

Socialist Outlook

HANDS OFF KOREA ! **Victory For The Colonial People Is** **A Victory For Peace !**

THE SOCIALIST OUTLOOK has no hesitation in condemning as imperialist aggression the war now being waged against Korea by the combined forces of the United States and the British Empire. In defence of the huge profits it derives from its exploitation of the colonial peoples, world imperialism is now engaged in bloody conflict with the peoples of Korea, Indo-China, and Malaya - while China itself is threatened by the arrogant decision to annexe the Chinese territory of Formosa.

THE REAL ISSUE IN KOREA

If the workers of Europe and America assist their rulers to wage to a successful conclusion this war against the colonial world then, having established military bases on the dead and mutilated bodies of the workers and poor farmers of the colonies, imperialism will feel strong enough to engage the USSR in total and terrible conflict. The whole of humanity will then be plunged into horrible misery and bloodshed.

THE ALTERNATIVE

Poverty, famine, and brutal suppression of all national rights has been the lot of the colonial peoples under imperialist rule. We believe they have the same right to take up arms to achieve freedom from the degrading conditions imposed upon them by foreign bayonets as did our Chartist forefathers who took up their pikes and muskets to compel the rapacious capitalists to end the industrial horrors of the early nineteenth century - the same right as the early American colonists had when, by force of arms, they threw the British out of what is now the United States of America.

If this heroic armed resistance of the colonial peoples receives the active support

of the workers in the metropolitan centres, then imperialism will be defeated, demoralised and finally, overthrown. The foundations will be laid for the peaceful, socialist co-operation of the free peoples of the world. We therefore urge all workers who want peace - and what decent man and woman does not - to place themselves firmly on the side of the colonial peoples now fighting arms in hand to throw off the yoke of imperialist domination.

THE FRONTIERS OF IMPERIALISM

In Korea, the question of which side first crossed the frontier is entirely irrelevant to this main issue. The very existence of an artificial "frontier" which was imposed upon the Korean people by the Allied Powers in 1946 is in itself an act of imperialist aggression. The Korean people were never consulted about this "frontier" of the 38th parallel - yet it is they who have suffered the consequences of this arbitrary division of their country and the forcible separation of the industrial North from the agricultural South. Had Korea been given its complete freedom in 1946 the present conflict could never have occurred.

In attempting to abolish this hated division of their country and thus achieve what is their RIGHT - the unification of Korea and its complete freedom from imperialist domination - the armies of the North are conducting a progressive war. They are entitled to the active assistance of the workers and the oppressed peoples of the whole world.

That they already have the support of the vast majority of the people of Korea is amply demonstrated by the "melting away" of the South Korean armies whose soldiers are not inclined to lay down their lives in defence of an American puppet regime which

has imprisoned thousands of political workers, which was decisively rejected at the last elections held in the South, and which refuses to take any measures to free the land from the reactionary grip of the rich landlords.

THE TREACHEROUS ROLE OF UNO

The Security Council of the United Nations Organisation, by ordering armed intervention against this progressive struggle of the Korean people, has revealed itself for what it really is - the docile tool of Anglo American imperialism. Under the guise of defending "international law and order", they have sanctioned a terrible war against a people fighting to unify its own country.

But honourable exception must be made in the case of Yugoslavia whose action in voting against the decision to wage war on Korea deserves from the world Labour Movement the highest praise.

One of the chief lessons to be learned from the Korean events is that neither the workers nor the colonial peoples can place any further trust in UNO. In our struggles to free ourselves from capitalism and imperialism we must from now on rely solely on the strength of our own independent class organisations.

THE REAL FIGHT FOR PEACE TODAY

We know that a passionate desire for peace animates the workers of Britain as it does the common peoples of the whole world. But we must not allow this fine sentiment to

blind us to the fact that in the colonial world, that is, in the greater part of the earth's surface! - **THERE IS NO PEACE.** The peoples of China, Malaya, Indo-China, and Korea - who also want peace - have been forced by imperialism to engage in cruel and bloody war. Is it not clear that for these colonial peoples **PEACE WILL ONLY BE SECURED THROUGH THE COMPLETE VICTORY AGAINST THE ARMIES OF IMPERIALISM.**

There is no other way to achieve peace in the world except by a determined struggle to vanquish imperialism which is the chief cause of war. Appeals to the Great Powers to "get together" are worse than useless. They can immobilise the workers of Europe and America at a time when the colonial peoples are fighting for their very lives against imperialism.

WE CANNOT STAND ASIDE

Our solemn duty in the present conflict is to render every aid to our oppressed comrades in the colonies who are now in the front ranks of the real fighters for peace.

Japanese dockers and printers have shown the way. It is reported that they have refused to load arms for Korea or print the imperialist propaganda of General MacArthur. This is the kind of independent class action that can frustrate all the evil plans of imperialism to plunge mankind into a Third World War.

Working men and women of Britain! Fight with us to change the present policy of the Labour Government.

DEMAND

THAT ALL BRITISH ARMED FORCES BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE FAR EAST - FROM CHINA, MALAYA, KOREA, AND THE REST OF THE COLONIAL WORLD.

HANDS OFF THE COLONIAL STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION.

FOR A FREE AND UNITED KOREA.

NO TRUST IN UNO WHICH IS THE TOOL OF IMPERIALISM.

INDEPENDENT ACTION BY THE WORKING CLASS TO PREVENT THE THIRD WORLD WAR.

Editorial Board, July 4th 1950

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The SOCIALIST OUTLOOK, being a MONTHLY paper, had gone to press before the Korean events. That is why we have produced this special supplement.

This surely underlines the urgent need to make the SOCIALIST OUTLOOK a WEEKLY

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