

SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

The Central Committee of the South African Communist Party declares that all communists everywhere are faced with a most urgent need to come together and collectively evaluate the serious new problems facing our movement, such as :

- (a) the U.S. aggression in Vietnam;
- (b) the counter-revolutionary offensive of imperialism on a world scale, particularly the attempts to re-colonise Africa;
- (c) the need for unity of all anti-imperialist forces and in the first place of the Communist vanguard.

We appeal to all fraternal parties to support the convening of an international meeting for this purpose. This historic year, 1967, which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution, should be the occasion to strengthen more than ever the unity of the International Communist Movement, the working class and national liberation movements - the united front against imperialism and war.

RESOLUTION ON THE EVENTS IN CHINA

The revolutionary movement in South Africa has long been inspired by the Chinese Revolution and the achievements of the Communist Party of China. In the face of the fascist police terror and anti-Communist legislation in our country, we ceaselessly expressed the solidarity of the workers and

and oppressed people of South Africa with their Chinese brothers and sisters in their long and heroic struggles - against Japanese imperialism; against the Chiang Kai-Shek regime of reaction and subservience to imperialism. We rejoiced at their victories, especially the establishment of the Peoples' Republic of China and the laying of the foundations for the advance to socialism in this vast, economically underdeveloped country.

It is with deeper regret, therefore, and the gravest anxiety, that we have witnessed the ever-widening departure of the Mao Tse-Tung leadership from the principles of scientific communism. Ever since the dominant group in the Chinese Communist Party repudiated the correct and unanimously agreed policies adopted at the world meeting of 81 Communist and Workers' Parties in 1960, it has step by step moved towards policies and actions whose consequences have proved damaging to the cause of peace, freedom and socialism, and to the interests of the Chinese people themselves.

In their external policy, the Chinese leaders have undermined and jeopardised the unity of the anti-imperialist front, of the communist movement and of the socialist countries. Their factional and disruptive activities in the trade union, national liberation, peace and many other international organisations, have diverted these movements from their tasks and impeded their progress. South African representatives at African, Afro-Asian and other solidarity and progressive meetings and conferences have time and again experienced the disruption, unprincipled manoeuvres and even racialist appeals instigated by delegations from China.

What causes the gravest concern is the mounting campaign of vilification directed against the leaders of other socialist countries and especially

against the Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union. Claiming to defend the purity of Marxism-Leninism from the danger of "revisionism", the Chinese Government is in practice conducting a venomous and unscrupulous anti-Soviet campaign. It has even gone to the extent of staging a series of provocations obviously designed to bring about a breach of state relations with the U.S.S.R.

Inside China, the anti-Marxist practice of adulation and irrational glorification of a single person has grown to absurd proportions. The theoretical and practical work of Mao Tse-Tung and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party on the problems of the Chinese revolution has always been held in general esteem. But to hold up Mao's "thoughts" as the source of all wisdom, and of universal validity, as is now being done in China, is to attempt to convert Communism into a sectarian cult. There is no indication that the youth of China are being encouraged to study directly and to absorb the classical writings of scientific socialism, the works of genius of Marx, Engels and Lenin. Instead they are trained mechanically to parrot formulae by rote, to memorise selected passages from the works of a single person. Ignoring the bitter lessons of the period of the personality cult, with its stultifying effects and other harmful consequences, the Chinese leaders have resorted to a similar practice today.

Clearly widespread opposition to the Mao group's policies has developed in China, extending to all levels of the Communist Party, the Young Communist League and the trade union movement. It is to be regretted that this opposition has not been met, nor differences of policy resolved, within the framework of socialist legality provided by the constitution of the People's Republic of China, nor on the basis of democratic centralism within the Communist Party of China. Instead

the Mao group is acting in a factional manner. It has set up, outside the Party and especially among the teenage youth, a new organisation of so-called "Red Guards" which, in conjunction with the dominant army leadership, takes it upon itself to oust Party and State leaders. It is now eleven years since the Party held a National Congress. It has been reported that the Young Communist League and the trade unions have been dissolved. It is astonishing to read in the official Chinese publications that what is supposed to be occurring is no longer only a "cultural revolution" but a "rebellion" aiming to "seize power" from "those in authority". Until now, "those in authority" in China, have been the elected leaders of the Communist Party. It is hard to avoid fears that under the cover of "revolutionary" slogans such tactics and methods are leading to the undermining of the Communist Party, the sacrifice of its leading role, and the eventual replacement of the democratic rule of the workers and peasants by an arbitrary dictatorship.

These tragic distortions of Communist theory and practice, are far from being of mere academic interest or the exclusive concern of China. The wrong policies within China endanger the gains of the Chinese Revolution and weaken the world anti-imperialist front. The anti-Soviet external policies of China today benefit no one but the imperialists. To a large extent these wrong policies have already been responsible for unnecessary setbacks and reverses. The imperialists have been emboldened and encouraged by the division within the socialist camp to intensify their counter-revolutionary offensive from Vietnam and Indonesia to the Congo and Ghana.

The oppressed people of our country and the whole of Southern Africa are vitally concerned with the strengthening and consolidation of the progressive, anti-imperialist forces of the world. We, the victims of a vicious anti-African

regime of white minority domination backed by and dependant upon the big imperialist powers, are sharply conscious that the splitting of the international forces of freedom and socialism are against our interests, prolonging our suffering and humiliation. The oppressed people of our country and all honest revolutionaries are indignant at the unprincipled backing given by the Chinese Government to certain discredited splinter groups of Southern Africa. These groups are known to all, including the Chinese Government, for their racialism, anti-communism and disruption of the liberation struggle. By associating with them, the Chinese leaders only expose their own opportunism and lack of principle.

The Central Committee calls upon all members and supporters of the Party and upon all the revolutionary democrats of our country, to expose the anti-Marxist policies put forward in the name of the Communist Party of China which have already done a great deal of harm to the working class and liberation movement. We call upon all our members to fight energetically for the unity of the world communist movement as the heart and soul of the world-wide anti-imperialist fighting front against colonialism and aggression, for peace, national freedom, democracy and socialism.