

RIM Committee Message to RCP, USA

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement we salute the 10th anniversary of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA — the vanguard party of the proletariat in the United States and an important detachment of the international proletariat.

The foundation ten years ago of the RCP, USA on the basis of the revolutionary science of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought was a victory for the proletariat in the U.S. and worldwide. Since then the RCP, USA has continued to advance along the path of the world proletarian revolution and today, as part of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement, is doing so all the more.

The *Declaration of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement* confirms the Leninist principle that “the world revolutionary movement is composed essentially of two streams — the proletarian-socialist revolution waged by the proletariat and its allies in the imperialist citadels and the national liberation, or new democratic revolution waged by the nations and peoples subjugated to imperialism. The alliance between these two revolutionary currents remains the cornerstone of revolutionary strategy in the era of imperialism.” It is, therefore, of great importance for our movement to count in its ranks a revolutionary

Marxist-Leninist party in one of the principal imperialist citadels. Your struggle against the U.S. imperialist ruling class is of great importance for the struggles of the proletariat and oppressed peoples of the world with which it is inseparably linked.

U.S. imperialism has long been exploiting and oppressing not only millions of proletarians and oppressed in the U.S. itself but has also been maintaining its vicious empire at the expense of the misery, poverty and very lives of proletarians and oppressed masses throughout the world. For this reason, the armed seizure of political power in the U.S. by the proletariat and the establishment of proletarian rule will represent an extremely important stride in transforming the world and advancing toward communism. Making revolution in such an imperialist citadel requires a well organized, well rooted, revolutionary internationalist party guided by Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought.

The RCP, USA was forged out of the revolutionary upheavals of the 1960s and early '70s in the United States and around the world. In these years millions around the world and in the U.S. itself were awakened to political life and entered raging battles against imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism and its war of aggression against the Vietnamese people. In the U.S. itself Black people and

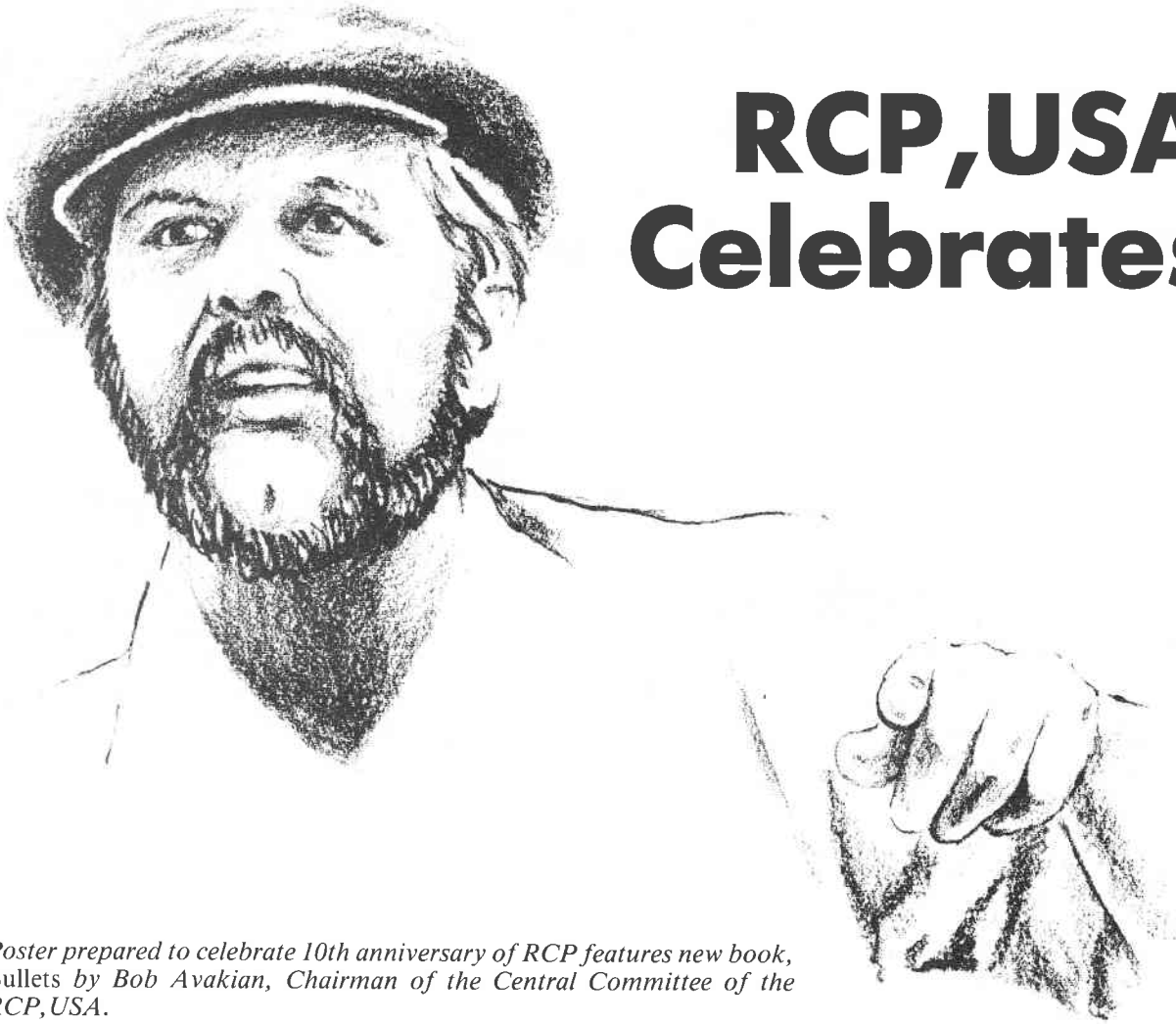
other oppressed nationalities, women, other proletarian sections as well as students and revolutionary intellectuals took up combat against U.S. imperialism.

Most of all these years were marked by a worldwide confrontation between Marxism and revisionism. This monumental struggle led by Mao Tsetung reached its highest expression in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. The struggle against modern revisionism led by the reactionary ruling clique of the Soviet Union opened the way for the formation of genuine revolutionary communist organisations based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. As Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA put it : “It is no exaggeration to say that without the theory and line developed by Mao and the practice of the Chinese masses in carrying it out, especially through the Cultural Revolution, our party would not and could not have been founded when it was and on such a revolutionary basis.”

The RCP, USA was able to successfully confront the situation after the counter-revolutionary coup d'état in China following the death of Mao Tsetung. Under the leadership of Bob Avakian, the RCP, USA successfully defeated a revisionist line and faction inspired by the

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RCP,USA Celebrates



Poster prepared to celebrate 10th anniversary of RCP features new book, *Bullets* by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the RCP, USA.

10th Anniversary

The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA, a participant in the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement, celebrated its 10th Anniversary through a campaign, most especially in the pages of its weekly newspaper, the *Revolutionary Worker*, to make it known in the U.S. that there is a Party which is preparing proletarian revolution in that country as a component part of the world revolution. The RCP, USA launched the celebration on October 1, 1985, with a major editorial in the *RW*, and with the announcement of the publication of a

new book, *Bullets*, a collection of quotations from Bob Avakian, who has been the Chairman of its Central Committee since the Party's founding. The *RW* editorial issued a call to build the RCP, including by joining it and through financial contributions. Since then the *RW* has published numerous letters from people who have been moved to tell of the Party's influence on their lives or of their support or adherence to the Party and its line, including many from proletarians, oppressed nationalities, women and youth as well as better-off sections of the peo-

ple in the U.S.

Like most other participants in the RIM, the RCP, USA is a product of the revolutionary upsurge that swept the world in the 1960s and early '70s. In the U.S., Black masses exploded in urban rebellions, other national minorities and women too took the political stage while millions protested the U.S. imperialists' war in Vietnam. A thoroughly unpatriotic current grew up amongst the students and youth in the U.S. As the *RW* editorial notes, it was then that "the nucleus of today's vanguard began to assem-



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ble. That seed, the Revolutionary Union (RU), played the key role in the founding of the RCP in 1975. It grew up in and was part of that ‘60s tradition’ here and internationally of making radical *breaks* with tradition, including the heavy weight among the ‘American left’ of respectable and patient so-called ‘politics.’”

The editorial goes on to summarize these early years: “We learned through at first primitive experience, much in the manner, as Lenin put it, of ‘peasants going off to war’ armed only with what was at hand. But while we, of course, began with many wrong notions, a process began — and has since deepened and continued — of making radical ruptures with the legacy of reformism which has infected much of the American left and even the international communist movement.”

In the course of the years that followed the formation of the RCP,USA, and particularly through the fight to defeat a revisionist line

and faction which sought to follow Deng Xiaoping’s treachery and to bury the RCP in the red-white-and-blue shroud of U.S. imperialism, the Party learned valuable lessons, forged a line on crucial questions of leading proletarian revolution in the U.S., and began to accumulate strength to actually carry this out. In pointing out what a difference the existence of such a vanguard party has made in the U.S., the editorial turns first of all to “the realm of theory,” giving as an example “the Party’s analysis of the political economy of this epoch, its deepened grasp on the objective laws underlying the international process of war and revolution” and its “analysis of the specific situation today.” Furthermore, it sums up that the RCP,USA “has made great, if still initial progress in charting an uncharted course.” By this, the RCP means the necessity to deepen the understanding of the path of proletarian revolution in an advanced imperialist country which, while sharing certain basic features with

the Russia of 1917, also differs in important ways.

The RCP,USA also points proudly to its internationalist stand: “Particularly in an imperialist country like this, where large sections of the population get at least temporary ‘perks’ from the imperialist plunder of the world and are isolated from and blinded to the reality of the daily horror suffered by hundreds of millions at the hands of this system, proletarian internationalism is a decisive dividing line for revolution.” This stand, they consider, “provides a welcome and most important vehicle of expression for the real internationalist sentiments that do exist among whole sections of people in the U.S. who are sickened by this country’s deeds.”

The editorial points to the decisive leadership of Bob Avakian in achieving this line, and to the continuing attacks on him by the imperialists (which forced him into exile in 1980), and then sums up:

“And through all this, over the past ten years and more, the RCP

has acquired the bottom line — the capacity to lead. A vanguard Party has not only been fought for in the realm of theory; one has been built and strengthened through struggle and precious experience. A revolutionary *New Programme* has been forged. A central task of 'create public opinion, seize power' has been identified and embarked on. And underlying this *Programme* and central task, the Party has based itself on and developed revolutionary theory, has a grasp and summation of key historical questions, domestically and on an international level, and has acquired knowledge and experience in the practical movement. It has sharpened its sense, and helped other advanced forces do so, of the key questions of the day. It has developed organisationally and has established a regular press. Armed with this press, and other vehicles of agitation and propaganda, the Party has developed — and aims at further developing — a vehicle to take the 'pulse' of the masses, to sense shifts in their mood which are significant for the development of the revolutionary movement — especially for seizing the possible opening toward an attempt at revolutionary power."

This revolutionary internationalist stand has struck a chord in



1979. International incident created when 500 demonstrate in support of Mao on the occasion of Deng Xiaoping's visit to the U.S. 78 arrested, including Bob Avakian, received 25 felony charges each.



1978. Moody Park, Houston, Texas. Angered by court fine of \$1 as "punishment" in the police murder of a Mexican-American youth, the barrio explodes.

the U.S. and many have responded to the RCP,USA's call to build the Party, as is shown by the letters published in its press. A Black military veteran from Texas writes that, "I am giving to the RCP because I want to see revolution spread from the USA to the USA (Azania)...General Motors, Ford and ITT are some of the main supporters of the oppression in Azania and throughout the Third World. Imagine what difference it would make to the people to see a revolution in the United States. It would lift the yoke of U.S. imperialism from around their necks and help their struggle for liberation." A proletarian woman from San Francisco writes that "Several weeks ago I went to see the movie made by Yılmaz Güney called *The Wall* in San Francisco. This movie really moved me. It made me very angry how those prisoners in Turkey were treated and I thought about how much more difficult it is for those people to get rid of their oppressors. So — how could I, living in America *not* do all I can to end this shit and...stand back from contributing to the only hope we have — a truly proletarian vanguard who is ready and willing to lead the people to real liberation."

A number of youth wrote in too. One declared that, "The RCP and the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement have given me something to live for in this mad, mad world — revolution!" A Latino youth declared that, "Believe me — there are a lot of youth who really care about what's going on but don't have leadership...Despite all this 'Rambo-ness,' there are a lot of youth who are genuinely concerned. It makes a big difference to be helped to see that this system is all an illusion. Illusion in the sense of what we thought it might have been. The U.S. definitely lived up to their beliefs as was the case with the Indians, slaves, and countless other crimes. Rape, women's oppression, plunder, no future, this, yes, this is Amerikkka..."

As the ruler of a worldwide empire with its tentacles spread around the globe, U.S. imperialism has literally millions and millions of immigrant workers within its borders.

The RCP,USA has fought the chauvinist attacks on these proletarians and indeed has welcomed their contribution to the revolutionary struggle in the U.S. A significant number of the letters published in the *RW* come from immigrants, especially from Latin America. One woman from the Dominican Republic wrote:

"I am a proletarian woman who works in the garment district of New York and I have many questions about what my role should be in the struggle to overthrow the present imperialist system. I am anxious for definitive changes to improve the conditions of the workers in the garment district as well as in the rest of the world. I see the need for a proletarian vanguard that can organize and mobilise this mass of brothers and sisters from different oppressed countries who come to the U.S. pushed mainly by hunger and repression only to find that the dream of abundance and opportunities to study and work, etc., is false. Instead they find crumbs which are only one form or another of making us accomplices to the plunder, hunger and exploitation of countries from which we are forced to emigrate. Likewise they try to make us accept life as you live it in a city like New York."

As the editorial points out, the RCP,USA is not about "to rest on our laurels":

"For us, this 10th anniversary means two things. It is an occasion to rededicate ourselves to the cause of proletarian revolution — and more than that, to accept the responsibility to meet still greater challenges, to make the further leaps required in the period ahead. And it is also an occasion to put out a challenge to others to step forward: to help build, financially support, and defend the RCP,USA — and especially to *join* it and take on, as Party members, the revolutionary tasks that must be taken on.

"And we make these challenges of ourselves and others not just to mark ten years on the calendar. It has everything to do with what time it is — the dangers and opportunities immediately before us. So for us, this anniversary is an occasion to cherish — and a time to seize." □

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Chinese revisionists who sought to turn the party from its revolutionary path.

Since that time the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA has played an important role in the struggle to defend Mao Tsetung Thought and to regroup the genuine Marxist-Leninist forces internationally — efforts which contributed to the convening of the First and Second International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organisations and the formation of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement. The RCP,USA has also played an active part in the struggle to sum up the history of the international communist movement, to analyse contemporary reality and the current world situation and draw appropriate conclusions. This process has served to raise the level of debate in the international communist movement and lay the basis for a higher degree of unity among the Marxist-Leninist forces internationally.

Today all the major contradictions in the world are intensifying and the danger of inter-imperialist world war and the possibilities for major revolutionary advances are increasing. In this light, the consistent stand of the RCP,USA in defending all genuine revolutionary struggles of the proletariat and the oppressed, especially those directed against its "own" ruling class, of training the proletariat and the masses in the spirit of "revolutionary defeatism" and consistent internationalism, of preparing the proletariat for armed uprising and the seizing of power is all the more vital. Carrying out these tasks will require even further advances by the RCP,USA in relation to all the spheres of the class struggle. In these efforts, the RCP,USA can count on the support of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement.

**HAIL THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RCP,USA!
LONG LIVE MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO TSETUNG THOUGHT!** □