

STOP THE DRIVE TOWARDS FASCISM !!

Report on the National Situation

The national situation in the USNA is marked by the struggle of the imperialists to tighten their grip on all aspects of this society. This tightening is taking place in the state apparatus through the Watergate scandal and in the economy with the "energy crisis" and the forcing down on the standard of living of the workers. Internationally, the imperialists are forcing their foreign policy on the rest of the world. We must not forget that detente is just as much the basic policy of the USNA as of the USSR. It is an indispensable policy that allows each antagonist to do what it most wants to do in the immediate sense. For the USNA, this is hegemony and economic stabilization. It has definitely, if only temporarily, strengthened the hand of the USNA imperialists.

Within the USNA the growing struggle concerning the policies of detente or war, which is currently being reflected in the Watergate hearings, the Middle East situation and the so-called energy crisis, all represent dissension among the imperialists. This struggle is brought to light everyday in bourgeois press where we

read about politicians and big business men calling for the resignation or impeachment of President Nixon.

Does this mean that there is a split among the imperialists? Not hardly. Nixon causes plenty of embarrassment among the very big monopolies, but overall he is doing exactly what they want and need him to do. "President Nixon is losing the confidence of a broad cross section of the American business community, but a majority of influential corporate heads is not ready to call for his ouster...No important corporate official thought the President should resign or be impeached. Some now hold that view although they are in the minority." (1)

There is, of course, a very real shake up going on amongst the "inner cabinets", advisors, administrators, and "overseers", all who hold real and decisive power under a bourgeois democratic form of government. The result of this shake up has been to replace reactionary bureaucrats with militant fascists and especially with extremely reactionary army men. (See articles on Watergate in

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recent People's Tribunes.) During the Eisenhower administration Nixon became very dependent upon the army and now has completed the job started by Roosevelt to make the generals in civilian clothes the real power on Capital Hill.

Throughout the Watergate scandal Nixon has not been touched. Each time the crisis deepened, Nixon forced the attention to someone or something else, from firing most of his cabinet and advisors to the exposure and resignation of Vice President Agnew. When things got heated up again around missing tapes, the attention was shifted to the international situation, putting USNA troops on alert in case of intervention of Soviet troops in the Mid East war. Once again the Brezhnev gang got Nixon off the hook.

The "energy crisis" was also brought to a head "just in time" to save Nixon. By declaring a "national state of emergency", Nixon has been legally vested with many more powers than any preceding President during a period of "peace". Most of the imperialists unite behind Nixon on the "energy crisis". This "shortage" of fuel was carefully planned by them.

Only about 6% of the USNA oil supply comes from the Middle East. The majority of the rest comes from domestic sources. With the "energy crisis" it would seem that the USNA imperialists would keep this oil for their own countries' use. But the basic law of capitalism is maximum profits

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and the Middle East embargo is much more of a threat to many other countries that are almost totally dependent on Mideast oil supplies. Naturally, the oil monopolies here are going to put their surplus oil for sale on the world market and make maximum profits by taking advantage of the embargo.

"Anticipated oil exports will top 1972 totals by 284%." Low sulfur Gulf Coast (Gulf of Mexico) oil sells domestically for 21¢ a gallon, but was shipped overseas at a cost of 3.5¢ a gallon and marketed at 34¢ a gallon, about a 10¢ profit or \$1.2 million per 12 million gallon tanker load. Exports are going to Denmark and Japan, who are receiving the largest shipments and also to the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Mexico. (2)

Thus, it is clear that on the one hand, there is no real shortage of fuel, but on the other hand, there is, as the USNA imperialists are exporting much of what originally was sold here.

So we see that oil, like wheat, beef, soybeans and other USNA commodities, brings higher profits on the international market than on the home market. These commodities are also giving the USNA imperialists more of a foothold on the international market. They are not

only able to increase their exports, but are also able to charge relatively low prices, thereby undercutting other imperialists. But they have the opposite effect with the home market - "shortages" and higher prices, along with growing inflation. (See Phase IV article, Vol. 5, No. 7.)

These effects are squeezing many of the lesser capitalists out of business. Not only the increased prices of fuel, but the "shortage" of petroleum products is causing production in many industries to seriously drop. For example, plastic is a derivative of petroleum and there is already talk of not enough toys for Christmas, let alone the plastic that is needed for heavy industry. Along with a drop in production comes lay offs. Not only do workers have to work in unhealthy temperatures, but also stand a chance to lose their jobs. Predicted unemployment is expected to reach 8% in 1974. (3) The imperialists blame everyone but themselves for the "crisis", from the Arabs in the Mideast to striking workers in the USNA.

The standard of living of the working class within the USNA has steadily declined over the past four years. Though nominal wages may have increased, the real wages of the workers have decreased. Before Phase I the inflation stood at 3.5% a year; after the introduction of Phase IV the inflation is expected to hit 12% to 15% a year. Thus, we see the bourgeoisie widening the gap between themselves and the proletariat.

On the political front we have what seems to be a contradiction, especially in the Negro people's movement: the growing economic and social repression of the Negro people along with what seems like their political integration into national life, e.g., the election of Maynard Jackson as mayor of Atlanta and Coleman Young as mayor of Detroit. The ruling class of the USNA lets it appear to the Negro people, as it did historically to the Irish and Italian immigrants, that Negroes have formally worked their way into their "lawful place in American society" and everyone should accept the "inevitable justice" of today.

Well, concretely, nothing could be further from the truth. Statistics prove that from about 1964 (the height of the Negro people's freedom movement) to the present, the gap has continually widened between the Anglo-American and Negro peoples - economically, educationally, etc. Also we have a growing section of the Negro people who are being bribed into accepting the destruction of the Negro proletariat. The class and moral outlook of the monopolists has not changed. The exploitation and oppression of the Negro masses today is only the opposite side of the coin of the lynch rope and the burning stake.

Basically, with very minor changes the above also holds true for the Mexican national minorities, Puerto Rican national minorities and Indian peoples.

Thus in analyzing the national situation the direct results of the USNA imperialists' foreign policy of detente, the Watergate scandal and the "energy crisis" hoax is a shift not just to the right - but a shift towards fascism. The political situation in this country and the resulting moves of the imperialists are extremely dangerous. The working class is outraged at the situation, but disunited, is standing in a relatively powerless position to do anything about it.

Georgi Dimitroff states in United Front Against Fascism, "...before the establishment of a fascist dictatorship, bourgeois governments usually pass through a number of preliminary stages and adopt a number of reactionary measures which directly facilitate the ascention to power of fascism. Whoever does not fight the reactionary measures of the bourgeoisie and the growth of fascism at these preparatory stages is not in a position to prevent the victory of fascism but on the contrary, facilitates that victory." (4)

Comrades and friends, the bourgeoisie is daily working to facilitate the ascention to power of fascism. The time to begin the fight against the growing fascist danger is now.

Negro Nation

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expose the various tactics used by the imperialists to co-opt the raging Negro people's movement.

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The noose of national oppression around the Negro Nation demands a concrete, real, revolutionary solution. Mystical, magical campaigns to "cleanse minds of racism" and schemes to elect "black exploiters" to replace "white exploiters" are not revolutionary solutions to the centuries of terror through which the Negro people have suffered and vague and confused formulations of a "Black Nation" which has no definite territory, and an indefinite, unstable, and dispersed population, can only lead to confused and reformist programs.

The Negro Nation has a definite territory, a definite population, and its people have definitely been suffering for too long the material force of brutal, colonial oppression and exploitation. And "material force must be overthrown by the same means of material force," says Marx. Or in words quoted by Comrade Mao Tsetung, "Deal with a man the way he deals with you."

How do we deal with gangsterous USNA imperialism, the oppression of the Negro Nation? We must build a Communist Party to lead and guide the toiling masses in their furious destruction of USNA imperialism, the overthrow of power of capital. For "the national and colonial questions are inseparable from the question of emancipation from the power of capital," and "the non-sovereign nations and colonies cannot be emancipated without the overthrow of the power of capital." (2)

1) Negro National Colonial Question, Communist League, p. 34.

2) Stalin, The National Question Presented, Calcutta Book House, July, 1970, p. 135.

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must call for unity between the Arab and Jewish workers to oppose imperialism and its Zionist government.

Israel is not a nation, but an expansionist state under the influence of USNA imperialism.

We must build an independent party of the working class. Simultaneously, we call upon all revolutionary and democratic forces to lay aside our differences and as independent political organizations discuss the formation of a United Front Against Fascism.

- 1) New York Post, 11/5/73.
- 2) National Observer, 11/24/73.
- 3) Christian Science Monitor, 11/5/73.
- 4) Dimitroff, Georgi, United Front Against Fascism, Int'l Publishers, p. 13.