

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION BULLETIN of SUF, Norway

Sosialistisk Ungdomsforbund, boks 6159, Etterstad, Oslo 6



If there is to be revolution, there must be a revolutionary party. Without a revolutionary party, without a party built on the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory and in the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary style, it is impossible to lead the working class and the broad masses of the people in defeating imperialism and its running dogs.

- Mao Tse-tung

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People of the world, unite and defeat the U.S. aggressors and all their running dogs! People of the world, be courageous, dare to fight, defy difficulties and advance wave upon wave. Then the whole world will belong to the people. Monsters of all kinds shall be destroyed.

1) 5th national congress of SUF

SUF-Norway held its 5th National Congress 20. - 22. of september 1968. 120 lawfully elected delegates met. A number of foreign comrades were also present.

The Organisational Report for the period October 1967 to september 1968 showed that SUF now has about 3 000 members in about 80 local sections in all parts of Norway. The league had made great progress in the said period, and the Report showed a sharp increase in its activities.

The congress made a number of important decisions and resolutions :

A : On Studies (excepts)

..."All sections must in the period until the next Congress arrange studies in Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tse-tungs thought...it is extremely important to study the role of the state under monopoly capitalism, and Mao Tse-tungs Thought, adapted to practical work and class-struggle in Norway."

B : New Political Platform (main points)

"SUF is a revolutionary, class-struggle organisation, working for a socialist and proletarian revolution in Norway, and with the aim of establishing a class-less society..."

The state and the socialist revolution

...The norwegian state is an instrument for retaining the dictatorship of the capitalists over the people. The parliament is a fake-democratic institution...

The monopoly-capitalist dictatorship can only be overthrown by the working class, allied with other progressive parts of the people, by crushing the bourgeois state apparatus through a revolution. (The proletariat) must take control over the means of production and establish its own organs of power, its own new-type democratic state, without bureaucracy and privileges, i.e. the democratic dictatorship of the proletariat. This will mean democracy for the people, which exercises dictatorship over those wanting to reestablish capitalism.

In accordance with this, SUF rejects "the parliamentary road to socialism"... This does not mean that SUF rejects parliamentary work. Work in parliament must aim at showing that the state apparatus is an instrument for the suppression of the working people, and the necessity of a proletarian revolution.

Proletarian Internationalism

...the people of Norway have common interests with the suppressed and exploited people of the world. SUF is therefore in solidarity with everyone fighting imperialism, with the peoples in the countries and territories having already liberated themselves, with the people of Vietnam and the liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with fighting workers and students in the European countries, and with the revolutionary Afro-Americans and other progressive forces in the USA. Their enemies are our enemies, their fight is our fight.

SUF fights the bourgeois bureaucrat cliques having taken power in the Soviet Union and most of the former socialist or people's democratic countries, because of their collaboration with imperialism and because they are establishing state-capitalism in the areas under their control. It is an important part of SUF's internationalist duty to support the peoples of China and the other countries which are building socialism, and support the people's struggle for genuine socialist workers power in the countries where the revisionists have taken power.

Main Working Tasks

The struggle against the Norwegian Monopoly Capitalism

...The monopoly capitalists' suppression leads to resistance...SUF must articulate and fight for the economic and social demands of the great mass of workers, small peasants, fishermen, youth under education and intellectuals...

...SUF must work in factories, schools, universities etc. to develop this struggle, which gives the masses an understanding of the nature of capitalism. ... the struggle for the every-day interests must be connected to the long-range aims and not be divorced from them in an opportunistic way.

The struggle against Imperialism

...SUF must work for getting Norway out of NATO, which is the main instrument of US-imperialism for enshuring its control over Norway...SUF will fight against Norwegian EEC membership...

The main aim for the anti-imperialist work must be to make clear for the masses the necessity of a proletarian revolution in Norway.

The struggle against opportunism

Right-wing social-democracy (in Norway, the Labour Party) openly serves the interests of monopoly capitalism...

...Therefore, to serve the interests of the working class, SUF must fight against social-democracy and the bureaucratism in the trade-union movement, and reject class collaboration, which aims to break the workers' fighting spirit...

SUF rejects all political tendencies advocating compromise with...social-democracy...both left-wing social-democracy rejecting the necessity of revolution and the building of socialism under the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the supporters of Soviet revisionism, defending the cremlin renegates capitulation to capitalism and imperialism..."

C : Adaption of Democratic Centralism in SUF (excepts)

The congress decided upon the adaption of a democratic and centralist working-style in SUF.

..."The congress sees the difference between the genuine democratic centralism and its parodies. The latter have emerged partly as a result of the revisionist parties having wrongly called their cadaver-discipline and lack of internal democracy "democratic centralism", partly through hetz-propaganda from social-democracy and bourgeois reaction...

...The democratic and centralist working-style cannot be adopted by merely a majority vote. It has to be adapted gradually in SUF, and developed through studies, discussions and practice..."

The resolution further points out immediate consequences of this resolution, such as setting up a committee to study the organisational structure of SUF, a paragraph in the laws making it possible to exclude members etc.

D : Resolution on the Middle East (excepts)

The resolution condemns Israel's brutal terror against the civilian population in the occupied areas.

..."A purely Jewish state built on Zionist principles means colonisation of alien territory and expulsion of the local population. Resistance from the expelled is met with new expansion. Such a state is an alien element in the Middle East, and can remain only by help of terror, war and expansion, supported militarily and economically by capitalist states and groupings in other parts of the world.

The requirement for peace and development in the Middle East is that the alliance with the imperialist forces is broken, that the chauvinist rulers of Israel is overthrown, and that Israel as a purely Jewish state ceases to exist..."

E : Resolution on the Soviet occupation of Chechoslovakia

The congress condemned sharply the military occupation of Chechoslovakia by the Soviet union and the 4 other Warsaw Pact countries. At the same time Chechoslovak revisionism was condemned, both the Novotny and the Dubchek brand.

..."We are in solidarity with the revolutionary forces in Chechoslovakia and the other Eastern European countries wishing to make a real socialist revolution based on the interests of the broad masses of the people and not on the bureaucrats' interests."

F : Other resolutions

Resolutions were passed on the situation within the trade-union movement, on the trade-union policy of SUF, on the crisis in the fisheries in the northern part of Norway as well as on the war Nigeria-Biafra.

G : Telegrammes

Telegrammes were sent to the National Liberation Front of the Southern Part of Vietnam, to SUF's sister organisation Clarte-Sweden, to SUF-Denmark and to SDS-Western Germany.

H : Election of Central Committee

The congress elected a central committee, consisting of 11 members and 7 supplantes. Chairman : Sigmund Grønmo. Vice-chairmen : Viktor Stein and Tron Øgrim. Member of the c.c. in charge of international contacts : Harald Dahl.

2) Short outline of the norwegian left

A : self-confessed bourgeois and right-wing socialdemocrat

A presentation of SUF-norway must also contain a description of the norwegian left, - particularly the so-called "socialist" workers' movement, of which SUF is considered to form a part.

Of the 4 self-confessed bourgeois parties, only one organisation describes itself as radical. That is the youth organisation of the liberal party, NUV (Norges Unge Venstre - Norwegian Young Left). This organisation claims to be anti-NATO and pro-FNL, but it fights the organisations effectively supporting these causes such as the Anti-NATO campaign and the SOLKOM (Vietnam organisation). NUV is a small organisation, with no significant activities.

The norwegian right-wing social-democrats in DNA (Det Norske Arbeiderparti - The Norwegian Labour Party) are of the usual Western European brand, pro-US, pro-NATO, pro-EEC, anti-communist and staunch supporters of imperialism and capitalism. DNA completely controls the top of the only national trade union, the LO, and uses its power here to stifle the workers' struggles for just demands.

Its youth organisation AUF (Arbeidernes Ungdomsfylking - The Worker's Youth League) once in a while tries to strike a more "radical" pose, but its fake-radicalism was thoroughly exposed last spring, when it was disclosed that AUF-chairman Ola Toigen was receiving support from CIA funds. At the same time, AUF came down as a supporter of NATO. A "left wing" opposition within the AUF is struggling to "radicalise" the AUF. The quality of its leaders is exposed by the fact that several of them supported bulgarian police when they attacked norwegian marxist-leninists at the so-called "World Festival of Youth" in Sofia last summer. It is now well known that the "left wing" will be thoroughly defeated at the AUF congress in spring, 1969. This, and the opportunism of the "left wing" leaders, causes an increasing number of onest militants to leave AUF and supporting SUF.

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B : Parties and Youth organisations left of the DNA

The parties and groups of national importance are the following :

SF (Sosialistisk Folkeparti - Peoples' Socialist Party) founded 1961

SUF (Sosialistisk Ungdomsforbund - Socialist Youth Federation) youth organisation of SF, founded 1963

NKP (Norges Kommunistiske parti - Norwegian Communist party) founded 1923

KU (Kommunistisk Ungdom - Communist Youth) present youth organisation of NKP, founded 1967

NKU (Norges Kommunistiske Ungdomsforbund - Norwegian Communist Youth League) former youth organisation of the NKP, founded 1903 as youth organisation of DNA

(Note : SSF (Sosialistisk Studentforbund - Socialist Student Federation) was dissolved this autumn, most of the local sections wanting more contact with SUF)

C : Comments on the parties

SF was founded on a left-wing social-democratic platform. Ban-the-bomb, Norway out of Nato and dissolve the armed forces were main planks. NKP is a revisionist party, advocating "peaceful transition to socialism". As a number of marxist-leninists still remain within the party, NKP has out of opportunism taken a more or less contrist stand on the questions concerning the international communist movement.

Ideologically, the parties are very near each other. SF is more "new left" oriented in the Western style, while NKP echoes the "World Marxist Review". As most of the SF leaders were excluded from DNA, the contradiction SF/DNA has been very sharp. NKP has been a trifle more bent on collaborating with the social-democrats. Both parties supported the Dubcek revisionists during the Soviet Union's recent aggression against Chekoslovakia.

Both parties are organisatorally weak, with a few thousand members and little grass-root activity. NKP have some more influence on the basic level in the trade-unions (LO), where the SF influence is negligible. SF polls some more votes. In the parliament elections, 1965, SF got 122 000 (6 %) and 2 deputies, while NKP got 30 000 (1.4 %) and 0 deputies.

D : Comments on the youth organisations

NKU, former youth organisation of NKP, has been suffering heavy setbacks during the 60.s. In 1967 it broke contacts with NKP, closely following an ultra-revisionist group which partly left the party. After the split NKU is left with less than 50 members in all of Norway, and no activities. As a result of recent developments within NKP-KU, NKU today again claims to be the youth organisation of NKP. This has no foundation in facts. At present, NKU functions merely as a travel bureau for the revisionist countries and as a name on official Soviet lists of "friends" in Western Europe.

KU was founded as a result of the split between NKP and NKU. At its star, KU had strong marxist-leninist leanings, however, a number of centrists that enjoy the confidence of the NKP leaders, have gradually taken over the KU. At present KU has less than 200 members, and its activities are small.

When SUF was founded it was at first a little to the right of SF. The leading members were outright pacifists. However, as a result of an extremely open and liberalistic organisatorial structure a strong marxist-leninist trend could develop, and this tendency had its breakthrough at the 4th national congress in 1967. Resolutions were passed, condemning all compromises with social-democracy, an supporting the Great Proletarian Revolution in Peoples' China. These developments were consolidated by the 5th national congress.

Because of the new political platform of SUF, the relations between SUF and SF are extremely tense. A tendency that are in agreement with SUF is emerging within the SF, while the main forces in SF are rallying for breaking off contacts with SUF. The SF leadership holds that a showdown can be expected at the SF congress in february 1968.

3) Peoples' front organisations in Norway

The following left-wing organisations are not attached to any particular party, but contain members from various political circles. Members of SUF take a front-line stand in the work and struggle of these peoples' fronts.

SOLKOM (Solidaritetskomiteen for Vietnam - Norwegian Solidarity Committee for Vietnam) founded 1965. Address : Idungate 5/ Oslo 1 / Norway.

Membership organisation, organises actions and demonstrations in support of the Vietnamese people, spreads information about their just peoples' war against US aggression, collects money to support FNL, publishes information bulletin "For Vietnam".

(Note : SOLKOM must not be confused with the fake "Vietnam Movement in Norway" (Vietnambevegelsen i Norge) which is an "organisation of organisations" consisting of the young liberals, revisionists (NKU) etc. and which is fully under the control of right-wing social-democrats with strong connections with CIA. This "Vietnam movement" will probably be dissolved soon because it has shown no activities.)

Anti-NATO Campaign (Kampanjen Norge ut av NATO) founded 1967
address : Kristian Augusts gate 19, 6. etasje / Oslo 1 / Norway

Membership organisation, organises actions and demonstrations against Norway's NATO membership, etc. Publishes journal "Norway out of NATO".

FSF (Faglig Studentfront - Students' trade-union front) founded 1968
Address : P.O. Box 53 / Blindern, Oslo 3 / Norway

Membership organisation, organises students fights for economical and social interests, demanding higher grants, better housing etc. Fights against the bureaucratic "student democracy" and the university establishment, and takes a general anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist stand. Works at the university of Oslo, and is developing contacts with high-schools, trade-schools in the Oslo area.

4) List of Publications from SUF-Norway

UNGSOSIALISTEN (Young Socialist) main organ of SUF, bimonthly, can be ordered through the central address of SUF.

OPPBRUDD (Revellie) organ of the student section of SUF, Oslo, quarterly. Can be ordered from SUF-stud / P.O. Box 115, Blindern, Oslo 3/ Norway.

SUF also publishes a great number of bulletins, at least 12-15 a year, covering special topics with documentation and comments. Among the most recent : Problems in Norwegian Agriculture, The May Uprising in France, Criticisms of University and School capitalist "reforms" in Norway, Militant struggle in norwegian schools, denunciation of the so-called "marxist theoretician" Marcuse. Large numbers of leaflets are published in connection with actions and demonstrations. SUFs most recent leaflet is about the crisis in the fisheries in the northern part of Norway.

Anyone especially interested in some of these publications are advised to write to International Secretary / SUF / Postbox 6159 - Etterstad / Oslo 6 / Norway.

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5) Concerning the Information Bulletin

The International Information Bulletin of SUF-norway, published in english, is sent to various progressive organisations. It is published quarterly and will contain informations about the development of SUF and the left wing in Norway. The next issue will contain a summary of the most important strikes, demonstrations and other developments in Norway, 1968. We may also in the future treat various other topics, such as Norway's role in the exploitation of the colonial and neo-colonial countries etc. Comments and criticisms are welcomed.

Interested individuals are welcome to subscribe to the IIB-SUF. The charge is 5 shillings (GB currency) or equivalent. Orders should be made to :

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