

London Workers Committee

Indonesia – Communists fight back

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INDONESIA – COMMUNISTS FIGHT BACK

We draw the attention of our readers to 'Indonesian Tribune' – the paper produced by the PKI (Indonesian C.P) in Albania.

It is an excellent Marxist-Leninist paper of a high political standard. There are always detailed analyses of the imperialists' activities in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with specially helpful features on Indonesia itself.

The December issue carried a very full account of the inspiring 5th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania. After the C.I.A. – inspired fascist coup of Sept. 1965, in which 500,000 Communists and patriots, men, women and children were massacred, and while 300,000 more face extermination and atrocity in concentration camps at the present time, the P.K.I. is already waging the armed struggle of peoples' war in the Indonesian countryside.

The P.K.I. has of necessity set up propaganda machinery for rallying international support in the fraternal socialist countries of Albania and China.

The P.K.I. leadership and rank and file have largely reorganised, and have undertaken necessary self-criticism after the massacre. They have analysed their errors in theory which led to this terrible unpreparedness in the face counter-revolutionary violence.

Although in many ways appearing as a genuine Marxist-Leninist Party, the P.K.I. had nevertheless succumbed to a hidden, revisionist idea of the Indonesian state, with the "Two Aspects Theory."

All along, since the Hatta 1949 agreement with the imperialist powers, the state had been the instrument of Indonesian bourgeois and landlord elements for the suppression of the workers and peasants. In spite of democratic concessions won by the mass struggle of the people led by the P.K.I., the essential nature of the state did not change.

However, certain P.K.I. theorists, exaggerating the gains won from the Indonesian bourgeoisie, put forward the theory of "two aspects" of the state, the 'pro-people' and 'anti-people'.

On the basis of this assessment it was concluded that the people and their oppressors could share state power, and the people peacefully takeover full control by enlarging the "pro-people" aspect of state power.

In practice this disarmed the people and left them tailing behind the "progressive sections" of the national bourgeoisie. The bitter setback caused by this policy has been analysed carefully.

Moreover events have taught the P.K.I. who their real international friends are.

The revisionist, Khrushchovite ruling group of U.S.S.R. have consolidated relations (and given continued aid and solicitude) to the Suharto-Nasution army fascists, and have expelled the correspondent of "Harian Rakjat" (the organ of the C.C. of the P.K.I.) from Moscow.

The P.K.I. has developed criticism in the party from below and is promoting the critical mind of its members. The P.K.I. has formulated 3 urgent tasks, to lead the Indonesian revolution to victory.

1. To continue rebuilding the P.K.I. as a Marxist-Leninist Party free from revisionism, while at the same time mobilising the masses, especially the workers and peasants.

2. To carry out a protracted armed struggle integrated with agrarian revolution.

3. To form a united front of all forces against the Suharto-Nasution military dictatorship, based on the worker-peasant alliance and under the leadership of the working class.

All the Marxist-Leninists must learn from the bitter experience of the P.K.I. and draw the appropriate practical conclusions.

Jim Strong.

Work has begun on the production of the Committee's quarterly theoretical organ - the first number of which should be out in July.

Any articles for consideration should be sent to:

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