

Soviet Social-Imperialism—the Third World's Most Dangerous Enemy

by Jen Ku-ping

THE great struggle by the people of the third world countries against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism is developing in depth. The torrential tide of this struggle is sweeping the progress of human history forward and has become an important hallmark of the current excellent situation in the world. The spearhead of this struggle is directed at the two super-powers—the Soviet Union and the United States.

The contradictions between the third world and the two hegemonic powers—the Soviet Union and the United States—are irreconcilable. Apart from Europe which is the focus of their contention, the two super-powers are doing their utmost to carry out aggression and expansion in the third world which covers a vast territory, possesses rich resources and has an enormous population. To safeguard and consolidate their sovereignty and independence, develop their national economies and win equal rights and position in international affairs, the third world countries must wage a tit-for-tat struggle against superpower hegemonism.

Lenin pointed out in his *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism* that the imperialists “divide it [the world] ‘in proportion to capital,’ ‘in proportion to strength,’” and that their “strength varies with the degree of economic and political development.”

Soviet social-imperialism is a newly arrived imperialism. When this monster came into being, old-line colonialism had already declined like the setting sun and U.S. imperialism, once dominating the world, had passed its zenith and was on the wane while the third world, with irresistible momentum, was rising vigorously. To lord it over the world under these circumstances, the Soviet Union not only had to engage in intensive contention with its rival, but also frantically push a colonialist policy in an attempt to restore the colonialist yoke on the once oppressed nations which had stood up. This predetermined that the new upstart in the ranks of imperialism was bound to carry out all-round aggression and expansion against the third world with tenfold voracity and a hundredfold madness. Through their experience in many years of struggle, the third world countries and people have come to realize more and more clearly that Soviet social-imperialism has gone farther than old-line imperialism in aggression and expansion abroad and is their most dangerous enemy.

The Soviet Union's criminal actions in the third world are diametrically opposed to the interests of the countries there and to their peoples. These countries want to safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty, but the Soviet Union encroaches upon other

countries' sovereignty everywhere, interferes in their internal affairs, engages in subversive activities in a big way, and even plots armed rebellions. Some third world countries need weapons to strengthen their defence capability to combat imperialism and its lackeys, but the Soviet Union, while feverishly selling arms, seizes every opportunity to infiltrate these countries through its aggressive military might. The Asian, African and Latin American countries want to develop their national economies and do away with backwardness, but the Soviet Union palms off out-dated machinery on them, practises usury, sets up "joint-stock enterprises" with them, resells raw materials and products, grabs natural resources and squeezes exorbitant profits and takes over control of their economic lifelines. The third world countries want to defend their economic rights and interests, oppose exploitation of poor countries by rich ones and establish a new international economic order, but the Soviet Union uses the big stick against these just demands and tries its utmost to maintain the old order. The third world countries want to fight in unity and jointly combat hegemonism, but the Soviet Union does all it can to sow discord and dissension among them, supporting one country against another one day and reversing support the next. The Soviet Union's aggression, expansion and plunder in the third world are all-pervasive and the methods it employs are most sinister and despicable. Facts show that Soviet social-imperialism is one of the biggest international oppressors and exploiters today and a most vicious international gendarme.

In exposing tsarist Russia's aggressive ambitions, Engels said that one conquest will naturally be followed by another and that one annexation will naturally be followed by another. In expansionist ambitions, the Brezhnev clique has not only far surpassed its ancestors but has even dwarfed its predecessor Khrushchov. Not long after Brezhnev climbed on to the Kremlin throne, Moscow took the opportunity presented by the United States being bogged down in the mire of its war of aggression in Viet Nam to muscle in on the Middle East. In the name of supporting the Arab countries' struggle against the Israeli aggressors, the Soviet revisionists rode roughshod over Egypt and made use of the latter's difficulties to blatantly press for the repayment of debts with the aim of forcing the Egyptian people into submission. In an attempt to block the victorious progress of the Kampuchean people's war of resistance against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, they even stooped so low as to work hand in glove with the Lon Nol traitorous clique until the very last minutes when Lon Nol's lair was destroyed. When the various Angolan national-liberation movement organizations had concluded agreements in readiness to greet the independence

of their country, the Soviet Union hastily engaged in armed intervention and thousands upon thousands of Angolans were killed by Soviet shells and bullets all because Moscow wanted this strategic piece of territory. Many and varied, crimes like these are ones Khrushchov in his day wanted to do but dared not or had no time to commit.

The Soviet social-imperialists' appetite is not to be satisfied with aggression and expansion in one country or one region. They want to be in the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf as well as the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The focus of their contention is Europe but their expansion extends to the whole globe. Amid ranting about going where its "interests are involved," the Soviet Union is nakedly pursuing a gunboat policy and sending aircraft and warships to every ocean. Under the aggressive order that "every corner of the globe" is to be taken into consideration, it stretches its talons to the five continents. Grabbing military bases and seeking footholds everywhere, it is vainly attempting to establish a vast global empire embracing Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. New tsar Brezhnev's pipe dream of expanding his empire's domain is more fantastic than that of any old tsar in Russian history.

Every Soviet act of aggression and expansion against the third world was committed under the signboard of "socialism." Therefore, the Soviet Union is more deceptive and dangerous than capital-imperialism which openly carries out its devilish deeds. It styles itself the "natural ally" of the third world countries, claims it supports them against imperialism and colonialism, brags of its "selfless aid" and demands that others "rely firmly" on it, as if the third world cannot survive without this "saviour." But all these false trappings cannot conceal Soviet social-imperialism's true colours.

Its "anti-imperialism" is sheer nonsense. The Soviet Union itself is an out-and-out imperialist country. Though it contends with U.S. imperialism, this is entirely different in nature from the third world's struggle against imperialism and hegemonism. How can contention for hegemony be passed off as anti-imperialism? Can the people of the third world rely on hegemonism to oppose hegemonism?

The "selfless aid" Moscow talks about is a Soviet synonym for interference and domination. If the aid is genuine, why does the Soviet Union lay down a variety of harsh terms which strip others of their sovereignty? Why does it engage in blackmail and extortion when others urgently need aid? To put it bluntly, such Soviet aid is aimed at subjecting others to its manipulation.

As for being the so-called "reliable natural ally," the Soviet Union wants to bring one third world country

after another into its sphere of influence through treaties and agreements dripping with fine-sounding words. The more a country relies on Moscow, the more rights it loses and the greater the humiliation it has to suffer, the inevitable result being that it has driven the wolf from the front gate but has let the tiger in through the back door and thus must suffer Soviet social-imperialism's control and enslavement.

It is not fortuitous that the Soviet Union has become the most dangerous enemy of the third world. This is decided by its social-imperialist nature. The Soviet revisionist renegade clique has usurped political power in a big socialist country and made the socialist Soviet Union degenerate into a social-imperialist country. When the nature of a country changes, it inevitably results in policy changes. As the Soviet Union has become an imperialist country, it naturally becomes subject to the laws governing imperialism. It waves the banner of "socialism" but engages in imperialist undertakings. At the same time it ruthlessly oppresses and exploits the people at home, it is bound to wildly carry out aggression and expansion abroad, contend for world hegemony and become a colonialist aggressor directly plundering and enslaving the third world countries. In pursuing such a colonialist policy of expansion, the Soviet Union inevitably places itself in a position opposed to the numerous third world countries and their peoples. The Soviet Union's relations with the third world can only be those of oppression and anti-oppression, exploitation and anti-exploitation, and enslavement and opposition to enslavement.

It takes some time for the true colours of Soviet social-imperialism to become exposed and it also takes some time for the people of the third world to see through it. At first, some of these countries thought that this self-styled socialist country would sincerely help them, but as time went by, they became increasingly puzzled why this "friend" always took away their things, occupied their land, interfered in their affairs and got a stranglehold on them. One hard fact after another has gradually led the people of the third world to see that this "friend" has honey on his lips and murder in his heart and is worse than the colonialists and neo-colonialists in the past. To uphold national independence and state sovereignty, the third world countries have no other alternative than to come forward and show up the Soviet revisionists for what they are — a pack of hypocrites — and to oppose their aggression and expansion.

In recent years, the third world countries have been waging an ever more resolute struggle against Soviet social-imperialism. Some relentlessly foiled its subversive and infiltration activities on their soil while

others annulled their pacts with it, threw out its military personnel and stopped granting military base facilities. Some exposed before the world the sordid and scandalous machinations of the Soviet Union while others sternly took its hegemonist actions to task at international forums.

Public opinion in many Asian, African and Latin American countries says it well: "Imperialism is always imperialism, even if it dons the cloak of 'revolution'"; aid from Moscow "is geared to its rivalry with the other superpower"; and the Soviet Union "is meaner than any of the capitalist countries." Despite extraordinary pressure by the Kremlin, the recent Colombo summit of the non-aligned countries emphasized in its Political Declaration that in view of the continued presence of imperialism, colonialism and "hegemonic relations," "non-aligned countries should redouble their efforts and be on their guard to resist the political, economic and ideological pressures of the great powers."

All this forcefully proves that the masks worn by the Soviet Union cannot cover up its social-imperialist features. The flood of the struggle of the countries and people of the third world against Soviet hegemonism cannot be dammed up.

The great leader and teacher Chairman Mao pointed out: "The Chinese people regard victory in the anti-imperialist struggle of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America as their own victory and give warm sympathy and support to all their anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggles." China is a developing socialist country belonging to the third world. The Chinese people and the people of the numerous third world countries have been subjected to imperialist and colonialist bullying and oppression and today face the common task of struggling against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. Under the dictatorship of the proletariat, the socialist system determines that we must unswervingly uphold proletarian internationalism and resolutely support the just struggle of the people of the third world countries to safeguard national independence and state sovereignty and develop their national economies. Chairman Mao taught us never to seek hegemony and never to be a superpower. We will resolutely implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and policies in foreign affairs, and, together with the countries and people of the third world, carry through to the end the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. We are convinced that the third world countries and peoples will surely win new and greater victories so long as they strengthen their unity, unite with all the forces in the world that can be united and persist in the struggle against the hegemonism of the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States.