

have had little relation to relative strengths of different ideologies throughout the affected population. The inability to measure the effect and power of ideology itself has not been resolved in terms of United States global power; the failure of propaganda and psychological warfare methods to create a sustained pro-American empathy, may, in reality, be the failure of the "American" ideology to be acceptable amongst much of the population of the earth.

A consistent ideology, perceptive tactics and persistence can, in the long run, go far to negate the initially shocking effects of high-technology military hardware or blanket infusions of economic aid. In measuring United States power and potential in the Third World, the longevity of regimes it supports will depend ultimately as much upon their resistance to tactics and ideology as upon their economic and military strength.

The Sino-Soviet split over ideological and national interests has permitted the

United States to gain some beneficial results by exploiting, cautiously, some of their differences for its own strategic benefit. However, in their pursuit of global objectives, both the Marxist powers have achieved measurable results in the Third World. In this perspective, it is true that Chile, Indonesia and Egypt may be "lost" for the time being but, on balance, the banners of Communist or radical socialist regimes have multiplied during the last two decades.

The clear victory of revolutionary forces throughout the Indochina theatre can give no solace to the uneasy regimes of Thailand, Burma, Bangladesh, India, while Westward, through such ventures as the Tanzam Railway and the Angolan campaign, the competing Sino-Soviet policies are beginning to bear fruit after suffering many of the same problems encountered by the United States aid and advisory programs.

The tension surrounding the current African incursions finds a counterpart in the Middle East. Here is a clash of forces and ideologies older and more complex through the conflicting interests and alliances of the great powers. The wealth and power of the OPEC oil states has brought new meaning to the turbulences of Arab-Islamic consciousness, Marxism, extremist nationalism, monarchist systems and the politics of terror. Perhaps it is the latter that strikes the saddest note of the current age.

The generalized effects of murder, kidnapping, highjacking and other expressions of terrorist tactics have been felt throughout all levels of the societies affected. In addition, whether linked with deeply-felt grievances, as with the PLO, or with a savage inflexibility, as with the IRA, the reverberations of such acts have reached the susceptible and brought new tensions to social structures everywhere.

The tensions of the two decades have not ceased. Against this background of global uncertainties, the Soviet Union, China and the United States still jostle each other in pursuit of their interests. They, and the other industrialized groupings and now OPEC, extend the rituals of alliances and power through each other and the developing world.

For the United States, the question is one of resilience. At a time when the sense of its "mission" has been brought into doubt, especially as a result of the Vietnam war, do disillusionment and retraction take its place, or are the traditions strong enough to create a social resilience and cohesiveness, and a keener view of power in the global sphere?

Longevity of regimes will depend upon resistance to tactics and ideology

"HE WAS TAKEN FROM US BEFORE WE REALLY KNEW HIM"

