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Peking's Policy—
a Threat to Peace

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327.51 A 26P The definite successes in the relaxation of international tension are undoubted. "These successes did not come easy, they were achieved in intensive struggle," Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, said on April 7 this year. "The struggle over the questions of the further destiny of detente is continuing to this day, sometimes becoming even more acute and intense."

The Chinese leaders are joining hands with the forces of imperialism and extreme reaction, which are waging a struggle against peace and the easing of international tension. Peking not only proceeds from the inevitability of a new world war, but is pressing for it and accelerating physical preparations for war Making no secret of its great-power aspirations for hegemony and unceremoniously seeking to acquire the territories of a number of neighbouring countries China is speedily building up all types of armaments including nuclear missiles, and is seeking new types of arms and military equipment in the West. Having declined to accede to the treaty banning nuclear tests in three media, Peking is continuing intensive tests in atmosphere, ignoring the protests of countries. Arming itself, it calls openly universal intensification of the arms race, advocates

the strengthening of NATO and other imperialist military blocs and the retention and extension of the US military presence in Europe and Asia, and seeks to torpedo any international actions aimed at curbing the arms race. By all the means available to them the Chinese leaders are undermining detente and foretelling its failure. Spearheading their attacks against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and seeking in every way to discredit them and undermine their unity, the Peking leaders are urging imperialist circles to toughen their policy towards the socialist nations. They are trying to scuttle the efforts of these countries to consolidate peace and security.

It is from China that the calls come to create a "united front" with the participation of imperialist forces and world reaction for struggle against world socialism, against all the forces that are coming out for peace and international security, for national independence and social progress.

The foreign policy activities of Peking are a serious destabilizing factor of the international situation.

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As is well known, by the decisions of the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of China and the National People's Congress, which is the highest body of state authority in the Chinese People's Republic, Maoism in China has been established as the ideological and political platform of the Party and the state, the platform of their domestic and foreign policy activity.

Following the "ideas" of Mao, the present Chinese leadership is intensifying the preparations for war in every possible way. As if saluting the late "helmsman", three months after his death Peking

carried out three nuclear tests in the atmosphere. In 1977, as in the current year, nuclear tests continued despite the protests from the world public. The Chinese leaders have not said a single word against the neutron bomb. But that is not all. Chinese newspapers regularly publish statements by supporters of "neutron death", whitewashing this barbaric instrument of mass destruction. Jenmin jihpao specifically explained that the neutron bomb "is not such a bad weapon after all". Peking's hopes to get this weapon have so inspired deputy chief of the Chinese general staff Chang Ai-ping that he even poured out his feelings in... verse:

"Alloy steel is not hard, the neutron bomb presents no difficulty. When heroes set about science, they will reach world levels."

The wheel of militarism is turning ever faster. Even now China possesses the most numerous land army in the world, its spending on defence has for a number of years been exceeding 40 per cent of total national budget expenditures and is continuing to grow. Rapid modernization of the Chinese war machine is in progress. The military set the tone for the country's political life.

Having launched an arms race, Peking is doing everything possible to prove that any disarmament steps are "unnecessary" and "fruitless" and even that this race is "inevitable". It refuses to assume any pledges that might tie its hands in militarizing the country. Here are a few examples. At the 26th Session of the UN General Assembly the Chinese delegation opposed the proposal to convene a World Disarmament Conference; at the 27th Session, it opposed the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of nuclear weapons; at the 28th Session, it opposed a reduction of the military budgets of Security Council permanent

member-countries by 10 per cent and the use of part of the sums so saved to aid the developing countries; at the 29th Session, it opposed the adoption of the definition of aggression; at the 30th Session, it opposed the draft treaty on general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapons tests and also the resolution banning the military and any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques; at the 31st Session, it opposed the conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international at the 32nd Session, it opposed the declaration on deepening and consolidating international detente, and also abstained from voting on draft resolutions on general and complete disarmament, on prohibiting the development and manufacture of new kinds of mass-destruction weapons and new systems of such weapons, on banning chemical and bacteriological (biochemical) weapons, and so on. On May 29 of this year, addressing the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament, Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, on the pretext of "rebuffing Soviet expansion", again advocated the build-up of China's armaments. He said moreover that "one should by no means nurse the pipe dream disarmament". Although the list is far from complete, it is very ominous indeed.

China is ideologically indoctrinating its population, preparing it for inevitable war. "The beating of military drums," the Czechoslovak newspaper Rude Pravo commented on the aims of that campaign, "is intended to distract the Chinese people from the failures of Maoist domestic policy, from the mounting threat of a food crisis and to keep 700 to 800 million people in constant tension and fear, thus as a precautionary measure clamping down on any display of dissatisfaction." The militarist course is helping the Peking top men not only to make the ordinary

Chinese forget the hardships of their life, but also to bring up a generation which can be used for realizing expansionist designs.

Peking diplomacy has become increasingly active in recent months. A series of visits by Chinese leaders to South-East and South Asian countries and some other states has been going hand in hand with a flow of assurances of "traditional friendship". Not so long ago, for example, Vice-Premier of China's State Council Teng Hsiao-ping visited Burma. And while the Chinese leader profusely assured the Burmese side of the "warmest feelings of fraternal friendship and good-neighbourliness", Peking agents were completing final preparations for further sallies in the area of the Burmese-Chinese frontier. On the day after the visit ended the rebels equipped with Chinese arms mounted yet another offensive. In areas of the Chinese province of Yunnan that border on Burma, in addition to strengthening the regular army, the "people's militia" is being armed extensively on the principle "each family is a post", "each man is a sentry", and the population is required "to undergo military training and prepare themselves for combat operations".

More or less the same thing could be seen during the visits of Chinese representatives to India, the Philippines, Thailand and other countries. Although there too the high-placed Maoist emissaries made a show of their "desire for friendship", Peking's subversive actions against the legitimate governments of those countries continued unabated. Of particular interest, the Indian weekly *Blitz* said on March 19, 1978, are reports that Peking, far from scaling down (qualitatively and quantitatively) its arms aid to the

hostile Naga and Mizo tribes, has actually begun providing ever larger subsidies for subversive operations in North-Eastern India.

The Maoists continued to incite neighbouring states against India.

Peking, said Blitz, is in fact inciting India's neighbours to put forward all sorts of proposals mainly directed against Delhi, in a bid to cause suspicion and mistrust of India in Katmandu, Colombo and Islamabad.

It is no secret that China's shadow looms behind the Vietnamese-Kampuchean conflict. According to foreign news agency reports, Peking is not only supplying large quantities of arms to Kampuchea and sending its advisers there, it is also putting up all sorts of obstacles in the way of a peaceful settlement of the conflict. This stance of Chinese leaders, notes the Indian newspaper Patriot, stems from their hegemonistic policy in South-East Asia.

A desire to force Vietnam to follow in the wake of Chinese policy is also behind Peking's provocative actions around ethnic Chinese, mainly bourgeois, living in Vietnam. Having falsely accused the Vietnamese authorities of "hounding and persecuting" the Chinese, the Peking leaders provoked their mass return to China and exploited that fact to bring unprecedented pressure to bear upon Vietnam and to aggravate Chinese-Vietnamese relations.

It is no secret to anyone that the making of territorial claims against neighbouring countries is an

important feature of China's foreign policy.

Maoist territorial claims can be conventionally divided into two categories: a maximum programme with its overall "historical register" of demands and a minimum programme in line with which Peking wants even now to acquire some of the territories mentioned in the "register", including a number of them

to be obtained as a result of "corrections" in border demarcation.

In the "historical" maps printed in China one may see that Maoist territorial claims include the Soviet territories of the Amur area, Primorye, Sakhalin and part of Kazakhstan and Central Asia; Mongolia; Korea; part of Afghanistan; part of India; Nepal; Butan; Burma; Thailand; Malaysia; Kampuchea; Laos; Vietnam and almost all the islands in the East China and South China seas. In 1974 the Chinese armed forces seized a number of islands in the Southern seas. As a matter of fact, Peking is striving to establish its jurisdiction over all the waters and island territories in that region.

According to the French weekly Courier de politique étrangere, the present Chinese leaders make it clear to everyone that Chinese interest is shortly to shift to South-East Asia.

In various South-East Asian states, where over 20 million huatsiao, i.e., persons of Chinese nationality. live, attention is being increasingly drawn to Peking's encroachments on the sovereignty of other states through its influence on local Chinese residents. which is inadmissible from the point of view of elementary standards of international communication. At the last session of the National People's Congress of China Peking leaders referred to the huatsiao as a "bridge" in China's relations with the countries of South-East Asia. This could not but increase anxiety in the countries of that region. As a matter of fact, the smouldering coals of nationalist sentiment would have long ago been extinguished in a considerable part of the huatsiao if they were not artificially fanned by Peking. The course conducted by the present Chinese leadership is designed precisely to whip up great-Han chauvinism among the huatsiao under the cover of inculcating in them "patriotic feelings" and to recruit Peking's agents from among members of Chinese communities abroad. The main stake is naturally on the Chinese capitalists in these countries who, in the opinion of Indonesian officials, become rich by exploiting the local population.

The Indonesian newspaper Sipar Harapan says that large-scale infiltration of Indonesia by persons of Chinese nationality and the creation of "special agencies" in Hong Kong and elsewhere to issue fictitious Indonesian documents to these people should be regarded as part and parcel of an operation planned well in advance.

In carrying out its expansionist actions, the Chinese leadership counts above all on intimidating neighbouring states and gradually subjugating them to its dictation. No wonder Thailand's representative at UNESCO regional courses told his Philippine and Indonesian colleagues: "You are lucky to be separated from China by a sea. But when Peking has crushed all our countries it will be your turn."

While conducting subversive activities to the West and South of its borders, Peking is at the same time striving to use these countries in pursuance of anti-Soviet aims. This is borne out, among other things, by its recent call upon the ASEAN countries (Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines) to create a "common front" with China on an anti-Soviet, anti-socialist basis. Statesmen and the press of the above-mentioned countries strongly condemned the hypocritical and provocative design hardly be classified as a reflection of good intensingapore's Straits Times stated outright that the answer to Peking was "no".

The Indian Central News Service revealed the actual intentions of the Chinese leadership in South-

East Asia by saying that although China's military potential is at present insufficient to enable Peking to establish its military control over the region, the Maoists have by no means abandoned the basic principles of their great-power policy. Peking strategists do not conceal their claims to more than 200 islands in the South China Sea, in their bid to seize them in order to dominate the sea routes of vital importance for many countries... Maoist designs run counter to the basic trends for easing tension in the world, in Asia in particular, the news agency emphasized.

It is only natural that countries in South-East and South Asia which neighbour on China are closely following the Peking leaders' teaming up with imperialist circles. China's neighbours are well aware that the building up of its military potential is directed not only against the USSR, but also poses a threat, in the first place, to those who are nearer and

weaker.

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Peking representatives are now seeking in Western Europe, in NATO countries in particular, real assistance in modernizing the Chinese army. The Italian weekly *Panorama* points out in an article eloquently entitled "In Pursuit of Arms" that Peking is developing feverish activity in Western arms markets: "China shows interest in everything... But what really matters is that China is trying to get modern electronic equipment that could strengthen its armed forces."

Seeing the acquisitive eyes of Peking fixed on West European combat equipment, representatives of the US military-industrial complex do not want to hold aloof, either. Its advocates advise it not to be

late with arms deliveries to China, thereby pursuing not only commercial, but also political aims. Professor J. A. Cohen of Harvard University writes in Foreign Affairs that the United States should reserve the right to sell combat equipment to China directly in the event of worsening Soviet-US or Soviet-Chinese relations.

A truly dangerous game has been started by those circles in the West, which, having swallowed the Maoists' anti-Soviet bait, have begun to encourage Peking's militarist ambitions.

Yes, in their propaganda the Chinese leaders still continue exploiting the lie about a "threat from the North". But they have also developed variant: to put the socialist and the capitalist countries, in the first place, the USSR and the USA, on a collision course. On this score the British Economist remarked that Peking, while trying to involve Britain and the West in an alliance against the USSR, is ready to fight the Russians to the last British and French soldier. It is symptomatic that these intentions of Peking meet with zealous supporters among the NATO warriors who have lost their way in the cold war labyrinths. Is this not borne out by the utterances made by higher military officers like British Marshal N. Cameron or high-ranking politicians like Z. Brzezinski, the US President's adviser, during their visits to Peking? The latter, the Japanese newspaper Akahata points out, "actively supported the line of Peking with its specific strategy towards the USSR, and emphasized the identity of US and Chinese policies in the matter."

But the realization is dawning among sober-minded politicians in the capitalist countries that Peking, in seeking rapprochement with the West, is pursuing its own hegemonistic aims.

Incidentally, certain rabid supporters of the Japan-

ese-Chinese alliance recently became convinced of this. Many representatives of Japan's "self-defence forces" have been to Peking, and many polite bows have been exchanged. But last April these forces had to solve an altogether different task, namely, how to drive out of the area of the Senkaku islands more than 100 Chinese fishing boats, many of which were armed with machine guns and hung with placards claiming that Senkaku was Chinese territory. A very clear assessment of this fact was given in a Japan Times editorial. The paper noted that the incursion into Japanese territorial waters could already in itself be regarded as a graphic illustration of the hegemony which China claims it is opposed to permitting in East Asia. The paper goes on to point out that the conflict started by China in the vicinity Senkaku islands can be regarded as a manifestation of the essence of China's approach to international relations.

As for the far-reaching implications of this approach, they can be quite unexpected and turn against those in the West who are reckoning only on the anti-Soviet line of Peking's policies.

The Maoists like to talk about their road being a "zigzag". One cannot but agree with this. Where and against whom the Chinese militarists may turn their weapons at one stage or another will not depend on those who today are irresponsibly helping to forge these weapons.

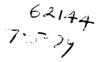
Peking is unscrupulous in the choice of means to pursue its hegemonic ideas. Incitement, fraud, armed provocations, subversive activities, the organization of "fifth columns", overt and covert interference in the internal affairs of other countries, the threat of using force—this is a far from complete enumeration of the Peking politicians' favourite tools. They seek to teach other nations to put up with this style of

action of theirs, with their contempt for standards of international law and international contacts, which exist for everybody and should be observed by everybody. The attempts of Chinese leaders to put themselves above these standards underline the growing danger of the Chinese leadership's actions to the cause of peace and security of nations.

Naturally, there is a great gap between Peking's desire to "conquer the globe" and its realization. Within living memory mankind has buried schemes to establish a "new order" in the world, together with their authors. They have been buried not for them to be revived and to bring fresh immense sufferings to people.

"To preserve this Earth of ours and to hand it over to the rising generation with all its wealth and beauty unblemished by a nuclear holocaust—this, as we see it, is the goal to which the thoughts of humanity should be directed," Leonid Brezhnev noted in his speech at the 18th Congress of the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League.

The Soviet Union has done and is doing everything in its power to maintain and consolidate peace, so that a lasting peace may be established on our planet for ever.



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