

# The Class Character of the Palestine Revolt and Its International Political Significance

## Statement of the Political Committee of the Communist Party of the U. S. A.

### 1. THE CHARACTER OF THE REVOLT.

The war in Palestine is not a race war, it is a class war, carried on by the expropriated Arabian peasants against British imperialism and their Zionist agents in Palestine. Under no circumstances can we consider the Palestine revolt as a war between the Jews and Arabs over the territorial division of the Wailing Wall. Approaching the Palestine revolt from a class viewpoint, we sharply condemn the position of our Communist Jewish daily, the *Morning Freiheit*, as absolute opportunist and hardly, if at all, different from the stand of the Jewish Nationalist, Zionist, and the capitalist press. A Communist organ cannot, under any circumstances, look on the Palestine events as a race war between the Jews and Arabs. The slogans of the *Freiheit* and the contents of an editorial of August 25th had nothing in common with the Communist conception of the National liberation movement of the colonial people and their struggle against imperialism. The slogan issued by the *Freiheit*: "Protest against the British Government which has permitted pogroms on innocent people," or the views expressed in an editorial in the *Freiheit* of August 25 which in part reads as follows: "The British imperialists have in Palestine enough soldiers, machine guns, cannons and airplanes. They have them prepared against the struggles of the toiling masses. If the government would only want they could easily settle with the 100 'pogromschiky' (man killers)." Such a view represents the struggle of the Arabs against British imperialism simply as a war on Jews, distorts and belittles its political importance and completely fails to see the class character of this present Arabian struggle. The *Freiheit* deplors that the British having so many arms, did not use them more effectively against the revolting Arabs whom the *Freiheit* terms "Pogromschiky." These views are counter-revolutionary, Zionist views, characteristic of the social-democrats and bourgeoisie. The line is sharply condemned by the political committee of the Communist Party and all responsible for such articles published in the *Freiheit* will be taken to task by the Party.

The roots of the revolt of the Arabian masses are to be found in the economic exploitation of the Arab peasantry, whose land has been expropriated by British imperialism, through the reactionary Jewish Zionism. The iron colonial rule of Great Britain, the suppression of the national liberation movement for independence of Palestine, and the abrogation of all political rights of the Arabian peasants, led to the present revolt. The Palestine revolts are an integral part of the general struggle carried on by the oppressed people in the British and other colonies and protectorates for their national independence and against the yoke of British imperialism. The revolt of the Arabian peasants is of the same class character as the present and past revolts of the oppressed peasants of India, Egypt, etc. It is a part of the same struggle now being waged by the Bombay textile strikers and the mass strikes in Calcutta, all of which are directed against British imperialism. The Arabs who are participating in the Palestine revolts are not "bandits" or "pogromschikys," as they are characterized by the capitalists and their tools, the Zionists. They are fellaheen—land laborers—who are driven off their land by Zionism under the protection of British imperialism.

The Arabs not only attacked the Jewish colonists, whom reactionary Zionism brought to Palestine to establish a Jewish "national home" in an overwhelmingly Arabian country by driving the Arabs off their land and thereby securing the domination of Great Britain over this mandate territory; they have also opened war on British troops and the British government in Palestine. The establishment of a Jewish country in Palestine is the fig leaf of British imperialism in its land-grabbing aggression in this part of Asia. And the Zionist movement is willingly and knowingly lending itself to this mission.

### 2. THE ROLE OF ZIONISM.

Palestine is a mandate territory, given to Great Britain by the imperialist tool known at the League of Nations. It is a very important country for world imperialism. It is rich in chemical resources, and it is cut through with oil pipe lines running from the oil wells of Mosul to the Mediterranean ports. Palestine is of very great strategic importance as the gateway to the Near East. These are the reasons for the fierce imperialist activity regarding the control of Palestine. The present Arabian revolt will give an opportunity to British imperialism directed by the "labor" government to establish more firmly the rule of Great Britain in Palestine and thereby building up another vassal state against the Soviet Union.

The majority of the population in Palestine are not Jews but Arabs in a proportion of 8 to 1. The movement to establish a Jewish "national home" in Palestine is reactionary. It is based on the expropriation of the land tilled by the Arabs and perpetuating the imperialist rule of Great Britain. The colonial policy of Great Britain in Palestine was to use the Jewish immigrants as a tool in expropriating the land of the poor Arabs, which was turned into orange groves and fruit plantations controlled by a parasitic group of Jewish financiers, where Arabian and Jewish workers were mercilessly exploited. Therefore, to the Ara-

(Continued on Page Five)

# CLASS CHARACTER OF PALESTINE REVOLT; POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

(Continued from Page One)

bian masses the oppression of British imperialism appears in the immediate form of the bourgeois Zionist who gets the land he is robbed of, and when the struggle of the oppressed Arabian peasants reached the point of open revolt against British imperialism, they attacked the front line—the Jewish colonists—whom Britain used in place of armed troops to consolidate its imperialist rule. It is not for the first time that Great Britain, in order to distract the attention of the colonial masses from the struggle against British imperialism, incited race against race, as it is doing and has done for many years in India.

### 3. THE LABOR GOVERNMENT AND THE STRUGGLE OF THE COLONIAL PEOPLE

The British "labor" government today is pursuing the same imperialist course as the previous conservative governments. Thousands of troops are being sent to Palestine to suppress the revolt. The Jewish socialist labor leaders in Palestine are now arming the Jewish workers as auxiliaries of the British imperialist army, and the American socialist party, through the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, is collecting funds to help in the joint struggle, together with British imperialism, against the Arabian masses. The capitalist class knows the value of having the working class divided along racial lines and the socialist labor leaders help to achieve that.

It is no accident that precisely under the rule of the social-imperialist British labor party the oppressed colonial people today see that only through armed insurrection will they establish their national independence and free themselves from armed imperialism. The colonial people and workers of the capitalist countries will have another chance to see the imperialist role of the labor government and the Second International.

### 4. TASKS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

The widespread Arabian revolt in Palestine is of tremendous political significance to the revolutionary labor movement. The flame of the revolt penetrated, not only into every Arabian tribe in Palestine, but it is now being spread to other colonial countries like Syria and Transjordan. The Palestine revolt is marking a further development of the great struggle of the colonial masses when the masses of the Near East and India are drawn into direct fight against British imperialism.

The present Palestine revolt proves again the correctness of the analysis of the Sixth World Congress and consequently of the Tenth Plenum of the Communist International regarding the third period of post-war capitalist development and the undermining of the present capitalist stabilization, and refutes the arguments of the renegades and conciliators who fail to see the constant growing contradictions of world imperialism of which the United States is a part, and the growing struggle of the oppressed people in the colonial countries against imperialism and the exploited working class in capitalist countries against the social-democrats and the capitalist states.

The Communist Party of Palestine, under the leadership of Communist International, is the only force that can lead the struggle for the national liberation movement and the building up of an independent Arab republic. The union of the exploited Arabian and Jewish workers and peasants in the struggle against their common enemy, the British and Jewish-American capitalism and the Arabian feudal land-owners is the only way imperialism can be defeated. The Communist Party of Palestine and the world over must point out to the exploited Arabian and Jewish masses of Palestine that only through a proletarian revolution can they solve the national question and establish complete independence from Great Britain and other imperialist countries. The Communist Party must energetically agitate and mobilize the Arabian and Jewish masses around the slogan of an "independent Arabian republic" in Palestine, as a part of a federation of Soviet republics of Arabistan with national autonomy. In connection with the present Palestine revolt the Communist Party of America has important tasks to perform:

1. We must clearly establish before the Jewish working masses and the American working class generally, the national revolutionary character of the present Palestine revolt and counteract every attempt to interpret the Palestine revolt as a racial war between Jews and Arabs. We must demand the transformation of this war into a class war of the united Arab and Jewish working masses against world imperialism.

2. The Party must clearly expose the reactionary role of the Jewish Zionist movement and the Jewish fascists known as the Jewish Legion.

3. The Party must clearly interpret the Palestine revolt as part of the general struggle of the colonial people against world imperialism, and call the American workers to support this struggle.

4. We must intensify our struggle against American imperialism, help to build up the All-American Anti-Imperialist League and fight for immediate unconditional independence of all American colonies and the withdrawal of American troops from China and other countries. We must expose the provocative role of American imperialism which is insisting on the ruthless suppression of the Arabian revolt and bloody massacres against the revolutionary masses in order to protect the investments of American capital in Palestine and is using the reactionary Zionists in America as a tool in the imperialist rivalry with Great Britain for the control of the resources and opportunities of investment of American capital.

5. The Party must expose the imperialist role of the labor government and the social-democrats. It must especially contrast this with the attitude of the Soviet Union to the Chinese imperialist attack on the U. S. S. R.