

CPML on Iran: Too Much Revolution Is A Dangerous Thing

In keeping with their past practice, the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist (CPML) has rushed forward lately to champion the suppression of those who are fighting to push the Iranian revolution forward. When the Shah was in power, the CPML called him "an important force for stability in the Middle East" and did their best to support him while trying not to appear too openly counter-revolutionary. They backed him all the way up to the eve of his downfall. It wasn't long before they stopped questioning Khomeini and became staunch supporters of the Khomeini-Bazargan government once it was clear that it was lining up with the U.S. The current government has suddenly become the new "force for stability and national unity in Iran," and now the CPML is even more comfortable and open in its support of reactionary rulers in Iran since the government parades around as a "revolutionary" one.

Check out their recent two-part "exclusive" report from Iran in the pages of *The Call* (7/30 and 8/20), written by one David Kline. Even this devoted fan of the Ayatollah is forced to admit that "...no one can deny that a political crisis—a crisis of national unity—exists in Iran." But is this because of the government's attacks on the revolutionary left or its campaign to crush the struggles of Iran's oppressed nationalities through force of arms? No, it is because "some powerful forces, in an effort to monopolize power, have allowed internal contradictions to overshadow the fight against imperialism. Their sectarian and undemocratic policies have brought the country to the brink of a national split."

And just what powerful forces does the CPML mean? This "sectarianism," we are informed, "has not only come from the religious right." Oh no, it is also the revolutionary left (transparently labeled "petty-bourgeois left and Trotskyites") who have "shown a willingness to sacrifice national unity in the pursuit of their own narrow aims." How "narrow," "sectarian" and "undemocratic" for the masses to continue the revolution to uproot U.S. imperialism in Iran, including its compradors and other flunkies who have been allowed to worm their way back into the government! Why, this might "overshadow the fight against imperialism" (here they mean the Soviet Union, not Iran's main enemy—the U.S.)!

The real problem of "unity," *The*

Call tells us, is that the Khomeini forces and the Bazargan government must heal their "power split" and unite more firmly to "bring order out of the chaotic post-revolutionary period." After all, CPML reports, "Khomeini recognized that the big capitalists, with their greater political and economic experience, could better run the affairs of state." How strange for these "communists" to declare the revolution over—especially since the government is utilizing the "great experience" of ex-SAVAK agents and many of the Shah's former military commanders to stomp on the struggle of the Iranian masses for the completion of the revolution's anti-imperialist and democratic tasks!

This pitiful call for "unity" against the revolutionary aspirations of the Iranian people stands in pathetic contrast to the powerful declaration of progressive Kurdish religious leader Sheik Ezzedin Hosseini who said in a statement from the city of Mehabad: "The Kurdish people will fight for its basic rights in a united Iran and will not stop the fight even for a moment." And what does the CPML have to say about the just struggle of the Kurdish people for autonomy within the Iranian state? Nothing—except, of course, to dismiss it as all a plot inspired by Moscow which is "fanning violence" in minority regions.

And what is CPML's response to the shutdown of progressive newspapers and the jailing of writers who have dared to criticize the Iranian government's growing reactionary actions?—"Most people feel the government should protect itself against its enemies." "Abstract concepts of freedom," we are told, "cannot overshadow the fact that the first genuinely popular government in 2,500 years is fighting for its very survival against a host of enemies." Yet in the very same article, these hypocrites have the gall to blabber on about "the literal explosion of books and newspapers of every political leaning" and to print a picture of an Iranian newspaper vendor with the caption: "Newspaper and book sellers dot the streets, an example of the new freedom in Iran"!!!

And just who among the Iranian "masses" has the CPML's hack Kline sought out for authoritative advice on the Iranian people's struggle for freedom and unity? No less than Foreign Minister Yazdi of the Bazargan government, who was trained at Baylor University and is little more than a U.S. agent in Iran. This same Yazdi is

While these military discussions were going on, the U.S. State Department made it clear that it wanted to see the "authority and effectiveness" of the government strengthened. But while the U.S. imperialists certainly support the Khomeini government's efforts to crush the Marxist-Leninist and other revolutionary forces, they can't rely on his somewhat unpredictable and fanatical Islamic forces to bring back their lost paradise of exploitation. And to accomplish this goal, the U.S. imperialists are hoping to utilize the growing dissatisfaction with the Khomeini regime to pull back together the reactionary pro-U.S. forces, particularly centered in the army, in order to get into a position to launch a coup at some point in the future if it seems necessary and possible.

The battle lines are clearly shaping up. If the current popular uprising in Kurdistan continues to grow in strength and revolutionary determination, it could well become a liberated base area for the revolutionary struggle throughout Iran. As the struggle unfolds, the rest of Iran is carefully gauging its development and drawing inspiration from the relentless determination of the Kurdish people to win their freedom from all oppression.



Call reporter chats with reactionary Foreign Minister Yazdi, while thousands of Iranians daily march chanting "Yazdi Go Home".

presently negotiating with the U.S. for new training programs for the Iranian military and for a resumption of arms shipments ordered by the Shah—more fighters, tanks and helicopter gunships to strengthen U.S. influence in Iran and to be used against the Kurdish people and others fighting for their democratic rights against the present regime! No wonder progressive forces throughout Iran are frequently heard to chant: "Yazdi go home!" *The Call* article features a picture of Kline proudly posing with Yazdi.

Who else did Kline seek out? Naturally the CPML's revisionist twin brother in Iran, the so-called Revolutionary Organization, who they are fond of painting as "prominent among the martyrs of the revolution." But the only thing prominent about this puny counter-revolutionary organization is that they have long been banned from the activities of the revolutionary left for first indirectly supporting the Shah,

and now for heaping praise on Khomeini even as he attacks the genuine Left. The "Revolutionary Organization" is now busying itself seeking cushy positions in the current government.

No matter how thinly CPML tries to cover its ass, they are always to be found opposing revolution (particularly in countries coveted by the U.S. imperialists!) and siding with reaction. They eagerly quote Foreign Minister Yazdi as bragging that because so few criminals of the old regime were executed, the Iranian revolution has been "the cleanest in world history..." And for CPML it is becoming even cleaner—clean with the blood of revolutionaries and of the Kurdish freedom fighters lined up against the wall and shot by Khomeini's "revolutionary guards." Obviously, for these filthy defenders of reaction, it would no doubt be far cleaner if there were no revolution at all.

Kurds

Continued from page 8

back and take management posts again in "their" companies. And because of the depth of the economic crisis faced by the regime (unemployment stands at over 40%) which only genuine revolutionary measures that mobilized the masses of workers and peasants could begin to solve, and because of the growing mass struggle against its reactionary policies, the Khomeini-Bazargan government has begun to turn more openly than ever to the old master for help—the U.S. imperialists.

Moves Toward U.S.A

At the end of August, the government represented by Foreign Minister Yazdi announced that it was holding discussions with the U.S. military about resuming large shipments of equipment to the Iranian armed forces, especially the spare parts, ammunition and other supplies they need to get their army combat-ready for action in Kurdistan or wherever else revolutionary and progressive forces must be beaten down. For months now they have been regularly receiving spare military parts from the U.S., and the Iranian military still has at least 100 officers in training at U.S. military bases.

Iran

Continued from page 13

clothes who had been provocateurs during the demonstration. They were laughing and yelling, "Long live communism—Death to Islam." They had been chanting this and other slogans in their efforts to instigate fighting between the Left forces and Moslem forces that were opposed to the current regime. One said, "I fought on both sides today," and then shouted "Javid Shah (long live the Shah). We can use this to help bring back the Shah."

During the march, many people were discouraged that the Khomeini-Bazargan government and the forces it represents, who had opposed the Shah, had become so reactionary so soon, but even stronger was their determination to carry forward the revolution in new circumstances.

The Marxist-Leninist forces, whose numbers and influence had grown 100 times during the last two years, had expected and prepared for these attacks, knowing that only with communist leadership could the working class and masses of peasants successfully lead the revolution forward. And far from weakening the Left, the attacks of the reactionaries were driving many people

closer to their side. "I hope the communists take over," one woman wearing a chador said, "they're the only ones that can do something about making a real revolution."

As many suspected, this demonstration became the spark for a series of well-planned attacks on revolutionary organizations. The Fedayeen building was shut down; offices of revolutionary student groups such as Vanguard Students and Fighting Students were attacked and burned. Interestingly enough at this time, the revisionist pro-Soviet Union Tudeh Party headquarters were untouched, as revolutionaries saw members of this reactionary and treacherous group leading the falangists to the location of the office of the Fighting Students.

The government and the reaction in Iran were trying to violently stomp out any breath of resistance to their regime. But in the course of Iran's continuing revolution, communist forces have grown too much in breadth, have deepened their roots among the masses too much, and have increased their political and ideological understanding too greatly to be easily stomped out. The revolution in Iran will go through many twists and turns and there is much sharp struggle ahead.