

SENKI

"The Battle Flag"
ORGAN PAPER
OF THE BATTLE
FLAG-COMMUNIST
LEAGUE

To all the struggling friends throughout the world!



- ★ Turn the invasive and counter-revolutionary war by the imperialism into people's uprising and ensuing civil wars!
- ★ Overcome the Stalinist distortion of the revolutionary movement!

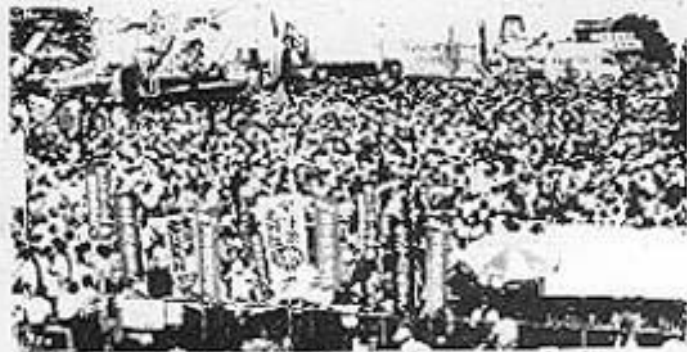
革命運動の進歩と革命を促進し、国内へ / 革命運動の進歩と革命を促進し、国内へ

戦旗

発行所 戦旗新聞社
 編集者 山本 隆
 印刷所 戦旗印刷局
 定価 300円 送料別記
 1934年 2月10日 第433号

SENKI (THE BATTLE FLAG)
 Organ paper of the Battle
 Flag-Communist League

6.17 反トマ闘争が大高揚



7.29 政治集会の大勝

トマムーク阻止・クー入港阻止 戦の五千の人民大団 (6・17東京夜)

青年労働者の
 政治集会の
 大勝利

7.29 戦旗・共産同盟政治集会
 会場 浅草公会堂
 時間 午後7時開始

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2.13 空港内警備要衝を完全粉砕



厳戒突破しケリヲ戦闘炸裂!
3.25 三里塚へ総力決起せよ!

フランス中野の八四空軍基地
 破壊し人民の自由を回復せよ

1934年 2月10日 第433号

SENKI-SHA

¥500

We are a revolutionary party of Japan called "The Battle Flag-Communist League."

A. OUR BRIEF HISTORY

1. In 1958 we separated ourselves from the Japan Communist Party in order to fight against the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty (Ampo) on the basis of a mass struggle employing force.

In the pre-World War II days, Japan Communist Party was a revolutionary vanguard party. JCP was organized in 1922 closely on the heels of the victory of the Russian Revolution in 1917 and the so-called "Kome Sodo" (Rice Riot) in which 700,000 people rose in revolt throughout Japan. Although the JCP wasn't able to overthrow the imperialist regime, it resolutely stood against the enemy whose relentless weapon was the "Maintenance of the Public Order Act." But the JCP couldn't block Japan's invasive wars against Asian peoples. This fact alone is sufficient for us, Battle Flag-Communist League, and the Japanese people to be saddled with the sense of responsibilities for the Asian peoples who fought partisan wars against the Japanese imperialism.

After the World War II, however, the JCP gave up fighting against the imperialists. This is especially true since the Japanese capitalist economy found itself in the "high-growth era." We firmly believe that the JCP is no longer a revolutionary vanguard party for the Japanese people because:

- (1) It denies a mass struggle with arms or force;
- (2) It devotes itself only to enlarging the readership of its organ daily to obtain a bigger vote in elections; and
- (3) It opposes the struggles by the peasants of Sanrizuka and the so-called "Buraku" people (those who have been under historical social discrimination) so that it wants the middle-class electorate and the upper stratum of the working class to be its supporters.

2. The Communist League was at the forefront of the anti-Ampo mass struggles in 1960 and late 1960s. Fighting units at those times were "Zengakuren" (All Japan Student Government Confederation) students and "Hansen" (Young Workers' Committee for Anti-War Actions) workers. Young as we were, we fought such big fights against the Japanese ruling class as that of running into the national Diet (Japanese parliament) in 1960 and that at Haneda Airport against the planned visit by the then-premier Sato to South Vietnam in October 1967. Both struggles were mainly fought by Zengakuren students under the leadership of the Communist League.

These struggles were for solidarity with the fighting Vietnamese people on the basis of a proletarian internationalism and for smashing down the aspirations of the Japanese imperialism to make imperialistic interference into Asian countries. There were many victorious struggles against the riot police on the street, because 50,000-100,000 workers and students with helmets fought with wooden staff, broken stones, Molotov cocktails and so on. It is our belief that we should follow and develop the tradition of these militant struggles in the late 60s and early 70s.



▲ Oct. 8, 1967 Struggle against the planned visit by then-premier Sato to South Vietnam



Oct. 21, 1968 ►

Attacking Japan's Self Defense Agency Headquarters in Tokyo taking sides with the Vietnamese revolution. This battle was conducted jointly with the battles elsewhere in the world launched the same day.



◀ Jan. 18 19, 1969

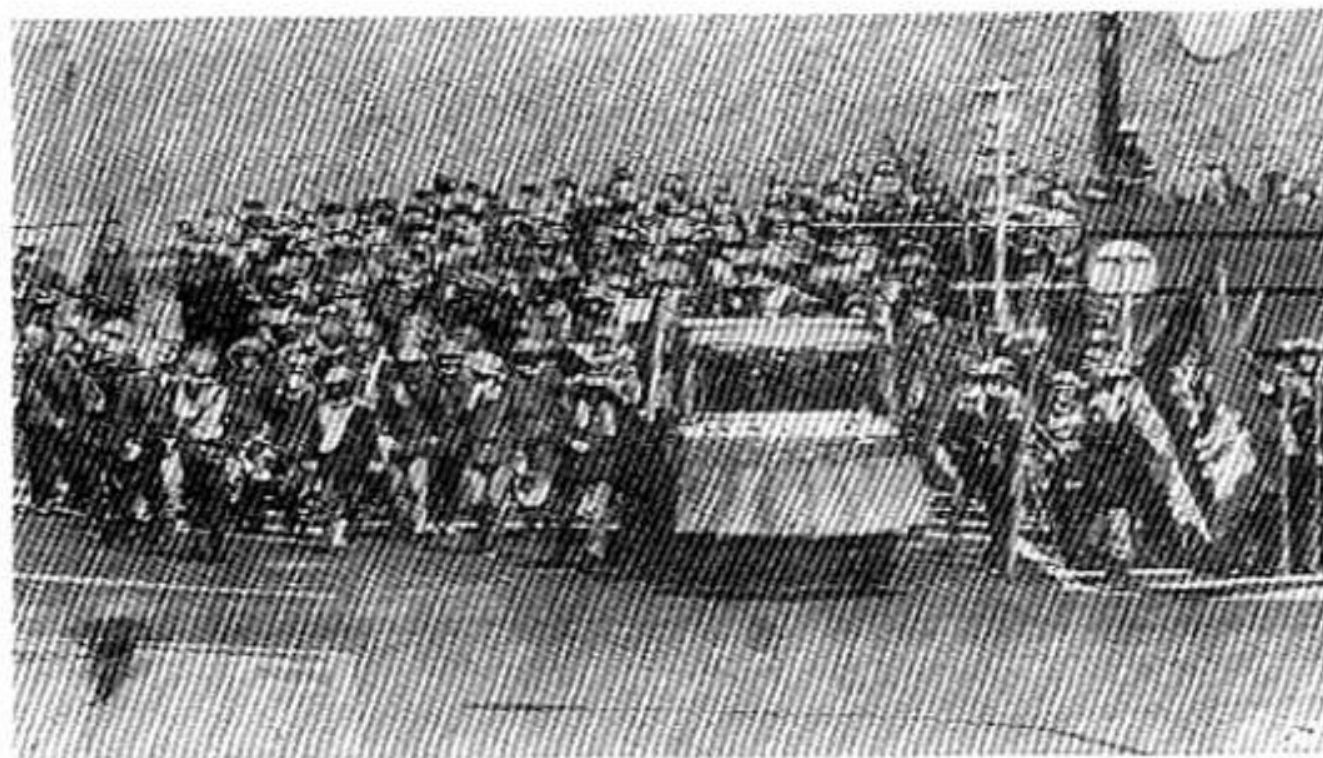
3. After the 1970 Ampo struggles we experienced a split of our organization and movement on several occasions. The Communist League developed various factions including the "Red Army Faction" which considered it more meaningful to engage in struggle in People's Democratic Republic of Korea and Palestine. There also sprang up such factions as proposed to dissolve the party's activities into the movement of the labor union instead of staging a political war against the Japanese imperialism.

In the meantime, two major factions of the Japan Revolutionary Communist League (which practically is one of the organizations in the line of Trotskyism), namely the Kakumaru (Revolutionary Marxist Faction) and the Chukaku (Core Faction), has been engaging in a fierce violent strife which has killed several tens of activists between them in the past ten-odd years.

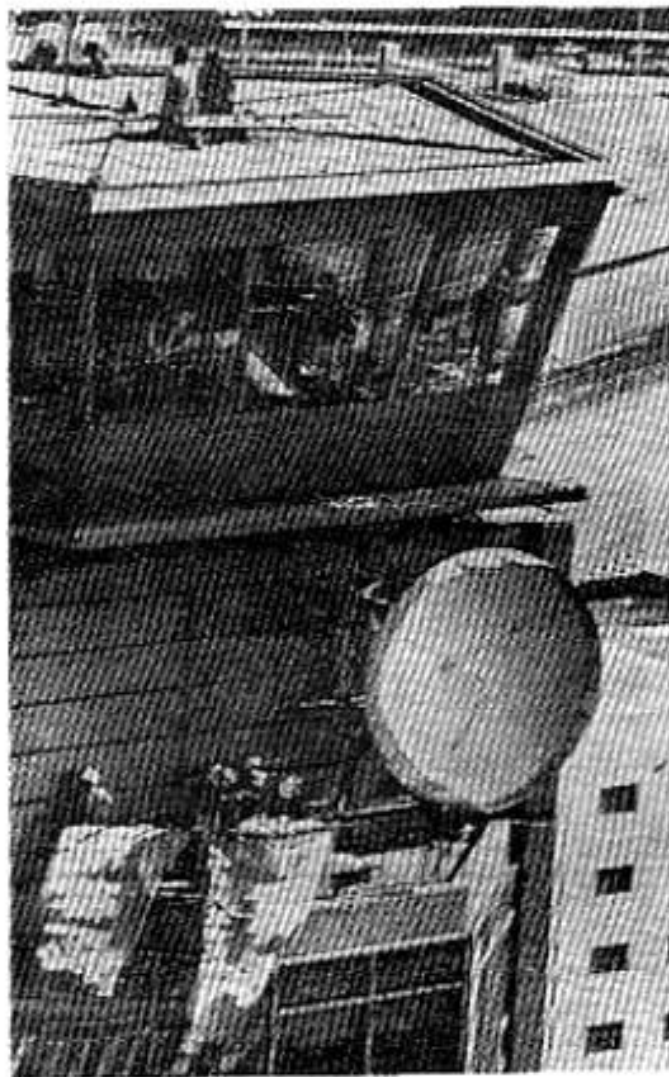
We have been firmly opposed to this sort of internal strife within the new left forces, because:

- (1) It stands in the way of organizing a united front against the preparations of an invasive war by the Japanese imperialism; and
- (2) It injects confusion into the struggles by the working class and people against the Japanese imperialism.

We think "Kakumaru" and "Chukaku" factions have forgot the crucial importance of a joint struggle for the overthrow of the imperialism which should always be the first priority for the left. They are striving only for justifying themselves without trying to improve themselves by learning from struggling Asian peoples, peasants of Sanrizuka and Buraku people.



Mar. 26, 1978



Mar. 26, 1978 Occupied the control tower of the New Tokyo International Airport at Narita. This attack was made immediately prior to the opening of the airport with the backing of peasants and farmers of Sanrizuka and militant workers.



4. One of our major recent struggles was for occupying the control tower at Narita Airport on March 26, 1978. The peasants of Sanrizuka, under the banner of "Hantai-Domei" (Anti-Airport Struggle Alliance), has been staging a fierce force battle against this airport which could become a military base for the invasive wars by the imperialists. This battle by the peasants has uninterruptedly continued for the past two decades. On March 26, 1978, we, the Battle Flag-Communist League, joined with the Fourth International and Proletarian Youth League to successfully run into the almost-completed airport premise. Out of several hundreds of militant demonstrators with molotov cocktails 20 climbed up into the control tower and occupied it. Because of the destroyed equipment in the control tower, the opening of the airport was postponed for the ensuing two months.

Even after the opening we have been conducting guerilla wars almost on a daily basis. As a result of these struggles by us, Government has been able to construct only one runway out of the planned three, and it has been forced to station as many as 1,500 riot police. We are determined to make it an "abandoned airport."

Among the various battles we fought last year were not only those against Narita Airport but also that against machinations by the U.S.-Japan imperialists to prepare for invasive wars. One such battle was conducted on November 6 in which our comrades armed with bamboo poles and milk bottles smashed down the riot police. A dozen of our comrades were arrested, however.

Through these and other struggles the Battle Flag-Communist League has made a further step forward to build a revolutionary vanguard party which could break down the Ampo/Japan-Korea counter-revolutionary scheme and overthrow the imperialist rule.



Nov. 6, 1983 Struggle against Reagan's visit to Japan.

B. OUR POSITION

1. Who Counts in the Present-Day World?

It is not the U.S. imperialism nor the Soviet Union but the worldwide victorious march by the people who aspired to be liberated that really evolves the present-day world. We believe this is an age in which the people engaged in an armed struggle are fighting a winning game as exemplified by the victory of the Vietnamese people over the U.S. imperialist. It is definitely wrong to presume the imperialism to be still dominantly strong.

Before, it was possible for imperialists to battle each other for the acquisition of colonies. It has been no longer so because of the great upsurge of the struggles by the peoples of the ex-colony states which, given the encouragement by the successful revolutions including those in Russia and China, made it practically impossible for the imperialists to maintain a direct military rule over their former colonies. Now, they resort to an indirect form of imperialism, i.e. new colonialism, established through their puppet regimes. This represents a retreat of the imperialists.

With the declining power no single imperialist state can successfully mastermind the world. Although the U.S. is still the most dominant of all the imperialist forces, she has to ask for the cooperation of the NATO countries and other "allies" including Japan to establish a joint counter-revolution scheme to protect their common interests. However, they are bound to keep on losing, since they are most likely to be dragged into military confrontations with national liberation forces that could not be defeated by the puppet governments of the imperialists.

In short, the era of domination by the imperialism has been over since the end of World War II. The advancement of the international class struggle led by the peoples of the Third World has largely undermined the hegemony of the imperialism. In this situation, the imperialists faced with a real possibility of their extinction are now preparing for new wars of invasion and those employing nuclear arms.

2. About Soviet Union and Stalinism

As a result of abandoning the strategy of world revolution, the Soviet Union is now on the defensive with its strategy centered on defending "the motherland of proletariat." We denounce the military invasion by the Soviet Union of Afghanistan which has inevitably driven the people of Afghanistan to the trench of landowners and Islam forces. The successful revolution in Afghanistan is only possible when it is carried through by the people of Afghanistan.

We evaluate the present-day Soviet Union as a state controlled by a distorted form of the proletarian dictatorship with the party bureaucrat presiding over the people of the Soviet Union. The change in quality of the Russian revolution was prompted by an external factor of Nazi's invasion of the Soviet Russia. When the Party struck out all the opposition forces within it, and when the violent collectivisation of the agricultural industry was forced through the killing of many a well-off farmer, the nature of the Soviet Union underwent

fundamental changes. The greatest mistake in this process, in our opinion, was the violent execution of the party's policies without paying a due respect to democratic procedures required for persuading the people. What were most important for the Soviet communist party then are to formulate a foreign policy accommodating the prospect for the realization of a world revolution and to organize a voluntary act of the people on the basis of which the construction of the socialist economy was to be pursued.

It should not be taken as a problem for the Soviet Union and China alone to overcome the so-called Stalinism. In our thinking the Stalinism may be defined as an alienated form of a communism which failed to go beyond the modern bourgeois ideology. Unless the root cause of the bourgeois ideology is eliminated by the overthrow of all the imperialists, the Stalinist tendencies cannot completely be done away with. Therefore, it is crucially important for us to struggle against every form of bourgeois ideology around us. Otherwise we too would be morally ruined. The way to overcome the Stalinist tendencies is to continue asking ourselves if we are really rightly dealing with other political parties and the people.

3. The Task for Japanese Working Class, People and Revolutionary Party

The utmost task for the Japanese working class, people and revolutionary forces is to overthrow the Japanese imperialism through effectively paralyzing the preparations by the Japanese imperialists for the invasive and counter-revolutionary warfare and smashing their oppression of the Japanese people.

And, the Japanese imperialism can only be overthrown by the armed struggle of the Japanese people leading to a revolution. An armed struggle with the state's armed forces and policy by the people is the only realistic means to destruct another attempt by the Japanese imperialists to stage an invasive warfare.

With this in mind, we fought guerrilla/partisan struggles on various occasions such as those aimed at stopping Reagan to come to Japan and making it impossible to start the second-phase construction work for the New Tokyo International Airport at Sanrizuka in Narita City, Chiba prefecture. At the same time, we have been organizing or participating in many demonstrations by the masses. It has been not unusual for us to clash head-on with the riot police on the street.

But, we of course know that at this moment the power relations between us and our enemy are not necessarily in our favor. Although the growth period for the Japanese imperialism has already been over and the period of decay has started, it still has some strength. The main political objectives for the Japanese imperialism at this stage are:

- (1) To reform educational systems to make them fit for reactionary purposes on the basis of the justification of its past invasion of Asian countries;
- (2) To intensify the reintegration of the people making the most of the "Tennoism" (Tenno being the Emperor of Japan) ideology;
- (3) To disband the militant labor movement through helping strengthen the rightist labor movement and the so-called reforms of the Government executive branches and administration systems; and

- (4) To persuade Japan Socialist Party and other opposition parties into agreeing to the proposition that there is a real threat of the Soviet Union and then to bring them to come to the fold of the "patriots".

To sum up, a majority of the post-war Japanese leaders has succumbed to the reactionary tendencies in face of the crisis for the imperialism which was caused by many victories of the peoples of the Third World.

But the people of Japan is different. The fact that more than one million people took part in various anti-nuclear war struggles and rallies in 1982 as well as the fact that the ruling Liberal Democratic Party could not win in the latest general election at the end of 1983 shows this clearly. Japanese people are delighted at the series of victories of the Third World, and they are eager to follow suit.

Therefore, we think it imperative to organize the real wish of the Japanese people in order to prevent Japan and other imperialist countries from undertaking invasive wars in the Third World countries. For this purpose, we are going to emphasize political struggles resorting to the force of people.

4. On Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and Korea

The struggles to destruct a structure comprising the arrangements under the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty (Ampo Joyaku) and Japan-South Korea cooperative setup should be the strategic kernel of our anti-Japanese imperialism struggles. It was the Korean War that prompted Japan and the U.S. to sign the Ampo Joyaku in 1951 when Japan began to rearm. In 1965 Japan and Republic of Korea entered into the Japan-Korea Treaty by which Japan found its way to Asian countries in general and to Korea in particular through the cooperation from and financial assistance to the Korea's puppet regime.

A counter-revolutionary setup embracing Ampo and Japan-Korea collaborative makeup was thus constructed. This setup is meant to be a setup for invasion and counter-revolution against Korean and other Asian peoples. But at the same time this has been a product of a series of strong struggles for liberation on the part of the Third World peoples. Therefore, this setup also comprises one of the weakest links for the Japanese imperialism.

The Ampo/Japan-Korea makeup has evolved into a joint military operation of U.S. and Japanese forces after the Vietnamese revolution in 1975. The strengthening of the military partnership between Japan and the U.S. has aroused a sense of crisis among various social strata in Japan. This is especially so for those who still remember the last war and have a stronger wish for maintaining peace.

Against this backdrop there has come to grow a broad anti-war/anti-nuclear weapon sentiment which in our opinion should be directed to the struggles against the imperialism and invasive wars in a joint action with the peoples of the Third World. We are therefore pointing out that only through destructing the Ampo/Japan-Korea makeup can it be possible to realize the wish for the peace and abandonment of nuclear arms.

5. On Revolutionary Party

A prerequisite to the destruction of the Ampo/Japan-Korea makeup and overthrow of the Japanese imperialism is the construction in Japan of a vanguard party with the Bolshevik principle.

It is of utmost importance that a revolutionary as well as a revolutionary party be revolutionary at "this" moment in eternity. Our task to build up a vanguard party is crucially important today now that the Japan Communist Party has been caught in a trap of the parliamentalism and the Center-Core Faction (Chukaku) of the Revolutionary Communist League of Japan has degraded itself by fighting a lot of bloody fights with the opposing forces within the fold of the revolutionary left.

We have tried to transform ourselves to be really revolutionary by learning from and studying not only Marx and Lenin. We also highly appreciate Mao-Tsu Tong with respect to his spirit of dedication to the people and the actual struggles by the people of the Third World.

We have been engaged in active discussions with other political forces which also aim to build a vanguard party in an effort to promote greater solidarity within the revolutionary left groups in Japan. We are not totally optimistic in this process, because there are different views as well as common ones inside the revolutionary left. But we are committed to strengthen the united front whether or not these discussions will lead to the construction of "the" vanguard party.

In the meantime, we are going to continue our own separate efforts to build up and enlarge our party organization and rely upon our own strength in advancing our struggles.

C. OUR IMMEDIATE STRUGGLES

1. Struggles Against the Planned Disposition of the Nuclear Cruising Missile Thomahawk

The disposition in the northern Pacific in June of the nuclear missile Thomahawk is planned following that in Europe of the Pursing II and cruising missiles.



June 17, 1984 Mass rally in Yokosuka against the planned disposition of nuclear missile Tomahawk.



With this disposition, Japanese port towns will become bases for nuclear weapons, as such port towns including Yokosuka, Sasebo and Naha are frequently called at by submarines and battle ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Also, several hundreds of U.S. military bases in Japan will directly be involved in the nuclear warfare because they can be the places where the order to fire the missiles may be made after the disposition of the Tomahawk. Thus, Japan will be directly helping the U.S. prepare nuclear wars on the basis of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. Surprised at this process, the Japanese people are organizing themselves into various political activities led by labor unions, citizen groups, and political groups.

The Battle Flag-Communist League too has begun to prepare a big fight following our struggle last fall against Reagan's visit to Japan.

On June 17 a rally with some 10,000 people will be held in Yokosuka City where a

huge U.S. military camp is located. Since May a nation-wide anti-nuclear warfare caravan has been on the road to march into Yokosuka that day. This caravan started from another major U.S. military camp city Sasebo, 1,500 kilometers off Yokosuka and is made up of more than twenty activists.

We are set on creating a large scale movement which can parallel that in Europe to block the disposition of the Tomahawk.

2. Struggles Against the Coming to Japan of Korean President Chun Doo Hwan and his Meeting with Emperor Hirohito

Korea's President Chun plans to visit Japan by the end of this year. He is the very person who ordered a holocaust of several thousands of brave Kwangju citizens who uprose against the Park dictatorship. While his stay here, he is going to meet with Emperor Hirohito, a war criminal compared only to Hitler and Mussolini.

No Korean president has so far attempted to come to Japan because of a distrust of the Japanese people who has failed to overthrow Emperor Hirohito, the boss of the Japanese imperialists. But Chun, a puppet of the U.S. and Japanese imperialists and murderer of his own people, is different. He is coming to Japan to deepen the military alliance with Japan and the U.S. in close collaboration with Nakasone and Reagan.

We are determined to block the coming of Chun and his meeting with Hirohito with all our might and in a spirit of solidarity with the fighting people in Korea.

3. Struggles Against the Start of the Second-Phase Work for the Construction of the New Tokyo International Airport at Sanrizuka, Narita City.

4. Struggles for International Solidarity With the Liberation Forces of All Over the World Particularly Those in Latin America and Palestine.



correction

- p.3 L.16 is especially → has been especially
L.27 and late → and in the late
L.29 we bought → we organized
- p.5 L. 3 in struggle → in struggles
L. 9 (Core Faction) → (Center Core Faction)
- p.8 L. 4 who aspired → who aspires
L.28 world revolution → a world revolution
L.31 The success → A success
- p.10L.17 comprising → made up of
L.32 the last was → the last war
L.35 is our opinion → in our opinion
- p.11L.19 will lead → may lead

