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Foil This Sinister US War Design

Following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon HQ in Washington on September 11, the USA has mobilised huge air and naval forces directed at Afghanistan from all sides. A formidable naval task force of 14 ships including aircraft carriers and guided missile cruisers and destroyers and hundreds of advanced warplanes have been assembled. Three aircraft carriers carrying over 200 planes are in the Mediterranean. Two aircraft carriers along with their complements of guided missile cruisers and destroyers are in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. There are US warplanes stationed in Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey and in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan along the Northern border of Afghanistan. A number of US crack special forces including commando and airborne troops have been mobilised. In this way, the most powerful military power on earth surrounds a weak country like Afghanistan and is poised to destroy it.

The USA is preparing for an all-out war. To start with, President Bush has in no time, got approval of the Congress for a staggering allocation of 40 billion US dollars for the purpose.

Why this attack? It is because the Taliban administration of Afghanistan has not acceded to the US demand to hand over Osama bin Laden to it.

Why does the USA want to get hold of Laden? Because it wants to punish him for the 11 September terrorist strikes.

Has Laden's involvement in these attacks been proved? No. But the USA considers Laden to be the prime suspect, and deems that to be sufficient ground for launching all-out attack on Afghanistan. It has brushed aside the Taliban demand to show proof that Laden was behind

the terrorist strike. There is no necessity to adduce proof! Nor does the USA really possess any proof. Various piecemeal information handed out so far and publicised the world over, result of investigation by US intelligence agencies, do not add up to any coherent proof of anything presentable to the world. And yet, because the USA suspects Laden and Laden is supposed to be somewhere in Afghanistan, the USA must lay waste the whole of Afghanistan killing, injuring and maiming hundreds of thousands. If the USA comes up with "fool proof evidence" of Laden's complicity tomorrow, not much credence should be given to it, as the US intelligence agencies are known to be past masters in cooking up "evidence" to suit or justify US misdeeds.

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SUCI Condemns US War Cry

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI issued the following statement to the press on 20 September, 2001:

"While condemning the terrorist attack in USA on 11 September last, we note with deep concern that the US Government seems to be hell bent in launching war against Afghanistan at any moment in the name of 'bringing justice' to people responsible for destruction of World Trade Centre and Pentagon. This, no doubt, in its wake will kill innumerable innocent people and gravely endanger world peace.

"In this regard people can never forget how the most barbaric terrorist imperialist state like USA committed worst crime against humanity over the past decades in several countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, killing and injuring countless people. It; therefore, incurred the wrath of the oppressed people world over.

"Today, using the terrorist attack as a pretext, the US imperialist rulers once again are not only out to trample upon the sovereignty of independent countries and arrogantly bypass the UNO flagrantly violating all international norms and justice in the height of super power arrogance, they are also frantically trying to take blanket sanction to attack any country, any time on the plea of fighting terrorism and in the interest of blood merchants and peddlers of arms trade controlled by the MNCs. Moreover, declaring war against the Taliban terrorists only on assumption and without any proof of who are really the guilty is highly immoral, unjust and illegal. We call upon the world community to build up strong public opinion to mount pressure upon the US government to desist from this inhuman course.

"While condemning these acts of the US imperialists we express deep indignation at and strongly protest against the servile attitude of the BJP-led NDA government's uncalled for and unconditional offer to USA to have access to India's military bases and thus entangle Indian people in war efforts, shamelessly joining the bandwagon of US military machinations, going against the glorious tradition of anti-imperialist movement of our people in the interest of Indian monopoly houses."

SIMI Banned to Foment Hindu Fanaticism

— Nihar Mukherjee

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI issued the following statement to the press on 29th September, 2001 :

"While as a secular party we are opposed to any religious political party and organization, we condemn the way the Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) has been banned, labelling some charges without valid proofs in the court of law.

"If SIMI is banned, why not other notorious religious outfits of BJP, Shiv Sena and others ?

"This has been done by the BJP led central government to foment communal tension in the country and particularly to boost up Hindu fanaticism and terrorise minority community in UP to reap harvest at the hustings.

"We call upon the people to maintain communal harmony at any cost and defeat the conspiracy of BJP led central government."

**Responding to the call of the
International Action Center, USA,
All India Anti-imperialist Forum
observed
29th September across India
through rallies, demonstrations,
effigy burning
as part of Worldwide Anti-War Day.**

Vendor of Terrorism Unleashing Global Terror

(Contd. from page 1)

Imperialist-terrorist role of USA

US President Bush has declared a crusade against world terrorism. There is no doubt that Osama bin Laden is an arch terrorist organizer operating on international scale. But what has been the international track record of the USA itself? It has been an unbroken spell of heinous attacks and state-sponsored terrorism against different countries, of international brigandage and gangsterism. There is no need to go into the details of US invasion of Korea in the early fifties of last century or the subsequent total war against the Vietnamese people, or how the Vietnamese gloriously defied the armed might of the arch imperialist country, USA and gave it a fitting rebuff. But what about the blockade of Cuba lasting for decades designed to stifle the Cuban people and cow them down into submission, the numerous terrorist attacks and assassination attempts engineered there by the USA that have been proved abortive by the heroic Cuban people, the all-out invasion of Iraq over a decade back and the subsequent on-going blockade and armed siege of that country punctuated with intermittent attacks, killing millions of Iraqis but failing to force them into submission, and the brutal attack of genocidal proportions on the peoples of erstwhile Yugoslavia centring round the Kosovo issue?

Besides, in recent years, the USA invaded Granada in the Carribeans, bombed Tripoli and Benghazi in Lybia killing a large number of civilians in their sleep; it killed thousands in Panama in a night attack on Christmas Eve, destroyed a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan by rocket attack. The factory used to produce bulk of Sudan's medicine requirement. Its sudden destruction was responsible for the death of thousands of innocent Sudanese. These attacks were carried out on various pretexts, mainly in the name of combating terrorism, but without any back-up evidence. In 1995, the USA accused Arab and Islamic organisations of perpetrating a bomb blast in Oklahoma City, but eventually it came to light that a right-wing extremist Army veteran was responsible!

The point is that the USA, as the arch imperialist country on the globe is hell bent to maintain and enhance its domination over the world at any cost. In pursuing this objective, it brands as terrorist whomsoever it likes and thinks nothing of launching

attacks on any country it chooses trampling upon the independence and sovereignty of such countries with disdain. Through such state-sponsored terrorism on a global scale, the USA stands as the biggest perpetrator of international terrorism, as the foremost rogue state on the planet. And in furtherance of its nefarious design, it makes use of terrorist organisations from country to country. And all such terrorism, US state sponsored or by proxy, are dubbed as fight for democracy and freedom. Terrorism becomes terrorism in US estimation only when it is directed, for whatever reason, against US imperialist interest.

Take the case of Osama bin Laden himself. It is wellknown that the USA, as part of its bid to counter armed Soviet presence in Afghanistan following the invasion of country by the Soviet Union (then turned revisionist) in the 1980, beefed up Laden's armoury by clandestine funding of reportedly at least 3 billion US dollars through the CIA, providing arms and technological support to Laden's terrorist effort, including the deadly stinger missiles. That Laden has proved to be a Frankenstein is another matter.

Sinister US design

There are signs that the US strike may not be limited to Afghanistan but expanded. The US Deputy Secretary of Defence, Wolfowitz has gone on record saying, "Its not just simply a matter of capturing people and holding them accountable, but removing the sanctuaries, removing the support systems, ending the states who sponsor terrorism" (report in *The Statesman*, 15.9.2001). This has a sinister implication as Bin Laden's terrorist outfit Al Qaeda reportedly has connections in many a country of the Middle East and Africa, countries which must now feel vulnerable to US pressure or even raids. Already, the USA considers Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Cuba, North Korea and Sudan to be sponsoring terrorism against it and may use the opportunity offered by the present terrorist strikes in USA to launch or step up attacks on them at times of its choosing. Right now, Wolfowitz and Libby, Chief of Staff to the US Vice-President, "are pressing for the earliest military campaign not only against the Osama bin Laden network but also other suspected terrorist bases in Iraq and Lebanon's Bekaa region" and "These officials are seeking to include Iraq in the target list with the aim of toppling Mr Saddam Hussain

from power even if he can't be linked with the terrorists who struck New York and Washington" (report in *New York Times* quoted in *The Statesman*, 21.9.2001) In a haughty denial of the other nations' right to their own perception and opinion, to exercise their independence, US President Bush, in a special address before the US Congress, warned that USA would pursue any nation that it considered to be aiding terrorism." Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists. Any nation that harbours terrorists will be regulated by the USA as a hostile regime," said he.

Such brow-beating to force other nations into toeing the US line is in conformity with the high handedness and utter disregard about the world opinion that have characterised US state craft and diplomacy. The USA has expanded the NATO on to the Russian borders — a grave military provocation. Besides helping Zionist terrorism in every way for decades, it has been conniving at the aggressive Israeli policy of building settlements on patently Palestinian land. The USA unilaterally rejected the Kyoto Accord on reducing greenhouse gases and also rejected a UN draft for an accord to make the three decade old treaty against germ warfare enforceable. President Bush has informed the Russian President Mr Putin that the USA would abrogate the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty that had been signed by Richard Nixon and Leonid Brezhnev. The US delegation has rejected a treaty to control small arms.

USA tries to gang up

But when it comes to launching an imperialist war, the same USA, the high priest of unilateralism, if it suits its purpose, tries to garb its bid of wanton aggression as a joint venture by a group of countries, under the aegis of UNO as it did in Iraq making this world body a rubber stamp for endorsing its nefarious designs or of the NATO as it did in the case of Kosovo. This time too, USA has been quick to marshal support. Invoking a special clause in its charter, the NATO has declared that the terrorist attack on USA would be considered to be an attack on all its 19 members. In a joint statement, NATO and Russia have expressed support for the USA. Japan and China too supported the USA initially, but are showing some reservations now. UN Security Council has passed a resolution authorizing use of force against further terrorist attacks. The USA now wants to do away with any

dependence on the UN as it does not want to face the UN General Assembly, being aware of the adverse public opinion in the countries including the USA about its blatantly aggressive role. So, the US Secretary of State General Colin Powell is engaged in a bid to gang up over 100 countries in support of the coming US attacks without any reference to the UNO. The UN General Secretary Kofi Annan has complained that the USA is bypassing the UNO!

Although the USA has been able to enlist general support of a large number of countries, it is being revealed that a number of its supporting or associate countries have difference in perception with it on various issues like whether just Laden as a terrorist and his organisation should be attacked and eliminated or whether there should be a general invasion of Afghanistan and whether the Talibans should be overthrown from power, etc. The USA has not yet been able to resolve these and launch the attack. But it has made it amply clear that it would embark upon a long drawn out war, overt and covert, involving many countries.

The US logic is simple. Either a country toes the US line, or it faces US wrath. In this "crusade against terrorism", any country or organisation that obstructs US imperialist design is liable to be branded "terrorist". In this way, 26 organisations in different countries have been declared "terrorist" and the USA has ordered freezing their bank accounts and other assets, wherever they may be!

Role of Indian government

Such is the character of the USA with which the Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee wishes to join hands to embark upon the "crusade" against international terrorism. And what is the character of the Vajpayee government, its track record?

Successive governments in Delhi serving exploitative and oppressive capitalist order have immeasurably strengthened the army and the police force and have gifted to the nation a plethora of paramilitary forces and draconian laws to provide security to capitalist class rule, to further capitalist class policies and to ruthlessly crush all discontent and disaffection. Those from the forces have virtually been provided with the "licence to kill" as they are immune from prosecution if they are deemed to have acted "in good faith". Whenever and wherever the forces are sent out in the name of

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SAARC Regional TU Conference & Seminar

Paper Submitted by UTUC-Lenin Sarani

(Excerpts from the papers presented at SAARC TU Conference and Seminar held from 9 to 12 August, 2001 at Gandhi Peace Foundation Hall, New Delhi. News covered in the last issue)

Seminar on Informal Sector, Trade Union and ILO Standards (9-10 August, 2001),

1. It is seen that for some years past, various organisations of employers and monopoly capitalists, national governments, various international agencies championing the policy of globalisation have been vocal about the interest and welfare of unorganised labour or informal sector labour. We, the trade unions, are also discussing the issues and are suggesting various measures for their welfare at various levels and fora. But is the objective of this exercise common or can the approach to the problem be uniform? We think, 'NO'. There are and there must be two different objectives and two opposite approaches. As it appears to us, it is a case of calculated awakening on the part of the capitalist class and the governments of various countries to the cause, plight and predicament of unorganised labour. It is not that the unorganised labour was absent in the economic-industrial scenario hitherto. The question is what stood in the way of the government to bring in suitable legislations for them and ensure provision for human service conditions and social security? What prevented, as for example, the Government of India to ensure minimum wages to vast unorganised working population covered under the Minimum Wages Act enacted long back in 1948. Is it a problem of identification or enumeration? Surely not. So the track record does not suggest that they were ever serious to the cause of unorganised labour. But then why they are vocal today? It must be kept in mind that due to implementation of the policies of globalisation and liberalisation, and all-out offensive has been unleashed against the organised sector workers. Lakhs are being thrown out of employment. Hard won rights have been curtailed and snatched away. There is an all-round discontent. To hide the misdeeds and justify the onslaughts a malicious and hateful campaign has been initiated from various interested quarters against the organised workers. It is also being said, "Much has been done for the organised sector and now it is the turn for the unorganised." This sort of approach clearly exposes the motive of the ruling class and the governments. The motive is to hide their criminal activities in the organised sector under the organised

chorus for the welfare of the unorganised labour. Trade union movement must remain alert of this conspiratorial design of disrupting unity in the ranks of the working class. We must understand that it is the movement and united sustained movement in the right direction alone can force the government to concede to the legitimate demands of the unorganised labour.

2. We must also remain alert of the class design to retain the unorganised sector as a parallel and permanent sector. It is also the need of the present-day exploitative capitalist system at its moribund stage. Hence it is not unlikely that they would extend some relief measures bypassing the basic demands. In this backdrop the prime objective of the discussion is to organise struggles for the cause of unorganised labour with the aim of elevating them to the status of organised sector labour. The movement must not be directed for formalising the informal sector and legalising with some concessions the long persisting discrimination...

... In total absence of any kind of security net or protective legislation it is useless enlisting their endless tragedies or shedding tears thereon. At the end of the day what rule their destiny are the laws of jungle. Going by the Indian instance out of its population of 1000 million the total workforce, according to government version stands at 400 million against our analytical estimation of 530 million. 350 million are claimed to be employed of which only 10% or 35 million are in formal sector of which too only 28 million or only 8% of the total employed, 5% of total workforce and 2.8% of the total population are covered under security net. Conversely, majority of 322 million or as high as 92% of the employed are absolutely denied any access to or entitlements like notified minimum wage, leave, PF, gratuity, pension, maternity benefits, insurance cover, old-age benefits and the like. As they survive on daily earnings they are nowhere if they fall sick as they usually possess nothing to fall back upon and may even lose their job. The facts of their life are, not often but almost always, stranger than fiction. Whether it is a tragedy or a ridicule is really to wonder. In their struggle seeking justice what they have invariably to face is the combined might of the employer,

police and government, always working in league...

In the conclusion, we propose the results of the seminar be summed up in a programme of action comprising the following works, measures and decisions:

1) Greater importance will be given by the trade unions in organising various sections of unorganised labour; 2) conscious efforts would be initiated and continued through trade union classes and joint programme of movements to bridge psychological gap existing between the workers of unorganised and organised sectors on various groups as well as to consolidate their unity; 3) mass campaign programme will be launched to create awareness among the people with a view to mobilising them in support of legitimate struggle of the unorganised workers; 4) united struggle will be intensified in every country for the legitimate rights and cause of the unorganised sector labour. The central issues of the movement will be (a) no contractorisation or casualisation of perennial nature of services, (b) abolition of the system of engagement of labour through contractors and absorption of such workers under the principal employers, (c) security of employment and expansion of job opportunities so as to provide full work throughout the year, (d) statutory minimum wages, with minimum wage clearly defined, and establishment of adequate enforcement machinery, (e) social security measures fully financed by the government and the employers without any contribution from the workers, (f) no discrimination against women labour, (g) returning of childhood to child labour accompanied with effective rehabilitation scheme, (h) appropriate protection mechanism for migrant workers, (i) statutory protection of the right to organise and collective bargaining free from administrative and police interference, and state sponsored violence.

Lastly, we do emphasise to realise the fact that to retain unorganised labour as separate entity is a need of the exploitative capitalist economy, not a compulsion for the pro-people growth and development of the economy. This need of the capitalist system is completely delinked from the interest of the labour in particular and people in general. (Paper by Comrade Shankar Saha, Secretary, UTUC-LS.)

Cooperation, Coordination and Solidarity in the Struggle for Social Development and Progress (11 - 12 August)

We may well begin with definition of Social Development as adopted by the first ever World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) organised by the United Nations in March, 1995 in Copenhagen. We quote this definition because all the nations are parties to its formulation and committed to it. The ILO is also committed to and the WFTU has demanded implementation of the commitments included therein. It reads as follows: "It requires ensuring employment, health, education, gender equality, nondiscrimination and equality of opportunity to all." The Social Summit's proclamation of ten commitments for social development include the following:

a) to create an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable to achieve social development;

b) to eradicate poverty in the world through decisive national actions and international cooperation as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind;

c) to promote the goal of full employment as basic priority of economic and social policies.

...But experience at home and abroad confirms the indisputable truth that during these years the national governments have followed and implemented a calculated course of action to undo the said ethical imperative... Those who had, sincerely, put faith on the declaration and had accordingly, changed the course of movement away from consistent and intense class struggles, have found to their dismay, that, they have reached a blind alley. They are feeling to have been deceived. People, world over, is realising, that the high sounding Copenhagen declaration to organise national and international efforts to effect social development has turned out in reality to be an instrument of social campaign to make GATT treaty and WTO, a planned framework for world management of trade by national and foreign based monopolists and MNCs, acceptable to world people... it must be understood that the struggle for social development in present-day perspective cannot be viewed and conducted without determined and uncompromising struggle against globalisation and liberalisation and

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US War Machination

(Contd from page 2)

curbing terrorism, their oppression and torture on the people come out in lurid light.

The BJP-led government in Delhi have raised the military budgets to unprecedented levels and further strengthened the military/para-military forces. Wherever these forces are sent to curb insurgency or terrorism, they kill and maim the people, torture them, extort money, rape the women. Currently, they have let loose a reign of terror on the people of Kashmir.

If this is not state-terrorism, then what is it? About 600 policemen face charges of violating human rights in Punjab, a legacy of their "fight" against militancy there. The issue was highlighted when Jaswant Singh Khalra, a human right activist who was collecting evidence of secret cremations in Punjab, suddenly "disappeared". Reportedly, Khalra had just completed data collection about thousands who had "disappeared" when he himself "disappeared".

Recently, Home Minister Advani came to the defence of the accused policemen by advocating legal protection to those on counter-insurgency duty against human rights violation!

Currently, the Indian and Pakistani governments are vying with each other in trying to please the USA on the terrorist issue in a competition as to who can curry more favour with the USA, in a manner which must make all sensible, self-respecting Indians and Pakistanis hang their heads in shame. Both the governments have provided unconditional support and facilities to the USA to attack the Talibans, in the hope to be more favoured by the USA, especially in the context of the Kashmir issue. The USA has graciously lifted the economic sanctions against both clamped down by it after the last bout of nuclear explosions by the two countries, as a reward for their support to USA for the coming attack on Afghanistan. Currently, the USA is more receptive to the offer of facilities by Pakistan as it makes better sense logistically, given the geographical positions of India and Pakistan vis-a-vis Afghanistan. It is because of this that the USA now appears to be more favourably inclined towards Pakistan. It has re-scheduled debt-repayment by Pakistan leniently and considering lifting of arms assistance ban to Pakistan. This has caused considerable discomfiture to Delhi which is trying to comfort itself by Colin Powell's utterance in an interview to the BBC on 22nd

September that terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir is on President Bush's target list.

Indian monopoly capital wishes that the opportunity provided by the terrorist strikes on the USA and its aftermath be utilised by its subservient BJP-led government in Delhi to launch fresh economic attacks on the Indian people, and this has been reflected in a section of the monopoly press. *The Statesman* in an editorial on 16th September, after pointing out that the Indian economy does not face the risk of a major disruption due to the happenings, advised: "However, the government should be intelligent in trying to take advantage of the psychological context following the attack on American targets and push through some of the hard measures so far held up by political squeamishness. The Prime Minister seems to have adopted this line and he is right. Except that he has to play his cards carefully so as not to give political opponents a chance to accuse him of cynical manipulation." What a blunt and hypocritical admission of anti-people capitalist class motive! Already, talks of steep hike in the prices of kerosene and cooking gas are in the air.

It would not do for the Indian people to be swayed by Vajpayee's tall talks about the crusade against terrorism. Their task is to organise themselves to resist imperialist-capitalist onslaughts on their life and living, the attacks on their democratic rights and civil liberty, the state sponsored terrorism

USA utilising present situation to further imperialist designs

It is clear that the USA is trying to utilise the situation arising from the terrorist attack on it to pursue multiple imperialist objectives to strengthen its position.

Firstly, the US economy is gripped with intense crisis, as indeed is the whole imperialist-capitalist economy of the world. The present recession is so intense that the Centre for Economics and Business Research has forecast a 2.2 percent fall in GDP of the world during the next year. (report in *The Statesman* dated 25.9.2001). The Centre has, of course, assessed the 11 September terrorist attacks on the USA to be responsible for this, but we know better. It is the deep-seated worldwide recession, that is the prime cause, and not the terrorist attacks on one country. It has merely been made the scapegoat.

In the face of this grave recession, the US imperialist rulers urgently need to further step up

militarization of US economy in a bid to mitigate the crisis somewhat, need war to effect a release of the arms stockpiled in their arsenal. The present warlike situation offers an excellent opportunity for this, and the US rulers can now go for unfettered rise of military budget in the coming years with impunity.

Secondly, in the background of worldwide recession, contradiction between the imperialist countries have been growing over gaining larger shares of the world market and intense trade war between them is on. The situation following the terrorist attacks will, at least for the time being, turn the situation in USA's favour by making the other imperialist countries toe the US-line.

Thirdly, countries like Russia and China are strongly opposed to President Bush's aggressive plan of NMD. But in view of the present situation created by the USA centring round the terrorist strike, these countries will have to lie low with their objections muted, allowing the USA to proceed with the nefarious NMD scheme unhindered with some kind of a moral sanction behind it.

Fourthly, the US economy is so crisis-ridden that thousands are losing their jobs in factories and offices every day. There is discontent all round and movements against the attacks on life and living are growing. The present situation will help the US rulers to smother the movements and to further curtail the democratic rights of the American people on the plea of curbing terrorism.

Fifthly, a strong feeling against American imperialism has been on the rise in the countries of the Middle-East. The USA is utilising the present opportunity to rope in their governments to its side.

Sixthly, taking advantage of the present situation, the USA is trying to establish the dangerous practice of sending its armed forces, naval units and military aircrafts to whichever country it pleases, through pressurisation or under threat, if necessary.

Lastly, it is to be remembered that the USA has been trying for long to make inroads into Central Asia. Taking advantage of the present situation, it has already gained footholds in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. It cannot be ruled out that one objective of the current US moves is to set up a vassal state subservient to it in Afghanistan, destabilising both Russia and China. Moscow cannot be happy at the US military presence in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, considered by it to be in its sphere of influence. And the fact that the Northern Afghan Alliance, at

war with the Talibans with Russian backing for so long, is now negotiating with the USA for help, cannot but cause discomfiture to Russia. To balance the situation, Russia has assured the Alliance of military help.

Task of the people

Only a mighty, militant anti-imperialist movement, anti-war peace movement sweeping across the globe can provide the deterrent to US imperialist designs. The task of the peoples is to see to it that their revulsion at the terrorist attack on the USA and sympathy for the victims of the attack are not made use of by the imperialist-capitalist powers, headed by the USA, to divert attention from their own terrorism and imperialist attacks and to confuse the people in order to muster public support behind their fresh onslaughts on countries in the name of crusade against international terrorism, and that the growing international anti-imperialist movement is not impaired in any way. It is heartening to note that a movement has begun in the USA against the current blatantly aggressive US moves, and we congratulate the American people on this. We have common cause with them. They are our fraternal allies in the anti-imperialist struggle.

There is a tendency in some quarters to view the current US attack as an attack against Islam, a precursor to clash between Christianity and Islam. Such a concept is erroneous and harmful. It is erroneous because imperialism does not go by religion when it attacks a country. Korea, Vietnam and Cuba are not Muslim countries. It is harmful because it would divide the people on the basis of religion, causing rift in the anti-imperialist unity of the people.

We demand cessation of the warlike situation created by US imperialism, an end to military build up. We demand that the imperialists take their hands off other countries.

We appeal to all to cement the peoples' unity and strengthen the international anti-imperialist movement.

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Fidel Castro Expresses Solidarity while Urging for Peace and Calmness

Speech on 22nd September to Cuban people (excerpts) about operation Infinite Justice

No one can deny that terrorism is today a dangerous and ethically indefensible phenomenon, which should be eradicated regardless of its deep origins, the economic and political factors that brought it to live and those responsible for it.

The unanimous irritation caused by the human and psychological damage brought on the American people by the unexpected and shocking death of thousands of innocent people ... is perfectly understandable. But who have profited? The extreme right, the most backward and right-wing forces, those in favor of crushing the growing world rebellion and sweeping away everything progressive that is still left on the planet....

The first victims of whatever military actions are undertaken will be the billions of people living in the poor and underdeveloped world with their unbelievable economic and social problems, their unpayable debts and the ruinous prices of their basic commodities; their growing natural and ecological catastrophes, their hunger and misery ...

But the price will also be unpayable for the rich countries ...

No nation of the world has been left out of the dilemma, not even the big and powerful states; none has escaped the threat of war or attacks....No procedure has been excluded, regardless of its ethics, or any threat, however fatal — either nuclear, chemical, biological or any other. ...

On Thursday, before the United States Congress, the idea was designed of a world military dictatorship under the exclusive rule

of force, irrespective of any international laws or institutions. The United Nations Organization, simply ignored in the present crisis, would fail to have any authority or prerogative whatsoever. There would be only one boss, only one judge, and only one law. We have all been ordered to ally either with the United States government or with terrorism....

Although the possibilities are now remote, Cuba reaffirms the need to avert a war of unpredictable consequences whose very authors have admitted not to have the least idea of how the events will unfold. Likewise, Cuba reiterates its willingness to cooperate with every country in the total eradication of terrorism.

Cuba will never declare itself an enemy of the American people that is today subjected to an unprecedented campaign to sow

hatred and a vengeful spirit, so much so that even the music that sings to peace has been banned. On the contrary, Cuba will make that music its own, and even our children will sing their songs to peace while the announced bloody war lasts....

Whatever happens, the territory of Cuba will never be used for terrorist actions against the American people and we will do everything within our reach to prevent such actions against that people. Today we are expressing our solidarity while urging to peace and calmness....

The world will grow aware ... and will raise its voice in the face of the terrible threatening drama that it is about to suffer....As for Cubans, this is the right time to proclaim more proudly and resolutely than ever: Socialism or death! Homeland or death! We shall overcome!

Voices from America

US activist Professor, Noam Chomsky in course of an interview in Belgrade said :

... US policy has already been officially announced. The world is being offered a "stark choice": join us, or "face the certain prospect of death and destruction." Congress has authorized the use of force against any individuals or countries the President determines to be involved in the attacks, a doctrine that every supporter regards as ultra-criminal. That is easily demonstrated. Simply ask how the same people would have reacted if Nicaragua had adopted this doctrine after the U.S. had rejected the orders of the World Court to terminate its "unlawful use of force" against Nicaragua and had vetoed a Security Council resolution calling on all states to observe international law. And that terrorist attack was far more severe and destructive even than this atrocity.

The U.S. has already demanded that Pakistan terminate the food and other supplies that are keeping at least some of the starving and suffering people of Afghanistan alive....I think we can be reasonably confident that if the American population had the slightest idea of what is being done in their name, they would be utterly appalled. ...

If Pakistan does not agree to this and other U.S. demands, it may come under direct attack as well — with unknown consequences. If Pakistan does submit to U.S. demands, it is not impossible that the

government will be overthrown by forces much like the Taliban — who in this case will have nuclear weapons. That could have an effect throughout the region, including the oil producing states. At this point we are considering the possibility of a war that may destroy much of human society.

Even without pursuing such possibilities, the likelihood is that an attack on Afghans will have pretty much the effect that most analysts expect: it will enlist great numbers of others to support of Bin Laden, as he hopes. Even if he is killed, it will make little difference. ...

The horrendous terrorist attacks on Tuesday are something quite new in world affairs, not in their scale and character, but in the target. For the US, this is the first time since the War of 1812 that its national territory has been under attack, even threat. ...During these years the US virtually exterminated the indigenous population, conquered half of Mexico, intervened violently in the surrounding region, conquered Hawaii and the Philippines (killing hundreds of thousands of Filipinos), and in the past half century particularly, extended its resort to force throughout much of the world. The number of victims is colossal. For the first time, the guns have been directed the other way. ...

It is correct to say that this is a novel event in world history, not

because of the scale of the atrocity — regrettably — but because of the target. How the West chooses to react is a matter of supreme importance. If the rich and powerful choose to keep to their traditions of hundreds of years and resort to extreme violence, they will contribute to the escalation of a

cycle of violence, in a familiar dynamic, with long-term consequences that could be awesome. Of course, that is by no means inevitable. An aroused public within the more free and democratic societies can direct policies towards a much more humane and honorable course.

Why the Bush administration wants war?

North America, News and Analysis, WWSW Editorial Board Statement, 14 September 2001 (extracts)

...The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have been seized on as an opportunity to implement a far-reaching political agenda for which the most right-wing elements in the ruling elite have been clamoring for years. Within a day of the attack, before any light had been shed on the source of the assault or the dimensions of the plot, the government and the media had launched a coordinated campaign to declare that America was at war and the American people had to accept all the consequences of wartime existence....

Now the Bush administration has decided to exploit the public mood of shock and revulsion over the events of September 11 to advance the global economic and strategic aims of American imperialism. He has the full support of a debased media and a Democratic Party that is more than happy to end any pretense of opposition to the Republican right.

On Thursday Bush all but admitted as much, declaring that the atrocity carried out two days before had provided "an opportunity to

wage war against terrorism."...

The growth of social protest and anti-capitalist sentiment was expressed in the wave of "anti-globalization" demonstrations, which revealed the extreme isolation of the governments of all the major powers and rising popular discontent over their right-wing policies, seen to be embodied above all in the Bush administration.

But in the aftermath of the September 11 terror attack the Bush administration, aided by a cynical and sophisticated media campaign, has been working to whip up a patriotic war fever that will enable it to overcome, at least temporarily, its immediate problems, while creating the conditions for profound and lasting changes on both the foreign and domestic front....

Tens of billions of dollars will be pumped into the economy in the form of military and security spending and to rebuild the devastated sections of New York City. ...

Every restriction on the exercise of US military might and the

(Contd. on page 6)

Voices from America

(Contd. from page 5)

counterrevolutionary activities of the CIA will be lifted. For years the most reactionary sections of the ruling elite, in the editorial pages of the Wall Street Journal and the publications of right-wing think tanks, have been agitating for an end to the "Vietnam syndrome" and calling for the unbridled use of military force to secure the interests of US imperialism. Now they see the opportunity to realize their agenda....

What they are not being told is that the American corporate and financial elite, in the name of a holy

war against terrorism, intends to rain death and destruction on countless thousands of people in order to realize global aims it has long harbored. Can there be any doubt that this crusade for "peace" and "stability" will become the occasion for the US to tighten its grip over the oil and natural gas resources of the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and the Caspian? Behind the pious and patriotic declarations of politicians and media commentators stand the long-cherished designs of American imperialism to dominate new parts of the world and establish global hegemony....

US state must stop the insanity

Robert Jensen

Robert Jensen is a Professor in the Department of Journalism at the University of Texas at Austin.

September 11 was a day of sadness, anger and fear. Like everyone in the United States and around the world, I shared the deep sadness at the deaths of thousands. But as I listened to people around me talk, I realised the anger and fear I felt is very different, for my primary anger is directed at the leaders of this country and my fear is not only for the safety of Americans but for innocent civilians in other countries.

It need not be said, but I will say it: The acts of terrorism that killed civilians in New York and Washington were reprehensible and indefensible; to try to defend them would be to abandon one's humanity. No matter what the motivation of the attackers, the method is beyond discussion. But this act was no more despicable as the massive acts of terrorism — the deliberate killing of civilians for political purposes — that the US government has committed during my life time.

For more than five decades throughout the Third World, the US has deliberately targeted civilians or engaged in violence so indiscriminate that there is no other way to understand it except as terrorism. And it has supported similar acts of terrorism by client states. If that statement seems outrageous, ask the people of Vietnam. Or Cambodia and Laos. Or Indonesia and East Timor. Or Chile. Or Central America. Or Iraq, or Palestine. The list of countries and peoples who have felt the violence of this country is long.

Vietnamese civilians bombed by the US. Timorese killed by a US ally with US-supplied weapons. Nicaraguan civilians killed by a US proxy army of terrorists. Iraqi

civilians killed by the deliberate bombing of the entire country's infrastructure. So, my anger on this day is directed not only at individuals who engineered the September 11 tragedy but at those who have held power in the US and have engineered attacks on civilians every bit as tragic.

That anger is compounded by hypocritical US officials' talk of their commitment to higher ideals, as President Bush proclaimed "our resolve for justice and peace". To the President, I can only say: The steeled voice of the millions killed in Southeast Asia, in Central America, in the Middle East as a direct result of US policy are the evidence of our resolve for justice and peace.

Next I faced the question: "When will the US, without regard for civilian casualties, retaliate?" I wish the question were, "Will the US retaliate?" But if history is a guide, it is a question only of when and where. So, the question is which civilians will be unlucky enough to be in the way of the US bombs and missiles that might be unleashed.

To borrow from President Bush, "mother and fathers, friends and neighbours" will surely die in a massive response. If we are truly going to claim to be decent people, our tears must flow not only for those of our own country. And if we are to be decent people, we all must demand of our government — the government that a great man of peace, Martin Luther King Jr., once described as "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world" — that the insanity stop here.

(*The Times of India*, Kolkata, September 16, 2001)

Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA)

The people of Afghanistan have nothing to do with Osama and his accomplices. On September 11, 2001 the world was stunned with the horrific terrorist attacks on the United States. RAWA (Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan) stands with the rest of the world in expressing our sorrow and condemnation for this barbaric act of violence and terror. RAWA had already warned that the United States should not support the most treacherous, most criminal, most anti-democracy and anti-women Islamic fundamentalist parties because after both the Jehadi and the Taliban have committed every possible type of heinous crimes against our people, they would feel no shame in committing such crimes against the American people whom they consider "infidel". In order to gain and maintain their power, these barbaric criminals are ready to turn easily to any criminal force.

But unfortunately we must say that it was the government of the United States who supported Pakistani dictator Gen. Zia-ul Haq in creating thousands of religious schools from which the germs of Taliban emerged. In the similar way, as is clear to all, Osama Bin Laden has been the blue-eyed boy of CIA. ...

If it is established that the suspects of the terrorist attacks are outside the US, our constant claim

that fundamentalist terrorists would devour their creators, is proved once more.

The US government should consider the root cause of this terrible event, which has not been the first and will not be the last one too. The US should stop supporting Afghan terrorists and their supporters once and for all. ...

From our point of view a vast and indiscriminate military attacks on a country that has been facing permanent disasters for more than two decades will not be a matter of pride. We don't think such an attack would be the expression of the will of the American people.

The US government and people should know that there is a vast difference between the poor and devastated people of Afghanistan and the terrorist Jehadi and Taliban criminals.

While we once again announce our solidarity and deep sorrow with the people of the US, we also believe that attacking Afghanistan and killing its most ruined and destitute people will not in any way decrease the grief of the American people. We sincerely hope that the great American people could DIFFERENTIATE between the people of Afghanistan and a handful of fundamentalist terrorists. Our hearts go out to the people of the US.

Down with terrorism!
September 14, 2001

Former Intelligence chief got sanction to train Afghans in covert warfare

Laden is but CIA's surrogate child

"From this day forward," US President George W. Bush told Congress on Thursday, "any nation that continues to harbour or support terrorism will be regarded by the US as a hostile regime." Fine words, but is the Prez going to put a gun to his own head? For, he needn't look further than Langley, Virginia, across the Potomac river from the Congress, to find the folks that supported, financed and built up Osama bin Laden.

It all began with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and US fears that the old Czarist dream of a Russian opening to the Indian Ocean was about to come true.

To counteract the possibility, the US funded the movement of 25,000 Islamic militants from nearly 30 countries — including Palestine, Egypt, the Philippines, Sudan and Turkmenistan — to Peshwar and then to Afghanistan. "They came without passports and names," wrote *The New Yorker's* Mary Anne Weaver....

In 1986, CIA director William Casey ... got US Congress to supply Afghan mujaheddin with sophisticated weapons and to allow American personnel to train Afghans in covert warfare.

... Casey got the CIA to support a long-term plan drawn up by the ISI in 1982, to recruit Islamic radicals from all over the world to go to Afghanistan via Pakistan to join the fight against occupying Soviet forces. One of those radicals was a wealthy, 6-foot 5-inch tall young Saudi, Osama bin Laden... Laden executed an enormous tunnel complex in Khost, that functioned as an arms depot, training and medical centre for the mujaheddin. The entire project was funded by the CIA...

... Osama bin Laden's anti-Americanism dates to the US involvement in the Gulf War. (Excerpts from *The Economic Times*, 25.9.2001)

Blossoms in the Dust

A report by Mir Ali Husain, a management professor in New York, about peace movement in USA after 11 September

On September 15, in mid town Manhattan ... representatives of over 75 different organizations, ... met, united in a common purpose — to do what they could to quieten the growing roar that was crying havoc as a prelude to letting slip the dogs of war... by the end of the meeting, the group had agreed to converge on a six-pronged position. One, the attacks must be unequivocally condemned. There could be no possible justification for the mass murder of thousands of innocent people. The acts of the suicidal terrorists were morally indefensible, no matter what their motives. Two, the US must recognize its role in creating the monster that struck back with such vengeance. The contention that the US was reaping a dragon's teeth harvest was endorsed. We have seen the enemy, the opinion went, and the enemy is us. The numerous atrocities on the unsavoury resume of American foreign policy were enumerated. The list was long. And chilling. ... Three, war was not the answer. The cycle of violence ought to be broken, not perpetuated. Four, the government should not be allowed to use the terrorist attacks to erode civil liberties. Five, global peace could only be achieved through global justice. And six, the growing swell of anti-Muslim, anti-Arab, anti-immigrant sentiment must be strongly opposed.

The mood was upbeat. Esperanza Martel of ProLibertad summed up the optimism: "We have the power to bring peace to the world. We have done it before. And we can do it again."

...at...the site of a candlelight vigil the previous night...posters breathed a collective message of peace. "War is Not the Answer", "Islam is Not the Enemy", and "No Justice, No peace".

Slowly, but steadily, a similar mood has been building up around the country. News filters in about scores of peace rallies. A thousand marched in a peace rally in Washington DC on September 14. A thousand in the tiny town of Northampton in Massachusetts on September 16. Hundreds standing in peace vigils each night at

Boston's Copley. A huge rally at Sproul Plaza in Berkely where participants wore green bands to indicate their solidarity with Muslim and Middle Eastern people. Another at University of Madison. As one of the Madison organizers said: "While we deplore the deaths of innocent people in NY, we want to speak out against the collective punishment of any people or nation. We need restraint, not intimidation."

What's surprising is the speed with which anti-war sentiment has been harnessed. Teach-ins have been organized on almost every college campus and the message is unwaveringly one of restraint and peace. Says Anantakrishna, an organizer of one such event at the University of Minnesota: "It took five years of the Vietnam war before the first teach-in was organized. And now, there are already hundreds being held each day across the country."

... Jensen, a journalism professor and a long-time activist, claims that "although much of the public is falling into a war posture, significant numbers are starting to resist. There is a new interest in the destructive consequence of the US foreign policy, and an openness to radical change. Unfortunately, those voices get little exposure in our media."

It is the attitude of the mainstream media that invokes some anxiety in the anti-war activists. ...For every Z Magazine and Common Dreams website that carries anti-war opinions, there are hundreds where the mood is different....

But this time the margins are not merely wringing their hands in despair. They are fighting back. A abroad coalition of activists had planned a national march on Washington on September 29 to demonstrate against "reactionary foreign and domestic policy and the IMF and World Bank." The priorities have been reshuffled in a hurry. The march stands as planned. Only, the focus has changed. To stop war and produce economic, political and moral conditions, ensure justice, and therefore, peace....

Source : *Outlook*, October, 1, 2001

Legal Service Centre Formed in West Bengal

Legal Service Centre for Women, West Bengal had been playing a consistent role to fight for the oppressed, humiliated and tortured women for several years. To extend this service to all other sections of the distressed people the organisation assumed a new form : Legal Service Centre. Last year it held its first state conference. It has earned wide appreciation for its vital support to the helpless.

Its second state conference was held on 7 and 8 September last at Moulali Yuva Kendra, Calcutta. On the 7th the open session and on the 8th the delegate session were held.

In the open session senior advocate Binoyendra Kumar Roy, President of the organisation, was in

the chair. Advocates, eminent citizens and representatives of the All India Mahila Sanskritik Sangathan from different districts of the state participated on that day.

At the outset, Bhabesh Ganguli, advocate, Calcutta High Court, the Secretary of the organisation, addressed the gathering.

Senior advocate Prithwis Bagchi, Manik Mukherjee, Editor, cultural magazine *Pathikrit*, Justice Mukul Gopal Mukhopadhyay, Chairperson, WBHRC, Law Minister Nisith Adhikari, senior advocate Biswanath Vajpayee and others spoke on the day.

On 8th September delegate session was held with great enthusiasm.

School of Politics In Jharkhand

The Jharkhand State Organising Committee held a three-day school of politics at the Study Centre of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought at Ghatshila from 6th to 8th August last. Comrade Ranjit Dhar, Central Staff, conducted the school.

Comrade Ranjit Dhar dealt elaborately on each question, placed for discussion. Starting from question why we should acquire knowledge, he went on to the history of the development of the human

society, the basics of Marxism, national and international questions and finally the importance of developing a true revolutionary character on the basis of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Comrades participated in physical training and various other discussions at several levels.

The school commenced with *Comrade Shibdas Ghosh* and concluded with the *Internationale*.

School of Politics In Tamil Nadu

Comrades from Madurai-Dindigul-Theni, Virudunagar, Pudukottai and Erode districts attended the School of Politics at the Viswa Karma Hall in Theni on 8 and 9 September. Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, member, Central Committee conducted the School. Tamil Nadu State Organising Committee members were present. Comrade R. Jeyapaul translated Comrade Chakraborty's discussion into Tamil.

Comrade Chakraborty narrated how Comrade Shibdas Ghosh painstakingly built up the SUCI beginning with only a handful of comrades, concretely applying Marxism-Leninism on Indian soil. Comrade Ghosh established that the Indian state was a capitalist state, having acquired imperialist features, and that the Indian revolution had to be an anti-capitalist socialist revolution.

He explained that the ruling

class used every device like caste, religion, region and language to divide the unity of the people because people's united struggle, when led by a genuine working class party would spell the doom of this exploitative system.

Comrade Chakraborty after dwelling upon the development of human society, national and international situations, talked on what it meant to be a member of a genuine communist party today. He elaborated on the qualities of a communist to gain the confidence of the masses and be capable of leading them.

The School ended on a very enthusiastic note. All comrades valued the experience and the comradesly interactions during the two-day camp life.

The School began with *Comrade Shibdas Ghosh* and ended with the *Internationale*.

Move to Ban Blockades of Roads and RLY Tracks in West Bengal Another Blow on the Right to Movement.

Comrade Provash Ghosh, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, SUCI issued the following statement on 8 September, 2001:

"The proposal to ban road and railway track blockade, a major form of democratic movement, made by the CPI(M) and supported by the BJP, Trinamul Congress and Congress, is another attack on the people's right to movement. Since the imperialist rule till date, all the governments, again and again have tried, if necessary for them, to ban any form of movement on the plea of 'people's inconvenience', 'law and order problem'; this time the CPI(M) led government is doing the same. It is significant that whatever their squabbles centring round the capture of power, BJP, Trinamul Congress and Congress, too, in the interest of the big industrialists-businessmen have stood by the CPI(M) in this question. The more the crisis is deepening due to exploitation by national and foreign capital, and central and state governments' anti-people policies, and the more the students-youths-workers-employees-peasants and others are taking to the path of struggle, the more apprehensive they are getting and conspiring to block the path of movement. Yet these very parties, for most trivial reasons and in their petty-party interest on and off resort to road blockade, which cannot be supported.

"But we strongly believe that people have the right to blockade road or railway tracks as a form of movement, if necessary, for upholding legitimate demands. We oppose this proposal by the CPI(M) as anti-people and anti-movement."

SAARC Regional Trade Union Seminar

(Contd. from page 3)

their follow-up implementation through economic reforms, restructuring or much trumpeted SAP that is structural adjustment programme. In fine, present-day capitalism at its moribund is clearly inimical to social development and progress, and so its globalisation. Hence, it will be a suicidal approach to fight for social development but not against globalisation or globalisation as a whole. Rather, the approach should be to build coordinated people's struggle for social development on national, regional and global level which entails struggle against GATT and WTO...

... Social development has a close relationship with peace, and hence it has been on the agenda of the class conscious and organised trade union movement since its very inception - working class wants peace, not imperialist war. But now and particularly since the dismantling of erstwhile socialist states of the USSR and other East European countries through counter-revolution and consequent restoration of capitalism therein as well as the collapse of the Socialist Camp, the struggle for peace has assumed much more importance than ever before. We cannot forget even when the powerful socialist camp in support of working class and anti-imperialist movement were very much present, imperialists dared to attack such struggles sometimes directly from outside on various pleas and sometimes inconvenience with the ruling class of

different countries. But today in absence of the socialist camp the danger of imperialist interference, direct or indirect into the internal affairs including working class movement have increased manifold.

...In fact for quite sometime past on the one hand imperialism has been on an all-out fierce offensive - political, economic and cultural - against the working class movement in general and weaker nations in particular. On the other hand, contradiction within the capitalist-imperialist camp particularly between the major imperialist powers for capture of market and for increasing respective spheres of economic, political and military influence is sharpening and thus assuming a character alarming dimension. The managed trading system and mutual agreement on redivision of world market once sought to be evolved through GATT '94 is on the verge of collapse. The illusory dream of war-free world that has been sought to be implanted in the mass mind on the ground that the so-called cold war has got terminated following the collapse of the socialist camp has by now been shattered. ...The crisis accentuated to such a pass that long back imperialist countries, even the developed among the developing countries like India, embarked upon militarisation of economy to stave off their crisis. And now, almost as a rule, the capitalist countries, big or small, weak or strong are developing military-industrial complex, increasing military budget and arms production

AIDSO, Jaunpur against Fee-hike and Privatization of Education



On 12 September, 2001 at Tehsil office a massive students demonstration was organised at the call of the AIDSO Jaunpur District Committee, UP in protest against Fee-hike, hike in the cost of Text Books and privatization of education. The rally started from PWD Bunglow and converged at Tehsil office. A meeting was held, presided by Comrade Indra Kumar Shukul. The gathering was addressed by main speaker Comrade Jagannath Verma. Other speakers were Rakesh Kr., Mahendra Kr., Dinesh Kumar, Surendranath Maurya, Ramrup Arya and others. A memorandum was submitted to SPM.

at the cost of public exchequer keeping their people half-fed and half-clad. But the stockpiled arms cannot remain idle for long because production is to be kept alive. Hence war situation is needed, needed are the wars, big or small and at times large-scale. Clearly the peace is at stake more than ever, so the social progress and development, particularly of the developing countries. The countries of SAARC region are no exception. Hence anti-imperialist, and for that matter anti-war peace movement is an integral part of the trade union movement i.e., this is an inevitable agenda of the trade union movement for many years to come. But it must be remembered that the desired peace cannot be achieved by means of capitulation or hobnobbing with big powers or diplomatic manoeuvres or anyone's goodwill or on humanitarian appeal, it is to be won and it is to be forced on the warmongers and imperialists by unleashing a sustained and united militant peace movement free from pacific illusion on national and international scale. Trade unions as an instrument of class struggle are in a position to play an effective role against this nefarious design of the class enemy and can build up broad-based peace movement involving various sections of the people, particularly the well-meaning, democratic-minded and patriotic elements.

Keeping alive relentless struggle against international reaction is essential to put an end to national reaction particularly when

imperialists have come closer to each other in their design to carry on policies of intervention against the working class movements notwithstanding their own contradiction. In this backdrop the question of coordination and cooperation among the trade unions in general and those of SAARC countries in particular is to be viewed... (Paper presented by Comrade Achintya Sinha, Secretary, UTUC-LS)

CORRIGENDUM

Some mistakes crept in in the article "On the invaluable teachings of Mao Tse-tung" by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee in *Proletarian Era*, Vol. 35 issue 3 dated 15 September, 2001 :

1. On page 1 column 1 please read lines 18 - 26 as follows :

So, while studying Comrade Mao Tse-tung works, we should concentrate on what is useful and relevant in it for advancing the cause of our revolution, of our party as its vanguard and of its leadership and shun all uncritical, abstract ...

2. On page 2 column 2 please read line 32 as follows :

The programme of the Chinese revolution led by the Chinese proletariat was accepted by the CPC and so was known to all its top most leaders.

3. On page 3 column 3 please read the last line as follows :

"Referring to the ideological controversy in the international communist movement (and the method of struggle that should be adopted to resolve the same), we held as far back as in 1963 in the article *An Appeal to the Leaders of the International Communist Movement* that this struggle ... in the history of the international communist movement."