

ROUND THE WORLD

CPYRGHT

ASIA AND AFRICA

Beware of U.S. Subversion

"When we say 'imperialism is ferocious,' we mean that its nature will never change, that the imperialists will never lay down their butcher knives, that they will never become Buddhas, till their doom."

— Mao Tse-tung

Samdech Sihanouk's exposure during his March 22 press conference of U.S. imperialism's plot to stage a coup in Cambodia can be read with benefit by people all over the world.

He related how a friend of his had travelled from Tokyo to Saigon with an American named George McColm. During the trip McColm spoke in detail of a C.I.A. intrigue.

"Sihanouk won't live for long. We have decided to finish him off before the end of the year," this McColm had said.

McColm also reportedly disclosed that the U.S. imperialists have been using Cambodians to carry out sabotage and subversive activities. According to him, the C.I.A. installed in the Cambodian armed forces two high-ranking officers who have huge deposits in a Swiss bank and are preparing a coup d'etat. McColm also said that three Cambodian government officials who have close ties with the Saigon puppet regime are working for the C.I.A., and in the royal palace itself there is a big traitor watching Sihanouk's every move.

Samdech Sihanouk's revelation of the U.S. imperialist scheme is most timely and poses an important question for all independent countries in Asia and Africa, for Cambodia is certainly not the sole victim of U.S. imperialist subversion.

A month ago the Yemeni Minister of the Interior, Mohamed Al Ahnoui, called attention to the underhand activities of the office of the local U.S. "Point 4" programme (known as "technical assistance to underdeveloped countries") which led and financed spies engaged in sabotage. Ahnoui said that a gang of subversives had been arrested in Taizz where some Yemeni citizens were working for the U.S. "Point 4"

office, and a quantity of U.S.-made weapons and explosives were captured.

In Pakistan, too, many papers have recently published editorials and articles calling for vigilance against the subversive activities of the C.I.A. They showed that the U.S. Embassy and the U.S.I.S. are spy centres while the delegations which some

U.S. ECONOMY

Bleak Prospects

"Irreconcilable domestic and international contradictions, like a volcano, menace U.S. imperialism every day. U.S. imperialism is sitting on this volcano."

— Mao Tse-tung

U.S. industrial production has slumped precipitously in the last few months.

According to official figures, the index of industrial production in January dropped to 158, as compared with 159 in December 1966 (100 being the average of industrial production for the period 1957-59). It took another dive in February, dropping to 155.9, which marks the sharpest fall in any one month since the auto workers' strike in October 1964.

The worst hit are the auto, steel and durable consumer goods industries. The decline in new orders here indicates a heavy inventory build-up and "over-production."

Things have come to such a pass because the "three main pillars" of the U.S. economy—auto, steel and construction—are all in bad shape. Production in the auto industry has had to be curtailed time and again because of the sagging market. Total output last year was 8 per cent lower than in 1965. Prospects for 1967 continue to be dim as there is no discernible sign of improvement in demand. U.S. car production in the first quarter of 1967 is expected

U.S. foundations and organizations sent to Pakistan have carried out intelligence and other covert activities.

Through its henchmen, U.S. imperialism has staged many armed intrusions and posed military threats against the independent Asian and African countries. This is open and all can see it. What is often neglected is the internal subversion which U.S. imperialism resorts to through its in-

teligence and aid agencies and through its local agents. In fact, from 1960 until now, the imperialists have staged more than 60 coups in the Asian and African countries. In some, not only was their national independence throttled, but their leaders were murdered. This is a lesson for all independent Asian and African countries.

to be down by 20 per cent, as compared with last year.

The building industry is in no happier position than the auto industry. Last October its operations dropped to the lowest level since World War II. Though it has recovered somewhat at present, the prospects are still very dismal.

Following the slump in the auto and building industries, which are the two biggest customers for steel products, the steel industry has also had to reduce production. Unsold stocks in the steel industry increased considerably in the second half of 1966. It is now obvious that steel production this year will be lower than the 1966 level.

The past few months have witnessed a decline in new orders for durable consumer goods and machine tools, and inertia or decline in retail turn-over. All this foreshadows a continued fall in industrial production.

Curtailed investments by monopoly capital are also a straw in the wind showing that the American economy faces gloomy months ahead. Excessive investment in plant and equipment over the last few years has brought about a widespread, serious