

"WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD, UNITE!!"

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BUILD A COMMUNIST PARTY!

Resistance to the economic and political crisis of capitalism is growing among the ranks of working people. It is evident in strikes taking place throughout the country, as well as in a recent poll which showed that less than 50% of the eligible population will vote in November's presidential elections. But the many fronts of struggle have one fundamental thing in common: THEY ARE WITHOUT CLASS-CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP, in the form of a vanguard political party of the working class. Instead, the 'leadership' of the working class is characterized by reformism -- that is, reliance on the present capitalist system and government to provide reforms, to better the lives of working people. The Meanys, the Abels, the Fitzsimmons', all are tied by a thousand threads to the Democratic and Republican parties, the representatives of big business.

WHY DOES THE WORKING CLASS NEED A COMMUNIST PARTY?

There is no salvation for the working class under capitalism -- only wage-slavery and oppression. And as the general crisis of capitalism deepens, more and more of the burden will be thrown onto the backs of the poorer workers and the oppressed nations and peoples that live within the borders of the US (Black Nation, Puerto Rico, Southwest region, Native Americans). History has placed before the multi-national US proletariat the task of overthrowing US imperialism, the monster responsible for untold suffering the world over. The working class must have its vanguard party to lead the class struggle against the bourgeois ruling class, using the science of revolution, Marxism-Leninism, as a guide to every action. A genuine communist party must be built to shatter the influence of reformism and revisionism within the working class, and to forge the mighty army that will overthrow the power of capital once and for all! The formation of a communist party must be the central task of all communists and class-conscious workers.

DOESN'T THE WORKING CLASS ALREADY HAVE A COMMUNIST PARTY -- THE CPUSA?

The so-called Communist Party USA (CPUSA) has degenerated into a channel for bourgeois influence within the working class, a servant of the capitalist Democratic Party. The CPUSA may call itself a vanguard party of the proletariat, but by its actions it has proven to advanced workers throughout the country that it really only serves the interests of the capitalist class and their labor agents, the Meanys, Millers, Woodcocks. As far as the CPUSA is concerned, workers and oppressed peoples should put their faith in the bourgeois ballot box, and through alliances with 'progressive sections' of the ruling class, win emancipation from capitalist tyranny! Such 'friends' the working class doesn't need.

HOW WILL A GENUINE PARTY OF THE WORKING CLASS BE BUILT?

A multinational communist party will not be built by simply declaring itself to be the party. Several of the founding members of the Marxist-Leninist Collective participated in the founding of the Communist Labor Party (CLP), and later left it. We learned from that experience that it is not enough to call a Party Congress on the basis of good intentions and enthusiasm, without struggling previously to forge a party program based on unity and clarity around political line. (We are currently in the midst of summing up our differences with the CLP). No, the party must be built in the course of uniting

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Marxist-Leninists and advanced workers around the principles of Marxism-Leninism, and in the course of revolutionary practice of applying these principles to the concrete conditions in the US.

We agree with those forces in the Marxist-Leninist movement who recognize right opportunism as the main danger both within the working class and currently within the party-building movement. We also agree with those who hold that the struggle for unity around the political questions facing the US proletariat is essential for carrying out the central task of party-building, and that the party program is necessary before a Party Congress can be called. We are self-critical for not having been a part of the polemics taking place around the question of how to build the party until this time; this is a reflection of our relative backwardness theoretically and isolation from the practical working class movement, both of which we are taking steps to overcome. We are currently studying the positions of other organizations in the movement to build a party -- ATM, LOC, LPR(M-L), and WC(M-L) -- and are beginning to engage in joint theoretical and practical work with some of them. (We do not believe these are the only Marxist-Leninist organizations) As we deepen our understanding of the lines of the various organizations through study and practice, we will publish more articles clarifying our positions and attempting to contribute in whatever way possible to the process of forging the vanguard party!

BUILD A GENUINE COMMUNIST PARTY IN THE US!

COMBINE MARXISM-LENINISM WITH THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT!

MESSAGE TO THE WHOLE PARTY, THE WHOLE ARMY AND THE PEOPLE

OF ALL NATIONALITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

By

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China,
The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress,
The State Council of the People's Republic of China, and
The Military Commission of the Central Committee

September 9, 1976

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, the State Council of the People's Republic of China and the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China announce with deepest grief to the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country: Comrade Mao Tsetung, the esteemed and beloved great leader of our Party, our army and the people of all the nationalities of our country, the great teacher of the international proletariat and the oppressed nations and oppressed people, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Honorary Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, passed away at 00:10 hours, September 9, 1976, in Peking because of the worsening of his illness and despite all treatment, although meticulous medical care was given him in every way after he fell ill.

Chairman Mao Tsetung was the founder and wise leader of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the People's Republic of China. Chairman Mao led our Party in waging a protracted, acute and complex struggle against the right and 'left' opportunist lines in the Party, defeating the opportunist lines pursued by Chen Tu-hsiu, Chu Chiu-pai, Li Li-san, Lo Chang-lung, Wang Ming, Chang Kuo-tao, Kao Kang-Jao Shu-shih and Peng Tah-huai and again, during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, triumphing over the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and Teng Jiao-ping, thus enabling our Party to develop and grow

in strength steadily in class struggle and the struggle between the two lines. Led by Chairman Mao, the Communist Party of China has developed through a tortuous path into a great, glorious and correct Marxist-Leninist Party which is today exercising leadership over the People's Republic of China.

During the period of the new democratic revolution, Chairman Mao, in accordance with the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism and by combining it with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution, creatively laid down the general line and general policy of the new democratic revolution, founded the Chinese People's Liberation Army and pointed out that the seizure of political power by armed force in China could be achieved only by following the road of building rural base areas, using the countryside to encircle the cities and finally seizing the cities, and not by any other road. He led our Party, our army and the people of our country in using people's war to overthrow the reactionary rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism. Winning the great victory of the Chinese people's revolution led by Chairman Mao changed the situation in the east and the world and blazed a new trail for the cause of liberation of the oppressed nations and oppressed people.

In the period of the socialist revolution, Chairman Mao comprehensively summed up the positive as well as the negative experience of the international communist movement, penetratingly analyzed the class relations in socialist society and, for the first time in the history of the development of Marxism, unequivocally pointed out that there are still classes and class struggle after the socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production has in the main been completed, drew the scientific conclusion that the bourgeoisie is right in the Communist Party, put forth the great theory of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, and laid down the Party's basic line for the entire historical period of socialism. Guided by Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, our Party, our army and the people of our country continued their triumphant advance and seized great victories in the socialist revolution and socialist construction, particularly in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, in criticizing Lin Biao and Confucius and in criticizing Ten Hsiao-ping and repulsing the right deviationist attempt at reversing correct verdicts. Upholding socialism and consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat in the People's Republic of China, a country with a vast expanse and a large population, is a great contribution of world historic significance which Chairman Mao Tsetung made to the present era; at the same time, it has provided fresh experience for the international communist movement in combating and preventing revisionism, consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat, preventing capitalist restoration and building socialism.

All the victories of the Chinese people were achieved under the leadership of Chairman Mao; they are all great victories for Mao Tsetung Thought. The radiance of Mao Tsetung Thought will forever illuminate the road of advance of the Chinese people.

Chairman Mao Tsetung summed up the revolutionary practice in the international communist movement, put forward a series of scientific theses, enriched the theoretical treasury of Marxism and indicated the orientation of struggle for the Chinese people and the revolutionary people throughout the world. With the great boldness and vision of a proletarian revolutionary, he initiated in the international communist movement the great struggle to criticize modern revisionism with the Soviet revisionist renegade clique at the core, promoted the vigorous development of the cause of the people of all countries against imperialism and hegemonism, and pushed the history of mankind forward.

Chairman Mao Tsetung was the greatest Marxist of the contemporary era. In the past half a century and more, basing himself on the principle of integrating the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of the revolution, he inherited, defended and developed Marxism-Leninism in the protracted struggle against the class enemies at home and abroad, both inside and outside the Party, and wrote a most brilliant chapter in the history of the movement of proletarian revolution. He dedicated all his energies throughout his life to the liberation of the Chinese

people, to the emancipation of the oppressed nations and oppressed people the world over, and to the cause of communism. With the great resolve of a proletarian revolutionary, he waged a tenacious struggle against his illness, continued to lead the work of the whole Party, the whole army and the whole nation during his illness and fought till his last breath. The magnificent contributions he made for the Chinese people, the international proletariat and the revolutionary people of the whole world are immortal. The Chinese people and the revolutionary people the world over love him from the bottom of their hearts and have boundless admiration and respect for him.

The passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung is an inestimable loss to our Party, our army and the people of all the nationalities of our country, to the international proletariat and the revolutionary people of all countries and to the international communist movement. His passing away is bound to evoke immense grief in the hearts of the people of our country and the revolutionary people of all countries. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China calls on the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country to turn their grief into strength with determination.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and persist in taking class struggle as the key link, keep to the Party's basic line and persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and strengthen the centralized leadership of the party, resolutely uphold the unity and unification of the Party and closely rally round the Party Central Committee. We must strengthen the building of the Party ideologically and organizationally in the course of the struggle between the two lines and resolutely implement the principle of the three-in-one combination of the old, middle-aged, and young in accordance with the five requirements for bringing up successors to the cause of the proletariat revolution.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and consolidate the great unity of the people of all nationalities under the leadership of the working class and based on the worker-peasant alliance, deepen the criticism of Teng Hsiac-ping, continue the struggle to repulse the right deviationist attempt at reversing correct verdicts; consolidate and develop the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution; enthusiastically support the new socialist things, restrict bourgeois right and further consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country. We should continue to unfold the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, build our country independently and with the initiative in our own hands, through self-reliance, hard struggle, diligence and thrift, and go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and resolutely implement his line on army building, strengthen the building of the army, strengthen the building of the militia, strengthen preparedness against war, heighten our vigilance, and be ready at all times to wipe out any enemy that dares to intrude. We are determined to liberate Taiwan.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and continue to carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and policies in foreign affairs resolutely. We must adhere to proletarian internationalism, strengthen the unity between our Party and the genuine Marxist-Leninist Parties and organizations all over the world, strengthen the unity between the people of our country and the people of all other countries, especially those of the third world countries, unite with all the forces in the world that can be united, and carry the struggle against imperialism, social-imperialism and modern revisionism through to the end. We will never seek hegemony and will never be a superpower.

We must carry on the cause left behind by Chairman Mao and assiduously study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, apply ourselves to the study of works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and works by Chairman Mao, fight for the complete overthrow

of the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes, for the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in place of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and for the triumph of socialism over capitalism, and strive to build our country into a powerful socialist state, make a still greater contribution to humanity and realize the ultimate goal of communism.

Long live invincible Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought!

Long live the great, glorious and correct Communist Party of China!

Eternal glory to our great leader and teacher Chairman Mao Tsetung!

Following is a telegram which was sent upon hearing of the death of Mao Tsetung.

Comrade Hua Kuo-feng

Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China

Peking

It is with the deepest sorrow that we learned of the passing away of Chairman Mao Tsetung. The Communist Party of China, the Chinese people, and the peoples of the whole world have lost a great communist leader, a close and beloved friend.

We know that the Chinese people will turn this great loss into renewed strength, and will continue to implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and to build and strengthen the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Republic of China.

We dedicate ourselves to working ever harder in following the courageous example of fighting for the cause of communism that Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Chinese Communist Party, and the Chinese people have taught us.

The Central Committee of the
Marxist-Leninist Collective, US
September 9, 1976

CELEBRATE OCTOBER 1ST

It's lunchtime and as the factory whistle blows, Joan and Maria walk to the lunchroom discussing their weekend plans.

M: Saturday night I'm going to an anniversary celebration.

J: Really? Whose anniversary?

M: The People's Republic of China. It's been 27 years since the Chinese people waged a successful socialist revolution!

J: So why should you celebrate?

M: Because any country that has wiped out drug addiction, prostitution, starvation, and the periodic economic crises we are so familiar with has got to be supported. And they did it because the peasantry and working class united and overthrew the feudal and imperialist powers and established socialism.

J: Yes, I've heard there have been many changes from the way things used to be. And you say it's all because they have a socialist government. But haven't they lost a lot of personal freedoms?

M: The people who lost their freedom were the old ruling classes and their financial masters, the foreign imperialists. And it was their 'freedom' to oppress and exploit the masses that they lost! On the other hand it was the masses who gained their freedom from oppression and exploitation. It helps if you see it in its historical context. Do you know any Chinese history?

J: A little. China was a very poor country for many years, wasn't it?

M: It certainly was. For three thousand years the peasants suffered under the feudal

system. The landlords, nobility and royal family owned almost all the land, had the peasants work for them, sometimes giving up to 80% of the crop as rent and taxes; taxes that supported the luxurious lifestyle of the ruling classes and their army, which was used to squash the hundreds of peasant rebellions.

J: People are bound to fight back, but what was it that made things finally begin to change?

M: Mainly it was the penetration of foreign capitalism into China in the middle of the 19th Century. Countries such as France, Britain, the US and later Japan began to economically take control of Chinese society. They found that China was very rich in raw materials, a good market place for their industrial goods and most importantly, had a huge amount of surplus labor power that they could exploit. Imperialist investment also led to the development of China's own national bourgeoisie and in direct opposition to it, a revolutionary working class.

J: What made the working class so revolutionary? You said that China always had peasant rebellions. And besides, how could so many millions of people, mostly illiterate and scattered over such a large area, unite to fight their enemies?

M: It was no easy task. Without the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and its unification of the vanguard working class with the masses of peasants and other classes opposed to feudalism and imperialism, it would have been impossible. The Red Army not only had a strong base in the working class, but also had the support of the peasants when battling the enemy in the countryside. It was this alliance of revolutionary forces guided by the Communist Party of China and the theory of scientific socialism, Marxism-Leninism, that was responsible for the victory of socialism in October, 1949.

J: What the working class here needs is some of that kind of leadership! The Republican and Democratic parties sure don't represent our needs and from the looks of our economy, the capitalism system is a dying one.

M: You're absolutely right. Both those parties represent the capitalist class and US imperialism. As class conscious workers, we must build our own political party that will genuinely represent and fight for the needs of poor and working people. Eventually that communist party will, as it did in China, lead us in our fight to overthrow capitalism and establish socialism!

J: I'm beginning to see your point. Why don't we go to the celebration together!

CELEBRATE OCT. 1st
27th Anniversary of the
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

march & rally, Portsmouth Sq., Sat, Oct. 2
corner of Washington & Kearney St SF 12 noon

evening program, Longshoreman's Hall Sat, Oct. 2
8pm

Fair (displays, slide shows, cultural performances, skits; childcare available) Sat. Oct. 9
11-5pm

for information call (48-5882 (SF), 428-2697 (East Bay)

SELF-CRITICISM

In the last issue of Workers' Press, Vol 2, No. 9, we published an article "The Struggle for Land in the Southwest and Mexico". In that article, several words were mis-spelled. We correct them here, and hope to avoid such errors in the future.

Senora.....Sonora
Sinola.....Sinaloa
compesinos. campesinos
Lopen Tijernia..Lopez Tijerina