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THE SIEGE OF THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY BY THE RED GUARD IN THE WINTER OF 1967

Summary: The paper describes the siege of the Yugoslav Embassy in Beijing by the Red Guard during the last days of January and the first days of February 1967. After the establishment of diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and the People's Republic of China in 1955, after the events in Hungary and Poland in 1956, ideological disagreements arose between the two countries, culminating in 1958 when the Chinese accused Yugoslavia of revisionism. Shortly afterwards, the two countries withdrew their ambassadors and the level of relations was reduced to charge d'affaires. Yugoslavia soon became the target of an attack by the Chinese press, which accused it of becoming revisionist and betraying socialism. This went so far that the Chinese did not consider Yugoslavia a socialist country. According to Mao Zedong, the outbreak of the Cultural Revolution and the confrontation with the revisionists who existed in the ranks of the Chinese Communist Party further worsened the bad relations between the two countries. China considered Yugoslavia, as well as the USSR, to be the leaders of revisionism, so the revisionists should have been publicly attacked. In the case of Yugoslavia, the cause was found when the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade was attacked in January 1967, and in that incident, the window with Mao Zedong's poster was smashed. Soon, the Red Guard, which consisted mainly of high school and university students, began the siege of the Yugoslav Embassy in Beijing, in the last days of January and the first days of February 1967. The Yugoslav Embassy was just one of the embassies besieged by the Red Guards. Also, Chinese staff at the Yugoslav Embassy went on strike. Yugoslav diplomatic staff and their families communicated with difficulty with the outside world and generally were in a difficult position. After a few days, the siege ceased, but there were minor incidents in the following days. That coincided with the so-called *January events* in China when the Red Guard began to dissolve legal authorities in the cities and form their own, to attack the headquarters of the Communist Party of China, all in the fight against revisionists, both internally and externally.

Keywords: Yugoslav Embassy in Beijing, attack on Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, Red Guard, siege, revisionism, Cultural Revolution

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