

X PC Fred K.

Outline of Report on Iran by Lyons approved by PC 11/15

Key elements of our line:

- 1- Unconditional support to antiimperialist struggle in Iran. Opposition to U.S. war threats against Iranian revolution and attempts by U.S. rulers to reverse antiwar sentiment in U.S. to free hands to intervene not only in Iran, but Nicaragua, Cuba, Africa, etc. We are in bloc with Khomeini vis a vis imperialist attack.
- 2- U.S. provoked embassy takeover by bringing Shah here. We support demand to extradite shah. Re hostages: U.S. govt. holds full blame. If Carter is concerned for well-being simple solution-send shah back.
- 3- Full support for rights of Iranians in U.S. Oppose racist campaign of deportations, and attacks on democratic rights which threaten rights of all Americans working people. Same rationale could be used vs workers opposing wage guidelines, big oil companies, antinuke demos, etc.
- 4- Do everything we can to mobilize american people to oppose a new Vietnam war.

Carter's moves were in response to deepening of rev process in Iran- growing workers struggles, kurds, etc.

Mass antiimperialist mobilization this has provoked has potential to go beyond bounds of capitalist property relations. Defense of rev. vs imperialist attack propells in this direction.

What HKS doing.

Carter's moves serious war threat with unanimous backing of entire ruling class so far. Nothing quite like this since split in r. class over Vietnam:

- . media campaign to whip up racist xenophobic war hysteria
- . use of right wing demos to create mood of intimidation against dissent
- . denial of democratic rights-banning demonstrations, deportations
- . attempt to get working people to accept sacrifices, been unwilling to accept, in name of patriotism

This is not only attempt to free hands to move militarily against world revolution but also attempt to reverse deepening politicization of American workers who are raising growing demand on govt.

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But rulers face big problem pulling this off because of deep antiwar sentiment and politicization that had deepened even since time of our last convention:

- . more suspicion vs govt. and also oil companies which tried to blame oil crisis on Iran before and were exposed. Labor movt. organized anti energy monopoly demos with speeches calling for nationalization. Poll says 1/4 American people for nationalization. In general more disc about nationalization. (Milwaukee Rd., etc.)

- . Labor party discussion-recent LA mtg.
- . labor movt now in forefront of fight for ERA (LERN)
- . huge shift away from support for nukes
- . Response workers and allies to fidel visit Iranian rev. in Feb. and defense of our cdes Nicaragua as we get out truth our election campaign

Response of party to situation:

Called most branches over weekend. Comrades taken aback by media campaign. In a few branches, a few questions were raised about whether we should disassociate ourselves from taking of hostages, or role of Khomeini. When discussed line that will come out in press this week lots of confidence and increased militant orders. Generally party ready to go on offensive.

Because of our vantage point in industry we have fingers on pulse of reaction to this and are in best position to influence events. When we or others speak out vs war threat and explain who shah is and why he should be sent back, others are encouraged to stand up and speak out.

Rather than succeeding in whipping up sentiment for war, rulers have succeeded in whipping up a big debate which can extend to questioning of whole U.S. foreign policy. Growing acceptance of idea that shah should be sent back. Overwhelming opposition to vietnam style war. egs. of disc. cdes having with coworkers (Send the shah not the marines story, etc.)

Not clear who will stand up to U.S. govt yet:

Meany, bad statement but many in labor movt. think union movt made bad mistake in not opposing war in Vietnam in big way.

Jesse Jackson-mixed statement, Dick Gregory-good statement. Student orgs.-some speaking out vs. attacks on Iranian students

CP-Moscow's line of "free the hostages" effects them.

Can expect much of left will fall for r. class propaganda that right wing demos represent mass opinion given their view of political period.

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What we should do

Get out Truth

Militant, forums, PZ campaign, poster, local candidates. Branches are speeding up announcing lcl campaigns in face of situation.

propaganda actions wherever possible—speakouts, pickets, rallies, debates. Try to draw in brood forces. Campaign to get unions and officials to speak out. special attention to campuses where govt, is trying to build opposition. YSA

is contacting student organizations.

Consider helping Iranian students to file ~~state~~ legal suit vs. govt, antidemocratic moves.

HKS Defense:

Given attack by U.S. govt on Khomeini govt. cannot just proceed to collect names demanding release of prisoners. Not clear yet who will oppose imperialist pffensive. Those who do will have impact in defending comrades, later if not freed by deepening re-

We will cover HKS activities in press including ^{their} stepped up demands to free antishah fighters to unite everyone in struggle vs. imperialism.

Best defense of cdes we can offer now is as sister organization which is in forefront of mobilizing american people to oppose U.S. war threats vs. Iranian rev.