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**WE SUPPORT THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE'S JUST STRUGGLE
TO REGAIN NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY!**

The recent turbulent events in Indochina call on us once more to draw clear lines of distinction between aggressors and the victims of aggression, and between unjust wars to subjugate and just wars for national liberation.

The Soviet social-imperialists and the leaders of Vietnam are the aggressors in Indochina. It is they who have sent over 100,000 Vietnamese troops across frontiers, using the latest Soviet-made warplanes, tanks and heavy artillery, to carry out aggression against Democratic Kampuchea. It is they who have invaded Kampuchea, placing extensive areas of the country, including Phnom Penh, under indefinite military occupation.

On the other hand, the people of Kampuchea are clearly the victims of aggression. They have suffered immensely in terms of lives lost and property destroyed. Their newly-won independence has been snatched away by force of arms, and their state's sovereignty and territorial integrity have most cruelly been trampled underfoot.

The Soviet social-imperialists and global hegemonists have replaced the U.S. imperialists as the main trouble-makers in Indochina. Using the Vietnamese leaders and armed forces as their pawns, the Soviet social-imperialists are in fact waging a full-scale war to subjugate the people of Kampuchea and the rest of Indochina. Their aim is to consolidate and further expand an "outpost" in Indochina from which to carry out subversion against Southeast Asia, outflank the People's Republic of China from the south, and more effectively contend with U.S. imperialism for domination over the whole Asia-Pacific region.

The heroic people of Kampuchea, however, refuse to be subjugated. Indomitable and long-steeled in past wars against colonialism and imperialism, they have launched a just and sacred war for national liberation to free their country from the new aggressors and invaders. They have unfolded a people's war against their enemies and are now bitterly fighting to regain their independence and sovereignty.

Combat Revisionist Propaganda

It is important to hold fast to these clear distinctions and to keep in focus the main aspect of the events -- the Soviet-Vietnamese war of aggression on Kampuchea -- in order not to be deceived by propaganda stories or side-tracks by secondary issues. To be sure, the hegemonists of the Kremlin and the authorities in Hanoi have long been peddling an elaborate story in a vain attempt to fool world opinion and justify their aggression against Kampuchea.

According to this elaborate scenario, what is happening in Kampuchea is entirely a "civil war" among Kampuchean and no one has invaded or carried

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out aggression. This story tells also of a "mass uprising" of Kampuchians under a so-called "national united front for national salvation," this organization allegedly having set up the new regime in Phnom Penh.

How clumsy, ridiculous, and insulting to world opinion! How can they conceal an invasion force of twelve Vietnamese divisions, advancing under air cover, with large numbers of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and heavy artillery? How can they conceal the tens of thousands of Vietnamese troops with Soviet "advisers" who are now occupying most of Kampuchea? The simple truth is that the Soviet social-imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities are aggressors and invaders, and they are responsible for concocting the "national united front for national salvation" and for installing the puppet regime in Phnom Penh.

Another widely-circulated story has it that the Soviet-backed Vietnamese invasion merely "liberated" the Kampuchean people from an "oppressive" government. The facts about this alleged "oppression" remain unclear to this day. What is certain is that the media in some countries raised a great hue and cry about this for months even before the invasion, distorting, sensationalizing, and even inventing "human rights violations" in Kampuchea.

It is entirely possible that the Kampuchean government meted out harsh treatment to an undetermined number of its citizens suspected of being unreliable. Granting this, however, the fact remains that such "objectionable" internal policies of Kampuchea can never be used to prettify, much less justify, the utterly illegal and savage aggression launched by the Soviet hegemonists and their Vietnamese cohorts. Other states' critical views of internal policies of Kampuchea cannot be placed above the latter's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. To think otherwise would be to negate the basic norms of international relations and condone all forms of international bullying and aggression.

The Scheming Soviet Hand

A review of certain crucial moves of the Soviet social-imperialists since the middle of last year reveals how they have masterminded, and directly participated in, the Soviet-Vietnamese war of aggression on Kampuchea.

In June last year, the Soviet Union drew Vietnam into the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon) in order to help patch up Hanoi's falling economy. A couple of months later, Moscow sent Hanoi huge quantities of arms, including rockets. All sorts of Soviet military "advisers" and personnel streamed into Vietnam until these exceeded 4,000 before the end of the year. The Soviet Union also started to use the air and naval base at Camp Ranh Bay in central Vietnam. In November, the Soviet social-imperialists concluded with the Vietnamese leaders a "treaty of friendship and cooperation" which had all the characteristics of a military pact. More weapons and equipment were shipped to Hanoi, including the latest Mig-23 fighter planes and two warships. At this time, the massive military build-up for the invasion was already in full swing.

Still in November, at the Moscow summit of Warsaw Pact countries, the Soviet social-imperialists pressured their satellites in Eastern Europe to give "joint support" to the planned aggression. On December 3, the founding of the "national united front for national salvation" was announced and the Soviet media immediately made a loud noise about "real patriotic forces rising in resolute struggle" in Kampuchea. The Soviet-Vietnamese invasion began on December 25 and the aggressor troops occupied Phnom Penh on January 7 this year, instantly installing a puppet regime.

It is not at all surprising that the invasion of Kampuchea closely resembles the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia a decade ago. After all, the author and mastermind are one and the same. All the steps in the pattern long-mastered by the Soviet social-imperialists were again used against Kampuchea: the massive military build-up, the vicious preparatory propaganda offensive against the target state, the overwhelming blitzkrieg attack from several directions, the hurried installation of a puppet regime to give "legality" to the invasion and continued occupation. The only new element is that this time they have carried out the operation with Vietnamese troops.

The Soviet social-imperialists are bent on world hegemony and will not stop at armed aggression on Kampuchea. With their grip on the leaders of Vietnam having tightened, and the de-facto military occupation of large parts of Kampuchea and Laos by Vietnamese troops, it may be said that the Soviet hegemonists have indeed established for themselves for the time being a "reliable outpost" in the very heart of Southeast Asia. The Soviet-Vietnamese war of aggression has already destabilized the situation in the whole of Asia and is a prelude to the coming belligerent moves of the global hegemonists. Soviet social-imperialism has thus become the main source of turbulence, disorder and war in this part of the world.

Unite Against Global Hegemonism

The Soviet hegemonists' plan to use their outpost in Indochina to widen the scope of their aggression and eventually dominate Southeast Asia and the whole Asia-Pacific region cannot but fail. Their war of aggression in Indochina, carried out with the cooperation of Vietnam's leaders, has only opened the eyes of the people of Asia and the whole world and strengthened their resolve to frustrate the Soviet social-imperialists' plans for regional and global hegemony. An international united front is fast shaping up against hegemonism.

The Filipino people have also taken the lessons of the Kampuchean experience to heart. We are now more than ever alert to the schemes of the Soviet hegemonists to promote further aggression and destabilization in the region in order to create opportunities for them to barge into the Philippines and other countries in Southeast Asia. We also see that the Soviet hegemonists' belligerent moves in the region could signal a renewed tugging at the strings of their local puppets -- the Lavaite revisionists and surrenderers. But these renegades and saboteurs have long been discredited and can easily be knocked down the moment they make more moves to harm the Filipino people's struggle for national democracy.

The heroic people of Kampuchea are not alone in their just struggle. All people who love justice and freedom, all people who uphold and defend independence, sovereignty and the right of nations to self-determination, stand on their side.

The Preparatory Commission for the National Democratic Front and all progressive Filipinos firmly support the just and sacred struggle of the Kampuchean people to regain their national independence and state sovereignty.

Preparatory Commission for the
National Democratic Front

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