

ON THE ISSUE OF STALIN AND THE SO-CALLED CULT OF PERSONALITY

It is not our endeavour now to assess Stalin, his role and contribution, his omissions and commissions, his failures and successes and his unique contribution to the theory and practice of socialism and communism. Nor is it our contention that there did not occur lapses and mistakes on his part as the head of the first socialist state

and the leader of the world Communist movement for nearly thirty years after the death of Lenin. The CPSU was perfectly entitled to self-critically examine its past work and correct whatever shortcomings and mistakes that had crept into its work of building socialism in the Soviet Union and discharging its responsibilities towards the world Communist movement. But what was done, in the so-called secret report of Khrushchov on Stalin at the 20th Congress and the subsequent period following it, is something far different from it. The fact that the report was enthusiastically seized upon by the U.S. imperialists and widely circulated by the different anti-communist and reactionary agencies all over the world, the fact that the leadership of the CPSU while formally refuting the authenticity of such a report on the one hand made a piecemeal corroboration of its contents through speeches and writings in the Soviet press on the other, the fact that no authoritative version has yet seen the light of day even a decade after the 20th Congress and above all, the fact that this 'secret report' on Stalin became more a weapon in the hands of avowed enemies of communism in their effort to tarnish the image of communism and to undermine the faith of the people in the cause of Marxism-Leninism, than an instrument in the hands of communists to learn from the mistakes and to confidently march forward, speak volumes against this notorious piece of work by Khrushchov. The entire question of Stalin was dealt with as a question simply connected with the Soviet Union, as a 'private affair' of the CPSU and as an issue concerning the individual of Stalin and his merits and demerits. The biggest fact of history—that he was destined to act as the spokesman of the CPSU and the Communist International for decades following the death of Lenin, to defend Marxism-Leninism from the attacks of right and left-opportunist trends, to head the building of socialism in the Soviet Union and transform it into a mighty world power, lead the historic anti-fascist war to victory, to rebuild rapidly the war-ravaged economy and industrial might of the Soviet Union, and to lead the formation and functioning of the world socialist camp was sought to be simply ignored, and a

one-sided, distorted and subjective assessment was made. To put it sharp, it was nothing short of an attempt to deliberately tear off pages covering thirty years of history of the world Communist movement, and in a way world history, which cannot be substituted with the rag of a so-called 'secret report' by Khrushchov. No true Leninist can succeed in the effort to carry forward the mantle of Leninism if its steadfast and acknowledged defender for three decades after Lenin is damagingly denigrated and depicted almost as a megalomaniac, a job that Khrushchov undertook in vain and with disastrous results. In the name of fighting the 'cult of personality', an anarchic trend of denouncing the authority of men and their place in revolutionary movements was freely fostered.

The Soviet revisionist leaders had not shown any concern for the world Communist movement and the possible pernicious results of such a scandalous report on Stalin and did not even care to have prior consultation and discussions with at least the leading fraternal Communist Parties of the world on the subject. Thus they provided grist to the mill of world imperialism.

The total negation of Stalin by the leaders of modern revisionism, we have to state, is closely linked with their assaults on a series of Marxist-Leninist theories and propositions on imperialism, on war and peace, on the concepts of proletarian hegemony and dictatorship of the proletariat on the strategy and tactics of the revolutions in colonial and dependent countries, and on the nature, character and role of the Communist Party.

In spite of all the efforts of modern revisionists, Stalin's name will continue to be inseparable from Marxism-Leninism.

ON YUGOSLAV REVISIONISM

The anti-Marxist-Leninist views of the Yugoslav revisionist were subjected to thorough criticism by the world Communist movement when they came with their full-fledged revisionist programme in 1958. They had earlier refused to accept the 1957 Moscow Declaration. Eightyone Communist and Workers' Parties in their Moscow Con-