

Important Conference Planned

An event of great importance is taking shape in New York City. A very broad range of forces from around the country including the Revolutionary Communist Party is coming together to convene a conference on the international situation, war, revolution, and the internationalist tasks of the American people.

The conference is significant because it will draw together the main different views and programs on the international situation. This will be the first time that such a broad range of views have gotten together in years. The purpose of the conference will be to clarify and debate the main trends on this most timely issue.

A call has been signed by many forces and is being circulated among broad numbers of progressive and revolutionary minded peoples and organizations. As the call states:

"These (questions around the international situation) are life and death questions. The world is in great turmoil, with contradictions sharpening on all continents and all countries. The very forces who through struggle stood together against the U.S. ruling class in Vietnam in the 1960s now debate: putting forward different analyses, different answers, different directions for actions and struggle. And now, just as then, the actions of the masses can make the crucial difference in the struggles worldwide.

"There is an urgent need to both sharpen and broaden the debate to put the different views and ideas and trends squarely and clearly before the greatest number of people."

To overcome the obstacles involved in bringing such a broad group together and insure a disciplined and productive conference the debate is being developed along the three general trends that presently exist on this question. First, the position that says that U.S. imperialism is the main enemy of the vast majority of peoples of the world, and the Soviet Union is either a friend, neutral, or lesser character in shaping world events, and stressing that the main blow be directed against U.S. imperialism in support of liberation struggles around the world. Second, that the contention between the two superpowers is heating up and pushing things toward world war while the prospects for revolution are increasing, and inside the U.S. the main blow should be directed against U.S. imperialism, while opposing it and social imperialism on a world scale. And third, that the contention between the two superpowers is the chief determinant of events, while the factors for revolution are also growing, and that the USSR is variously the main danger, the main enemy, the most dangerous, etc., and should be the focus of the main blow of the peoples' struggles around the world, while opposing U.S. imperialism.

The groups discussing the conference agree that it must be tightly structured and debated along the three lines to avoid any forces from taking advantage of the broadness to push their own group instead of dealing with the issues.

After the call has been circulated it will be released and public propaganda, posters, educational material, put out to build for the conference which is scheduled for New York City, November 13th. ■