INFORMATION BUREAU OF COMMUNIST AND WORKERS’ PARTIES (COMINFORM) ON COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

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EDITORIAL: MIGHTY ADVANCE OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN THE COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES.

One of the outstanding features of the present international situation is the unprecedented scope of the revolutionary struggle of the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries.

In many countries this struggle is of an armed nature, with hundreds of millions of working people of the countries of the East taking part in it. The scale and nature of this struggle, led by the working class and the Communist Parties, shows that the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries have resolutely taken the path of revolution against colonial slavery and for national liberation.

The mighty advance of the post-war revolutionary, liberation struggle in the dependent and colonial countries has shaken the entire system of world imperialism to its very foundations and shows that the colonial peoples refuse to live any longer in the old way, and the ruling classes in the metropolitan countries are unable any longer to rule them in the old way.

The Great October Socialist Revolution released the revolutionary energy of the oppressed masses of the colonial countries, linked their struggle for freedom and national independence with the revolutionary struggle of the working people of all countries thus opening the way to their liberation.

The Lenin-Stalin national policy, the victory of Socialism in the USSR which turned the formerly oppressed peoples of Russia’s outlying regions into equal Socialist nations who today make up the great fraternal family of Soviet peoples, gave and continue to give a powerful impulse and support to the colonial and dependent peoples in their struggle against colonial and imperialist slavery.

The victorious people’s liberation war against fascism, which the Soviet Union headed, the defeat of German and Japanese imperialism and also the fact that such colonial powers as Britain, France, Italy, Holland and Belgium have become considerable weaker – all furnished favourable conditions for struggle and for the victory of the national-liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries.
The establishment of people’s democratic power in the countries of Central and South-eastern Europe, the increased political and economic might of the USSR and the People’s Democracies, the resolute and consistent struggle of the democratic camp headed by the USSR, against American and British imperialism – the main oppressor of the freedom of colonial peoples – weakened, and could not but weaken the entire system of imperialism and thus rendered and continue to render decisive assistance to the colonial peoples in their struggle for national freedom and independence.

The world history victory of the Chinese people over the combined forces of the reactionary Kuomintang and American imperialism is shaking proof of the advance of national-liberation struggle, of the triumph of the Lenin-Stalin teaching concerning the strategy and tactics of the Communist Parties heading this struggle.

The victory of the Chinese people is of enormous significance in strengthening the national-liberation struggle in the colonial and dependent countries.

Analysing the conditions of the victory of the Chinese people’s liberation revolution, Liu Shao-chi, Vice-President of the World Federation of Trade Unions, in his speech to the Peking Trade Union Conference of the countries of Asia and Oceania, stated: “The path taken by the Chinese people.....is the path that should be taken by the people of many colonial and dependent countries in their struggle for national independence and people’s democracy”.

The experience of the victorious national-liberation struggle of the Chinese people teaches that the working class must unite with all classes, parties, groups and organisations willing to fight the imperialists and their hirelings and to form a broad, nationwide united front, headed by the working class and its vanguard – the Communist Party, the Party equipped with the theory of Marxist-Leninism; the Party that has mastered the art of revolutionary strategy and tactics; that breathes the spirit of revolutionary irreconcilability to enemies of the people, the spirit of proletarian organisation and discipline in the mass movement of the peoples.

A decisive condition for the victorious outcome of the national-liberation struggle is the formation, when the necessary internal conditions allow for it, of people’s liberation armies under the leadership of the Communist Party.

As the example of China, Viet Nam, Malaya and other countries show, armed struggle is now becoming the main form of the national-liberation movement is many colonial and dependent countries.
In Viet Nam the armed people have liberated 90 per cent of their country from the France imperialists. The 1,50,000 France troops in Viet Nam are afraid to leave the occupied town, are bottled up by the armed forces of the Viet Nam Republic.

In South Korea guerrilla forces are making life intolerable for the police forces of the American-installed puppet, Syngham Ree.

In Malaya 1,20,000 British troops are bogged down in a fruitless endeavour to crush the Malayan people’s national liberation army. In the Philippines – the “model” US colony – partisan are in the field against the puppet Quirino Government.

In Indonesia, patriot forces are fighting against combined Dutch and Hatta quisling troops. Half Burma is in the hands of the People’s forces fighting against the British imperialist agency. The national-liberation movement in Latin America, Africa and the Near East is spreading far and wide.

The mass movement of the peoples in the colonies and semi-colonies, the movement that unfolded after the war and developed into an armed struggle, forced the British imperialists to make a tactical retreat. A sham independence was bestowed on India. But the interests of British imperialism remain “sacred and inviolable”. The Mountbatten have departed but British imperialism remains and octopus - like grips India in its bloody tentacles.

In these conditions the task of the Indian Communists, drawing on the experience of the national-liberation movement in China and other countries, is, naturally, to strengthen the alliance of working class with all the peasantry, to fight for the introduction of the urgently needed agrarian reform and – on the basis of the common struggle for freedom and national independence of their country, against the Anglo-American imperialists oppressing it and against the reactionary big bourgeoisie and feudal princess collaborating with them – to unite all classes, parties, groups and organisations willing to defend the independence and freedom of India.

The victory of the revolution in China and the advance of the national-liberation struggle in the colonies have thrown the imperialists, who are desperately trying to retain their grip on the colonies, into a fury. It would be a mistake to underestimate this feverish activity of the imperialists who are suffering defeat.

The Communist Parties, trade unions and all democratic organisations in the colonial and dependent countries should rally the working people and all progressive forces, daily expose the colonising plans of the foreign imperialists and the treacherous, anti-popular role of reaction which collaborates with the imperialists.
In the metropolitan countries, Communists, whose duty it is rally and unite the
democratic forces in support of the colonial peoples, should remember Comrade Stalin’s
words: “No lasting victory is possible in colonial and dependent countries unless a real link is
established between the movement for their liberation and the proletarian movement of the
more advanced countries of the West”.

Seamen, dockers and railwaymen in Marseilles, Saint Nazaire and other ports in
France have, by their courageous in refusing to handle munitions for the colonial war in Viet
Nam, set a splendid example of international working-class solidarity.

The experience of the revolution in Russia, China and the People’s Democracies
teaches that when a people resolutely goes into struggle, and when the Communist Parties are
capable of heading this struggle, no forces of internal counter-revolution and of the foreign
imperialists can crush the people’s masses who have taken to revolution.

Fraternal bonds of solidarity are being forged between the working people of the West
and the revolutionary peoples of the colonial and dependent countries. This solidarity of
hundreds of millions of people is the rock on which imperialism will perish.
EDITORIAL: THE PEOPLES OF THE COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE WARMONGERS.

The national liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries is steadily growing in scale and is becoming more and more organised. Hundreds of millions of people, doomed by the imperialist slave-owners to poverty, hunger and extinction, deprived of elementary human rights and liberties, are rising in resolute struggle against their oppressors. The Great October Socialist Revolution, which ushered in the era of liberating revolutions in the colonial and dependent countries, and the victorious building of Socialism in the USSR, awakened the peoples of these countries and showed to them in practice the possibility and necessity of destroying the colonial yoke. The October Socialist Revolution showed that the era of undisturbed exploitation and oppression of the colonies and dependent countries by the imperialist had passed away.

Unleashing the Second World War, the imperialists reckoned not only on strangling the national liberation movement in the colonies but also on transforming other countries into colonies and thus prolonging and strengthening their domination. But these calculations of the imperialists miscarried. The smashing of German fascism and Japanese militarism by the Soviet Army, the weakening, as a result of the Second World War, of the imperialist camp as a whole and the growth and consolidation of the camp of democracy and Socialism headed by the Soviet Union, led to an unprecedented development of the national liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries. The complete destruction of the entire colonial system of imperialism is now on the order of the day.

One of the most devastating blows against the imperialist system since the October Revolution was that delivered by the triumph of the popular revolution in China, the hitherto one of the main rear bases of imperialism and an inexhaustible source of fabulous profits for the Wall Street and City monopolists. Neither the complete enslavement of Western Europe nor a tenfold increase in the exploitation of the peoples still under the colonial yoke, can make up for the loss of domination in China by the imperialist camp. The Chinese Communist Party, which organised the victory of the popular revolution in China, opened the way to Socialism for 475 million people. The victory of the Chinese people over home and
foreign exploiters freed them from decades of wars and gave the immeasurable strength to the common front of peace and democracy throughout the world.

In Viet Nam, the National Liberation Army has wrested from the imperialist invaders 90 per cent of the country; in Burma more than half the population lives in areas liberated from imperialists; in Malaya, South Korea and in a number of districts in India, in Indonesia the armed forces of the peoples are waging heroic struggle for freedom and national independence. The liberation, anti-imperialist movement in Africa, Oceania and Asia minor is growing in intensity.

In the present conditions, as shown by the experience of China, armed resistance to the imperialist plunderers is the most effective form of the national-liberation movement in colonial countries. It seriously weakens imperialism, and, in doing so, strengthens the front of peace.

The national liberation struggle of the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries is headed by the most advanced, most revolutionary of all classes – the working class and its vanguard, the Communist Party. Around the working class there are united all classes, and above all, broad masses of peasants, all parties and groups, organisations and individuals who oppose the imperialist oppressor and their henchmen.

Without suppressing the national liberation movement in the colonies, the imperialists cannot consider themselves fully prepared for unleashing an aggressive war against the camp of peace and democracy. Hence, the Churchills and Trumans, in preparing the war, begins by suppressing the democratic movement in their own countries and the national liberation movement in the colonies. The imperialist aggressors are, in fact, already waging war on a vast territory extending from South Korea to Indonesia.

Utilising their bankrupt puppet, Chiang-Kai-shek, they are waging an undeclared war against the Chinese people. The whole world knows that Formosa been virtually transformed into a US war base, and that Shanghai is being raided by American “flying fortresses”. In South Korea, the Syngman Rhee gangs, mercenaries of Wall Street, are attempting by means of fire sword to suppress the ever-growing partisan movement. In Viet Nam, the France colonisers have been waging war for more than three years against the people who are defending their liberty and independence. In view of the obvious defeat of the France colonisers, the American imperialists are hastening to their aid. Their decision to supply arms to Bao-Dai means in fact that the US imperialists have actually declared war on the people of Viet Nam.
American tanks, aircrafts, instructors and officers of the US army are being sent to Indo-China.

For nearly two years the British imperialists have been waging war in Malaya, Burma and in other colonies. One of the initiators of these wars, Mr. Churchill, candidly declared in the House of Commons on May 9 that, during the past five years, the Labourites had “shed more blood” in suppressing the peoples of the British Empire than was shed by Britain and her armies during the war against Hitler fascism. The conferences of imperialist diplomats in Colombo, Bangkok, Sydney, the meeting in Tokyo, the tour made by Jessup, the emissary of Wall Street in the countries of South East Asia, the recent meeting of the warmongers, Bevin, Schuman and Archeson in London, persuaded the aim of stepping-up the colonial wars and of preparing new wars.

All these facts testify that “imperialism cannot live without violence and plunder, without bloodshed and shootings” (Stalin).

In these conditions the struggle of the colonial and dependent peoples against their imperialist oppressors is part and parcel of the common struggle of working people throughout the world against the Anglo-American instigators of a new war, for peace and the democracy. The successes of the national liberation movement strengthen the world front of peace. The victories of the national liberation struggle in the East are victories for the front of peace and democracy. All sincere partisans of peace regards it as their duty to support the national liberation struggle of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries. In this connections, splendid examples have been given by dockers, railwaymen and seamen in France who refuse to transport arms for the colonial war in Viet Nam.

The working people of Britain, America and other countries, by actively opposing the colonial wars waged by the monopolists of Wall Street and the City in Malaya, Burma, South Korea, the Philippines and other colonies, will, in this way, render their struggle for peace more effective and concrete, and in doing so fulfil their duty of international proletarian solidarity.

Along with the unfolding and intensification of the national liberation struggle, which is the most effective contribution of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries to the common struggle of the world peace camp, the peoples of these countries are playing an ever more active part in the campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. These peoples are particularly interested in the demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, and in denouncing as a war criminal that government
which first uses this weapon, for the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries daily and hourly experience in their own lives all that imperialist war brings with it.

Despite police terror and persecution against the partisans of peace, the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee is underway in India, Indonesia, South Korea, and Indo-China, in Burma and Malaya. The campaign has developed in a particularly big way in those countries liberated from the imperialist yoke. Thousands of peace committees are being formed in China and North Korea.

The unanimous condemnation of the Anglo-American instigators of a new war by all peoples of the world will lead to a further weakening of the imperialist camp, will create even more favourable conditions for the victory of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries, fighting for peace, freedom and national independence.

The criminal designs of the imperialist warmongers now waging colonial wars, sowing that and destruction among the peoples, must and shall be foiled.
EDITORIAL: THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA FOR FREEDOM AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

A sharp and strenuous struggle of the peoples against imperialist national and social oppression and against colonial slavery, for freedom and independence, has developed in the countries of South-East Asia.

For five years the people of Viet Nam have been waging a heroic struggle against the French colonisers and their US inspirers. Despite the uninterrupted dispatch of fresh military reinforcements from France and despite US military assistance, the French expeditionary corps is suffering one defeat after another. The territory held by the French troops does not exceed 10 per cent of Viet Nam’s territory. Throughout the rest of the country a new democratic system has been firmly established.

For more than two years the British imperialists have been waging a bandit war in Malaya. However, neither the army, one-hundred thousand strong, equipped with tanks and aircraft, nor the special punitive units have helped the Labour lieutenants of the City to break the will of the peoples in Malaya who are fighting for their liberation from the colonial yoke. The impotence of the imperialists is evident from the draconic law recently issued by them in Malaya, a law which punished with death participation in any movement directed against military operations carried out by the British Government.

The national liberation movement is extending also in Burma to which British imperialism granted “independence”, having first enmeshed it with onerous treaties and having done everything to deprive the Burmese Government of real power. However, although British imperialism succeeded in buying native feudal chiefs, the bureaucracy and the Right Socialists, it did not succeed in deceiving the people. The liberated areas of Burma account for half the country’s population, while, in the remaining part, workers’ strikes, accompanied by the advancement of political demands, do not cease while the peasants refuse to pay both interest to usurers as well as the unbearable taxes to the government.

In Indonesia the struggle for national independence is going on unceasingly. In a number of regions the partisans are engaged in serious battles against Dutch colonial troops.
A powerful movement for freedom and for a really independent and democratic republic is unfolding throughout the archipelago.

The successes of the national liberation movement of the peoples in South-East Asia are the outcome of the vigorous awakening of their national consciousness. These successes become possible as a result of the world historic victories of the Soviet Union, the People’s Democracies and the international working class movement; as a result of the general strengthening of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism. The victory of the people’s revolution in China has, in turn, stirred the peoples of South-East Asia who have seen in the Chinese revolution a vivid example of how to fight for their national liberation and what fruitful results are brought about by such struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party.

The successes of the international democratic front have resulted in a radical change in the correlation of forces in favour of the camp of peace and democracy and in the weakening of the imperialist camp, which fact decisively undermined the entire colonial system of imperialism.

US imperialism, which has openly announced its bandit course aimed at winning world domination, has now emerged as the gendarme and hangman of the peoples of South-East Asia. The line of foreign policy of US imperialism is based on the false assumption that the countries of South-East Asia can, allegedly, quickly taken into its hands and then, utilising their territories as a base, the great Chinese people and the peoples of the whole Asia, can be enslaved. To halt the liberation movement of the peoples of South-East Asia, US imperialism went over from preparations for aggression to direct acts of aggression.

However, US intervention in Korea encountered the united and firm will of the Korean people for national independence and freedom. On behalf of all Korean people, the United Democratic Patriotic Front of Korea has declared: “We do not need the ‘freedom’ of the American Negroes, built by US imperialism on the bones of the Negroes. We do not need ‘freedom’ of the peoples of the South America who are in colonial bondage to US imperialism which, like a spider, is sucking blood of the peoples, dooming them to alter starvation, poverty and lack of rights. We do not need the ‘freedom’ given to the people of South Korea by the US occupation army – with the support of the Syngman Rhee traitors – and which signifies poverty, ignorance and lack of rights for the people of South Korea. When talking about the so-called ‘freedom of the Korean people’, the US imperialists have in mind freedom for US imperialism which waxes rich on the sweat and blood of the Koreans
who, according to the racial ‘theory’ of the American imperialists, are not regarded as human beings. We do not need such ‘freedom’. The Korean people need real freedom without the interference of foreign imperialists”.

Such as the will of heroic Korean people, and it cannot be broken either by guns and the brutal bombing of peaceful towns and villages or by the mass shooting of Korean patriots. The more ferocious and frantic becomes US imperialism, the greater determination to struggle it evokes among all peoples who desire freedom and independence.

American intervention in Korea has made clear to all, the real aims of Wall Street in South-East Asia. The blood thirsty butcher, MacArthur, intends to turn Taiwan (Formosa) into a huge aircraft carrier, the Philippines into a submarine base and the whole of the Pacific into an “American lake”. The scale of this imperialist programme goes far beyond the plans of the Japanese militarists. The US aggressors are seeking to realise this programme by fire and sword, killing tens of thousands of Korean women and children. They want to intimidate all freedom-loving peoples, threatening to wipe them out.

Consequently, the struggle for national liberation is a vitally essential, sacred and just cause for all the peoples of South-East Asia. Only armed resistance, only a resolute armed struggle against the foreign occupiers and against home reaction and traitors of the people can secure the national freedom and independence of the countries of South-East Asia.

The great Chinese people have shown a remarkable example of how an armed rebuff to the imperialist enslavers should be organised. A successful national liberation movement, under present conditions, can be headed only by the working class and its vanguard – the Communist Parties. Under the banners of the liberation struggle against the brutal colonial regime, for profound, democratic transformations, the working class is rallying all – above all the peasantry – who treasure the freedom and independence of the homeland. The slogan of land reform against feudal ownership is, at the same time, and anti-imperialist slogan, because it mobilises the forces of the peoples for the struggle against feudal chiefs – the supporters of imperialism – and activises millions upon millions of peasants who receive not only national but also social liberation.

US imperialism is mobilising all the forces of world imperialism against the liberation movement: British, French and Dutch imperialists are acting as junior partners of US imperialists in realising their colonial policy. The peoples, fighting for freedom and independence, have to deal with well-armed imperialist armies. However, these armies of the colonisers have a low morale; they are mercenary armies whose soldiers are fighting for
interests alien to them and they are far from their own countries. At the same time the peoples of South-East Asia are fighting on their native land and for their vital interests. Herein lies the source of their strength and invincibility.

The strength and invincibility of the national liberation movement lies also in the fact that it is an integral part of the international movement in defence of peace. The peoples of South-East Asia want to decide their fate themselves; they want peace.

The peoples throughout the world, including the American people, are solidly with the heroic Korean people, with the peoples of South-East Asia who are waging a just liberation struggle. This struggle of peoples of South-East Asia, who know they are right and who know their national duty and who defend their homeland and world peace; this struggle which enjoys the tremendous moral support of the entire freedom-loving mankind, will end in complete victory.
EDITORIAL: NATIONAL-LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES.

The peoples of the colonial and dependent countries no longer desire to nor can they live in the old way, in the chains of imperialist bondage. The million-fold masses are waging a selfless and heroic struggle against the colonial yoke, for freedom and independence. The crisis of the colonial system of imperialism, based on plunder, absence of rights, ruthless exploitation and streams of blood, has assumed an unprecedentedly sharp character.

The vast scale of the national-liberation struggle waged by the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries is a characteristic feature of the present international situation. This struggle proves irrefutably that there is taking place the process of disintegration of the colonial system of imperialism.

A powerful national-liberation movement is spreading on an ever increasing scale all over colonial Asia; it is spreading day by day in the Near and Middle East, in Africa and in the countries of Latin America.

The smashing by the Soviet Army of fascist Germany and imperialist Japan in World War II further weakened the imperialist camp and gave a fresh impetus to the revolutionary struggle waged by the working class and to the national-liberation movement against imperialism. In a number of countries of Central and South-East Europe there was established the system of people’s democracy. In Asia there arose the Korean People’s Republic and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Having smashed the reactionary forces, the Chinese people, led by the Communist Party, brought the great people’s revolution to a victorious conclusion. As a result, China dropped out of the imperialist system.

The historic victory of the people’s revolution in China, which signified a new triumph for Marxism-Leninism, a triumph for the Lenin-Stalin strategy and tactics, was a powerful blow against the entire system of world imperialism and the predatory plans of the Anglo-American aggressors. It marked a new page in the history of the national-liberation struggle of all the peoples oppressed by imperialism.

As far back as 1927 Comrade Stalin wrote:
“The era of undisturbed exploitation and oppression of the colonies and dependent countries had passed away”.

“The era of revolutions for emancipation in the colonies and dependent countries, the era of the awakening of the proletariat in these countries, the era of its hegemony in the revolution, has begun”.

These words of Comrade Stalin, the great leader of the working people of the world, reveal with all profundity the might and irresistibility of the national-liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries. All over the world, the working class led by the Communist and Workers’ Parties, marches in the van of the peoples waging anti-imperialist, national-liberation struggle.

The working class of the colonial world is fighting for emancipation in close alliance with the peasantry. Workers and peasants comprising the overwhelming majority of the population in the colonial and dependent countries, constitute the main force of the national-liberation movement. The worker-peasant alliance is also jointed by the intelligentsia, by all progressive sections of town and countryside and by patriotic elements of the national bourgeoisie.

A brilliant example of the realization of the united people’s democratic front is offered by the struggle of the Chinese people. The working class of China and its Communist Party became the pivot for rallying all the national anti-imperialist forces in the country. In the working class, headed by the Communist Party, the Chinese people see its leader, the resolute, fully consistent champion of the new life.

The nature of the liberation movement varies in the different colonial and dependent countries. In some countries it has developed into opened armed struggle, in the course of which regular people’s liberation armies and numerous partisan forces came into being. For over six years, the people of Viet Nam, joined by the peoples of Laos and Cambodia, have been successfully combating the 200,000 strong expeditionary corps of the French colonisers inflicting heavy defeat on it. The peoples of Malaya, Burma and the Philippines are courageously fighting, arms in hand, for freedom and independence.

The Japanese people also, who have fallen into misfortune, are intensifying the struggle for freedom and independence of their country which the US occupationists have converted into a virtual colony of US imperialism.

In India, the Communist Party strives to rally all the progressive national forces into a united democratic front, for a people’s democratic government. The Communists fight for the
sovereignty of the people, for emancipation of the peasants from feudal fetters, for a better life for all working people. The remarkable success won in the recent elections by the people’s democratic front, with the Communist Party in the fore, testifies to the further growth of the national-liberation movement in India.

The ground is burning under the feet of the colonizers in the countries of Near and Middle East and in North Africa. Despite the obstacles raised by internal reaction which is making a deal with the imperialist invaders, the masses are fighting the colonial oppression ever more vigorously and firmly. They demand that all foreign troops be withdrawn from Egypt and other countries. The liberation movement is growing in Iran, Iraq, Syria and the Lebanon. In Tunisia, the people have replied to the brutal terror by intensifying their struggle against the French colonizers.

In an endeavour to beat back the powerful upsurge in the liberation struggle in the colonial and semi-colonial countries, the imperialists resort to the most foul means; blackmail, deceit, threats, gunfire against demonstrations, and bombing defenceless towns and villages. Savage terror is combined with bribery and manoeuvres aimed at bringing about disruption. In the Near and Middle East they incite enmity between the peoples, seeking in every way to intimidate the national bourgeoisie and split the national-liberation movement.

In this vile and dirty work, the imperialist reaction finds loyal aids in the Right-wing leaders of Socialist Parties – apologists of the inviolability of the colonial regime.

The just national-liberation struggle of the oppressed peoples encounters warm sympathy and support among the working people of all countries. This struggle is part of the general battle waged by the peoples against imperialism, against the camp of reaction and war. The Communist Parties in the capitalist countries are called upon to render the utmost help to the national-liberation movement. Comrade Stalin teaches: “No lasting victory is possible in colonial and dependent countries unless a real link is established between the movement for their liberation and the proletarian movement of the more advanced countries of the West”.

The Communist Parties in the metropolitan countries are rallying all forces in the struggle against the colonizing strivings of the imperialists. The glorious French Communist Party, guided by the Lenin-Stalin teaching, boldly proclaims and consistently upholds the rights to full self-determination and independence of the peoples of Viet Nam and of the other countries enslaved by the French imperialists. The working class of France supports this demand of the Communists. Dockers in Marseilles and Toulon refuse to load arms for
Tunisia. The working people of these and other ports continue the struggle against the war in Viet Nam.

The programme of the British Communist Party demands an end to the political, economic and military enthrallment of the peoples of colonial and dependent countries, demands full national independence and equality for them. This is the only basis on which real friendship between the peoples can be established. The British Communist Party has ardently called upon the working class to support the struggle waged by the peoples of Egypt and Malaya for independence, and to secure the withdrawal of British troops from these countries.

The imperialists cannot launch the new war now being prepared against the democratic states, without first securing their rear-lines and curbing “their colonies”. Continuing the war in Korea, Viet Nam and Malaya, the American, British and French imperialists strives to ensure for themselves bases for unleashing aggression against People’s China. The US aggressors are going all out to build a new, Middle-East aggressive alliance, to bring the Arab countries into the Atlantic bloc, and transform their territories into war bases and their peoples into cannon fodder for an imperialist war.

But the oppressed peoples are combining their struggle against imperialism, for national liberation, more and more closely with the struggle of all the peoples for preserving and consolidating peace. For example, in Iran, where 500,000 people signed the Stockholm Appeal, the number of signatories to the World Peace Council’s Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact so far exceeds two million. Over 7,500,000 signatures were collected for a Peace Pact in embattled Viet Nam. Active preparations are underway for a conference in defence of peace and national independence of the countries of the Near and Middle East and North Africa.

Success in the revolutionary struggle waged by the peoples of colonies and semi-colonies is guaranteed by the spreading on a vast scale of the all-conquering ideas of Lenin-Stalin, by utilization of the rich revolutionary experience of the Soviet Union, the new China and the People’s Democracies. Irreconcilable and ever growing struggle against the imperialist yoke – such is the pathway for the hundreds of millions of working people in the colonial and dependent countries towards freedom, national independence and peace.
EDITORIAL: GROWING UPSURGE OF NATIONAL-LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES.

The defeat of fascist Germany and militarist Japan as a result of the world-historic victory of the Soviet Union in World War II, the rise of the countries of people’s democracy and the weakening of the forces of world imperialism constituted most important factors stimulating a new powerful upsurge of the national-liberation struggle in the dependent countries and in the colonies and aggravating the crisis of the entire colonial system of imperialism.

The triumph of the people’s revolution in China and the establishment of the Chinese People’s Republic dealt a terrific blow to the colonial system of imperialism; still further revolutionized the East, facilitating the continued development of the great liberation struggle of the oppressed peoples against the imperialist yoke.

For over two and a half-years the heroic people of Korea have been waging a selfless struggle for national independence, demonstrating to the world an example of a just liberation war against the joint forces of the aggressive US – British bloc. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam was born in the fires of fierce battles and gained strength in these battles. The national-liberation movement of the peoples of Malaya, Burma, the Philippines, Indonesia and Latin America is gaining momentum. The peoples of Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, the Union of South Africa, Kenya and other African countries are rising in struggle for freedom. The peoples of Iran, Iraq, Egypt and other countries in the Near and Middle East have moved into action.

In India – the last of the biggest dependent, semi-colonial countries in Asia – national resistance is growing and an economic and political crisis is rapidly maturing. The political consciousness of the masses grows in the sharp ideological struggle. The Communist Party of India is inspiring and organising the popular struggle against the domination of foreign imperialism, against British imperialism in the first instance.

The national-liberation struggle in the colonial and dependent countries is assuming a more active and resolute nature. The spontaneous and divided centres of the movement of independence are becoming more and more organised in separate countries; the struggle is
assuming a nation-wide character. The imperialists are no longer able to rule in the old way in the dependent and colonial countries and the colonial peoples no longer want to live in the old way. Nor can any efforts on the part of the imperialists avert the progressive disintegration of the colonial system, hold back the liberation of the peoples from colonial yoke.

One-third of mankind has already forever freed itself from the fetters of capitalist slavery, and having formed the mighty camp of democracy and Socialism, is marching forward along the pathway of economic and cultural prosperity, along the pathway of happiness and abundance.

The brilliant foresight of the great Lenin receives confirmation.

Lenin said:

“In the last analysis, the upshot of the struggle will be determined by the fact that Russia, India, China, etc., accounted for the overwhelming majority of the population of the globe. And it is precisely this majority that, during the past few years, has been drawn into the struggle for emancipation with extraordinary rapidity, so that in this respect there cannot be the slightest shadow of doubt what the final outcome of the world struggle will be. In this sense, the complete victory of Socialism is fully and absolutely assured”.

Imperialism cannot exist without political and economic enslavement of nations and peoples denied equal rights. Like an insatiable vampire it sucks the blood of the colonial peoples. The imperialists amass colossal profits by means of the slave labour of the peoples of the backward countries, by ruthlessly plundering their rich raw materials resources and marketing at fabulous prices their surplus stocks.

The many years of imperialist oppression and feudal survivals have resulted in an unprecedented decline in the economy in the colonies and semi-colonies.

Tens of millions in India, Pakistan, Iran, Indonesia and in the countries of Africa eke out a miserable existence; they suffer from chronic hunger and die from starvation. Purchasing power in the dependent countries and colonies is exceptionally low and the market for manufactures goods is constantly shrinking. All this weighs heavily on the capitalist economy, degrading it, and intensifying the contradictions within the countries of the anti-democratic, imperialist camp. The more the capitalists experience a shortage of raw materials, the sharper the capitalist competition in the drive for markets and more desperate the struggle of the imperialist states and monopolies for securing and preserving spheres of
influence. Of late the contradictions between the capitalist countries, and in first place between the USA and Britain, have become particularly acute.

The US imperialists, intensifying their preparations for a new world war and striving for world domination are waging concealed and open struggle for undivided subordination to themselves of more and more countries, they are penetrating into the spheres of influence of other colonial powers, seizing key positions and dislodging the old colonial powers. In the process of this struggle the US imperialists plot conspiracies and intrigues against their British, French and Belgian “partners” in the aggressive Atlantic bloc.

The ruling circles in Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and of the other colonial powers, in their turn, seek to uphold their “right” to colonies and semi-colonies, to compensate themselves at the expense of the latter for the excessive burden dictated by the frenzied arms drive and predatory US expansion. All this cannot but lead to further growth of the contradictions in the imperialist camp. The imperialists hope to avert the oncoming economic crisis by means of war and by plundering their “own” and especially “alien” peoples.

The irreconcilable contradictions between the colonies and the metropolitan countries are becoming sharper and sharper. Consigned to the abyss of untold suffering, the peoples of colonial and dependent countries are resisting more and more the imperialist robbery and feudal despotism. New progressive and patriotic forces, additional masses of the oppressed and exploited – demanding freedom and independence, abrogation of unequal treaties and enslaving agreements, nationalisation of large-scale foreign enterprises and liquidation of feudal land ownership, democratisation of the country and radical improvement in the standard of living – are flowing in a mighty stream into the national-liberation movement.

Neither colonisers’ terror, persecution by the imperialists of the democratic, progressive and patriotic organizations, wholesale slaughter of demonstrators and strikers, arrests, deportations and executions of public figures, nor the foul treachery of the Right-wing Social Democratic leaders, acting on the direct orders of the US imperialists, can break the indomitable will of the colonial peoples for freedom and independence. The broad peasant masses are rallying closer and closer around the working class and its vanguard – the Communist and Workers’ Parties. Handicraftsmen, small and medium traders and manufacturers suffering from the foreign expansion, the patriotic elements of the bourgeoisie who refuse to collaborate with the imperialist monopolies, all are rising against colonial oppression. United National-Liberation Fronts for Struggle against colonial oppression,
against the rule of foreign monopolies and for the right of the people to decide their own fate are being formed and consolidated.

The anti-imperialist and anti-feudal movement in the colonial and dependent countries is closely linked with the struggle for peace, for security and friendship of the peoples. Broad masses of the oppressed and exploited are becoming more and more convinced that a third world war, should the warmongers succeed in unleashing it, will bring the colonial and dependent countries additional and countless sufferings and sacrifices. Consequently, they demand the expulsion of all foreign troops from their countries, the liquidation of foreign military bases and resolutely oppose the so-called “unified military commands” and the involving of the colonial and dependent countries in the different aggressive US – British military blocs. The peace movement is growing and developing.

The peoples of the colonial and dependent countries look with hope to the great Soviet Union – the true defender of their national independence, the bulwark of peace and security of the peoples. They see in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the embodiment of the cherished aspirations of all the oppressed and exploited masses, a country in which the one-time unequal, oppressed and backward nations have achieved unprecedented prosperity, where the friendship of the peoples, their moral-political unity and their life-giving patriotism have become the vital motive forces of society. The existence of the USSR, of the Chinese People’s Republic and the countries of the people’s democracy inspires the peoples of the dependent countries and the colonies, in the struggle for their just cause.

The national-liberation struggle of the colonial peoples enjoy the profound sympathy and moral support of the Communist and Workers’ Parties in all countries, of all the democratic and peace-loving forces of the world; the national liberation movement in the colonies – true ally of the fighters for peace, democracy and Socialism – is the common cause of all advanced and progressive mankind. This just struggle has the support of all people of labour, honour and progress in the metropolitan countries, because a nation which oppresses other nations cannot be free. The nation which oppresses another nation forges chains for itself.

The growing upsurge of the national-liberation movement leads the dependent countries and colonies onto the broad highway of independence, people’s democracy and peace. Imperialism is doomed and all its convulsive efforts to prolong and preserved its sanguinary colonial domination are hopeless before the great struggle of the oppressed and dependent peoples for freedom, national independence and for peace.