

US WAR MACHINATION IN IRAQ

Two years have passed since the 36 nations' combined onslaught against Iraq, the region of Persian Gulf has become the centre of hectic activities of the world imperialist forces. According to the conditions of ceasefire as dictated by the USA and its allies with the rubberstamp of the UN, Iraq had to commit to destroy all strategic arms and to provide free access to all UN teams to its military and related offices. Iraqi officials reportedly have been fully cooperating with the UN though the USA and its allies always have been raising this or that complaint regarding Iraqi non-cooperation. Recently a hue and cry was raised over a visit of an UN-sponsored team to the offices of the Agricultural Ministry of Baghdad. Iraq's point of objection was the inclusion of those countries in the UN team, which stained their hand with the blood of the Iraqis in the multinational offensive against Iraq. For this the team was denied entry into those offices and was held up on the streets for almost three weeks. The visit ultimately took place when Mr. Rolf Ekeus, the Chairman of the UN inspection team, conceded the Iraqi demands of excluding the disputed nations.

But to the utter disappointment of the leaders in the White House the Special UN Commission could hardly find any incriminating evidence in the offices of the Agricultural Ministry. The USA then hurriedly went for "options not exercised in the past" including limited use of force to test Mr. Saddam Hussein with weapon-related inspection. (*The Statesman*, 29.7.92 & 1.8.92). Under the US initiative the UN sent to Baghdad a multi-task team which included experts from countries Iraq took exception to form the last UN team (i.e. the USA, Britain and France). (*The Economic Times*, 6.8.92). When this team also failed to do some substantial job in the interest of the imperialist forces, the USA required another plea to provoke Iraq.

Under the pretext of protecting the Shi'ite population from the offensive of Baghdad it then enforced a 'non-fly military zone' in the southern Iraq and warned that jointly with the UK and France it would shoot down any Iraqi warjet or helicopter flying over there. A similar arrangement was made earlier in the Kurd-dominated northern part of Iraq. That is Iraq was stripped off its right to fly its aircraft in its own sky where military jets of hostile countries would get a free fly for policing over it. Even the USA's Gulf war partners excepting Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, UK and France, could not extend support to the naked encroachment on the sovereignty of another country and some of them also opposed it. The reported onslaught on the Kurds or the offensive against the Shi'ite population by the Iraqi army is a gross violation of human rights no doubt. But who gives free hand to the USA to delegate international policemen on purely national issues and a sole concern for the Iraqi people to decide? If any country would have sent army for the protection of the lives and properties of the black people during the last Los Angeles riot, would President Bush gladly accept it? When the USA itself is accused of trampling underfoot the human rights in its own soil it has no moral right to accuse others for its violation.

Taking advantage of contradiction which might be a 'mere difference between Iraq and the UN Special Mission' (as observed by the former), the USA made a thorough war preparation within a very short period in the Gulf and created an air of danger of a fresh air attack on Iraq for teaching it a lesson that 'the UN cannot be toyed with'. As a part of the military buildup it sent a EC-130 Command and Control radar plane to Saudi Arabia for assisting it to carry out an air strike against Iraq. (*The Statesman*, 24.7.92) It also ordered the aircraft-carrier USS John F. Kennedy and eight accompanying warships to cut short their prior assignments elsewhere and head for the Mediterranean to reinforce the 20 other US warships already stationed there like USS Saratoga and USS Independence. It was also considering moving Patriot missile battery to be sent to the

region for further reinforcement. Furthermore, it sent 2400 troops to Kuwait and despatched a battery of Patriot Missiles to Kuwait and another battery of anti-missile weaponry to the neighbouring Bahrain. This task force consisted of two mechanized infantry companies and two armoured companies along with their combat and combat service support as well as a headquarters unit. The US Navy and Marines were expected to participate, in addition, in a round of naval and amphibious exercises with Kuwaiti military near the Iraqi frontier. (*The Statesman*, 2.8.92 & 24.8.92)

Despite high military concentration, the White House officials persist in making provocative statements against Iraqi leaders violating all diplomatic norms and practices. Mr. Richard Cheney, the US Defence Secretary called Mr. Saddam Hussein an 'outlaw' and a 'legitimate military target' of any further air-strike on Baghdad. Mr. James Baker, the US Secretary of State, met an Iraqi Opposition delegation consisting of different ethnic groups and openly promised to help in their conspiracy to remove Mr. Saddam Hussein or to dismember Iraq. Mr. George Bush even stepped ahead to proclaim that sanctions against Iraq would not be lifted as long as Mr. Hussein would remain in power. This is the diplomacy of US style for dealing with a sovereign country or with its elected President.

Moreover, the Bush administration was planning for newer and newer constraints for Iraq. It floated the idea of enforcing Jordan to close the highway linking Amman with Baghdad, the only lifeline of roads that remain open for Iraq. The Western warships have stepped up the inspection of vessels heading towards Jordan's Red Sea port, the Iraq's main sea link. Scores of similar plans are taking shape daily through the brainwave of the leaders of Washington and their cohorts to punish a tiny land of the Middle East.

Now the question is why this naked conspiracy on the part of the USA to provoke Iraq and create a ground for an air attack on it? Palpably Bush's immediate design was to recover his own sagging popularity with the US Presidential elections only a few weeks away by emerging as a hero through imposing a renewed war on Iraq. It was also reported in the *New York Times* quoting an unnamed top White House official. (*The Statesman*, 17.8.92) But Mr. Bush's ulterior motive was far-reaching and fraught with portentous danger. For this, it is worth recalling an extract of what was written in the columns of this organ, in exposing the grand design of the Gulf War. Added with it, in the changed international situation with the dismantling of the USSR and the absence of powerful Socialist Camp with China virtually extending support to the imperialists' war designs, the USA and its allies were out to establish their total control over the oilfields of the Arabs in

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SUCI condemns petroleum price hike

Strongly protesting against the increase in the prices of petroleum products Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI has issued the following statement to the Press on 16th September, 1992.

"No word is strong enough to condemn the anti-people policy of Narashima Rao Government which is expressed once again through steep hike in the prices of petrol, diesel and cooking gas.

This increase in the prices of petroleum products will further escalate the prices of all essential commodities hitting hard the common people, who are already groaning under heavy burdens of taxation and inflationary economy. No doubt, this increase in the prices of petroleum products is the outcome of submission of the central government to the pressure of the IMF.

We urge all the Left and democratic parties of our country to unite and launch a strong, protracted people's movement only which can bow down the central government to the people's demand."

Open Letter of Comrade Nihar Mukherjee to the Prime Minister

Sri P.V. Narasimha Rao,
Prime Minister
Government of India
New Delhi.

Dear Prime Minister,

We are shocked by the newspaper reports and photographs of the beating, manhandling, coercion and utterly inhuman behaviour with which some officers and jawans of the B.S.F. recently treated some Bangladeshi citizens before sending them back to Bangladesh. According to newspaper accounts, these hapless Bangladeshis, about 132 in number were beaten, robbed of all belongings and garments including even children's clothes, their hutments set on fire and the front portion of the heads of menfolk shaved by the B.S.F.

We strongly condemn this barbaric conduct by the B.S.F. and demand of you to answer if there is any law in this land which condones such patently inhuman conduct. This is nothing short of the law of the jungle and makes the head of all self-respecting Indians hang in shame before the world.

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Kultali incident

Part of CPI(M) conspiracy to wipe out SUCI

The CPI(M) marauders have again unleashed their attacks and terror on the landless peasants and share-croppers in South 24-Parganas of West Bengal, particularly in Kultali P.S., a bastion of their struggle with a long heritage. This time the target was the lives of Comrade Yakub Pailan, the most respected and veteran leader of peasant movement in the district, the district secretary South 24-Prgs. and the member of the West Bengal State Secretariat of the SUCI, and six other district leaders and organisers of the party.

The hired goondas of CPI(M) perpetrated this ghastly attack on these leaders when they were present in a meeting at Maipith Mulorhat on 26th August last as a part of the party's propaganda campaign for observing Martyr's Day on 31st August, observing 1st September, unitedly with other Left mass organisations including even those of the CPI(M), as Anti-Imperialist Day and for collecting contributions for the aid of besieged Cuba. The CPI(M) gangsters suddenly swooped on the leaders on the dais. The police in the adjacent police camp stood as mere spectators and when the miscreants left the leaders fatally wounded with broken limbs, they were simply taken to the police camp and were left completely unattended for 16 to 17 hours there while the CPI(M) killers kept the police camp surrounded all through so that they could not be removed to the hospital and in the process could expire untreated. It should be noted that within hours, the Home Secretary, all other state police chief, the district administration and even a CPI(M) state cabinet minister were reported of the incident and requested for rescue of the grievously injured leaders. But even after the CPI(M) minister's 'assurance', it was after long 17 hours that the victims could be removed from the killers' custody to hospital in critical conditions. Such is the vindictive and beastly attitude of the CPI(M) and its government to the leaders and organisers of peasant movement under the leadership of the SUCI!

At the news of this heinous attack of the CPI(M) on such a veteran and respected leader of the district, cross sections of people burst into indignation including the honest and saner section of the CPI(M) supporters even. On 29th August, spontaneous 'bandh' and blockade of roads and rail occurred in the vast areas covering six adjacent thanas and 'Protest Day' was observed throughout the state. The 'bandh' was unprecedented and total. Getting cornered politically and sensing the mood of the people, the CPI(M) leadership hatched a newer conspiracy to divert the people's attention. Readily they unleashed another attack on common people of Gopalganj area of the same Kultali P.S. which got divulged through an 'urgent and secret' letter dated 27.8.92 of the Kultali Committee of the CPI(M) the facsimile of which is given below. It is important to note that this letter was written on 27th of August, the day of incident at Gopalganj. In the letter the words 'three to four comrades that elsewhere' and 'the report is encouraging from such you are to understand', 'inspect' 'early at 3.00 a.m. are all very revealing. The secret letter, however, somehow came to the hand of one SUCI comrade and reports reached him suggested that the CPI(M) anti-socials and goondas armed with lethal weapons were assembling in Gopalganj area to mount attacks as indicated in the letter. Then and there, everything was reported to the local PS and a diary with the police was accordingly recorded (Dy.No.882/27.8.92). But the police with a sinister design as instructed

by the CPI(M) leadership, took no steps and from 5.00 p.m. the CPI(M) goondas launched their attack to loot and destroy which continued for 16 hours at a stretch. The villagers again rushed to the ps at 9.00 p.m. for protection, but in vain. Again, in the small hours of 28th August, the CPI(M) goondas were smuggled in from outside, to carry on massive attack on the Gram Panchayat office at Malipara in Gopalgunge area and looted everything of as many as fourteen houses in presence of the police. All these things were masterminded by a notorious mafia leader of Calcutta suburb, Jadavpur-Kasba area, known to be the kingpin of so many ghastly massacres and murders including that of an police O.C. in broad daylight and now made the South 24 Prgs. district secretariat member of the CPI(M), entrusted with the task of 'finish-SUCI' operation. But the local people this time built up spontaneous resistance and as a result one of the goondas was killed.

It should be noted that these recent incidents are no isolated events. It is known to all that since the late forties the heroic struggles of the landless peasants, share-croppers and khet-majdoors of the Sunderbans especially of Joynagar-Kultali area under the revolutionary guidance of the SUCI have created history in the peasant struggle of the state. Hundreds of martyrs have laid down

their lives to the cause of mass movement and in the struggle for their existence in the face of continuous attacks of the jotedar-moneylender-police-Congress combine. But after the assumption of power by the CPI(M) in 1977, as the jotedars and users more pronouncedly and openly took shelter in the ruling CPI(M) leaving their old protector, Congress, the struggle took a virulent turn. The CPI(M) leadership took it as an avowed goal to finish all mass movements there at any cost, particularly the peasants' struggle under the leadership of the SUCI. Thus was unleashed a reign of terror and a plan of annihilation by the CPI(M)-Jotedar-Congress(I)-police combine throughout the district of South 24-Parganas on the organised bases of the SUCI. Under widespread oppression during these 15 years of 'Left Front' rule as many as 198 parcels of Patta land and 225 parcels of Barga land have been snatched away from the landless peasants and share-croppers and returned to the jotedars, 65 Rayoti peasants have been evicted, houses of 52 families have been burnt to ashes, 256 houses have been looted and devastated, 81 have been permanently disabled as a result of severe beating, 5 raped, and as many as 16 workers of our party including leading cadres have been murdered only in two Anchals of Maipith-Baikunthapur and Bhubaneswari-Gurguria of Kultali P.S. And in the whole district of 24-Parganas (South), altogether 43 workers and leading organisers have been killed by the CPI(M) killers. They did all these things in a planned way, with the purpose of evicting SUCI from Kultali area. How heinously they conspired to decide who will remain as their pet O-C at Kultali P.S was divulged in another secret letter written by one

Movement Against Robbing of Educational Opportunities in Tamil Nadu

At Nagercoil, district capital town of Kanniyakumari district, in Tamil Nadu a Study Centre of Mother Teresa Women's University was functioning. The said University was mooted in Tamilnadu with avowed aim of providing higher educational opportunities to women throughout the state. So the University has centres in three places and conducted some courses. Such one centre which was functioning in Nagercoil and providing Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA) to 20 ladies was shifted to Madras in May 1992. This has created widespread resentment among the education loving people of the district.

Again last year at two places of Kanniyakumari district evening courses of B.Ed. was conducted by Manonmaniam Sundaranar University. More than 1200 students were benefited by this scheme. Now that was also stopped by the University.

So demanding the reopening and reintroduction of the Study Centre and B.Ed. Courses, a call for a movement was given by the recently formed Save Education Committee, Kanniyakumari District. At the instance and appeal of the Save Education Committee an all-Party meeting was convened and a decision of picketing before the District Collectorate was taken.

Accordingly, on 7th September general students from different schools and colleges and leaders and cadres of different political parties in the district assembled before Anna Stadium, Nagercoil, and went on a procession towards the Collectorate. Dr. Kumaradoss, MLA, S. Palanisamy, State Committee member, SUCI, Mr. Kani, district secretary of DMK Students Front, Mr. Misha, District Secretary of PMK, Mr. Jebamani (Janata Dal), comrades Sankar and Martin (SUCI) and others participated in the picketing. The police stopped the procession before the Court buildings and arrested the volunteers. Hundreds of students including Women's College students demonstrated before the Court and then dispersed. Many schools and colleges did not function as the students abstained from classes.

Sagar Haldar, L.C.M., Kultali, on 17.10.90 to Kanti Ganguly, member, South 24-Parganas District Secretariat. He wrote: "I would request you to see that the present O.C. of Kultali P.S may continue there for some days more so that the SUCI can be suppressed there." Remarkable is that six days before writing this letter that notorious O.C. had beaten to death SUCI worker Comrade Saiful Sardar in the police lock-up on October 11, 1990 last.

Now, they have come up to annihilate the veteran district secretary and state leader of the Party together with other district leaders. But the CPI(M) leadership and their government have forgot that the exploited masses of South 24-Parganas taught and tuned with the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh are made of different mettle and no power on earth can deter them from their path with any sort of violence or terror. This is tested for the last fifty years on the soil of Sunderbans. The more the oppression, the more will be the resistance of these class conscious peasants and have-nots, the more will they be invincible under the red banner of SUCI.

Movements against Capitation Fees in Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka

Andhra Pradesh:

Gone are the good old days when individuals and social organisations used to volunteer to establish and run schools and colleges with a spirit of social service. Taking advantage of meagre opportunities for education, higher education in particular, the business magnates now have stepped in to fill up the vacuum and in its wake have commercialised the education system. Even share market has entrenched into the field of education which has appeared as a curse especially in the southern states of our country. Andhra Pradesh is no exception to this obnoxious trend.

Here, in Andhra Pradesh, capitation fee and donation system pervaded all the levels of education in private sector. However, in 1983, a legislation was made by TDP government against capitation fee. Along with it, it introduced a 'high tuition fee structure' for private colleges. As an outcome of this piece of legislation, at least, a regulation governing admission of students on merit and reservation of quota as well as appointment of teachers came into force. But the Congress (I) government led by Janardan Reddy, seizing power, in no time re-introduced the capitation fee. According to it, a registered society can establish educational institutions with 50% of seats being filled in following the government rules on merit and reservation while the balance 50% is left to the vagaries of the private management. All disciplines in higher education, say, medical, engineering, polytechnic, etc., come under the purview of this new enactment. As a result, a medical seat in any college run by private management is sold at between five and eight lakhs of rupees.

Different students' organisations and struggle committee have come up and took to the streets raising their voice of vigorous protest throughout Andhra Pradesh. Despite difference of opinion on various issues, all the organisations have come to a common ground of understanding that the introduction of management quota, capitation fee system are out and out anti-people, undemocratic and leads to thorough commercialization of education. The outcome of this consensus has been a broad-based platform comprising 30 students and youth organisations including AIDS0, AISF, SFI, PDSU, PYL, and Medicos Joint Action Committee of junior doctors and medical students.

Since the retrograde legislation came into force in Andhra Pradesh, waves of movements are surging ahead with the demand to repeal the retrograde legislation on education in the state. Travelling through twists and turns since the first week of July, the sustained united movement converged into the observance of a statewide Bandh on 29th August last. All central trade unions and Opposition political parties including the UTUC (LS), the SUCI, CPI, CPI(M), Janata Dal, CPI(ML), etc., extended their all-out support to this call of the students. It was a 100 per cent successful bandh the kind of which the toiling people of Andhra Pradesh have seldom witnessed. The AIDS0 plunged into the vortex of the developing movement and left no stone unturned to make the bandh a total success. Leaders and activists of the AIDS0 in the process underwent police atrocities and courted arrests in a big way. In tune with continuing sustained movement encompassing students, guardians and education-loving people of the state, AIDS0, in a separate Memorandum to the State Chief Minister and the

Chief Justice, A. P. High Court, demanded outright withdrawal of capitation fee and abolition of management quota in schools and colleges.

Besides, the historic role played by the AIDS0 was manifested in its serious view to give the movement a protracted shape and as a cementing force between the movement and the people by freeing the movement from sectarian approaches. It now stands as a mighty force in the students' community whose only objective is to give dimension and intensification to the ongoing movement until the anti-people capitation fee and management quota system are withdrawn.

Karnataka:

Meanwhile, 'Jail Bharo' against the draconian law was organised on 15th September last. News of magnificent participation of the students community as a whole has just started coming in.

On August 22, thousands of students from all over Karnataka participated in the massive demonstration in Bangalore against capitation fee, organised by the Karnataka State Committee of the AIDS0, which created quite a stir among the people in Bangalore. Finding themselves vindicated in their long-drawn movement against capitation fee through and filled with new hope by the historic judgement of the Supreme Court which ruled that the collection of capitation in any form and at all levels is against the Constitution and law, directing all State Governments to take

immediate steps to stop this practice in their respective states — the students enthusiastically joined in both the protest rally and the public meeting held at Cubbon Park on the same day.

At the public meeting the former Judge of Karnataka High Court, Sri H. G. Balakrishna, the Chief Guest, reminded the students that education was a birth right just as freedom was a birth right, and said that those who collected capitation fee should be punished under criminal procedure code. Sri H. D. Doreswamy, a veteran freedom fighter, in his address said that the government should be pressurised to allocate more funds for education and appealed to the students to build up a militant movement to fight the burning problems in education. Com. K. Radhakrishna, State Secretary of SUCI, called on students to build up not just an educational movement but also a socio-cultural movement against corruption, brought to the extreme in the state by the Congress (I) government. Others included the State President of AIDS0, Dr. B. R. Manjunath, Smt. K. Uma, State Secretary of AIDS0, while several eminent personalities and organisations sent their messages to the meeting. Afterwards, a memorandum, highlighting the SC verdict and demanding its implementation as well as fulfilment of the long-standing legitimate demands of the students, was handed over to the Chief Minister by a delegation led by Dr. B. R. Manjunath.

Comrade Prithish Chanda explains

Why UTUC(LS) refused to attend ILC meeting

Comrade Prithish Chanda, President, UTUC (LS), in a press statement on 6.9.92, that :

"The United Trade Union Centre (Lenin Sarani), one of the major Recognised Central Trade Unions on the national level, refuses to participate in the 30th session of the Indian Labour Conference on 7-8th September, 1992 in protest against the persistent anti-labour and anti-national industrial and economic policies of the Government of India.

"The UTUC (LS) from the moment of announcement of the New Industrial and Economic Policy by the central government, on July 24, 1991 has been protesting against this policy which has been introduced in collaboration with the World Bank and IMF and in the interest of both the Indian big monopolies and foreign imperialists. The working class of the country has already recorded its protest in unambiguous terms by twice organising country-wide industrial strikes.

"On the eve of first protest strike on 29th November, 91 a Special Tripartite Committee was hurriedly formed by the Ministry of Labour 'to consider the impact of this new policy on labour' and in its preliminary meeting of the labour side on our raising certain vital issues, the concerned minister denied even the existence of any 'Exit Policy'. Similar has been the case in National Renewal Fund. The Special Tripartite Committee met only twice—once in December, 1991 and then in January, 1992. Formation of Industrial Tripartite Committee is nothing new, and now also out of those six Industrial Tripartite Committees which are reconstituted, two committees have not met even once. Even at this stage, the central government, defying the decision of the Special Tripartite Committee, hastily amended the Sick Industries (Special

Provisions) Act and referred the sick Public Sector Units to BIFR, making a mockery of the committee. The central government has already started privatising the public sector industries by various means and made the door wide open for foreign capitalists, multinationals and imperialists to reign over our market and national resources.

"The central government has already drawn dangerous schemes of making our labour force redundant in the name of 'modernisation and new technology' through the National Renewal Fund Scheme. The policy of the government is leading towards a "total disturbance of the Labour Market" and to help the capitalists, both domestic and foreign, to reap huge profit.

"Our experience so far is that the government never honours and pays any heed to labour viewpoint and no amount of consultation in such tripartite forums makes the government alter or modify the policies it has adopted beforehand.

"The government is also guilty of violating the accepted norms and procedures of allotment of seats to the Trade Unions and others as per the criterion fixed earlier in 1983 and the successive governments have arbitrarily altered the proportionate number of seats, deviating from the basis followed in the 28th Session of ILC in November, 1985. This clearly shows that the government has no regard for any principle nor any criterion, but only keeps in mind its political exigencies and equations.

"The UTUC (LS), therefore, in view of the above facts and in pursuance of its principled position decides not to participate in the 30th Indian Labour Conference to be held on 7-8th Sept. 1992, since it will not deliver any good to the working class."

Soviet communists raise their voices

Following is an article about the Russian Communist Workers Party. It was sent to Workers World by Viktor Tyulkin, Secretary of the party's Central Committee. Tyulkin was prompted to send it after a meeting last April with Workers World Party Chairperson Sam Marcy, where the two discussed the political situation in the USSR and the US. Tyulkin and Marcy met in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, during the celebration of the 80th birth day of Korean President Kim Il Sung. This article expresses the views of Viktor Tyulkin and the RCWP. This is our translation of the Russian original, with some minor editing for space.

There is such a party!

The current situation within the USSR, including the Russian Federation, is characterized by the ongoing encroachment of combined (foreign and domestic) reactionary forces upon the political and economic rights of workers, as well as upon the freedom and independence of our Motherland.

Through deception and at the cost of abominable betrayal, those who call themselves democrats, having seized power, have altered the sociopolitical system and have restored capitalistic practices of the very worst kind. In order to weaken the resistance of workers, they have, through the mass media, introduced schisms and conflicts into society and are corrupting the spirit of the people, especially the young. ...

The kindling of nationalism and separatism, as well as of hatred for all things Russian or Soviet, is having the most tragic of consequences. Ethnic clashes are very rapidly escalating to the level of local wars over the re-division of boundaries and are producing large numbers of victims, as well as enormous destruction.

And all this had as its main purpose the creation of conditions under which three presidents—in the stillness of the Belovezh Forest Preserve, in secrecy, contrary to the will of the people as expressed by referendum, and in violation of the existing Constitution—could hastily proclaim the liquidation of the USSR. But, the breakdown continues and the very existence of Russian statehood is being threatened.

The economy of the great nation that once existed as a unified national economic complex has been fragmented by new borders and has noticeably weakened. The most recent blow to this economy was inflicted by the felonious policies of the Yeltsin-Gaidar administration.

Paralysis of the financial system was artificially manufactured. Government enterprises, collective farms, and state farms were transformed into failures and are now being purchased for a song by representatives of the former management cadre, the criminal bourgeoisie, and rogues of all stripes.

The results have not been slow in showing themselves. The volume of production as compared to 1991 has dropped 15-20 percent in industry and 30-40 percent in agriculture. Prices have risen tenfold and have even gone up hundreds of times for certain types of goods.

For example, bread used to cost 0.14 rubles, but now sells for 8.00 rubles, meat—2.00 rubles as opposed to 100.00 rubles, milk—0.40 rubles as opposed to 12.00 rubles, sugar—1.00 rubles as opposed to 80.00 rubles, a suit of clothes—150.00 rubles as opposed to 3,000.00 rubles, a subway ride—0.05 rubles as opposed to 1.00 rubles, and shoes—25.00 rubles as opposed to 2,500.00 rubles.

The indexing proposed has been abandoned to neglect and wages have only increased 3-to 8-fold. Thus, 80 percent of the populace has fallen below the poverty level and 40 percent exists below the limits of biological survival. Free

children's facilities, education, medicine, affordable housing, recreation, and cultural activities are gradually being eliminated.

The number of unemployed, destitute, and homeless persons is rapidly increasing. A wave of profiteering, crime, corruption, and lawlessness has swept the country. The majority of the people are disappointed, bewildered, and bitter.

Despite the efforts of authorities to prevent social unrest, the process of bringing things into focus and gathering forces continues. Worker resistance to the anti-popular policies associated with the capitalization of the country is on the rise. The nucleus around which the human forces of society are gathering consists of those communists who united to form the Russian Communist Workers Party following the banning of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The date of birth of the RCWP is regarded to be November 23, 1991, when, at a meeting in Yekaterinburg, 525 delegates adopted a resolution to found this party. However, as is entirely natural given the present political situation in Russia, the party already had its own quite expansive past history at the time of its founding.

In the minutes of the Constituent meeting of the RCWP, it is noted that the state of affairs within the CPSU had, for the past three decades, been characterized by two opposing trends—a scientific Marxist-Leninist bent and an opportunistic one.

With the advent of reorganization (perestroika), this slowly occurring, barely noticeable process took the form of a public clash between communist and anti-communist forces. The latter faction, with a certain portion of the elite government-party cadre emerging as its vehicle, prevailed in the official course followed in the name of the party as a whole.

The communist element basically lived and fought at the party's lowermost strata. The most highly organized and best known example of its existence is the Communist Initiative Movement and this movement's pioneering Meetings of the Communists of Russia (1989-1991).

Within the CPSU, the CIM had long voiced its opinion and had actively fought against perestroika (i.e., against changing the existing system) and against Gorbachevism.

It is sufficient to recall the CIM's struggle to form the Communist Party of the Russian Soviet Federation Socialist Republic, Teimuraz Avaliani's opposition to Gorbachev when elections were held for the post of secretary-general of the Central Committee of the CPSU, and the minority petition presented (by 1,259 delegates)

at the 28th party congress, in which the people and the party were warned that the course chosen for curing socialism with capitalism would lead to the collapse of both the nation and the CPSU.

These predictions came true, but the fight continued. When elections were held for the position of president of the Russian Republic, two communists alone—General Makashov and Professor Sergeev—fought for a course of action to

be followed in opposition to the party line. With the disclosure of the present day unfrockings associated with the election of the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, Peoples' Deputy of Russia Yuri Slobodkin spoke up in the name of the communists.

These political clashes at the party's uppermost strata, which were reported in various newspapers, bolstered the painstaking work being performed in the area of the founding of Workers' Councils in Moscow, Leningrad, Nizhny Novgorod, Novosibirsk and 30 other cities, as well as in the area of the publication of the workers' and communist newspapers "Lightning" (Molniya), "What Can Be Done?" (Chto Delat'?), "Our Choice" (Nash Vybor), "Our Russia" (Nasha Rossiya), "The Worker's Voice" (Golos Rabochego), and others.

Experience was acquired in fighting for the organization of a workers' movement, of networks for the protection of the Lenin Museum and the Lenin Mausoleum, and of mass demonstrations in Red Square and Arena Square.

Thus, based on the information cited, one curious fact can be pointed out—the August counterrevolutionary coup d'état suppressed the opportunistic CPSU. The latter's noncommunist contingent was scattered and its complexion changed from republican to social-democrat. And the communist contingent, having been hardened and tempered, joined the ranks of the RCWP.

The RCWP stands today as the first communist party to be registered in Russia. It is also the biggest of all political parties (with on the order of 150,000 members). And it is the most active party.

Thus, the chain consisting of the following consecutive links—the Russian Social-Democrat Workers' Party (Bolsheviks), the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks), the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks), and the CPSU—continues today in the RCWP. This party is based on Leninist principles, you can't ban it with paper alone, and you can't break it up by decree. The party is currently enjoying rapid growth among its ranks and is in the throes of the organizational formation of its structural units.

The RCWP has taken upon itself the implementation of a program, the minimum requirements of which are the removal from power of the present-day anti-popular clique and the establishment of worker authority through the offices of Workers' Councils—Soviet authority!

It is the Communist Workers Party that is emerging as the core of the "Working Russia" movement, which has sent 350,000 persons out onto the squares of Moscow (March 17 and May 1, 1992) and simultaneously held rallies in all Russian cities.

Having set its principal political goal—the transfer of power to the workers—the party is currently founding worker self-government councils at enterprises and in cities. The First All-Russian Congress of Workers' Councils was held in Nizhny Novgorod on April 19 and an executive committee representing 37 of the largest cities in Russia was selected. This is to say that the formation of the future structural units of government authority is under way.

Feeling a uniquely real, not artificially created opposition and the genuine threat of our policies, the Yeltsin-Bush regime has set a repressive apparatus into motion.

The forces of the OMON [the Interior Ministry Riot Police—according to AP] vigorously

(Continued on page 5)

Valiant Sukinda workers brave onslaughts

Police-Tata-Atwal-JD goonda combine cannot deter Sukinda miners' determination

Again it is a long tale of heroic unflinching battle of the workers in Sukinda in the face of continued torture and crime of the owner-police-goonda nexus.

Since 19th August last workers, led by Sukinda Upatyaka Mines Workers' Union, have been on a strike against M/s G. S. Atwal, the machine mining contractor of TISCO, on 15-point charter of demands including back wages and other legitimate financial claims amounting to more than rupees two crores and against the torture of the management on struggling workers and even on their womenfolk, the only fault being that they wanted no more beastly treatment on them by the management and joined en masse the Sukinda Upatyaka Mines Workers' Union.

As 90% of the work of the TISCO is done through the contractor Atwal, the work in TISCO Mines, the biggest producer and transporter of chrome ore from Sukinda, came to a halt as a result. After a week the contractor was compelled to come for discussion with the union leaders but was non-committal in his talks and the strike continued. By the end of August the TISCO-Atwal, the police administration and the Janata Dal Ministers of Orissa conspired to break the strike by violence. On 2nd September the armed security guards and hired goondas of TISCO-Atwal showered bullets on the striking workers and injured a number of workers, two of them critically.

The union gave a call for total bandh in the entire mines zone on 5th September in protest against the barbarous firing on the workers. The peasants and common people in the Sukinda area and its neighbourhood spontaneously condemned the firing. The TISCO-Atwal group backed by the Janata Dal govt., to repress the movement, hatched a heinous scheme and assaulted Com. Mayadhar Nayak, the General Secretary of Sukinda Upatyaka Mines Workers' Union on his way to Sukinda on

4th September by a group of hired ruffians of Janata Dal and got him arrested at Sukinda on false charges like attempt to murder etc.

The arrest roused the common people and the mining workers further to make the bandh a success and in the aftermath a massive public meeting was held at Kuhika in the mines zone in spite of terrorisation of police and arrests of more than two dozen of the volunteers. The meeting was addressed by Com. Balam Sahu, Secretary AIKKMS, Orissa State Committee, Com. Debendra Sahu, Asst. Secy. UTUC (LS), Orissa State Committee, Com. Bilash Behura, Joint Secretary, Sukinda Upatyaka Mines Workers' Union and Com. Sufal Mohanta, Secretary, Sukinda Local Committee, SUCI. The meeting demanded that Comrade Mayadhar Nayak should be released immediately and unconditionally, the criminals of TISCO-Atwal who fired on the workers be arrested and the lawful demands of Atwal workers be fulfilled, terrorisation of police and the hired goondas in the mines be stopped.

But the police and administration and the State Janata Dal Govt., ready to serve TISCO-Atwal for petty selfish interests, carried on an open war on the Union and the SUCI. They continued terrorisation, violence and arrests. Even the workers of Kalarangi Mines (of OMC Ltd) while on duty were surrounded by armed police on 15th September and about 500 of them were taken to nearby TISCO outpost, detained and abused and thirtytwo leading organisers were sent to jail under false charges. On 16th September morning about 300 workers were similarly arrested from Kamarda and Saruabil Mines of M/s B.C. Mohanty Ltd. and M/s Mishrilal Mines Pvt. Ltd. respectively. Fifty of the arrested workers were taken to TISCO outpost and were detained there and most of them were sent to jail. In protest the Union declared a strike in Kalarangi Chromite Mines immediately and demanded that

the management should ensure security to the workers in the place of work and normalcy in the mines. The stepped-up repression of the police was aimed at foiling the All Orissa Protest Day on 17th September called by UTUC (LS). In Sukinda, the workers of Sukinda Upatyaka Mines Workers' Union affiliated to UTUC (L.S.) decided to observe Sukinda bandh on this day demanding the release of Com. Mayadhar Nayak along with more than a hundred workers, falsely implicated in several criminal cases, immediate arrest of Atwal, the contractor of TISCO, and the hired goondas of TISCO, withdrawal of all the false cases, restoration of normalcy and peace in the mines of Sukinda Valley.

The latest report from Sukinda says that the Sukinda bandh called on 17th September met with unprecedented success. Public and private transport did not ply, neither the government Block Office, shops and establishments and schools opened despite threat and intimidation of the Janata Dal-hired goondas backed by the Tata-Atwal group and the state police.

Bengal Bandh against Central & State govt. policies

West Bengal was paralysed on 23rd September last responding to a 12-hour bandh call by the West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI against the price hike of petrol, diesel, LPG etc. and proposed hike in railway fare and freight by the Congress(I)-led central government and against the CPI(M)-led Left Front government of West Bengal, which, instead of developing any mass movement against the central government, steeply hiked fares of bus and all other conveyance. The SUCI gave a call to develop a mighty protracted movement against both the central and state governments.

Soviet Communists Raise Their Voices

(Continued from page 4)

suppressed the worker demonstrations held under anti-government banners on February 23—Soviet Army Day—and June 22, the date marking the start of Nazi aggression against the USSR.

The party has received a warning from the Russian Ministry of Justice, while the Executive Committee of the Workers' Councils was warned by the Office of the Public Prosecutor. The worker and communist press is being strangled via economic means, and the possibility of appearing on government television and radio (and we have only the government varieties) has been precluded.

The material and financial resources of the CPSU have been completely expropriated. But this cannot keep us from fighting. The RCWP will undertake the collection of the one million signatures needed under the law in order to hold a referendum concerning the resignation of Yeltsin and a number of other local politicians.

More pressure is being exerted for the purpose of breaking into television. Organizational unity has grown stronger, invaluable fighting experience is being acquired, and confidence is growing among our ranks.

In sending comradely greetings to our American comrades from Russian communists I assure you that, no matter how difficult, we will not surrender, but will continue to fight for the interests of working people. Among our platform planks are the restoration of Soviet authority, the rebirth of the USSR, and the preservation and continued development of socialism.

Speaking descriptively, our goal is to hoist the Red flag over the Kremlin. The fate of the world's communist movement will be largely dependent upon the outcome of our struggle.

We are appealing to those of a like mind abroad : support the struggle for a Soviet Russia and help stem the onslaught of demofascism. This is our common cause. Together, we will be victorious.

Secretary, Central Committee,
Russian Communist Workers Party

Viktor Tyulkin

[The above portion is the exact reproduction of an article published in Workers World, dated 3rd September, 1992, the monthpiece of the Workers World Party of the United States of America.—Editor, Proletarian Era.]

Open Letter of Comrade Nihar Mukherjee to the PM

(Continued from page 1)

We demand that your government immediately enquire into why and under whose instruction this deplorable action was perpetrated by the B.S.F. and accordingly, mete out exemplary punishment to the guilty and thereby set things right, as much as is now possible.

Anticipating prompt response on your behalf,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/- Nihar Mukherjee
General Secretary
S.U.C.I.

NB : Relevant newspaper photographs of the incident were also enclosed.

Countrywide observance of Anti-Imperialist Day Anti-Imperialist Day observed

In view of the naked aggressions of the imperialists and growing neo-colonial onslaughts led by the US imperialists on the weaker nations, the all-India Conference of UTUC (Lenin Sarani) held in March, 1992 last in Calcutta, gave a call to the toiling people of the world to observe the 1st September, as 'International Solidarity Day of Trade Unions and the Working People Against US imperialism and Neo-colonial Attacks'. The same appeal was made to all trade unions, home and abroad, by Comrade Tapas Dutta, General Secretary, UTUC (LS), on 9.7.92.

In pursuance to this call Anti-imperialist Solidarity Day on 1st September 1992 was observed throughout the country. Here we publish, in brief, the news of observance of the Day in different states so far received.

Delhi:

To observe the day a mass meeting was held at the Gandhi Peace Foundation Hall in New Delhi on 1st September last under the presidentship of Comrade J. N. Mondal, Treasurer, Delhi State Committee of UTUC (LS) where respected Comrade Pritish Chanda, President, UTUC (LS) All India Committee and Member, Politburo, SUCI, was present as the main speaker.

While discussing the implication of the newer dimensions of neo-colonial attacks, particularly of US imperialism emboldened by the fall of the former Soviet Union and other east Europe socialist countries, Comrade Chanda vividly showed that the US imperialism, the chieftain of world imperialist forces, had appeared to be the greatest enemy of mankind and resorting to reckless aggressive moves to dominate the world. Comrade Chanda called upon to build up a worldwide broad-based anti-imperialist front for developing uncompromising fight against imperialism, war and for lasting peace, free from all sorts of pacifist illusions.

In the meeting the letter of Comrade Tapas Dutta, General Secretary, UTUC (LS) and member, CC, SUCI, issued to all trade unions home and abroad, with the call for observance of Anti-Imperialist Solidarity Day, was read out by Comrade Arun Kumar, President, Delhi State Committee, UTUC (LS). A resolution condemning USA for imposing another unjust war on Iraq was unanimously adopted in the meeting.

Orissa:

On this occasion a massive workers rally was held on 1st September at PMG Sqr in Bhubaneswar under the presidentship of Comrade S. K. Oasim, Vice-President, UTUC (LS) Orissa State Committee. Comrade Sitesh Dasgupta, President, UTUC (LS) Orissa State Committee, and member, CC, SUCI, addressed the meeting as the main speaker. Depicting the present international situation, Comrade Dasgupta specially pointed out the fact that the US imperialism with its allies, has now reduced the United Nations to merely a rubberstamp of their imperialist designs and with its manipulated approval is mounting naked attacks on and interfering into the internal affairs of the weaker countries to subjugate them.

Comrade Mayadhar Nayak, Secretary, UTUC (LS), Orissa State Committee, Comrade Shambhunath Naik, Comrade Bishnu Das and Comrade Raghunath Das also addressed the rally.

West Bengal:

In West Bengal, UTUC (LS), West Bengal State Committee, had requested other like-minded central trade unions to jointly observe 1st September this year as Anti-Imperialist Day and it is a matter of rejoice that this time the CITU, AITUC, UTUC, TUCC and AICCTU responded to this call and the day was centrally observed in

Calcutta along with other mass organisations like AIDS, DYO, MSS, AIDTO, Komsomol, DYFI, AISF, SFI, RYO, PSU, etc. On this occasion, a massive people's rally was organised before the

United States Information Service Office which was addressed by different speakers representing different central trade unions and mass organisations. All the speakers highlighted the growing danger of imperialist and neo-colonial attack, particularly of the US imperialists, on the Third World countries and severely condemned the Central Congress (I) Government's surrender to the heinous pressure of the US imperialists through IMF and the World Bank. Among others, Comrade Shankar Saha, Secretary, UTUC (LS), West Bengal State Committee, Comrade Rabin Samajpati, General Secretary, AIDS and Comrade Tarun Naskar, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, AIDTO, addressed the rally.

Besides the central demonstration in Calcutta, joint demonstration was held in Purulia town and Raghunathpore in Purulia district. At Contai in Midnapore district joint demonstration with the AITUC was held besides holding similar demonstration by UTUC (LS) single-handed at Siliguri in Darjeeling district. Over and above, UTUC (LS) organised impressive demonstrations on the day on its own in other districts of West Bengal also.

Assam:

The Assam State Committee of UTUC (LS) observed the day on 1st September throughout

the state through various programmes like mass meeting, deputation, street-corner meeting, etc. in different districts in Assam. At Guwahati, a mass meeting was held at the Gouri Sadan Hall under the presidentship of Comrade Siddheswar Sharma, President, UTUC (LS), Assam State Committee.

Comrade Saradindu Biswas, Secretary, Assam State Committee of UTUC (LS), in his inaugural speech urged to form joint platform of trade unions and working people all over the world as an instrument of struggle against world imperialist and neo-colonial attacks let loose especially by the US imperialists.

Comrade Kalyan Chowdhury, Secretary, SUCI, Assam State Committee, mainly discussed about the cause behind this present growing menace of imperialist attacks which lay in the debacle of the socialist states in the former Soviet Union and other east European countries due to the utter revisionist policies pursued by the degenerated communist parties of those countries after the demise of the great leader of proletariat Comrade Stalin. Advocate Gouri Shankar Bhat-tacharjee, a veteran leader of democratic movement of Assam, and well-known educationist and litterateur, Dr. Hiren Gohain, welcomed the move taken by UTUC (LS) for developing anti-imperialist movement in the country by forging broad-based unity of the people to this end. Comrades P. Bhagawati and Bishnu Chandra also spoke.

U.P. :

A brief report from Uttar Pradesh has described that on this occasion, on 1st September a mass meeting under the auspices of UTUC (LS) at Kanpur and a convention at Allahabad were held which were addressed respectively by Comrades N. K. Sharma and V. N. Singh, Vice-President of UTUC (LS), All India Committee.

MAO ZEDONG MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED

9th of September, the 16th anniversary of the demise of Comrade Mao Zedong, was observed in different parts of the country with due regard and solemnity. We are publishing the news of the observance so far received.

The memorial day of Mao Zedong, the great leader and teacher of the proletariat, that fell on 9th September, was observed in Kerala in a solemn manner. The Red Flag was hoisted in all party offices throughout Kerala and floral tributes were paid at the portrait of the great leader.

On 8th September a meeting of the party comrades and supporters was held at Trivandrum party office where Com. C. K. Lukose, Secretary, Kerala State Committee, discussed some of the salient aspects of revolutionary struggles conducted by Mao Zedong and his teachings and its relevance in the present-day situation as laid down by our beloved leader, teacher and guide Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Mao Zedong memorial meeting was held at Emakulam on 13th September at Cochin Tourist Home Hall. Here also Com. C. K. Lukose attended and discussed Mao's brilliant contributions to communist movement in the national and international spheres.

In West Bengal the day was observed through a mass meeting at Esplanade East, Calcutta. Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member, West

Bengal State Committee and Secretary, Calcutta District Committee of the party, was in the chair and Comrade Provash Ghosh, member, Central Committee and Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of the party was the main speaker.

In his speech, Comrade Provash Ghosh particularly showed in the light of the analysis of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, how Comrade Mao Zedong magnificently conducted the great cultural revolution to free the party, the leadership and people from the growing danger of revisionism within the party and to heighten the moral-cultural-political level of the masses as well in their onward march from socialism to communism. He also unmasked the rotten revisionist role of the present Deng leadership which may, if not defeated in time, spell disaster in near future to socialism in China like in the USSR.

Comrade Manik Mukherjee, the president of the meeting, severely criticised in the light of the teachings of Comrade Mao, the treachery of the Gorbachev-Yeltsin clique to international communist movement and firmly opined that the present setback is merely temporary and the final victory will be of Socialism.

Convention to mark solidarity with Cuba

After New Delhi took the lead in holding people's convention on 16th May last against the ever growing neo-colonial onslaughts and threat of war by the imperialists, the US imperialists in particular, a series of people's conventions have been held one after another, in state capitals of Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala etc. West Bengal witnessed a similar convention organised by the citizens of Calcutta in the Centenary Hall of Calcutta University on 15th September last. In this splendid show of solidarity with the valiant Cubans, Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, ex-Vice Chancellor, Calcutta University, adorned the presidential chair. Eminent personalities in the field of education, besides cross-sections of the people, attended the convention.

The presence of Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer and Counsellor in the Cuban Embassy, Mr. R. P. Victor was the added attraction of the convention which aroused widespread enthusiasm and vigour. At the outset, Shri Devaprosad Sarkar, MLA West Bengal, placed the resolution condemning the growing imperialist attacks led by the US imperialists, and called upon the democratic, patriotic and peace-loving people to thwart unitedly all those neo-colonial onslaughts and imperialist attacks, which with minor amendments suggested by the Cuban representative, Mr. Victor, was unanimously accepted amidst jubilation and applause from the hall packed to capacity.

Tracing the history of emergence of revolutionary transformation of Cuba, Justice Iyer said : Cuba today symbolises the citadel of uncompromising struggle against imperialism in general and US imperialism in particular. He recounted how in different stages of history patriotic people of India extended their unstinted support to the anti-imperialist struggles of the oppressed peoples over the globe including those of the valiant Vietnamese liberation struggle. In the face of unprecedented crisis in the communist movement vis-a-vis fall of the former Soviet Union and the east European countries, the historical responsibility demands of the toiling Indians to express their solidarity with the people of Cuba. Without belittling the necessity of material aid and assistance, moral and spiritual support is needed most by them. The other highlight of the convention was the letter sent by the General Secretary of the SUCI, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, to Cuba expressing his revolutionary greetings for the people of Cuba who were waging an unrelenting fight in defence of scientific socialism.

Comrade Pritish Chanda, the Politburo member of the SUCI, who read out the said letter before the audience, spoke in an emotion-choked voice that the material help now being provided by teeming millions of India, although too inadequate to cope with their massive needs, the unflinching faith in proletarian internationalism of the peoples of both the countries will augur a new beginning in their bond of friendship and solidarity through this meagre material help.

Expressing his warm felicitation to the citizens of Calcutta, the Cuban representative, Mr. Victor, highlighted the solidarity of the peoples of both the countries which, he said, is being fortified by the material assistance and cooperation extended by the citizens of Calcutta. He expressed his utmost pleasure at the growing solidarity by the people of different states of India which has been taking the form of a growing movement. It is the role of the people that decides everything whereas the government of a country may not necessarily come forward with all-out support at the dire need of a country for so many reasons. Recounting the manifold onslaughts and intrigues perpetrated by the US imperialists economically, politically and militarily, Mr. Victor told his audience that the US imperialists undermined the unflagging determination of the Cuban people in defence of their motherland and with revolutionary audacity echoed the voice of their beloved leader, Fidel, who called upon the people of Cuba to fight to finish in defence of socialism in Cuba.

Others who spoke in support of the resolution was the distinguished jurist Mr. Arun Prakash Chatterjee and Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member, WB State Secretariat and Secretary, Calcutta District Committee of SUCI and a familiar figure in the field of cultural and literary movement.

The CC, SUCI, donated Rs.1 lakh, medicine and baby food worth Rs.1.60 lakh besides commitment of 100 quintals of rice. The UTUC(LS) gave Rs.25,000, the Medical Service Centre donated medicine worth about Rs.1 lakh and baby food of Rs.20,000, while Bengal Primary Teachers' Association donated 50 tins of baby food. Commitment of rice could not be met owing to administrative snag. So a draft of Rs. 70,000 instead of rice was given. All materials were sent through the Cuba Solidarity Committee.

Finally, the convention announced the formation of the West Bengal chapter of the forum "Front Against Imperialist Neo-Colonial Attacks and Threats of War and for Peace" with Dr. Aurobinda Nath Basu, ex-Vice Chancellor, Jadavpore University, as President and Devaprosad Sarkar as General Secretary.

US WAR MACHINATION

(Continued from page 1)

their pursuit of playing a domineering role in the world politics. Unlike the major Arab countries, Iraq and a few others of them were not ready to bow down to the imperialist masters. Of them, Iraq with its mighty war machine aided and abetted by Pentagon during its war with Iran, was emerging almost a regional superpower in the Arab world and thus was likely to be main adversary to the US interests in the region. This outraged the US masters and it became their 'international task' to teach Iraq a good lesson.

Since the period prior to the Gulf War and the subsequent Iraqi defeat in it, the centre-stage of the US foreign policy performance has shifted towards the Middle East and more particularly on to the formulation of strategy of how to manipulate the world opinion against Iraq, launch a hate campaign against its President even upto a personal level and dismantle its military machine in a way to dismember it even so that in near future it cannot raise its head to pose a potential threat to the US imperialist interest in the region. So their so-called commitment to protect the sovereignty of Kuwait, peace in the Gulf, check of proliferation of strategic weapons or the protection of Kurds or Shi'ites were sheer manoeuvre to dismember Iraq and establish its supremacy over the Middle East.

This policy of the US imperialists in Iraq is not an isolated event. Rather, it is a part of its global plan to dominate the world economically, politically and militarily in the name of a 'unipolar world'. This has been more pronounced especially after the collapse of the socialist state structure and establishment of capitalism in the erstwhile Soviet Union and east European countries. The persons seated in the highest echelons in the White House, the Wall Street and the Pentagon along with their powerful espionage organisation, the CIA, have drawn a blueprint to unleash onslaughts on the nations of the world directly and indirectly through their numerous organs. They are now not content with imposing humiliating terms and conditionalities on the debtor nations but are dictating terms as to how should be the internal structure of a country — political and economic — to further their economic interest. The recent incident of the Indian government's further entanglement in the IMF and the World Bank debt-trap in contravention of glorious anti-imperialist heritage of Indian people is a case in point.

This is the barbarous fiscal onslaught. But more direct and overt is the case of Cuba which has been the victim of US embargo and at the same time living under direct military threat by the US imperialists virtually reducing the UNO to a mere rubberstamp and thus endangering world peace. But the heroic people of Cuba are valiantly fighting against the US onslaughts and the democratic, patriotic and peace-loving people of the world are extending their helping hand to tide them over the severe hardship. Libya is also another example of US machination in the Middle East.

It is high time the people of the world forged anti-imperialist front and resisted the heinous conspiracy of the US imperialists. They must shatter the sweet dreams of the US imperialists to reign over the world where all the nations would kneel down before it to get the alms from the US masters.

Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer handing over one of the many packets of aids to Cuban Counsellor, R. P. Victor. In between them is Comrade Pritish Chanda, member of the Politburo of the party.



Thus Jyoti Basu's 'decent police' defend his govt.

Calcutta, 28.9.92 : Evidence of criminalisation of the police force once again came out when people came to know the plight of a poor woman, kidnapped and raped by a gang of policemen in early hours of 23rd September in the heart of Calcutta, inside Phulbagan Police Station. The gruel-

ling incident sparked off spontaneous protest of the people, who recalled how the policemen force raped women several times in the past, besides committing all other criminal acts.

Protesting this beastly act and the decision of the state govt. to raise the transport fares, the

Mahila Sanskritik Sangha today blockaded the Writers' Buildings, the headquarters of the West Bengal government. Hundreds of women, young and old, condemned the police along with the Chief Minister and CPI(M) leader Mr. Jyoti Basu, who came in open defence of police. The police retaliated not just by beating severely the protesters leaving them with broken limbs and skull injury, they, i.e. the male police, molested the women protestors, tore away their clothes, thus exposing their perverse character.

The MSS called upon the people, women in particular, to stand up boldly against outrage of women's dignity by police and antisocials.



Obstructing the women demonstrators or satisfying the perverse desire? A moment in front of the Writers' Buildings on 28th September when the women squatters led by MSS protesting against rape of a woman in a Calcutta Police station and transport fare hike.

Movement against fare hike by 10-party combine

Calcutta, 28.9.92 : The supporters of 10 Left Party Combine comprising SUCI, COI(ML), CPI(ML)-TND, CPI(ML)-Janasakti, IPF, WPI, Bolshevik Party, RCPI, MCPI and Marxbadi Kendra, today put up a road blockade at the busy crossing of Chowringhee for over an hour against the steep hike in fares of conveyance when police pounced upon and brutally injured them with lathis and dispersed them arresting some squatters. People present there burst in condemnation against police brutality on peaceful demonstrators. Protest blockades were also made at other places of Calcutta.

In other districts also protest blockades at important street junctions were made against fare rise.



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