Arnaldo Bressan

Against the Italian Khrushchevites

Published: Nuova Unita (New Unity) No.9 (Milan) November 1964 p1

Transcription, Editing and Markup: Paul Saba and Sam Richards

Copyright: This work is in the Public Domain under the Creative Commons Common Deed. You can freely copy, distribute and display this work; as well as make derivative and commercial works. Please credit the Encyclopedia of Anti-Revisionism On-Line as your source, include the url to this work, and note any of the transcribers, editors & proof-readers above.

The uneasiness reflected by Italian revisionist leaders who, over a month after Khrushchev's fall, continue to mourn like inconsolable widows, serves to demonstrate, if demonstration were needed, how deep were their times with the policy of this renegade from the cause of Communism, who was the greatest schismatic in the international Communist movement.

They have sent a delegation of their own to Moscow, they have asked for and obtained explanations about which they have clearly expressed their dissatisfaction, they have passed resolutions and released interviews to the press openly praising Khrushchev and his work; they are still stunned by what happened in the USSR, unable to believe it.

The champion of revisionism, the man whom they had adopted as their political model, has fallen. His fall, while not representing a return to Marxism-Leninism on the part of the policy of the CPSU [Fartito Comunista dell'Unione Sovietica; Communist Party of the Soviet Union] does represent a great and undisputed victory for the international movement of Marxist-Leninist Communists which cannot fail to have profound consequences in the further development of the struggle which they are conducting all over the world for the definitive liquidation of revisionism and its fraudulent ideology.

The uneasiness and unrest of the Italian revisionist leaders are all the more grave in that they have been obliged to see that their surprise and their unhappiness have not in fact been shared by the working class and the mass of the people of our country. Not only are the workers not in despair over the replacement of Khrushchev, but we can state that in the most aware segment of the working class, in very wide strata of the very members of the PCI /Par tito Comunista Italiano; Italian Communist Party/ the event was greeted with satisfaction because there was immediately seen in it the opening up of the possibility of reestablishing united relations of the international Communist movement and especially with the great party and the great people of People's China, whose revolution is close to the hearts of millions of Italian workers. The revisionist leaders have been forced to recognize that Khrushchevist revisionism did not have and has not now any deep roots in the working class and the most aware workers; the revolutionary principles, the proletarian internationalism which were at the basis of the great Socialist October Revolution which 47 years ago brought the Communist Party of Lenin to power in Russia, the exercise of that power and the destruction of the exploiting and parasitical classes, the great anti-Nazi struggle carried out by the USSR which resulted in the destruction of Nazism and Fascism in Europe and the extension of the socialist camp, those principles have not been shaken by the revisionist degeneration which the renegade Khrushchev initiated with the XX Congress of the PCUS and sought to extend throughout the socialist countries and the Communist parties.

The activity of Khrushchev and the Khrushchevists, in Italy as well, has been able to slow down the development of the revolutionary movement, to disorient it and make it lose its perspective, but when the struggle of the Marxist-Leninists was developed on the international and national level, then it was seen that the workers and laborers of Italy had not remained insensible, had taken and are taking cognizance, little by little, are being organized and are fighting to reaffirm the principles of Marxism-Leninism. Accused by the revisionist leaders, they are continuing and intensifying the struggle under the new conditions because this is the method and the style of the Communists: to struggle and to bring other comrades to the struggle, to organize the movement within and outside the party betrayed and controlled by the revisionist leaders; to combat revisionism, its fradulent line which disarms the party, to give the comrades faith and a perspective in the struggle, to fight the opportunists. In this struggle the Marxist-Leninist Communists state that their activity is succeeding: the movement is developing and enlarging.

Khrushchev's fall signals an important moment in the anti-revisionist battle, but his removal does not represent the destruction of the politicoideological course of the revisionism proclaimed by the XX Congress of the CPSU in 1956 and developed in Italy by the PCI in its successive subsequent congresses. At the basis of revisionist degeneration lie the theses approved by the XX Congress of the CPSU which, presented at that time as an element to destroy the bureaucratic growth which had taken place in the USSR, constituted rather the basis of the gravest opportunist deviation which the international labor movement has known in all its history. It is now the theses of the XX Congress of the CPSU and the X Congress of the PCI which must be removed by the Marxist-Leninist struggle. The Italian Khrushchevists are as responsible as Khrushchev for the injury which that deviation has brought to the Communist movement: they have generated opportunism, betrayal, schism, they have weakened the revolutionary struggle of the peoples, consolidated the power of the monopolistic bourgeoisie, encouraged imperialist aggression, weakened the struggle for peace.

The support of the Italian Khrushchevists for Khrushchev's policy was especially serious when Khrushchev himself began to work for the rupture of the international labor movement. It was in fact at the X Congress of the PCI that there came the most serious attack upon the entirely correct Positions of the Chinese Communist Party. They always upheld Khrushchev, both before and after the X Congress, by the anti-Marxist analysis with which the question of Stalin was met, by collaboration with the Yugoslav government and the exaltation of Titoism which was brought in as a model political line for the building of socialism, by breaking with the Albanian People's Republic, by ceding to American demands, by the violation of treaties with the Chinese People's Republic, by the praise accorded to the chiefs of imperialism as men of peace and by insinuations, false and calumnious, against a sister party, the Party of the Chinese People's Republic, whose right to arm and defend herself was denied, all this even up to the gravest act which the government of a socialist country could perpetrate: the government over which Khrushchev presided furnished military weapons to forces as reactionary as the Indian forces committed to provocations against the Chinese people intent on the building of socialism.

The Marxist-Leninists, the conscientious Communists, must fight today for the condemnation of all that has divided us, to unmask those who have deliberately worked for division. Revisionism has divided us; revisionism must be destroyed! We must reestablish unity on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, on the principles of revolution: but this unity cannot be realized without the complete and definitive rupture with revisionism. Comrade Lenin taught us that when leaders embark upon the road of revisionism they cannot turn back, and they fall further and further into the pit of betrayal and degeneration.

That means that the struggle to reestablish the unity of the Communists, a new unity along the revolutionary principles and line, can take place only against revisionist leaders, unmasking their fraudulent policy fearlessly. It will really be effective if the Marxist-Leninist Communists were better organized, if they would transform their movement as quickly as possible into a political party, a Marxist-Leninist party, a new type of party, whose political and ideological foundations would be truly Leninist, if they would develop a decisive struggle along revoluctionary principles and a revolutionary political line.

The uneasiness, the unrest, the agitation which characterize the attitude of the Italian KhrushcheVists are symptomatic of their growing concern. They are destined to be increasingly isolated from the working class and the aware workers. The revolutionary forces will go forward.