

Hands Off The Balkans

Of late the Soviet armies on the southern borders of Hungary and in Bulgaria have been increased. Besides the naval fleet which is cruising the Mediterranean and alongside the U.S. 6th fleet, in its sky there have begun to appear also aircraft bearing the Soviet signs. Everybody understands the aim of the pressure of the fleets of these two superpowers.

It is no secret that ever since the Kremlin revisionists settled themselves in the Middle East, Moscow has begun to look at the Balkans with envy as a road of passage or as a bridge of territorial connection with its forces in the Mediterranean, as a desirable base for its expansionist plans in Europe and on other continents. This policy took a concrete and quite severe form with the continuous threats in the recent years towards some Balkan countries. However, the threats of Grechko's tanks do not intimidate the peoples of these countries.

It is known to everybody that the urgent defence measures which were taken these last two or three years in Belgrade, just as the changes which were made in the concepts, tactics and the ways of popular defence and the determined stand of the peoples of Yugoslavia to defend their freedom and independence, were taken into consideration in Moscow.

It is a fact that the Soviet revisionists have shown a special interests in exploiting every case of difficulty that could be created by the development of inner life in Yugoslavia to become arbitrators, to interfere and, if they would succeed, also to subjugate the whole country.

The Soviet warships, just as the American ones, go often to the ports of the Yugoslav coast. The visits of these fleets are called friendly but they contain in them-

selves the seed of danger not only to the peoples of Yugoslavia but to all the countries of the Adriatic area. It is understandable that if with regard to the Yugoslavs these are called friendly, with regard to the other countries of the Adriatic they cannot be considered as such. Together with the visits, these ships learn also the way which on other occasions they will not be friendly at all.

In order to carry out in practice their expansionist and annexationist plane, the Soviet revisionists have always resorted to intimidations and caresses, to tanks and rubles. Time has shown that when they speak of peace they prepare war; when they swear for friendship they prepare the dagger to stab you on your back, when they offer you aid they think of how to strangle you.

The Kremlin chiefs have now begun to shout here and there and with all their strength that everyone who seeks defence by imperialism or by any other enemy, let him make haste to urgently enter their group. But this group suffocates you just as it has suffocated the Czechs and Hungarians, the Polish and Mongolians, etc.

The Soviet leaders make a great speculation also on the arms. The Soviet Union has become a great merchant of arms, indeed in some cases it unsparingly sells them at a cheap price. But it does not do this out of generosity but of the certainty that the country which receives the Soviet arms remains a prisoner of the Soviet Union for spare parts, shells, supplementary equipments, etc. It has now been proved that the dependence for arms on the big imperialist powers means also political and economic dependence. It is precisely for this reason that the peoples hate and fight the imperialist-revisionist mo-

nopoly of arms and are striving to arm themselves relying on their own forces and in other ways.

Facts show that wherever the Soviet revisionists have been able to set their foot, either by intrigue or by exploiting whatever troubled situation, they do not easily depart from there. It would have been a very grave mistake and with unimaginable consequences if it were thought that the Soviet interest to be in good terms with this or that country could be exploited without any damage to the national independence and sovereignty. This interest quickly disappears, just as the transitory conjunctures creating it disappear. That which remains is the permanent and unchangeable aim of those who are at present ruling in the Kremlin to subjugate every country and the whole world. To enter the game of the Soviets is quite easy, but to come out of it is very difficult. In the same way, to see in the relations with the Soviet revisionists the economic interests of the moment, or of the policy of the day, means to place the future of the country at a grave mortgage.

But the chauvinistic and expansionist plans of the Soviet social-imperialists towards the Balkans do not hold water and they will, for certain, fail. As far as the Albanian people are concerned, they have always been and are vigilant towards the aims and actions of the enemies of their freedom and independence. Neither the U.S. imperialists nor the Soviet social-imperialists will ever catch them unaware and unarmed. We have the conviction that the peoples of Yugoslavia, too, will know how to oppose the hostile aims of the two imperialist superpowers and will not allow themselves to be deceived by their diabolic manoeuvres.