Moscow Delivers Stern Diplomatic Warning To China

On May 19, the Soviet Union delivered a lengthy note to China. The note warned that the Chinese leadership carries personal responsibility to the Chinese people and to the world for the consequences of China's current campaign against the USSR — a campaign based on a perspective of global war.

The note, the first of its kind in a decade, paralleled a May 14 Pravda article on the same subject and directed primarily toward China's collaborators in the West. Moscow has apparently realized that a military alliance between China and certain circles in the U.S. and Europe willing to supply China with modern arms, is an imminent possibility. The Soviet note points out that it is to the end of a possible world war that imperialist circles are supporting the Chinese stance. The note was made public in Pravda on May 27, as reprinted below.

In a speech on May 30 at a dinner welcoming Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov in Moscow, Soviet General Secretary Brezhnev amplified Moscow's concern for Chinese-Western military collusion against the Soviet Union and warned that the Soviet Union will strongly counter any "dangerous, adventurist calculations" that China and her Western allies may make. These remarks are reprinted below.

To The Embassy Of The People's Republic Of China

On May 19 the USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs delivered to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China a note to be conveyed to the government of the PRC.

The note states that in China a campaign hostile to the Soviet Union and conducted by the organs of propaganda and officials on all levels is taking on broader and broader scope. The Chinese press and other mass media are day after day spreading obvious fabrications and slanders regarding the Soviet Union — and these in no way differ from mendacious imperialist propaganda which has long since been compromised in the eyes of the peoples.

Contrary to the facts and common sense, there continue to be stubborn attempts to distort the domestic policies of the USSR, unceremoniously interfere in the affairs of our country, and teach the Soviet people what it should and should not do. The instigators of the anti-Soviet campaign blacken the glorious results of the heroic struggle and labor of our people and the socialist way of Soviet people, their militant revolutionary traditions and communist ideals; they spread fantastic insinuations against the state and social order chosen by the Soviet people; they make ignoble attempts to slander the great friendship and unbreakable unity of the peoples of the Soviet Union.

They are fanning a provocatory racket about some sort of aggressive intentions of the Soviet Union in regards to China, which is intended to poison the consciousness of Chinese workers with the poison of hatred to the Land of the Soviets; to pick a quarrel between the Chinese and Soviet peoples. Meanwhile the truth about the USSR's policy regarding the PRC is entirely hidden from the Chinese people, as is that about the Soviet Union's efforts to improve Soviet-Chinese relations, and all our steps aimed at creating a normal situation and favorable conditions for the improvement of relations between our states are turned against the Soviet Union by means of demagogic tricks.

There are constant attempts to tarnish the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, the fraternal relations of the countries in the socialist community, and the efforts of the USSR to strengthen friendship and cooperation among peoples, as well as its struggle against the

Brezhnev Hits 'Dangerous Calculations' Of West

I will say a few words about China. We would like to have normal, good-neighborly relations with this country. We have spoken about this before and we repeat ourselves now. But relations between any states depend on both sides.

China is presently going through a difficult period. This probably influences to some extent the present position of the Chinese leadership. But we are not going to discuss the internal situation in China. The Chinese people are primarily concerned with this. But it is a different matter, that both inside and outside China there are forces striving to drive Soviet-Chinese relations into a dead end and worsen them. These are the same forces who see political gain for themselves in the aggravation of international tension. They make dangerous, adventurist calculations against which we must and will struggle. At the same time, we would like it understood in Peking that to act against the aspiration of the peoples and to make war on everything good and healthy in international relations is an ignoble and hopeless thing.

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forces of imperialist reaction and aggression. The thesis on the inevitability and even desirability of a new world war is preached, while anathema is pronounced on the idea of relaxation of tensions and everything possible is done to hinder the affirmation in international relations of the principle of non-use of force. Instead: a policy of setting one country against another.

Not only Chinese propaganda, but high-ranking officials as well, come out with statements hostile to the Soviet Union. In order to back up their call to "take the struggle against the Soviet Union through to the end," they ascribe to it truly wild intentions, such as: "The USSR does not stop thinking for a minute about enslaving China."

This deliberate anti-Soviet campaign is hypocritically portrayed by some in China as some sort of "principled debate." But what can there be in common between an ideological argument and actions, which cannot be qualified as anything other than malicious slander, calumny and provocation?

All this, of course, is incompatible with the elementary norms which are generally recognized and which all states are obliged to observe, especially those which have diplomatic relations.

The question arises: what is the goal of those who are fanning anti-Soviet psychosis, enmity to their neighbor. Whom do they wish to serve with their attacks?

All of this only works in favor of those forces who benefit from China feuding with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The current anti-Soviet propaganda in China, intended to further worsen Soviet-Chinese relations, is laden with dangerous consequences and does not correspond to the interests of the Chinese people itself. Those called upon to organize a crusade against the Land of the Soviets should not forget how previous such crusades ended. Historical experience has proven the untenability of such calculations. It is hopeless even to imagine that it will be possible by lies and slanders to turn the Soviet peoples from the path of building a communism which it has chosen once and for all.

As a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, the PRC carries serious responsibility for maintaining international peace and security and for the development of cooperation among states. But the actions of the Chinese side both in relations with the USSR and other socialist countries, and on the international scene as a whole, indicate that the PRC leadership does not want to bear that responsibility and in foreign policy is balancing on a dangerous brink.

Only people who do not care about the fate of the peoples, including their own people, can act in such a way — people who don't care about the tragic consequences that can follow from a policy directed towards sharpening international tension — a policy fraught with a threat to all humanity. And it is precisely to this end that the reactionary circles of imperialist states are pursuing the matter. The organizers of the campaign in China, which is hostile to the Soviet Union and dangerous for peace in the world, are in effect acting in concert with them.

The government of the USSR has delivered a protest to the government of the PRC against the slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union in China and has warned seriously that the Chinese leaders are taking on themselves a great responsibility before their people for the consequences of continuing this campaign.