.S. policies of the escalation of his aggression. These proposals could neither bring genuine peace in Vietnam nor help the heroic Vietnamese people to achieve the independence of their country.

In response to this call, quite a number of organisations, journals and individuals in Britain came forward to help in launching a campaign for solidarity with Vietnam and for the preparations for the national and international solidarity conferences.

Messages of support also came from number of foreign countries.

An ad hoc preparatory committee, which started functioning from January 14, 1966, with regular meetings at the Russell Foundation office, 3/4 Shavers Place, London, S.W.1., was gradually reinforced by more and more organisations and groups.

GRADUALLY THE MASK IS OFF !

Those who worked on the Preparatory Committee and supporters outside discovered the following facts:

I.

ORGANIC RELATIONS OF TROTSKYITES & RUSSELL FOUNDATION

1. The directors of the Bertrand Russell Foundation, Earl Russell, Ralph Schoenman, Chris Farley, had along with others, sponsored the Trotskyite journal "The Week", published from Nottingham - Their names as sponsors were published in the January 13, 1966 issue of this journal.

2. Wellknown Trotskyites like Ken Coates had joined, as directors, the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation.

3. Pat Jordan and Earnest Tate (recently returned from Canada and active in the Canadian Trotskyite groups) representing "The Week" were assigned to work whole time with the Foundation, on the Solidarity campaign.

4. David Horowitz, as chairman of the public meeting organised
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BY THE Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, and Ken Coates (both director of the Russell Foundation) in support of the American days of solidarity with Vietnam, on June 26, 1966, at the Welsh Hall, launched attacks on "Stalinist" regarding the events in Hungary in 1956, and projected the aims of building a "world revolutionary " movement based on Leon Trotsky's theses. There were strong objections from the audience, who demanded that speakers should deal with Vietnam and not waste time on irrelevant issues.

5. David Horowitz, director of Russell Foundation, against repeated the "Stalinists and the Hungarian " issues in his article in the No.1. issue of the Vietnam Solidarity bulletin, organ of the campaign, without the approval of the Preparatory Committee.

6. Earnest Tate, in his article in No. 2. of this bulletin, accused the Vietnamese people to have compromised with the imperialists and allowed the division of their country. This has been a constant slander against the Vietnamese people against their beloved leader Ho Chi Minh. These slanderers and pseudo revolutionaries do not realise that the imperialists were forced to the Geneva Agreements and which the American imperialists sabotaged, and the Vietnamese have never given up their struggle for the liberation of their beloved fatherland. They, these so-called revolutionaries do not understand that as long imperialism exists, there shall be many twists and turns in the struggle of the oppressed peoples and the working people of all the world for the total annihilation of imperialism, now headed by U.S. imperialism.

7. The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation Bulletin, Vol.I, No.1, in February, 1966, also projected this view. Here is a quotation from Page 1, paragraph 2 : " The people of Vietnam, through the Geneva Agreements, surrendered part of their victory over the French. In exchange for promised peace, the Vietnamese allowed half of their country to be placed under the aegis of a corrupt emperor, because it was understood, through the Geneva Agreements, that elections and unification would transpire. "

ALL THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS OF 1954, FAIL TO UNDERSTAND OR DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE ESSENCE OF THESE AGREEMENTS IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FOREIGN TROOPS OR BASES IN VIETNAM, NOR THERE SHOULD BE ANY MILITARY ALLIANCE OF THE TWO TEMPORARILY DIVIDED ZONES OF VIETNAM WITH ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY AND FINALLY THAT VIETNAM IS ONE COUNTRY AND THE QUESTION OF REUNIFICATION MUST BE CARRIED BY THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE THEMSELVES, WITHOUT ANY FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

THE VIETNAMESE DEMAND FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS MEANS THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL U.S. AND SATELLITE TROOPS AND WEAPONS, AND LETTING THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM BY THEIR EFFORTS, WITHOUT ANY FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, REUNIFY THEIR COUNTRY AND ENJOY THE STATUS OF A FREE, INDEPENDENT COUNTRY IN PEACE. FOR THIS REASON THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS HAVE OPPOSED THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS. THE FRIENDS OF VIETNAM, WHO BELIEVE IN GENUINE SOLIDARITY MUST DEMAND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS AND DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S TROOPS ETC.

8. Directors of the Foundation, Chris Farley and David Horowitz, along with Pat Jordan and E. Tate refused, on the Preparatory Committee to accept the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation as the sole genuine representatives of the south Vietnamese people. That is the position of U.S. imperialism. So what is the significance of their "solidarity"?

9. These gentlemen also refused to support the 4-point stand of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the 5-part statement of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation. Of course, they were defeated on the Preparatory Committee. Yet they have not given up.

10. Without any authority of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign Preparatory Committee, these gentlemen, published the so-called "Voice" Vietnam Special, May Day, 1966, Editorial address: 8, Roland Gardens, London, S.W.7. and Published by the (Trotskyite) Northern Publishing Society in cooperation with Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, "from printed in Manchester.

THERE WERE STRONG PROTESTS FROM THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ON THIS DISRUPTIVE ACTION OF THESE GENTLEMEN, ESPECIALLY VERY OBJECTIONABLE ARTICLES WERE PUBLISHED IN THIS ISSUE.

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IMPORTANT NOTE:

All political parties and groups have their right to hold any views and their own interpretation of events in history. They have full right to project their own views on the platform of their own organisations and through their own journals.

BUT while working with other organisations on a common platform, there must be a minimum agreed programme of aims, which should be strictly adhered to. Any sectional activities on the common platform, in contradiction to the agreed aims can only lead to disunity and disruption and the/agreed aims.

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ON THE QUESTION OF SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM

The people of Vietnam have full right of self-determination to decide their own programme, aims, policy and tactics, as well as choose their own leadership.

No body from outside, whether the imperialists, the United Nations or even friends of Vietnam have a right to impose any of their own programmes or concepts of leadership on the Vietnamese people.

THE CRUCIAL TEST OF HONESTY AND GENUINE SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM IS UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE 4-POINT STAND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE 5-PART STATEMENT OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION.

ALL FRIENDS OF VIETNAM MUST WAGE UNCOMPROMISING STRUGGLE FOR THESE STANDS OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND DEFEAT THE DISRUPTORS !