

Call to Azanian Revolutionaries:

“Link Up With The RIM!”

Azania has erupted. The reactionary white settler regime ruling South Africa today is increasingly on politically rocky ground, with few options ahead aside from still greater repression. How much longer until a revolution really *is* in the making, until conscious forces fully emerge and analyse the revolutionary situation and class relations there as part of firmly seizing hold of the opportunity at hand... this is a question that revolutionaries and communists worldwide are asking as they watch with anticipation and joy another pillar of imperialism under serious assault. The revolutionary stirrings in South Africa represent a very welcome development for the proletariat and one to support wholeheartedly. However, they are also cause for soberly assessing the strengths and weaknesses of our class, the international proletariat, in the class struggle raging there.

The conditions are ripe for fanning the flames of rebellion in this struggle for national liberation. Although tearing down South Africa is long overdue, now both the regime's political crisis and the struggle by the masses contributing to it are assuming broader and deeper dimensions than past upsurges. But more, much more is required. In particular, conscious forces must step forward to form a vanguard party, based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, which can fully grasp and act upon the social contradictions unraveling, train the advanced political elements surging forward, and lead the armed struggle against the enemy towards the seizure of political power—on behalf of the international proletariat.

The revolutionary masses are capable of making giant forward strides in the quickened tempo and politically charged climate of battle. But to lead this in a revolutionary

direction and not to a murderous setback, which the wolves of reaction already show signs of preparing, the guiding political forces must seek to replace the partial truths gained so far with the revolutionary science, Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. And in particular, the development of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement can be of immeasurable assistance in this. Many of the elements needed to forge a correct line to victory already exist in the *Declaration of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement*. The key lines of demarcation and critical summation of experience it delineates are crucial to being able to formulate a specific analysis and programme to guide the Azanian revolution through twists and turns to victory.

Mao's statement that the correctness of ideological and political line determines everything was not a moral injunction. And neither is the urgency to embrace the revolutionary line forged by the RIM and apply it to conditions in South Africa crying out for revolution.

As the *Declaration* warns, “history demonstrates the bankruptcy of an ‘anti-imperialist front’ (or similar ‘revolutionary front’) which is not led by a Marxist-Leninist party, even when such a front or forces within it adopt a ‘Marxist’ (actually pseudo-Marxist) colouration. While such revolutionary formations have led heroic struggles and even delivered powerful blows to the imperialists they have been proven to be ideologically and organisationally incapable of resisting imperialist influences. Even where such forces have seized power they have been incapable of carrying through a thorough-going revolutionary transformation of society and end up, sooner or later, being overthrown by the imperialists or themselves becoming a new reac-

tionary ruling power in league with imperialists.”

Who is going to lead the armed struggle for political power in South Africa, and on what basis? Does anyone expect those forces seeking to reform apartheid to launch a serious armed struggle? The revisionists of the African National Congress are also unlikely to launch an armed struggle to the death against the apartheid regime, because they lack strategic confidence in the ability of the Azanian masses to thoroughly defeat the white settler regime which is backed to the hilt by Western imperialism. These revisionists are guided by interests and goals which can only be hindered by unleashing the revolutionary war of the masses required.

Only a party guided by Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought can lead the uncompromising, protracted struggle necessary to smash white rule and carry out a national and democratic revolution to free Azania of imperialism and its local props as part of the international proletariat's advance on a world scale.

This is not cause for alarm or demoralisation, but on the contrary, for picking up the tools and linking up with the organised revolutionary forces which can aid this decisive process of forging revolutionary leadership. A correct political line merging with the ripe revolutionary conditions that exist today in South Africa could unleash extremely rapid developments. Whether a new stage in the struggle will be born in the tempest challenging the outmoded order in South Africa or whether this upsurge becomes a bloody and tragic loss for the world's people, another bitter lesson for the international proletariat, is a very pressing question. □

(Reprinted from AWTW 1985/3.)