

## Solidarity Statement of the OMPI with the Justice-seeking Struggles of the Workers

Following is the solidarity statement of the OMPI with the justice-seeking struggles of the workers. It was put out in spring, 1976, and was published in the supplement to GHIAM-E-KARGAR, (Workers' Insurrection), number 7.

## Worker Comrades,

Your fervent, raging and justice-seeking struggle for wage hikes and the great resistance and widespread opposition that you showed immediately and in a period of less than a month against the absurd formula of wage increase - this new anti-worker plot of the traitor Shah's regime - has opened a new chapter in the glorious history of the Iranian workers' struggles.

The great and pounding waves of your struggle - waves that gain newer heights and strength every moment are very significant, especially at this point when the decadent regime of the Shah and Iran's bloodsucking capitalism are facing great economic-political conflicts and contradictions. During last month, more than 10,000 workers of Cheet-e Tehran, Cheet-e Momtaz, Cheet-e Ray, B.F. Goodrich, Buthane Gas, Benz Khavar,... have participated in strikes, protests, and resistance against the brutal exploitation of blood-sucking Iranian and foreign capitalists. Some of them in B.F. Goodrich, Buthane Gas, Benz Khavar, ... have gained considerable achievements in their economic struggle. While the intensive strikes, protests, and resistances continue in Cheet-e Tehran, Cheet-e Momtaz, Cheet-e Ray,..., one can very well anticipate that these struggles in Tehran and other industrial cities of Iran will spread and intensify in the coming months. In these strikes, the heroic workers of Cheet-e Tehran (Bafkar, a textile plant) have truly demonstrated an example of workers' resistance, unity and solidarity. Despite all threats of the police forces (SAVAK), they occupied the plant for six days. The police threatened them with death many times and warned that they will open fire if the workers do not leave the plant. But the workers' only answer was: "Death is better than such life; so let them open fire".

Worker comrades,

The mercenary government of the gangster Shah has channelled billions of dollars of oil revenue into the greedy vaults of the blood-sucking Iranian capitalism - the Shah himself, his corrupt court and his American and British masters. The regime is now, on the one hand, facing a severe inflationary crisis, and, on the other hand, is suffering new financial pressures and limitations - a direct result of the neutralization of the expansionary effects of the huge oil revenue increases in the past three years. Thus the brutal plundering of our country's natural resources and wealth has now created more economic problems for the decadent regime of the traitor Shah. Heading these problems is the current astronomic inflation which is precisely a result of plundering billions of dollars of oil revenues by the corrupt ruling circles of Iran. Although this inflation delivers its biggest and worst blows at the working class, toilers and wage-earners; although it further decreases their already very low buying power which does not suffice even their basic needs, yet the criminal Shah's regime, as always and as all capitalist regimes, wants to place the heavy burden of crisis and inflation on Iran's toilers, and primarily the workers. The ruling blood-sucking capitalists. who are enjoying higher profit rates relative to many other capitalist countries, want to further intensify their brutal exploitation at the expense of Iranian toilers' increasing poverty, hunger and misery.

Presenting the absurd formula of wage increase in the current year (year 1355 - equivalent to March 76 to March 77 - tr.) - which is 1% of the previous year's wage plus 20 rials (U.S. 30¢ - tr.) - is the first anti-worker conspiracy of the Shah's regime in this

year. In fact this infinitesimal and ridiculous wage increase is nothing but the treacherous refusal of the ruling capitalism of Iran to truly increase the workers' wages. And this has no effect but transferring the inflationary crisis to the working class of Iran. But your enthusiastic resistance and your unified and justice-seeking struggle have very well shown how the anti-worker and anti-people conspiracies of the criminal Shah's regime are answered with clenched fists. Now your struggles at this stage have been successful in some factories and have forced the Shah's regime, which fears the spread of these struggles and their assumption of a revolutionary content, to retreat. Meanwhile, resistance and struggle continues in some other factories.

Worker comrades.

Trade-unionist demands (the right to organize genuine unions, the right to elect genuine representstives, establishing cooperatives,...) and economic demands (wage increases, special pay for housing and its increase, increase of 'especial profit',...) are among your basic rights, and are some of the most natural and elementary rights of a toiling person.

You produce goods and profits for the capitalists that are worth hundreds of times more than what you receive as wages. It is not without reason that they become richer and you become poorer day by day; their bank accounts show increasingly higher figures and you, workers and toilers of Iran, sink deeper into debts to banks and capitalists; they live in luxurious palaces and you are even losing you run-down rooms. Thus your constant struggle for higher wages, for having enough to eat, for having shelter and for living in freedom never ends in a capitalist regime. With all our power, we support this struggle of yours, the struggle for

## BREAD, HOUSING, FREEDOM.

We believe that this struggle is just the beginning and only a very small part of the great and revolutionary task which faces you, the Iranian toilers.

This great task is the revolutionary struggle to overthrow the unjust social system which allows the exploitation of one class (workers and toilers) by another (capitalists). Thus Iran's working class must prepare itself for a struggle which is by far greater and more vital than the trade-unionist and economic struggle, i.e., the struggle to destroy the regime of capitalist slavery, to destroy the Shah's regime and Iran's ruling class - these puppets of the imperialists. Only with such a revolutionary struggle can all the workers and toilers of Iran be truly liberated and be able to take their destiny into their own hands in a revolutionary society with a socialist order.

Militant and conscious workers of Iran,

How is <u>revolutionary struggle</u> to overthrow a handful of capitalist leeches, to destroy the anti-people, anti-worker dictatorship of the Shah - this lackey of the Americans (imperialists) and the most blood-thirsty capitalist of Iran - possible?

This revolutionary struggle in its highest form, armed struggle, and in an intense and bloody manner, is now underway between the revolutionary vanguards of the Iranian working and other toiling classes and the mercenary capitalist regime of the Shah. This struggle as a guiding star shows the direction of the revolutionary struggle of the toiling masses of people and provides a clear and decisive answer to the question: what is the main path of revolutionary struggle in Iran?

In fact, one should ask: what other road but popular armed struggle can the workers and toilers of Iran take to overthrow the mercenary class of capitalist leeches who are dependent on the U.S. imperialism — the Shah and his reactionary and mercenary clique? What other means but revolutionary violence can they use?

Thus popular armed struggle is the only revolutionary road and the only decisive and correct means to be taken for a fundamental struggle against the dic-

tatorship of Iranian capitalism.

Workers and toilers of Iran,

Our organization - the Organization of Mojahedeen of the People of Iran - faithful supporter of your just struggle and loyal to the aspirations of Iran's working class and toilers, is now threading the road of such a revolutionary struggle - armed struggle. Our aim is freedom and liberation of the Iranian people - toilers and workers of Iran - from the yoke of all imperialist domination and capitalist exploitation. Our political and exposure literature, including GHIAM-E-KARGAR (Workers' Insurrection) - the proletarian organ of our organization - are eagerly passed around among the advanced circles of workers and toiling urban masses. Thus the militant workers are informed about the political and economic situation of their society, about the struggle of workers against capitalists in different factories, and about the struggle of various popular forces - peasants, students, shopkeepers,... - against the traitor Shah's government. They enthusiastically pass on our news and reports about their own strikes and economic/ trade-unionist struggles and our exposures of the crimes of the Shah and the ruling capitalist class. They very well understand our organization's political and military (armed) support of their just struggles and acknowledge it.

## Worker comrades,

Our organization, declaring its deep solidarity with the fervent struggles of Iranian workers, upholding and supporting all your trade-unionist and economic demands totally and emphasizing the necessity of further intensification and expansion of these struggles, calls on all advanced workers and all the truly proletarian forces of society to unite their forces for the political mobilization of the working class. The unity of the conscious, advanced and revolutionary forces of the working class is the necessary condition for the political mobilization of the working class in order to overthrow the ruling capitalism of Iran.

Our organization - on its part - has provided the elementary organizational, political and ideological conditions of this unity by creating organizational links, publishing a political workers' organ, propagating socialist theory among the class, and putting its armed forces at the service of consciousness and organization of the class. We strongly support and resolutely uphold the efforts of any revolutionary proletarian force in the direction of such a unity.