

# An act of aggression against Socialist Albania

ON JULY 29, 1978, the Central Committee of the Party of Labour and the Government of Albania sent a letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the Government of China. The letter denounced the cessation of aid and loans to socialist Albania and rejected the attempts made in the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs' note of July 7, 1978, to blame the unilateral breaking off of all trading agreements and the withdrawal of Chinese specialists on Albanian ingratitude and sabotage of economic and military cooperation between the two countries.

In the Chinese note, China's aid to Albania is presented as the decisive factor in Albania's development. But the decisive factor has in fact been the resolute, persistent and heroic work and struggle of the Albanian people, under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, for the construction of socialism according to the Leninist principle of self reliance.

The Albanian letter points out that the people of Albania, their Party and Government, have always fought for the strengthening of friendship, fraternal cooperation and mutual aid between Albania and China. They have always appreciated China's aid, considering it an expression of the Chinese people's internationalism, from one socialist country to another, serving the general cause of revolution and socialism in the world. At the same time, Albania has never considered its friendship with the people of any country as a means of economic profit and it has permitted nobody to regard economic aid as an investment by which views can be imposed from outside.

When the Party of Labour of Albania defended the Communist Party of China from the revisionist attacks of Khrushchev at the Bucharest and Moscow meetings of 1960, it was not to obtain some factories and tractors in return; when Albania for many years defended against all the plots of the US imperialists the rights of People's China in the UN, it was not out of material interest; when the whole working class of Albania supported the Cultural Revolution in China to save the country from capitalist-minded usurpers, it was not for the sake of compensation.

Mao Tsetung said in 1962 of the aid Albania was giving to China: "First of all, we must thank you, because you stand in the forefront, because you are in a very difficult situation and persistently fight to defend Marxism-Leninism." And Chou En-Lai said of aid to Albania in 1971: "We are doing our internationalist duty and it will be betrayal if we do not help you... As the bastion of socialism in Europe, you are fighting against imperialism, revisionism and all reaction. If we do not help you, we would not be internationalist communists, but traitors."

Albania has not changed since that time. Albania is still the bastion of socialism in Europe. Who then has changed?

The nagging examples given in the Chinese note of alleged technological backwardness by the Albanians are rejected by the letter as distortions and fabrications. And, in any case, even if there were any truth in them at all, could they serve as adequate justification of this one-sided cessation of economic and military aid to a country with which the closest and friendliest ties had existed for some time? In mentioning specifically the military aid being discontinued, the Chinese note breached Albania's secret defensive arrangements and ran the risk of exposing its military situation to the enemies of the Socialist Republic in NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

The Chinese note makes no mention of the fact that the experts and specialists recalled have been handsomely paid by the Albanian people during their stay. No one who has ever visited Albania will believe for a moment the ridiculous charge that the Albanian workers, specialists and managers, did not have the utmost regard and appreciation for their comrades who had come from China to share their technological skills; and the memorial service for a Chinese comrade killed in an industrial accident gave the whole country the opportunity of expressing its heartfelt gratitude. Still, just as happened when the Soviet revisionists broke off all agreements with China and Albania, the Chinese specialists, on orders from above, either burnt or took away with them all blue prints of the incompleting projects which were being built in Albania

with Chinese help.

Differences and misunderstandings can arise among various parties and states, even when they have relations of close friendship. No matter which side is to blame, the clearing up of such differences calls for negotiation, and all the more should this principle apply to socialist countries and communist parties. On a number of occasions the Party of Labour of Albania has followed the correct policy of constructive and comradely criticism when differences arose with the Communist Party of China.

In all such cases, the Albanian Party put forward its criticisms in a frank and fraternal manner, while maintaining outwardly, as far as the enemies of socialism were concerned, a position of complete solidarity. In the period leading up to the sudden cessation of aid, the Chinese leadership refused categorically to enter into any consultation with Albanians whatsoever.

The letter reminds the world that once the Communist Party of China was against Tito and the Yugoslav brand of capitulation, under the name of a new kind of 'socialism', to capitalism. Now the Chinese leadership makes a pilgrimage to the shrine of anti-Marxist "self-management socialism" just as Khrushchev did back in 1955. Tito's Yugoslavia has not changed. It is still the premier revisionist country of Europe, the birthplace of Eurocommunism and the first member of the socialist bloc to sell out to US imperialism. Who then has changed?

The Party of Labour of Albania sternly warns the Chinese leadership "Your uniting with Tito now and the suspicious alliances you are trying to piece together in the Balkans pose a great danger to the peoples of this peninsula, to the Yugoslav, Albanian, Greek, Turkish and other peoples... Therefore, the peoples of the world must be vigilant towards the Chinese intrigues in this region."

What must seem puzzling to the world at large is the Chinese leadership, which makes such a play of defending little countries against big and opposing economic discrimination against developing countries by imperialist powers, should show itself in relations with Albania and Vietnam just such a bully itself.

By cutting short aid to socialist Albania and Vietnam at a time when it receives aid and credits from US imperialism and European capitalism and, in turn, supplies aid and credits to such clients of capitalism as Mobutu, the Chinese leadership shows that all the talk about being a "third world" power itself, only concerned with the well-being of the "third world", is just so much eye-wash. The theory of the "three worlds" was concocted long ago by reactionary apologists for capitalism to conceal the reality of colonial exploitation; and the Chinese leadership uses that anti-Marxist concept for the same reason - to cover its own bid for "super-power" status using the "third world" countries as pawns.

The Albanian Party of Labour promises that the Chinese note of July 7, announcing the end of aid to Albania and the reasons for it, will be published in full in ZERI I POPULLIT and hopes that their letter of July 29 will be published in RENMIN RIBAO. "The Party of Labour of Albania, the Albanian Government and people will fight to preserve Albanian-Chinese friendship, which is a friendship between peoples... They are sure the Chinese people will make a correct assessment of the Albanian stand and will know how to judge the anti-Albanian acts of the Chinese leadership."

The letter concludes: "The People's Socialist Republic of Albania and the Albanian people, under the consistent leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, with comrade Enver Hoxha at their head, will thoroughly and honourably fulfil their historic mission for the construction of socialism by relying on their own forces, further proving to the proletariat and all the peoples of the world the inexhaustible and indomitable vitality of the Marxist-Leninist ideology, which enables even a small country, encircled by imperialism and revisionism, as Albania is, to build socialism successfully, to defend and carry it always ahead."