

REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST

ORGAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR A REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY IN AUSTRALIA.

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WHERE WE STAND

FALSE COMMUNISM IS DEAD, LONG LIVE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM! Krushchev's attack on Stalin, in the notorious "secret" report at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1956 heralded the emergence of modern, Soviet-style revisionism. Marxism-Leninism was revised by gutting its revolutionary soul and capitulating to imperialism. The attack on Stalin was the excuse to reject the dictatorship of the proletariat in theory and practice. So not since the 1950's has there been any working class rule in the USSR when this new bourgeoisie inside the Soviet communist party steered a course down the capitalist road. So too, in Eastern Europe where communist parties followed in the steps of Krushchev's revisionism and restored capitalism. Two decades later in China, capitalist roaders (headed by Deng Xiaoping) snuffed out what was a revolutionary beacon under Mao Tsetung's leadership. Today the state capitalists that run these countries are reeling, scorned and reviled. Many have even dropped the label "communist". Fine! Mao Tsetung identified these revisionists for the privileged parasites they are 25 years ago. Something else Mao said in 1966 has also haunted these revisionist usurpers: "If the Rightists stage a coup d'etat in China, I am sure they will know no peace..." Another socialist revolution is the only solution for the USSR, Eastern Europe, China, Vietnam, Cuba etc. MAO MORE THAN EVER!

MAKE REVOLUTION!

Nothing less than turning the whole world upside down (or rather right side up) is going to bring down this imperialist system. Preparation for all-the-way revolution, and not pitiful reforms is the urgent order of the day. The revolutionary movement in Australia must aim to serve the world revolution by overthrowing the state power of the ruling class here. This will pave the way for proletarian dictatorship and through more revolutions eventually classless communism. We stand by Mao Tsetung's words: "If there is to be a revolution, there must be a revolutionary party. Without a revolutionary 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 to defeat imperialism and its running dogs."

FOR A MAOIST PARTY UNITED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY INTERNATIONALIST MOVEMENT!

If there is to be revolution in Australia the proletariat and its allies will need the revolutionary party Mao spoke of above, as none has existed here for decades. The Marxist-Leninist-Maoist vanguard in Australia will be built as part of the international communist movement. The recent regrouping of Maoist forces throughout the world into the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) is a qualitative leap in reconstructing the international communist movement. CRCPA supports RIM by joining in its campaigns and working toward forming a communist party. CRCPA is guided by the *Declaration of the RIM* and strives to make the specific application of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism to the concrete conditions of Australia. This means: carrying out revolutionary agitation and propaganda; investigation and analysis of the world and Australian political situations;

implementing a revolutionary mass line -- spreading the outlook and influence of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism to the highest degree; and, basing ourselves amongst those who have nothing to lose -- the downtrodden proletarians -- and, their allies. This is so that when a revolutionary situation emerges a mass party can be forged around revolution and not economic deals, reforms and selling out to bourgeois political parties and imperialist powers.

IMPERIALIST AUSTRALIA

Australia is a lesser imperialist power. Although our ruling class doesn't always act on its own doesn't mean it isn't acting in its own interests. This Australian imperialist bourgeoisie wields state power. It commands the army, police, courts, bureaucracy etc using them to keep us down. Parliamentary elections merely mystify this bourgeois dictatorship. Australian imperialism has its own sphere of dominance, bullying and exploitation, especially the SW Pacific, PNG and Bougainville -- an area of upsurge in anti-imperialist struggle. CRCPA welcomes more defeats for Australian imperialism and its allies at the hands of the revolutionary masses. Today, there is nothing progressive about Australian nationalism. Our flag is the red flag.

DOWN WITH RACISM AND NATIONAL OPPRESSION!

The history of capitalism in Australia is a continuing saga of genocide, outright robbery of the land and brutal oppression of the Aboriginal and Islander peoples. Concretely taking up this national question and upholding the rights of the Aboriginal and Islander peoples to self-determination is a key cornerstone around which the unity of the revolutionary proletariat and the Aboriginal and Islander peoples must be built. The biggest step in getting rid of the ideological poison of racist attitudes will be taken when this imperialist system that is the source of this sewer, and in turn thrives off it, is swept away.

OUR INTERNATIONALIST DUTY

Australian communists make revolution not just for the workers and oppressed in Australia. The Australian revolution must be made in unity with and for the cause of the international proletariat. Special emphasis is placed on supporting the people's war in Peru led by the Communist Party of Peru, a party based on Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, and participating in the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement.

JOIN US!

Revolutions do not arrive, they are made. To those who can hardly wait for the time when we can bring down this rotten system, link up with us revolutionary communists. Join us in preparing the ground for people's war to seize political power and pave the way for the creation of a new system that will put an end to all oppression and exploitation, everywhere.



Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia
Write to: The Secretary, GPO Box 4740, Melbourne 3001

BREAKING WITH OLD IDEAS ABOUT AUSTRALIA & IMPERIALISM

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY IMPERIALISM?

"... we must give a definition of imperialism that will include the following five of its basic features: 1) the concentration of production and capital has developed to such a high stage that it has created monopolies which play a decisive role in economic life; 2) the merging of bank capital with industrial capital, and the creation, on the basis of this 'finance capital', of a financial oligarchy; 3) the export of capital as distinguished from the export of commodities acquires exceptional importance; 4) the formation of international monopolist combines which share the world among themselves, and 5) the territorial division of the whole world among the biggest capitalist powers is completed."

(Lenin, 1965 p.106)

As we can see from the well known definition Lenin provided in his popular outline *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*, imperialism is not merely the foreign policy of the great powers. Nor is imperialism merely the external relations between distinct countries. Imperialism is capitalism in its highest -- monopoly -- stage, which began at about the turn of the 20th century. In the era of imperialism, relations between one country and another, "form part of the sum total of 'divide the world' relations, become links in the chain of operations of world finance capital" (Lenin, 1965 pp.102-103).

Lenin emphasized that this imperialist chain is characterized by a fundamental division. Speaking in 1920, at the 2nd Congress of the Communist International he posed the question, "what is the cardinal idea underlying our theses?" His answer: "It is the distinction between oppressed and oppressor nations..... The characteristic feature of imperialism consists in the whole world, as we now see, being divided into a large number of oppressed nations, and an insignificant number of oppressor nations, the latter possessing colossal wealth and powerful armed forces" (Lenin, 1972 p.55).

On the basis of this division, flows the Leninist view that the world revolution is composed of two streams: proletarian-socialist revolution in the imperialist citadels; and, national liberation in the oppressed nations.

This thoroughly correct view of the two component parts of the world proletarian revolution is upheld in the *Declaration of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement*, which was adopted by the delegates and observers at the Second International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations which formed the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) in 1984. The *Declaration of the RIM* points to the cold hard truth that, "the basic Leninist principles regarding the preparation for and waging of the proletarian revolution in the imperialist countries have long been buried under an avalanche of revisionist distortion" (p.37). One of the biggest boulders amongst the revisionist rubble in this country has been a flawed approach to situating advanced capitalist countries like Australia, in the global dominance hierarchy of imperialism.

Giving priority to Australia's one-to-one relations with the biggest capitalist powers, like the USA and Britain, has led to wrong ideas about Australia being oppressed by imperialism, and the nature of the Australian revolution involving some version of the national liberation, new democratic revolution e.g. 'the great cause of Australian independence' as per the CPA(M-L). These wrong ideas have had a predominance on the 'Left' in Australia despite:

- * Australia being the biggest capitalist power in the Southern Hemisphere;
- * Australia being in the world's top ten countries, in terms of its Gross National Product;
- * Australia having its own 'true-blue' transnational robber barons like Bond, Abeles, Murdoch, CSR, Burns-Philp etc;
- * Australia bleeding dry its own neo-colonies like PNG and Nauru and most of the rest of the S-W Pacific; and
- * Australia having the largest military strength in S-E Asia and the South Pacific.

Revisionist politics plus a pre-occupation and almost xenophobic paranoia with foreign capital's presence in Australia has blinkered some and blinded many to the reality of Australia's position in the world today, as well as inhibiting the process of making revolution in Australia.

WHERE DOES AUSTRALIA FIT IN?

In a significant deepening of Lenin's outline of the Marxist analysis of imperialism, Raymond Lotta has written:

"The imperialist character of any developed capitalist country is determined, on the one hand, by the internal structure and level of development of the national capital (monopolization and formation of finance capital, etc.) and its relative autonomy and control over the national circuit and, on the other, by the place it occupies in the division of the world into oppressor and oppressed nations and in the international division of labor. A country which does not export large sums of capital may conduct trade and extend loans to

others that do. A country which does not station troops in the oppressed nations may penetrate them under a broader military umbrella. Again, what must be examined are the specific terms of integration into the imperialist financial, political, and military networks and the benefits derived, directly or indirectly, from international plunder" (Lotta, 1984 pp.101-102). It is most important to see this fundamental division between oppressor and oppressed nations as PRINCIPAL in determining Australia's position in the world. This crucially important feature of the imperialist era has long been obscured or denied within the ranks of the international communist movement.

The uneven development of different centres of capital accumulation -- first in Europe, then in the USA and Japan, and later in the white colonial-settler states like Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand -- means that whenever the ruling monopoly capitalist class (or fractions thereof) of one imperialist country enters into an alliance with another imperialist(s), such alliances and agreements are not made by each ruling class on an equal footing. The *Declaration of the RIM* (p.23) points out that inter-imperialist alliances are in fact inevitably unequal. Whenever a lesser imperialist enters into agreement with a bigger imperialist power and the people of that lesser imperialist country suffer as a consequence, the so-called national interest has not been betrayed. It has been defended, because in imperialist countries the 'national interest' is an imperialist interest, and will remain so until the proletariat, "rise[s] to be the leading class of the nation," as *The Communist Manifesto* put it, by seizing state power and ushering in proletarian dictatorship.

The majority of the 'Left' in Australia focus on the inevitably unequal nature of the Australian bourgeoisie's dealings with US, British and Japanese imperialism, making it the principal element in locating Australia's position in the world. It is then just a short step to drawing the 'conclusion' that Australia is a 'client state', or an 'oppressed nation' that is 'dominated by foreign (mainly US) imperialism' and/or 'under threat from rising Japanese imperialism'. Clearly this is greasing the skids into the very same reactionary position adopted by those 'socialists' who in the first inter-imperialist world war called on the workers in 'their' imperialist country to 'Defend the Fatherland'.

What else can trying to outbid the imperialist bourgeoisie in 'defending the national interests' lead to, when push comes to shove and inter-imperialist rivalry is continued by other (military) means? We would be very interested to know where these 'left-wing' Australian nationalists bleating about the 'threat from Japan' plan to stand, if Australia and Japan were to go to war (again).

The Deng-revisionist CPA(M-L) leave us in no doubt at least. In implementing the international line of the Chinese capitalist roaders, the CPA(M-L) have repudiated any inclination toward making revolution in Australia. Instead, repelling "Japanese capital's advance" is their jingoist jingle. Replete with cartoons that feature grotesque, National Action-style caricatures of Japanese people, their rabid anti-Japanese campaign panders to the most backward, racist sentiments amongst the working class of European ancestry in Australia, reaching new levels of chauvinism recently with a short article in its 27/6/90 edition of *Vanguard*.

Titled 'Aussies awake! For the sake of our descendants', this page 2 article could just as easily have been written by other Australian nationalists like Saleam or Van Tongeren instead of 'contributed'. *Vanguard* asks:

"Will the Japanese government decide, eventually, they will need to send their army here to protect their property? They have got not a toehold, but a foothold. How long will it take to move south from Cairns to the old Brisbane Line?"

"We have had experience of how the fascists work. We will eventually deal with our own, but let's make sure we haven't the Japanese ones already in our country."

What is this but a supposedly communist paper calling for ASIO to step up its efforts? A call for a pogrom against Japanese people in Australia? Further evidence that it is the vanguard of the struggle by the Australian ruling class against other imperialists from which the CPA(M-L) paper takes its name? We thought the 'CP' in CPA(M-L) stood for Chinese Parrots. Maybe it now also stands for Chauvinist Patriots.

The notion running through this and other *Vanguard* articles that it was right for Australian communists to join in the anti-Japanese fray prior to World War II, and so it is right to take the same approach now is just so much revisionist crap. As Mao pointed out at the time, WWII (like WWI) was "unjust, predatory and imperialist in character" until Nazi Germany turned its troops East to (the then) socialist Soviet Union. Even then, a significant aspect of its character remained that of an imperialist war for the redivision of the world. In any event, today there are no socialist states to defend in a future world war.

The errors of the 1930's notwithstanding, the task for communists in Australia now, is as it should always have been in the face of imperialist powers 'threatening' Australia. We quote Lenin as he quoted Leibknecht,

"Our main enemy is at home."

Marxist-Leninist-Maoists in Australia stand for nothing less than turning any imperialist war involving Australia into a civil (class) war to overthrow our own Australian imperialist bourgeoisie.

We are striving now to prepare the ground for revolution in Australia not 'for the sake of our descendants', but for our class brothers and sisters worldwide, for the only cause worth living and dying for -- the international proletariat's struggle for communism.

THE BOGEY OF FOREIGN CAPITAL

All the hysterics about foreign investment in Australia from the national chauvinists is founded (and flounders) on a narrow quantitative 'analysis' which ignores the more important aspect of the qualitative presence and role played by foreign capital in Australia. Although there are high levels of foreign investment in Australian industry, it is certainly not the case that foreign investment is everywhere.

The Commonwealth Treasury White Paper *Overseas Investment in Australia* (1972), which fuelled much of the CPA(M-L) etc's fire about Australia's allegedly dominated status, estimated foreign ownership at between 1/4 and 1/3 of 'our' economy. This figure would be even less if the role that the Australian state takes in directly operating and controlling key areas of the economy, like rail and communications, was taken into account.

Foreign capital is only in certain sectors of the economy. In arguing that, "the Australian economy is being taken over by foreigners," the Soviet-style revisionist Len Fox (1974 p.9) surveyed 44 industries in Australia and classified them under the following headings (p. 10):

Ownership of selected Australian industries

Largely Australian	Considerably Australian	Largely Foreign
steel	coal	silver-lead-zinc
sugar	paper	copper
retail stores	packaging	aluminium
'island traders'	insurance	iron ore
airways	textiles	mineral sands
banks	engineering	mineral exploration
land transport	construction	chemicals
building materials	glass	advertising
newspapers	beer	drugs and cosmetics
radio-TV	'developers'	fertilisers
	nickel	merchant banks
		food
		soap
		shipping
		tobacco
		oil
		cars
		computers
		electrical-electronic
		books
		films
		rubber
		pastoral
		agricult'l implements

In *Australia: A Client State*, the stepping off point for authors Wheelwright and Crough (1982 pp.1-2) was a recounting of the same profile of high foreign ownership in selected Australian industries, especially minerals.

And in *The Great Cause of Australian Independence* (1977) the CPA(M-L) chairman E.F. Hill, echoing the Chinese revisionists' 'Theory of the Three Worlds' (see for example pp.76-78) wrote: "What is the conclusion compelled by the facts? The conclusion is socialist revolution through the stage of anti-imperialist revolution." (p.148)

Hill, Fox, Wheelwright and the rest of the phoney 'Left' are wrong!

Rather than concluding that because of this profile of foreign capital, Australia is therefore dominated by foreign capital -- the better question to ask is -- where is foreign capital in relation to finance capital as a whole, in the Australian economy?

FINANCE CAPITAL

Why single out finance capital?

Because as Lenin (1965 p.52) pointed out in *Imperialism*, finance capital is the dominant capital in the era of imperialism. Raymond Lotta explains: "A theory of imperialist accumulation must recognize that finance capital plays the commanding role and generates the essential momentum in both the imperialist and dependent countries, and that overseas expansion and the international environment in general are, taken together, the pedestal of this process... In vastly interdependent, advanced capitalist economies, highly integrated units of finance capital play the strategic reproductive role. When these top and decisive components of the total capital are stimulated, the core sectors of these economies -- which have crucial linkages and extensive satellite relations with the rest of these economies -- are also, in turn, stimulated, keeping the mass of national capital functioning" (1984 pp.99-100).

In imperialist countries, finance capital is anchored in the domestic economy and controlled by the domestic bourgeoisie. In the oppressed nations, finance capital is essentially foreign imperialist capital (Avakian, 1984 p.25). Recalling Lenin's five point definition of imperialism, we know that finance capital is defined as the merging or coalescing of banking and industrial capital (Lenin, 1965 pp.52-53).

Looking again at the table above, we see that heavy industry is described as either "Largely Australian" or "Considerably Australian" owned. As far as the other half of finance capital -- i.e. banking capital -- is concerned, it is nowhere disputed that the major trading banks and life insurance societies are Australian owned.

Far from concluding that because there is in some sectors of the Australian economy high levels of foreign capital that therefore foreign capital dominates Australia -- the sounder, Marxist-Leninist-Maoist, conclusion is that Australian finance capital and hence the Australian monopoly capitalist ruling class as a whole, has benefited from such a symbiotic relationship with foreign capital. The Australian bourgeoisie has had a long history of drawing upon overseas capital since domestic capital accumulation is insufficient to sustain the development of capitalism in Australia:

"For historical reasons,... as well as the relative shortage of capital within Australia, it became important for the Australian bourgeoisie to encourage American investment in local manufacturing industry. Attracted by a buoyant market and finding the export of goods to it inhibited by high tariff barriers, American companies were more than willing to co-operate. An inflow of foreign capital and savings has always been crucial to the viability of Australian capitalism, but whereas previously the dominant form had been loans to the government to finance the large public sector of the economy, in the post-war

period it was predominantly direct investment in private industry. Previously, most foreign capital had come from Britain; now America (and more recently Japan) came to play an increasingly important role" (Rowley, 1972 pp.269-270).

Again it is the TYPE of relationship which the Australian bourgeoisie has with U.S., British and Japanese imperialism i.e. inter-imperialist, which is the most important and principal, over the unequal NATURE of that inter-imperialist relationship. Australia is thus a willing PARTNER in the U.S.-led gang of international imperialist plunderers.

AUSTRALIA'S BANKS: CPA(M-L) GETS IT WRONG AGAIN

During the financial year 1988-89 the following leading Australian banks made the following overseas borrowings:

Westpac.....	\$28,000 million
ANZ.....	\$20,300 million
National Australia.....	\$15,500 million

source: *Australian Business* 30/8/89

The CPA(M-L)'s *Vanguard* (11 April 1990) reported on this in a front page editorial, offering it as supposed proof that, "The local banks are deep in hock to overseas capital." *Vanguard* continued: "It is a very convenient way for foreign monopoly capital to penetrate Australia's economy by maintaining a facade of supposedly independent banks which are more and more the front runners for the overseas financiers." After referring to the financial difficulties different classes are experiencing at the moment whilst interest rates are so high, *Vanguard* deduced: "No wonder the banks last year announced record profits -- up 34 percent for Westpac to \$791.1 million; up 74 percent for National Australia Bank to \$732 million, up 43 percent for ANZ to \$722 million, and up 57 per cent for the Commonwealth Bank to \$476 million. And this after paying huge interest overseas!" The puny patriotic politics of the CPA(M-L) stands fully exposed.

Yes, Australian banks borrow from overseas.

Yes, they borrow a lot of money.

Yes, they repay high interest.

And yes, Australian banks make large profits. But Messrs. social-chauvinists of the CPA(M-L) your inability to correctly draw the link between the borrowings and the profits is testimony to the utter bankruptcy of your rotten revisionist line.

These Australian banks, which according to the CPA(M-L) are, "in hock to overseas capital," were all included in *International Business Week's* cover story of 26 June 1989: "The World's Top 200 Banks." Westpac, ANZ and National Australia were ranked: 71, 91 and 99 in terms of assets; 51, 64 and 58 in terms of market value; and, 47, 63 and 40 in terms of performance respectively. Not bad considering they are supposed to be "in hock"! The Commonwealth Bank ranked around the 125 mark on these indicators.

The *International Business Week* story also shows how such loans as undertaken by the Australian banks are by no means high but rather typical of banking capital from lesser imperialist powers.

The un-Marxist, patently false view held by the CPA(M-L) and other 'Left' nationalists, that those sections of the Australian bourgeoisie that engage in joint ventures with foreign capital are so contaminated by such contact as to become mere 'lackeys' and 'hangers-on' of foreign capital -- a 'traitor class' -- does have a more sophisticated and slicker presentation. This view -- advanced in the mid- to late-1970's by intellectuals identified with the CPA(M-L) -- draws heavily on the term *comprador*.

"COMPRADOR" AND COMPRADOR

The word *comprador* -- originally of Portugese origin -- was used in the context of pre-1949 China to refer to the local agents of foreign business houses. Mao Tsetung introduced the category *comprador bourgeoisie* into the vocabulary of scientific socialism, in the course of analyzing the class forces supporting and opposing the Chinese revolution, at the time of the War of Resistance Against Japan. In "Introducing *The Communist*," (*Selected Works*, Vol. II p.289) Mao wrote: "The Chinese big bourgeoisie, which is *comprador* in character, is a class which directly serves imperialism and is fostered by it."

Mao Tsetung, writing in 1939, was speaking from the experience of a country which stands on the other side (from Australia) of the great divide between imperialist and oppressor nations. China's finance capital was foreign imperialist capital. China had been: militarily occupied by the armed forces of Japanese imperialism for three years; had also been occupied many times previously as a result of colonial and imperialist wars of aggression; and, had chunks of its territory seized or 'leased' by the imperialists.

Later in 1939, when he wrote "The Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist Party," (*Selected Works*, Vol. II p.312) Mao explained further:

"(6) The imperialist powers have established a network of *comprador* and merchant-userer exploitation right across China, from the trading ports to the remote hinterland, and have created a *comprador* and merchant userer class in their service, so as to facilitate their exploitation of the masses of the Chinese peasantry and other sections of the people.

"(7) The imperialist powers have made the feudal landlord class as well as the *comprador* class the main props of their rule in China."

CPA(M-L) intellectuals of the 1970's had their reading of Mao mediated by their reading of the French 'structural Marxists' Althusser and Poulantzas, and like those Euro-communist revisionists, took Mao's insights completely out of context from a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country and redefined it to mean, "a subordinate ally and dependent inter-mediary of imperialist monopoly capital." Thereby downplaying the TYPE of relationship (inter-imperialist) and elevating instead the secondary, unequal NATURE of Australian capital's alliance with foreign capital to the principal contradiction and feature.

What flowed from these scholarly elaborations of the CPA(M-L) line was such ridiculous claims that Australian firms like BHP and the Collins House group are comprador bourgeois because they sell goods to overseas firms and have more generally linked up with foreign capital in joint ventures. See for example Tsokhas (1977) and McQueen (1977).

Although in hindsight it is easy to see how grotesque a caricature of Mao's analysis this is, it was not the case at the time for those who strove to grasp and apply Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in Australia. But this admission does have a positive side. It leads us back to a greater appreciation of the advances in revolutionary theory made throughout the ranks of the international communist movement, and especially the *Declaration of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement* and its excavation of the strategy and tactics of proletarian revolution in countries like Australia, buried for so long under revisionist rubble.

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

- (1) Australia is not dominated by U.S. (or any other foreign imperialism. The concept of a comprador bourgeoisie has no application in Australia today. In the era of imperialism, an economically independent Australia is neither desirable nor possible. There is nothing progressive about Australian nationalism today.
- (2) In Australia, state power is held by the Australian ruling monopoly capitalist class.
- (3) Australia both controls its own and exports finance capital.
- (4) The way to distinguish between imperialist and oppressed countries is based on the distinction as expressed in the economic base of those countries, and by the place a country stands in relation to the FUNDAMENTAL division in the world between oppressor (imperialist) and oppressed (semi-/ neo-colony).
- (5) The presence of foreign capital in Australia must be viewed qualitatively and not merely quantitatively. The strategic sectors of the economy where finance capital emerges, are controlled by the local bourgeoisie.
- (6) The unequal NATURE of Australia's relationships with the largest capitalist powers is always secondary to the TYPE of relationship entered into. These relationships are inter-imperialist relationships.
- (7) Imperialism is not only an external question of exporting capital, oppressing neo-colonies or military aggression abroad. Imperialism is a network of economic and political relationships both internal and external to every country in the era of imperialism.
- (8) **Australia is an imperialist country.** State power is held by an Australian **imperialist** bourgeoisie. Australian imperialism is one of the lesser powers of the USA-led Western imperialist bloc, with its own sphere of oppression, dominance and influence in PNG, S-E Asia, the Indian Ocean and the S-W Pacific.

(9) The strategic objective of the Australian revolutionary movement -- led by the revolutionary communist party, ideologically based on Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and representing the international proletariat -- is to defeat our main class enemy: Australian imperialism; as the best contribution we can make to ending all oppression, everywhere.

(10) The section of the *Declaration of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement* on "The Imperialist Countries" (pp.37- 45) outlines the strategy and tactics of proletarian-socialist revolution in Australia.

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"... capitalist countries... are not oppressed by, but themselves oppress, other nations."

Mao Tsetung 1938

THOROUGHLY BREAK WITH OLD IDEAS!

DOWN WITH AUSTRALIAN IMPERIALISM!

REVISIONISM IS DEAD, LONG LIVE MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM!



from
MASS LINE
December-January 1990

COLLAPSE OF SOCIAL FASCISM

The '80s opened up with the powerful upsurge of the Polish workers. It ends with the allround collapse of the social fascist order in Eastern Europe. More, the order of 'reforms from above' trumpeted by Gorbachev has firmly been swept aside by the disorder of the rebellious masses. And along with it the old equations of imperialist collusion have been made stale. Bush and Gorbachev had nothing much to do but look on with alarm at the sweep of the masses energetic assaults. A few years back Reagan and Gorbachev could gain the limelight as 'saviours'. Today the summit of the superpower chieftains is pushed into the background while the agenda of future imperialist deliberations on Europe is being decided on the streets of Berlin or Bucharest.

The developments in East Europe have much in common with the mass rebellion in China of June and the continuing turbulence in the Soviet Union. Basically they reflect the sharp outrage of the masses pitted against the inhuman social fascist order set up by the revisionists. But the Warsaw Pact countries had an important distinction. Their socialism was won mainly by the victorious drive of the Soviet Red Army against the Nazis during the second world war. This was no doubt a liberation. But the revolution exported through the Red Army never took deep roots thanks to the failure of the communist leaderships. Rather than putting politics in command and transforming the popular goodwill of the masses into a politicised mass base led by the proletariat, these leaderships relied on directives to achieve socialist transformation. This transformation was itself half-hearted; collectivization was taken up late and even then not thoroughly. As Mao commented: "...their land reforms was a top down royal favour." (Critique of Soviet Economics, p.93) These errors were partially related to the particular manner through which these parties came to power and their blind worship of Soviet Union's methods as models. Along with revolution a whole series of mistaken theories and practices of building socialism were also promoted by the CPSU which had by then acquired the harmful status of 'father party'. The outcome of this combination was soon evident. The masses became dissatisfied and rebelled - first in East Germany. While the imperialist attempt to use these rebellions to topple the socialist state had to be met with revolutionary force, they also indicated the need for a thorough political rectification of leadership. But this was not to be because: "After World War-II, the communist party of the Soviet Union and certain East European countries no longer concerned themselves with the basic principles of Marxism. They no longer concerned themselves with class struggle.... and there was not much of a political atmosphere." (Mao Tse-tung, Selected Works, Vol. 5, p.378). The capitalist restoration in the Soviet Union finally eliminated any chance of rectifying the situation. The Warsaw Pact countries became satellites of Russian imperialism and even excelled their master in exercising a savage fascist dictatorship. Romania seemed to be different in resisting Russian imperialist hegemony. But its resistance was a purely bourgeois affair, sustained by the US imperialist bloc's support. The 21 billion dollars of debt which flowed into Romania were the fruits of the unspoken alliance between the US bloc and the revisionists in Bucharest. It lasted so long as the US bloc needed Romania in its contention with Russian imperialism. With

Gorbachev's perestroika the equation changed. Ceausescu was forced to safeguard his fascist reign by speeding up a crash programme of eliminating the debt. (He cleared 11 billion dollars debt within 6 years and achieved a surplus of 2.5 billions). This was done at the cost of cruel hardships strictly limited to the masses. The relative strength of Ceausescu as compared with other East European revisionist chieftains who existed on the grace of Moscow and the burning hatred of the Romanian masses who had to suffer acute deprivation to keep his grandeur alive had surely given rise to the intensity of the mass rebellion in Romania and the resistance of the fascist order.

But there is a common thread in the demolishment of social fascism throughout Eastern Europe. And this goes beyond economic deprivation. In fact East Germany and Czechoslovakia have the highest standards of living throughout the Soviet bloc. Socialism is not simply or mainly a matter of filling up everybody's belly. It is a vibrant social order of continuous revolutionising change which makes the proletarians the true masters of society and gives birth to a new set of social relations containing the elements of a class-free, exploitation free future communist society. The jarring contradiction between the loud 'socialist' sermons of the revisionist lords and the harsh, stifling reality of social fascism

had long ago removed any illusion from among the masses in these countries. The contradiction between profit oriented capitalist production and the corrupt monopoly of the bureaucrat bourgeoisie had already led to a stagnant economy. It was a matter of time for these contradictions to burst out in full force. And when they did it, not communism but putrid blights which soiled communism have been swept away. The depoliticisation forcefully implemented by social fascist rule, the treacherous conversion of Marxism into a religion justifying this monstrosity, has now turned the broad masses into seeking relief from capitalist structures. But that is not a loss. Rather, it is opening up a new front to regain the grounds already lost decades ago through the betrayal of revisionism. As Marx pointed out: ".....communism (is) the real movement which abolishes the present state of things." The inexorable operation of class contradictions are even now preparing the grounds in the 'new' acquisitions of capitalism. The workers of Gdansk are again putting up strike banners - this time against 'their' Solidarity government which wants them to tighten their belts for the capitalists' future. The challenge before the Marxist-Leninists is to seize the initiative through a steadfast application of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, matched by an equally forceful break with dogmas.

**Phony Communism Is Dead.
Long Live Real Communism!
Mao More Than Ever!**



AUSTRALIA'S RATE OF DEATHS IN CUSTODY AMONG HIGHEST IN THE WORLD!

The rate at which Aboriginal people die in custody in Australia is higher than in South Africa and the United States, according to a study issued by the Royal Commission on Black Deaths in Custody. The study of 13 prisons systems in 11 countries finds that the rate of imprisonment for Aborigines is higher than for blacks than South Africa. In Australia between 1980 and 1988, 280 people died in prison, including 35 Aborigines, giving a death rate of 2.98 per 100,000 prisoners. In South Africa the rate is 2.76, the US federal prison system had a death rate of 2.54, and the state system 2.39. Higher rates were found in Thailand 4.47, the federal Canadian system 4.39 and Finland 3.33. Among South African blacks, 429.3 in every 100,000 were in prison each day, compared with 775.8 per 100,000 in the Aboriginal population. From "The Age" 9.6.'90.

The following item is the text of a statement sent by CRCPA to the Provisional Government of the Aboriginal Nation.

To : THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE ABORIGINAL NATION.

From : COMMITTEE FOR A REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY IN AUSTRALIA.
Box 474D. GPO MELBOURNE 3001

Mr Bob Weatheral
Mr Michael Mansell

The Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia (CRCPA) extends its fraternal greetings to the Provisional Government of the Aboriginal Nation. CRCPA supports the right of the Aboriginal people to self-determination, the right to secede, the right to be a sovereign nation with separate nation status and all that this implies. We unconditionally support the Aboriginal people's demand for compensation, as they see fit.

CRCPA supports the right of the Provisional Government of the Aboriginal Nation to fight for self determination as an oppressed minority in Australia : and, we call on Australians of European and other descent to give all out support to the just cause of the Aboriginal people.

CRCPA

MAY 17th 1980 - 1990 10 YEARS of PEOPLE'S WAR in PERU

Long-live the Armed Struggle!
Glory to Marxism-Leninism-Maoism!

May 17, 1990 marked the tenth anniversary of the launching of the Maoist revolution in Peru led by the Partido Comunista del Peru/Communist Party of Peru (PCP). These communist revolutionaries are known mainly in the media as Sendero Luminoso/Shining Path.

The victories of the People's War which have brought Peru to the threshold of a new situation have also driven imperialism to desperation. The U.S. is now preparing, politically and practically, for a major military intervention, with the support of all the world's powers, including the USSR and our own Australian imperialists. (Let's not forget how quick Hawke was to cable a congratulatory note to Bush on the Panama invasion and how a Labor Party representative attended the meeting of the "Socialist" International which supported the Peruvian government's massacring of hundreds of imprisoned PCP fighters in June 1986.) Peru has already become a focal point of imperialist intervention under cover of "the war on drugs". There is the possibility of an escalation that could have enormous consequences for both the forces of reaction and those of revolution as the banners of imperialism and those of Marx, Lenin and Mao clash on the battlefield.

The CRCPA issued the following statement:

CRCPA sends fraternal greetings to the Communist Party of Peru to mark the 10th anniversary of the launching of the People's War in Peru. Peru is the centre of the world's revolutionary movement. The People's War in Peru, under the leadership of the line of the Communist Party of Peru Chairman Gonzalo, is of world wide significance to the people of the world in their struggle for communism, and is another death blow to the imperialist system.

The struggle of the PCP is a beacon shining through the fog of imperialist and revisionist lies and distortion that "communism is dead" and, is an inspiration to comrades who may, temporarily, face difficulties.

The Communist Party of Peru's unquenchable determination to fight to the end, apply Marxism-Leninism-Maoism to the concrete situation in Peru, to identify themselves with the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement and the world wide struggle for communism, urges us to redouble our efforts to carry the message of their struggle to the four corners of Australia.

Palestine

INTIFADA STRIKES AGAIN



In recent months the Palestinian 'Uprising of Stones' -- the Intifada -- has again challenged the reactionary, Zionist settler state of Israel with a new and powerful wave of rebellion. The following report is based on the account in the *Revolutionary Worker* (Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA) of June 3, 1990.

The immediate spark for the upsurge in the struggle was the massacre of Palestinian day-labourers by an Israeli ex-soldier on May 20. This "logical" product of the Israeli system, shouted racist curses at the Palestinian workers and demanded they sit in a line and show their ID cards, all in the same fashion that Israeli soldiers routinely harass Palestinian people. When the workers sat down, the Israeli pointed his assault rifle and opened fire -- shooting the workers in the back as they tried to escape. Seven Palestinians were killed and ten wounded.

Despite a military enforced curfew, the Gaza strip exploded in protest almost immediately. Thousands took to the streets, stormed army outposts, threw stones, and anything else in reach at the hated Israeli army. The brutality of the Zionist regime seems to know no bounds -- within four days after the massacre, the Israeli military had already killed more than twice as many Palestinians than the "madman" ex-soldier and had wounded over 800!

The Palestinians, with the women very active, were not cowed by this Zionist repression and all-round fascist atmosphere. The day after the massacre a general strike called by the Intifada leaders shut down the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Protest marches were led by Palestinian youth -- fierce, confident and bold. Confrontations spread to Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

Protests also broke out inside inside Israel. Palestinians in Israel staged a one-day general strike to protest the massacre. In the northern city of Nazareth, the largest Arab town inside Israel, the people fought back against Israeli bullets with stones, bottles and Molotov cocktails. Youths wrapped in kaffiyehs fought running battles with the cops. They raised the outlawed Palestinian flag and burned the Israeli flag, smashed store windows, burned an Israeli bank and barricaded city streets with large rubbish bins and burning tyres. Similar protests hit several other Israeli cities. And tens of thousands of Palestinians in neighbouring Arab countries joined in the upsurge with general strikes and demonstrations.

This new gust of rebellion blew away the claims by Israel that the Intifada was dying down and that the situation was "returning to normal". It has also prompted the imperialists to hatch new schemes to head off the further fanning of the uprising. The latest such scheme being a United Nations force in the occupied territories to "protect" the Palestinians.

The following item was contributed by a reader:

Ansar in occupied Palestine is referred to by Israeli officialdom as a "detention centre" for Palestinians. Ansar is located in the centre of the Negev desert. Palestinian men, women and children are systematically awakened in their homes at night by Israeli soldiers, kidnapped, beaten, interrogated and tortured in military compounds and prisons. These victims of Israeli

state terror are never charged with any offence. Their relatives wait anxiously outside of Israeli military compounds knowing nothing of the whereabouts of those "detained". After weeks of searching they may receive notice that the person in question has been sent to Ansar.

In violation of the supposed rights and privileges of inhabitants of "occupied territories", as stipulated in the Geneva Convention, stands Ansar. Over 3,500 "detainees" are imprisoned there within a barbed wire enclosure. They shelter in tents filled beyond capacity, subjected to the extremes of desert temperatures. Health and sanitary conditions are appalling. Some prisoners have died because of these conditions. Humiliation and torture are constants for the imprisoned. They are made to stand in the desert sun for head counts three times a day from three quarters of an hour to several hours. They are cut off totally from the outside world. Prisoners' families who have managed to discover their location are denied visits.

The numbers of Palestinians who have passed through Israeli prisons is testimony of both Zionist repression and Palestinian resistance. According to the report, upon which this account is based, every Palestinian family has one or more of its members in prison. The full report may be obtained from:

Friends of Palestinian Prisoners
703 G Street
Washington, D.C. 20003
USA



DOWN WITH AUSTRALIAN IMPERIALISM'S SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL!

Australia has a long standing commitment to the Zionist settler state, going back decades to when it was the first country in the United Nations to vote in favour of Israel. This fundamental commitment by Australia to Israel has continued in fine Labor Party form with the Hawke Labor government. In fact, the current federal government has been particularly outspoken in support of Israel despite: some hollow expressions of concern and condemnations of violent "excesses" by Israel in repressing Palestinian rebellion; and, hypocritical phrase-mongering about also supporting the rights of the Palestinian people.

Following a visit to Israel and the Middle East in early 1987, the high-profile pro-Zionist Hawke declared in Parliament on February 19, 1987 that the Australian government was keen to play its part in securing lasting "peace" in the Middle East which would include acknowledgement of the rights of self determination for the Palestinian people including their right to independence and the possibility of their own state.

Some Palestinians living in Australia have been taken in by this. They hope to push the Labor government's policy further in this direction. There is a desire amongst some that the Australian government will come to openly support the PLO's strategy of: coming to "peace" with Israel; and, a "mini-state" for the Palestinians. Apart from the fact that the PLO's strategy itself is no good -- because it covers up the truth that without the violent destruction of Israel, there will be no liberation for the Palestinian people -- any reliance on Australian imperialism as a "potential friend of Palestinian self-determination" is fatally flawed, and must be continually exposed.

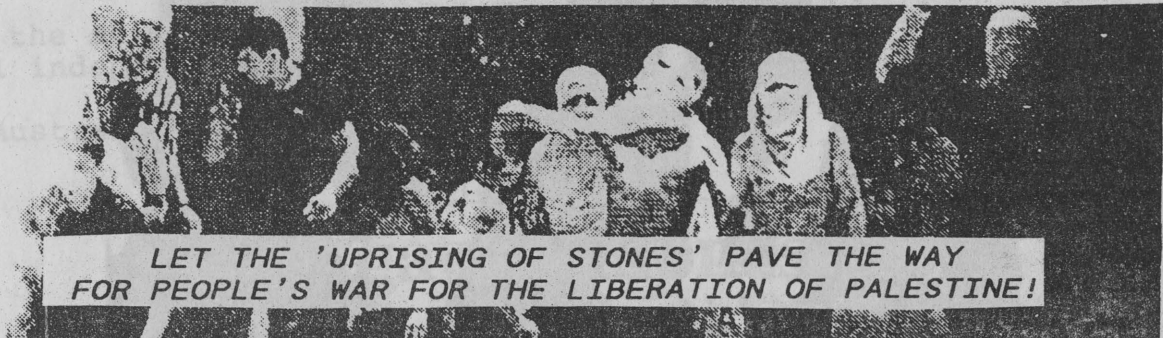
The Australian government -- and the true blue imperialists they front for -- have no genuine interest in the liberation of the Palestinian people. They are taking advantage of their lesser imperialist position in the world, by partially distancing themselves from Israel, in order to be seen

as "the neutral umpire", to better advance their own strategic concerns within the US-led Western imperialist alliance. It is in the fundamental imperialist interests and obligations of the Australian ruling class to continue to accept and support Israel as the Western bloc's cop in the Middle East.

In the same way, Israel provides material assistance to Australian imperialism in its South-West Pacific sphere of influence. Israel is a significant arms supplier to the comprador "self-governments" of the region. Israel has conducted "civil aid" courses for Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Tonga. PNG military personnel have received training in Israel, and there has been talk of Fijian

soldiers serving with United Nations forces also receiving such training prior to the coups in 1987 (see *Free Palestine*, Sept. '87 p.14).

Australia, because it is a smaller imperialist power, has been able to get away with obscene hypocrisy and opportunism in relation to a whole range of world events. By seemingly standing critically on the sidelines of world events -- from the Middle East to South Africa to China and Kampuchea -- the Australian bourgeoisie has been able to take full advantage of these issues, where and when it can, to advance its own imperialist interests. Australia's call for Palestinian self-determination is an imperialist fraud.



Which way forward for the Palestinian masses is a matter of concern, and debate, amongst the oppressed around the world. And as implied above, of late it has been vigorously discussed amongst the supporters of the Palestinian revolution in Australia too.

In a variety of forums and in different ways, the position of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) has been brought to bear on this discussion. Revolutionary communists argue that what is needed in Palestine is not "peace" but Maoist people's war. The real liberation of the Palestinian people can only come with the destruction of the Israeli state and the creation of an independent, new democratic Palestine through a revolutionary war of the masses against the Zionist rulers and their backers. As the recent upsurge in the Intifada again highlights, the daring youth and defiant women and men of Palestine show that there are real possibilities to wage a real people's war.

There have been tremendous sacrifices and heroic struggle by its fighters along with great support won

among the oppressed worldwide, by the Palestinian cause. Despite all this, the absence of a genuine proletarian vanguard organization and line is the principal reason why, the Palestinian revolution has failed to make important strides towards the actual destruction of the Israeli state, even when presented with tremendous historical opportunities.

A proletarian party armed with Marxism-Leninism-Maoism is essential to lead the revolution in such a way that it will rely on the Palestinian and other oppressed masses in other Arab countries, whose boundless revolutionary energy cries out for sustained activity, and unite with the revolutionary masses throughout the world.

The Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia again issues the call to the class-conscious workers and oppressed masses in Australia to support the uprisings among the Palestinian people! And to bring this unbreakable spirit of Intifada here to these shores, in stepping up our efforts to hasten the world proletarian revolution by ridding the world of Australian imperialism.

TIMOR GAP TREATY SIGNED.

The Timor Gap Treaty was signed between Australia and Indonesia on December 11th, 1989. The Treaty is a highly technical 130 page document which sets out the details of mining, taxes, profit sharing, and other operational matters.

Piracy is alive and well in the Timor Sea. Australia and Indonesia are set to plunder East Timor's oil fields in contravention of international law. The oil is reputed to be twice the quantity of Bass Strait, rightly belongs to the Timorese, and promises to be a very profitable venture for big business. The companies with permits are, Elf Aquitaine, Woodside Petroleum, BHP, Shell, BP and Petrox NL-Western Mining Corporation.



Since the Indonesian invasion of East Timor the Australian Government has turned a blind eye on the suffering of the people. In fact, the Whitlam government in power in 1975, inherited the dispute already in existence between Portugal (the former colonial power) and Australia over the maritime boundary between Australia and East Timor. In 1979 Australia gave de jure recognition to Indonesian sovereignty over East Timor and entered into negotiations over sea bed boundaries. The Australian government now argues that Indonesia is in control of East Timor, that the United Nations resolutions condemning Indonesian aggression are irrelevant, and that the United Nations has no power to recognize or deny recognition of the territorial claims of states.

Recent visitors to East Timor report that Fretilin continues to wage armed struggle in the mountains and they, and the people, face crack regiments of Indonesian troops. One visitor, an ex-serviceman who fought the Japanese on the island during World War II, said, he and other Australian soldiers would never have survived but for the help they received from the Timorese, and, in his opinion, the Timorese are worse off now than under the Japanese. Another visitor said, many Timorese are herded into villages (concentration camps) without the use of their gardens needed for food, telephones are tapped, mail opened, Indonesian soldiers carry canes from which the people cringe, rape is usual, and hunger widespread.

The atrocities of the Indonesian army have caused the deaths of thousands of people, including those who have surrendered. Even women have been killed very slowly by stabbings with sharp knives. Others have died of hunger, starvation, or illness, or been burnt to death and shot during encounters with the Indonesian army. None of them

compare with the evil atrocities that occurred recently in Lakluta:

"Twenty trucks were needed to take bodies away, so many were there... Indonesian soldiers took hold of the legs of small children and threw them around in the air a number of times and smashed their heads against a rock. A woman asked that one of her children be given to her after the mother had been killed. At that time, the soldier permitted the woman to take this small child but a few minutes later he grabbed the child and killed him. The soldier said, "When you clean your field, don't you kill all the snakes, the small and large alike".

(Eyewitness report, reported in ACFOA Dossier on East Timor, 1982)

It is on this foundation that the Australian government does a deal with the Indonesians for the profits of the oil companies!

Australia and Indonesian discussions have led to Australia establishing a foreign aid programme to East Timor, thus sealing Australian acceptance of the Indonesian military takeover. Whatever is decided by the ruling class is not necessarily followed by the people. The movement in support of independence for East Timor is alive and well in Australia.

Support the struggle of the East Timorese for self determination and national independence.!

Defeat Australian imperialist intervention !

"AGE" 22-5-90

CIA 'gave Indonesia communist hit list'

By CHRISTOPHER REED,
Los Angeles, Monday

American diplomats and agents of the Central Intelligence Agency gave Indonesian army officers a "hit list" in the 1960s of up to 5000 communists who were then hunted down and killed, it has been claimed.

Disclosure of the list is new, but for 25 years there have been widespread suspicions of American involvement after the failed coup in Indonesia in 1965 that led to an army attack on the Indonesian Communist Party, the PKI.

In the subsequent massacres, hundreds of thousands were killed in what the CIA itself has described as one of the world's worst mass murders this century. Nothing has ever been officially admitted by the United States.

But the US creation of the murder list is authenticated in tape-recorded interviews with the men concerned. They were conducted by Ms Kathy Kadane, a reporter with the Washington-based States News Service.

Ms Kadane, a former investigator with the foreign affairs committee in Congress, became interested when Mr Robert Martens, a former member of the US embassy's political section in Jakarta, disclosed his role in the project.

"It really was a big help to the army and they probably killed a lot of people. I probably have a lot of blood on my hands," he said, "but that's not all bad. There's a time when you have to strike hard

at a decisive moment."

Mr Martens spent two years as head of an embassy group aided by CIA officers that compiled the list. It contained a who's who of PKI leadership. The PKI was the third largest communist party in the world, but after the massacres, it virtually ceased to exist.

The CIA deputy station chief at the time, Mr Joseph Lazarsky, said that after the list was delivered, "They didn't have enough goon squads to zap them all, and some individuals were valuable for interrogation and were kept in detention centres. The PKI infrastructure was zapped almost immediately. We knew they would keep a few and save them for the kangaroo courts but (army command) said that if you keep them alive you have to feed them."

A former US diplomat in Jakarta, Mr Edward Masters, said the Americans kept copies of the list and ticked off names of those killed. By the end of 1966, the ticked names were so numerous that CIA analysts concluded the PKI leadership had been destroyed.

Ultimate approval for the list came from the former CIA director, Mr William Colby, then chief of the agency's Far East division.

Without such lists, Mr Colby told Ms Kadane: "You're fighting blind. With this sort of draconian way it was carried out, it really set them, the communists, back for years."

SUPER-EXPLOITATION OF "GUEST" WORKERS IN DARWIN EXPOSES CHINESE REVISIONISM AND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIALISM

Most Australians were surprised and scandalized to learn that there were "guest" workers in Australia, who have been physically harassed and bullied, underpaid, forced to live in grossly overcrowded and sub-standard conditions, given no access to English-language courses, and where contracts forbid women workers from becoming pregnant or forming long-term relationships.

This is the story of 90 Chinese textile workers who were brought to Australia -- from state-capitalist "Peoples' Republic" of China -- on two year contracts to work for the Hong Kong based Heng-yang textile company, in a "free trade zone" in Darwin. These workers have signed contracts stating they shall not, "...develop love or marriage relationships while employed overseas, be involved in .. smuggling, lechery, debauchery, robbery, gambling, drug consuming, drug trafficking, assaulting and aggressive behaviour, excessive consumption of alcohol or pornography". The contract also states that the workers will not seek any increases in pay, alternative employment, and, "most importantly not to participate in any strike action".

Any breach of these conditions could result in pay deductions, requital of travel subsidies or indictment on criminal charges. The workers live with the constant threat that their 'guarantor' -- usually a member of their family -- could be punished by the Chinese authorities if rules are broken.

The Hengyang factory is in the Northern Territory Government's Trade Development Zone (TDZ) which was established in 1987. Offering a duty free base for local and foreign companies the TDZ now houses 11 companies. There is another TDZ in Queensland. The TDZ is similar to the Free Trade Zones of Asia where an area of land is set aside by the government and a lack of enforced labour or health and safety laws, as well as infrastructure provided by the host governments coupled with promises of a tight rein on trade union organisation, all attract foreign companies. In Australia, local workers in the TDZ do have to be paid award wages. The contract guest workers received \$190 per month.

The veil of secrecy, surrounding the super-exploitation of the Chinese wage slaves in this Darwin concentration camp, was pierced when 3 rebelled and escaped -- surfacing eventually in Melbourne.

The allegations that followed were like the proverbial shit hitting the fan. Federal, State and Darwin government officials, as well as company representatives and trade union bureaucrats all denied knowledge of, involvement in, and responsibility for the appalling living and working conditions of the 'guest' workers in the 'lucky country'.

Hot on the heels of these revelations in the Darwin media in 1989, was the arrival of five goons from the capitalist roaders' regime in China. These revisionist henchmen set about removing the passports of the workers and fining them. When the news of this gross exploitation hit the press the Australian authorities dispatched the Chinese goons.

It is interesting to note that the ACTU approved the Zone in the first place thus creating a scheme whereby workers are divided into local workers who have to be paid award wages and foreign workers, who after they have served should be kicked out. The ACTU is absent when better wages and conditions are on the agenda for Australian workers, so in fact, the decision leaves the door open, or actively supports Asian capital to do what they like. Another implication is that Asian capital

is ruthless and Australian capital more benevolent. Sorry, we disagree. All imperial capital is ruthless in their pursuit of profit, regardless of their nationality.

The role of a number of unions has not been correct. They have not taken up the question and demanded all workers receive better wages, rather they have fallen for the Immigration Department's solution to send the workers home. This is nothing short of punishing workers for being exploited and diverting attention from the real exploiters.

Workers from China were housed 19 to a small flat, 7 to a two bed flat, received visitors by stealth, suffered a curfew, were monitored and interrogated, often worked 60-70-80 hours per week, often non-stop work for 24 hours, the young girls lost weight and cried from home sickness and the harsh conditions. Without a fight, workers will be reduced to slavery.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANISATION.

In the past, when the ills of monopoly capitalism seemed too much for him, the Australian Prime Minister, R.J.L. Hawke has expressed a wish to find a suitable position with the International Labor Organisation (ILO) based in Geneva, Switzerland.

What is the ILO? What are its origins? Why does it attract Hawke?

The ILO is a creature of world imperialism. Imperialist domination of the globe was complete by the end of the 19th century. Inter-imperialist rivalries based on exploitation, repression and immiseration degenerated into the First World War. The international class relations of the bourgeoisie were shaken by the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. The Bolshevik's success ignited the great fear of the international capitalist class: world wide revolution of the oppressed.

As E. B. Hass notes,

"....The origin of the ILO retains few mysteries. In a very real sense, the organisation is the result of political commitments undertaken by the Allied governments during World War One, commitments that were later endorsed by Imperial Germany and given the quality of an urgent political necessity by the success of the Bolshevik Revolution and the imminence of kindred outbreaks in the West.." (1)

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson's proposals for class collaboration found in his "Fourteen Points" were championed by Social Democratic parties in Europe as they corroborated their ultra-imperialist predelictions. Their support for the "American peace-maker" and class saviour, Wilson, were considered 'almost pathetic by Wilson's confidant, Colonel House, who was present at the first ILO conference in Berne, Switzerland, in February, 1919.(2)

The new framework that the ILO held out to compromising labour leaders was an extension of their 1914 willingness to compromise on a national level. With massive support from international capital (and the C.I.A., particularly in the post World War Two period), the ILO is a worthy home for Labour traitors and an ample reward to Hawke for his services to monopoly capital.

(1) E.B. Hass, Beyond the Nation State: Functionalism and International Organisation, Stanford University Press, Stanford, Calif., USA, 1964, p.140. (2) R Radosh, American Labor and the United States Foreign Policy Random House, New York, 1969, p. 291.

South Pacific

THE MILITARY exercise of the Russian Pacific fleet in July and the recent exercise by the US and its allies indicates the growing interest of the imperialist powers in the Pacific. Even though the Soviet exercise was limited to the north-western Pacific, the impact it created throughout the Pacific and especially the South Pacific was in accordance to the Russian's interest in projecting their might in the region. This show of strength, in the midst of the ongoing Russian propaganda for nuclear disarmament and world peace and the collusion between the two imperialist blocs, indicated the Russian strategy of extending its activities from the Siberian region of the Pacific to South Pacific to achieve 'strategic parity' with the US in this region.

The Pacific region is emerging as one of the most important economic zones in the world. Apart from imperialist, Japan, 3rd world countries like South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore are counted among the fastest growing economies of this region. In the words of the admiral of the US Pacific fleets, "since 1980 our (i.e. US) total trade has been greater with the Pacific nations than with our traditional trading partners in Europe.... People forget that two thirds of today's world gross national product exists within the Asia-Pacific rimland." Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech and his 'Asia-Pacific initiative', are a recognition of this reality and reflect an attempt to gain a cut of the spoils. Feverish diplomatic initiatives (including establishing ties with South Korea) are coupled with appeals for joint exploitation. The resource wealth of Siberia is dangled as a lure: "... Full exploitation of marine-land resources of the region. (can be done)... as a joint co-operative venture in which... the US, Japan, USSR and less developed countries could play a major role. On its part the Soviet Union offers all the new facilities of transport and new access to hitherto inaccessible areas due to development of new transport routes, particularly the Baikal-Amur railway" (April 23 statement of Soviet Union). As a result of this initiative the Soviet Union has gained the status of observer in the Asian Development Bank and the Pacific Economic Cooperative Council. While Japan and East Asian countries mainly count in the 60% share of world production claimed by the Asia-Pacific region, the South Pacific island countries also occupy an extremely important position in imperialist calculations.

These island countries, spread out in the South Pacific, had become the focal point of imperialist contention from time to time. In 1916, allied powers had concluded a series

of secret treaties and agreements to divide and possess the islands among themselves in anticipation of their victory. This, and the later process of UN sponsored 'decolonisation' helped the imperialists to establish and continue their plunder; volunteering themselves to adjustments suitable to the political changes taking place in the client states from time to time, but consolidating their power with new forms of colonial exploitation. At present, most of the South Pacific countries have military bases of US-French imperialists. Australia has also expanded its area of plunder to all Pacific island nations in collaboration with the comprador "self governments" of the respective nations. The strategic position of these nations and International Ocean Laws which allows an island nation to possess 200 miles of ocean around it, makes the South Pacific nations the source of abundant materials and an important strategic region, both of which are necessary for imperialism.

This region is also important for the

Peoples Struggles and Imperialist Manoeuvres

GOUTAM KUMAR

nuclear war preparations of the US imperialist bloc. The imperialists have converted the South Pacific into a laboratory to experiment with almost all kinds of nuclear weapons disregarding protests from the native people and also the forum of heads of South Pacific nations. The Marshall islands (a former Japanese colony later transferred to US under UN 'trusteeship!'), along with other Micronesian nations, is the main testing ground of the US. Mururoa Atoll is the centre of the French nuclear missile testing range. Now imperialist powers including Japan are pursuing plans to dump nuclear waste in this region.

Recent advances by the Russian imperialists and their quest for 'strategic parity' has touched off a flurry of activities on the part of the US bloc to tighten up its grip. But the South Pacific scene is not simply, or mainly, one of imperialist contention. Rather, the growing anti-imperialist struggles and sentiments of the South Pacific peoples and the contradictions between the local

South Pacific

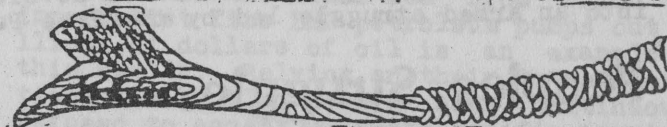
comprador regimes and the US bloc powers have been instrumental in weakening the US bloc's monopoly and providing room for growing Russian influence. Though the US bloc countries whip up propaganda on an aggressive thrust by the Russians, they do not perceive an immediate threat from this quarter. The US chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff claims: "The Soviets are in real trouble in the Pacific... (they) have not been able to make much headway." The Dibbs report prepared by the Australian government to evolve a new military posture states that "Australia faces no identifiable direct military threat (there is) every prospect that our favourable security circumstance will continue....no conceivable prospect of any power contemplating invasion of our continent....But there are possibilities for lower levels of conflict — some of which could be very demanding — arising with shorter warning time." The uprising in Vanuatu and Tahiti, ongoing struggles in East Timor, West Papua New Guinea and Kanaky, and the Belau resistance to protect its anti-nuclear constitution are all examples of such 'lower levels of conflict' which are really becoming 'very demanding'.

Each and every one of the South Pacific islands are a fertile ground for anti-imperialist struggles. Their contradictions with the centuries old imperialist rule which has devastated native populations, destroyed their economies and suppressed their national identities are sharpening like never before. For example, Kanaks, the original inhabitants of New Caledonia (the name given by the French to Kanaky), have become a minority due to the massive migration of the French. The settler community dominates all spheres of life and practices racial suppression apart from economic exploitation. The Kanak indigenous economy, culture and identity is disrupted and suppressed while western culture is forcefully imposed over the Kanaks. France has tried to take away all rights of indigenous Kanaks and has made French as the national language. The law of Pons which the French tried to introduce would transfer local territorial administration from the Kanaks to France. It declares that there is no Kanaks in Kanaky but only French citizens. The land rights of the Kanaks would be scrapped and the reservations would become free hold title allowing the settler community to purchase the land which was exclusively maintained by Kanaks. The integrationist policies along with the brutal suppression of Kanaks has resulted in mass upheavals of Kanaks lead by the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), a coalition of political parties, trade unions and women's groups, which wages an armed struggle against the French for the right of self-determination. The request of FLNKS to hold a UN sponsored vote on self-determination was refused by France. But the stiff resistance

put up by the FLNKS has forced the French imperialists to reduce the pace of forced integration stepped up by the former government of Jaques Chirac.

Tahiti, another French colony in the Pacific from 1888 onwards, also struggles for the right to self-determination. Like Kanaky the infrastructural development carried out are in the interests of the occupationist French Army. Continuing military activities and economic exploitation had made it one of the important colonies of France. In January 1988, the anger of the Tahitians against the French colonisers gained powerful expression through a mass rebellion in the capital Papeete. The attempt by French police to attack striking dock workers provoked the rebellion in which hundreds of Polynesian youth took part. Luxury consumer goods shops and the residence of the French High Commissioner were targets of attack.

In Belau island, a former Spanish colony, the struggle to resist US plots aimed at changing its anti-nuclear constitution has mobilised large sections of the people. Through a sham referendum the US succeeded in imposing a 'Compact of Free Association' which, if implemented, will give full liberty to the US to conduct nuclear-military operations as long as it wishes. The US had been



continuously making efforts to overthrow the anti-nuclear constitution Belau adopted in 1979. But the present conspiracy to change the constitution using the 'self-government' has been completely exposed. A number of organisations are protesting against the efforts to change the constitution, women taking a leading role in it. The US had been using the South Pacific islands as its nuclear testing laboratory. It was in Bikini Atoll that they first tested the hydrogen bomb deliberately using the indigenous population as guinea pigs. Now the Kwajalein island complex is its main testing ground for all kinds of missiles and the 'star wars' programme.

Among the ongoing struggles in this region the East Timorean struggle is fairly advance. The colonisation of East Timor started with the Portuguese invasion in 1520. The Portuguese brutally suppressed all resistance and consolidated their colonial rule which continued upto 1974. In 1974, the fascist regime in Portugal was toppled in a military coup. The new rulers initiated steps to 'decolonise' Portuguese colonies, including East Timor. In the new situation, several political parties, including the Social Democratic Organisation (A.S.D.T.) latter known as FRETILIN (Frente Revolucionaria de Timor Lest Independente) was formed,

In 1975 Indonesia invaded East Timor with the tacit support of US imperialism to overthrow the Democratic Republic of East Timor proclaimed by the FRETILIN. Control over East Timor enables the US to have control over waterways linking the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Using superior force and resorting to savage bombing of villages, Indonesia was able to gain control and establish its militarized colonial rule. But the FRETILIN launched a war of resistance relying on the massive support of the Timoreans. Initially due to errors in its military strategy and the vacillating nature of a leading section, both rooted in its revolutionary nationalist ideology, the FRETILIN suffered heavy losses and had to abandon much territory. Since then it has succeeded in rectifying some of its mistakes and has steadily developed a successful protracted guerilla war of resistance pinning down the occupationist Indonesian troops.

New Guinea, inhabited by Melanesian, was cut up and colonised by the Dutch, British and Germans. When the Dutch withdrew from the western part, the Indonesian regime under Sukarno established its domination and proclaimed the territory as one of its provinces. This triggered violent protests against the reactionary regime which later developed into an armed struggle led by the Free Papua

Peoples Struggles

Movement. The eastern part of New Guinea was controlled by Australia acting as surrogate to Britain. Now, after independence, it is known as Papua New Guinea. Though the masses of PNG support the armed struggle of the FPM, Australia and the comprador government of PNG gives full support to Indonesia to continue its expansionist plan with military, economic and political aid. Under the border agreement between Indonesia and PNG, the latter forcibly returns the West Papuan freedom fighters who cross the border into the hands of the Indonesian army. Not satisfied with the western part and concerned over the continuing resistance to its rule, Indonesia has been planning to invade Papua New Guinea also. Though Australia has assisted Indonesia in its expansionist drive, the total takeover of New Guinea is not favoured by it since it will weaken its status as the regional power.

In Vanuatu, the masses rebelled and took over the capital, Port Vila, in May '88. This island country was a colony of both British and French. The condominium rule (dual administration by both the colonisers), has divided the people in two sections with linguistic, cultural and economic differences. The UN sponsored decolonisation ended in Vanuatu's total dependency on the US and Australia. Making use of the social structures

South Pacific

of condominium rule Australia penetrated Vanuatuan economy successfully. Australian investment is on the increase. Most of the industrial and trade corporations have huge Australian capital investment. Australian Burns Philip Company is the agent of this plunder. Vanuatu has the status of a tax haven. This aims at increasing its dependency and reinforces its tourism oriented development. The 1988 rebellion was sparked off by the Lini governments to abolish the Port Vila Urban Land Council (VULCAN) which was becoming a centre of opposition backed by control over huge funds. Though the clash was between two sections of the ruling class, the spontaneous protest provoked erupted against the whole system drew in the masses in large numbers. Australia and New Zealand immediately despatched naval ships and rushed riot control equipment to bail out Lini and tighten their grip over his comprador government which had recently established some ties with the Russian imperialists.

The strong currents of peoples struggles in the South Pacific and its reflection in ruling class conflicts has also set the context for the Fijian military coup which overthrew a pro-reform civilian government in 1987. This former British colony was under the rule of the Alliance Party dominated by Fijian chieftains for the past 10 years. It represented the landed aristocracy and was supported by the US bloc. The Fijian population which consists of 47% indigenous Fijians, 50% Indian Fijians (descendants of indentured labour and other Europeans and Chinese) was divided along racial lines, fortified through a British inspired constitutional arrangement. The 1987 election brought an end to the rule of the landed aristocracy. A reformist coalition of the Labour Party and the Indian dominated National Federation Party came to power led by the late Dr. Timothy Bavadra. It took a strong anti-nuclear position and opposed the entry of nuclear weapon carrying and nuclear powered vessels. Bavadra's government was also trying for NAM membership. The Fijian economy, including wholesale and retail trade is controlled by imperialist companies such as Burn Philips. Apart from the indigenous Fijian landed aristocracy, a section of Indo-Fijian compradors also aided the imperialist plunder. Though the majority of Indo-Fijians are labourers in sugar cane plantations, the economic clout of this comprador section and the relative prosperity of the Indo-Fijian middle class running retail stores has helped the landed Fijian chieftains to communalise economic conflicts among the ruling class and foster the 'Toukei' movement calling for 'Fiji for Fijians'. Fearing that Bavadra would take Fiji away from the US bloc, the US imperialists gave

Peoples Struggles

the green signal to the army to carry out a coup in the interests of the landed aristocracy. Fiji had been an important centre of the movement to free the Pacific from nuclear weapons.

The free-market policy of Mara, returned to power through the coup, has further heightened imperialist grip over the Fijian economy. The unemployment rate is on the increase and has reached 28%. Real incomes had fallen substantially behind the inflation rate and in 1988 a 12% inflation level was matched by zero increase in real wages. The industrial sector is on the verge of total collapse. The hotel industry is at a loss of 80 million dollars and the sugar industry suffers from heavy damages. There has been a series of strikes in light engineering industries and the garment industry, besides the strike of the Air Pacific cabin crew and the transport and oil workers. While this dismal situation continues the imperialist powers compete for Fiji's resources. Australian capital (through the Western Mining Corporation) owns the Emperor Goldmines, Fiji's monopoly gold mining company. Big Japanese industrial enterprises have already begun to buy up large sections of the Fijian economy.

This brief review of the peoples struggles going on in the South Pacific gives an idea of the context in which the imperialists are manoeuvring, one to retain its hitherto unchallenged monopoly and the other to gain a new foothold. Like in other parts of the world, the Russian imperialists are trying to gain at the expense of the US bloc by utilising the struggles of the peoples in this region and also the contradictions of the ruling group or sections of the ruling class with US, French or Australian policies. The peoples of the South Pacific are witness to the horrors of the nuclear war through the devastating effects of weapons testing. Hence there is a strong sentiment to declare the South Pacific as a nuclear free zone among the peoples of these island countries and also among important sections of the ruling class. The sentiments were manifested through the Treaty of Raratonga which calls for a nuclear free South Pacific, banning of tests and nuclear ships. Since the Pacific islands are used by the US and French testing grounds and since the nuclear armed Pacific fleet is a vital component of the US bloc, it has refused to ratify this treaty which has further fanned up the peoples anger against it. Having nothing much to loose for the time being, the Russian imperialists have tried to capitalise on this by declaring support to the demand for a nuclear free zone and have gained some influence. The strong potential of the South Pacific peoples struggle against nuclear weapons has

also caused some disruption in the military relations between the US, Australia and the New Zealand which is the reactionary bedrock of US bloc domination. The decision of the New Zealand government to ban entry of nuclear ships shows an attempt to mitigate some of the anger of the South Pacific peoples over the refusal of the US bloc to ratify the Raratonga treaty.

Control over exploitation of ocean resources is another important issue in the South Pacific. Most of the island countries are archipelagos with hundreds of small islands forming the total land territory. (For example, Fiji comprises about 840 islands.) In most of the countries land resources are minimal and what was existent has been nearly sucked dry by imperialist plunder and devastation. In this situation the rich resources of the surrounding oceans over which the Law of the Sea Convention guarantees a 200 mile exclusive economic zone is vital for the South Pacific countries' economy. In fact the ocean area which comes under the control of these countries far outstrips their land territory. The Kiribati archipelago has just 719 square kilometres of land but 3.5 million square kilometres of ocean within its boundaries. Apart from sea food, the ocean bed is rich in minerals. The Jabine and Challis oilfields in the Timor sea from which the imperialist firm BHP petroleum pumps out millions of dollars of oil is an example of this wealth. Relying on their total domination, the US bloc powers have continuously refused to accept the South Pacific countries claims over their exclusive economic zones. The Russian imperialists have tried to utilise this issue also. When American trawling firms refused to pay proper compensation for their fish catch, the Russians jumped in and managed to sign fishing treaties with Vanuatu and Kiribati. In Vanuatu they succeeded in getting landing rights for their Aeroflot airways and port facilities for their trawlers. As a result, the neocolonial regimes in the South Pacific have improved their bargaining position since the US bloc countries were forced to accept the higher compensation they demanded.

PERU SOLIDARITY

The revolutionary struggle of the Peruvian people, lead by the Communist Party of Peru (PCP), has made great advances during the past few years. About one third of the countryside is now a liberated area, the PCP and the People's Guerilla Army are stepping up their activities in the cities, and the US is increasing its open intervention under the threadbare cover of the "war on drugs". The newsletter "Peru Solidarity" is now being produced to inform people about the the important struggle taking place in Peru. It contains news on all aspects of the struggle, and can be obtained from PO Box 471, Belgrave, Victoria 3160. The cost of a yearly subscription is \$10.

Also obtainable from the above address are copies of an interview which Chairman Gonzalo, leader of the PCP, gave to the Peruvian paper "El Diario" in 1989. This document is essential reading for anyone wishing to understand the line and policies of the PCP, its view of the world and its programme for the future. It indicates why the Peruvian revolutionaries are forging ahead at a time when so-called "communists" in other parts of the world are going down like ninepins. This publication is \$5 posted, from the address above.



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بيان الحركة الثورية الاممية

حول غزرو بانما

تدوين لجنة الحركة الثورية الاممية لكي لا يسهل على العدو ان يفهم
كل اشكال المقاومة والصمود في وجه الفزارة.

لقد بمثابة الحكومة الامريكية ان يكون أكثر عنف ودموية .
فكل استراتيجي عملت الامبريالية الامريكية ان يكون أكثر عنف ودموية .

تعتبر بانما منطقتان حيوية بالنسبة للولايات المتحدة وذلك بفعل وجود القناة والتسهيلات
المسكينة المهيولة للقيادة الجنوبية للجيش الامريكي المتمركز في البانما والتي تشمل الصمود
الفكري للشعاط المسكيني الامريكي في المنطقة من جهة ونقطة انطلاق بالنسبة للاعتداءات الحروب
اللاحقة .

لقد مثل نوريقا وقواته المشتملة على ١٠ آلاف جندي بيدقاً في يد الولايات المتحدة ولم
يكن يهدد فعلياً الهيمنة الامريكية .

ان الهدف الرئيسي من الغزو هو استمرار الامكانات المسكينة الامريكية وارهاب شمول
المنطقة، هذه المنطقة التي تعتبرها الامبريالية الامريكية قاعدة خلفية كما تندرج ضمن
العملية في اطار التحضير السياسي والمسكيني لجرائم ابيع .

تحاول الامبريالية الامريكية تقوية نفوذها في امريكا الوسطى والجنوبية وذلك من اجل
مواجهة حالة الالامستقرار المتواصلة والتصلي الى الروح الثورية المتنامية لدى الجماهير
العربية ضد الهيمنة الامبريالية والاستغلال . لقد أصبحت الأوضاع متفجرة باستمرار في المنطقة
من جرداً ازمة النظام الامبريالي المتناقضة في السنوات الاخيرة واثرت الحركات المتواصلة
للامبريالية اللغزائية المتعارفة مع الامبريالية الامريكية وتجميع الامبريالية الامريكية
بيادقها الدموية في السالفا دور للضغط على نيكاراغوا (رغم صاولة الجبهة السندينية في اتجاه
تهديم الوضع) وللتدخل في كولومبيا .

وتحت نفس غطاء "حرب المخدرات" الذي وقع استمماله للتدخل في البانما فقد نصبت الولايات
المتحدة قاعدة عسكرية في البيرو وملاونة من وراء ذلك ايقاف الحرب الثورية التي يخوضها
الحزب الشيوعي الساقوي في البيرو، الحزب الوحيد في امريكا اللاتينية الذي يعتمد على القوة
السلطة للجماهير . وقد بينت التجربة، السلبية منها واليجابية في امريكا الجنوبية وفي
العالم عموماً ان حرب الشعب هذه هي القادرة وحدها على هزم الامبريالية، ولا خلاف بدونها لهزيمة
الكارملة للعدو .

في بانما بعد الهجوم الاول حيث تحركت الطائرات الممودية الامريكية لتقبل جزءاً كبيراً
من العاصمة فقد اتخذت المعارك طابعا حربيا من قبل القوى الامبريالية ضد الجماهير المضطهدة
التي نهضت في مواجهة الفزارة واجهزتهم القمعية وتحركت في شكل مجموعات مسلحة بفاعلية
كالبنادق في بعض الاحيان . وهكذا سلبوا الامبريالية الانتصار السريع والرئيس الذي كانت
تريد تحقيقه في بلد ارجده الجيش الامريكي سنة ١٩٧٣ (عندما سرقت الولايات المتحدة البانما
من كولومبيا لوضع الغنال الذي كانت في حاجة اليه بغية توسيع اميراطوريتها) هذا البلد
الذي غزته الولايات المتحدة ٩ مرات منذ ذلك الزمن .

لقد حصل الغزو بحجة "حرب المخدرات" لكن الذين هاجموا بانما هم اكبر المتاجرين
بالمخدرات في العالم . لقد كان بوش عرف نوريقا كمسؤول على المعابرات الامريكية المركزية او لا
ثم كنانيب رئيس . وتساءل في هذا الصدد المدير للمخابرات الاخير ال "ستا نيفيل تورنار" قائل :
هل تريد فعلاً محاكمة نوريقا ونحن نتحدث عن علاقته السرية السابقة ؟

لا بد من التعهد بالفزو الامريكي ومواصلة احتلال بانما بل ان لجنة الحركة الثورية
الاممية تدعو الجماهير الشعبية الى اليقظة ازاء الاعتداءات الامبريالية اللاحقة التي ستكون
على ساطة هذا الفزو .

USA & AUSTRALIA ^{GET YOUR} Hands Off the Persian Gulf!

Fill Up the Gulf with the Crowns of Imperialists and Tyrants!

"... on the issue of war, the Communist Parties in the capitalist countries oppose the imperialist wars waged by their own countries; if such wars occur, the policy of these Parties is to bring about the defeat of the reactionary governments of their own countries."
Mao Tsetung 1938

Puffed up by its recent "success" in the brutal and bloody invasion of Panama (where it murdered hundreds of unarmed civilians as well as hundreds of soldiers) the USA has mobilized worldwide pressures against Iraq. Through its leading representative Bob Hawke, the Australian ruling class has rushed in to advance its own interests alongside of US imperialism. Other imperialist powers like Britain and France and phoney communists like the butchers of Beijing and Moscow, hiding behind the mask of the "neutral" United Nations, have joined in.

The original excuse for flexing Western imperialist muscle *this time* was the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the protection of Saudi Arabia. US Emperor Bush says big countries can't be allowed to get away with invading small countries. Since then the Western hostages has been the pretext. More honestly, other imperialist spokesmen have said the West must protect *its* oil in Kuwait.

Sure, Hussein is a tyrant. But when the USA, Britain, and Australia start sermonizing about: concern for the loss of the lives of people they rule over; and, sticking up for the rights of small countries against a "criminal", a "madman" and "another Hitler" like Iraq's Saddam Hussein..... Watch Out! Its a sure sign these oppressors are up to no good! Because here you have the greatest criminals in the history of the whole world -- the imperialist bourgeoisie that is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of millions of people the world over: people murdered outright in wars of plunder; people either conned or forced to go off and fight and be killed in wars to prop up the imperialist system; and people condemned to the slow death that comes from grinding poverty, starvation and disease. *The hypocritical shit coming out of the mouths of these Western rulers could fill the Persian Gulf.*

The people must cut through the web of lies and deceit about this Persian Gulf crisis. The blockade against Iraq and massive military and naval deployment in the Persian Gulf has nothing to do with protecting the mafioso sugar-daddies that ran the Kuwaiti kingdom. The hostages are just a cynical excuse -- more than once Henry Kissinger has said American hostages are expendable. The British government told its citizens in Kuwait to remain when they could have quite easily, as some did, leave. If the West was concerned for the hostages they would go home. Nor is Saddam Hussein (like Panama's Noriega before him) anything more than an in-grown toe nail, as a threat, to the Yankee empire.

EACH AND EVERY STEP THAT THE BUSH, THATCHER & HAWKE ADMINISTRATIONS TAKE AGAINST IRAQ IS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE US-LED IMPERIALIST POSITION IN THE KEY AND STRATEGIC PERSIAN GULF REGION. Especially after the invasion and continued occupation of Panama, if US imperialism is "successful" against Iraq it will lay the basis politically and militarily for even greater crimes. Increasingly, US aggression is being stepped up in Peru, against the highly successful Maoist people's war led by the Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path).

**VICTORY TO THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES OF THE ARAB PEOPLE
FORWARD ALONG THE PATH CHARTED BY MAO TSETUNG!**

SIR PETER ABELES GETS A SLICE OF THE EAST EUROPEAN IMPERIALIST LOOT.

Sir Peter Abeles, of smash the Airline Pilots fame, is setting up shop in Eastern Europe. T.N.T. has moved into Hungary with T.N.T. Malev Express between Budapest and its Cologne network. T.N.T. has forged an agreement with Aeroflot to operate Aeroflot Express and is in the process of doing deals with Poland's LOT airline and Czechoslovakia's C.S.A.. Rupert Murdoch, partner with Abeles in Australian Airlines, is moving his media into Hungary.

The logical outcome of the revisionist betrayal in Eastern Europe and the USSR has opened the way for western Imperialism to pick up profitable companies and a well trained, cheap working class to exploit.

Tens of thousands of professionals, industrial workers and farmers have held demonstrations in East Germany and Poland as the people face rising unemployment and food shortages. It is fifty years since the beginning of World War II, and older German workers will recall the role played by foreign monopolies and their German counterparts in that imperialist war. These two sets of monopolies are uniting once again.

The imperialists are delighted about the events in Eastern Europe, they laud to the skies the elections, the freedom and democracy, they support a united Europe, as long as they run things. Elections in Eastern Europe, as here in Australia, cannot change the nature of imperialism, the old repressive structures will be exchanged for new repressive structures. The masses of the Eastern bloc are confronted with two blocs of imperialists locked in bitter struggle for the spoils opened up, the only path is revolution.

Imperialism is the source of war, and no matter how it is covered up with sweet talk, the potential for war is present.

ASIO Harasses Anti-Apartheid Activist

Special Correspondent

Australia's security and intelligence services had installed listening devices in the home of the former Pan Africanist Congress of Azania chief representative, Cde. Maxwell Nemadzivhanani, a Canberra court heard this week.

The disclosure came during committal proceedings against Cde. Nemadzivhanani's wife, Kerry Browning, over the alleged firebombing of diplomatic vehicles in Canberra in 1988.

Ms Browning, a leading anti-apartheid activist, and co-convenor of the Azania Support Group, faces twelve charges over attacks against United States and South African diplomatic vehicles, threats to the US ambassador, and possession of an explosive substance.

After two weeks of evasion by police witnesses to questions about whether there had been intelligence involvement in the investigations, the officer who led the raid on the PAC representative's home confirmed on Thursday that operatives from the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) had planted listening devices to monitor the master bedroom and kitchen/lounge area of the house. Some 3 200 hours of recordings had been obtained from which eight pages had been transcribed. The prosecutor told the court that the tapes would not be used in the committal proceedings which seek to establish whether Ms Browning has a case to answer.

The officer also told the court that Australian Federal Police and ASIO had set up a joint surveillance operation on both the anti-apartheid activists.

He denied any involvement by South African or US intelligence personnel in the investigations.

The officer told the court that he had been brought into the investigation in August last year to coordinate the surveillance and to seek evidence against Ms Browning who, he maintained, was the only suspect in the case at that stage.

He conceded under cross-examination that he was aware of correspondence from forensic experts concerning a male suspect in the firebombings, but said that he was unaware of the contents of the

letters, and that he could not comment as the suspect was still being investigated in connection with another matter. He also confirmed that there was a female suspect being investigated.

The officer's field notes on the investigation were made part of the court record, after the names of ASIO personnel were erased to prevent identification.

There was a rare moment of humour in court on Tuesday when a "sparkler" seized during the raid on the home by a former police instructor and former member of the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, was presented while evidence of fireworks found in the house was tendered in court. The "sparkler" turned out to be an incense stick.

The hearing has been adjourned to 19 June and is expected to last at least a further two weeks.

Meanwhile the officer's field notes, made available for the Defence to study this week, reveal complicity by Australia's Foreign Affairs Department, and a so-called anti-apartheid group in Canberra in the raids on the house, Comrade Nemadzivhanani's office, and Ms Browning's workplace.

It records that a meeting was held between the Luthuli Group — a Canberra based pro-ANC organisation and Foreign Affairs, just days before the raid, in which it was mooted that the raid be held on 14 October to prevent "disruption" by anti-apartheid activists of a visit by Joyce Mokhesi as part of the campaign to save the Sharpeville Six.

Ms Mokhesi's visit to Canberra co-incided with the raid, and when informed of what actions were being taken against the PAC that day, was strongly critical of Australia's role.

The Luthuli Group was embroiled in controversy last year over Mandela birthday celebrations when they barred the PAC representative from speaking at a function at the Southern African Liberation Centre which is run by the Azania Support Group and other pro-PAC groups in Canberra.

The field notes also revealed that the houses of other anti-apartheid activists, especially exiles living in Canberra, had been under surveillance.

Flash: Comrade Nemadzivhanani has been acquitted of all charges. His wife, Comrade Kerry Browning, who is the co-convenor of the Azania Support Group is still facing charges.

AZANIA NEWS