

DPFLP: Interview on International Position



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—Defining the views of the DPFLP on:

The existing international conditions

The relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China

The relations with the Arab Communist parties

Q. What, in your opinion, are the principal characteristics of the existing international conditions; particularly the conditions of the international liberation movement and the socialist revolution?

A. Where as before the second World War socialism was confined in the Soviet Union, there have been many developments since then that have led to the birth of a broad socialist camp.

Secondly, there has been a powerful emergence of the national liberation movement in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, as well as, the consolidation of the conditions of the working class in the capitalist countries.

These distinctive phenomena in our contemporary history have widely opened the doors for the achievement of a total victory over colonialism and imperialism in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. They have also pushed forward, in great steps, the cause of the international socialist revolution.

We observe, at the same time, that this anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary international front has suffered broad relapses, particularly after the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. That 20th Congress dealt with many of the questions and problems of the socialist revolution, the multiplicity of ways of reaching socialism in the anti-imperialism struggle, and that Congress saw the introduction of the theory of "peaceful co-existence" with the various social systems.

These topics have clearly effected the solidarity of the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary international front. It has, also, effected the internal relations within the ranks of the international communist movement, the relations between the international communist movement and the national liberation movements and the (political) conditions of the working class in the capitalist countries.

The international front, as a result of the developments which followed the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, was shaken and the relationships among these forces was confused. This has led to a hesitation and complexity which has effected the overall struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

It has been observed that imperialism and its lackey, international reaction, have worked to gain maximum benefit from the policy of "peaceful co-existence" and the belief of the saying that "a variety of roads lead to socialism." These policies have consequently led to the

encouragement of reformist and social democratic trends, especially in the capitalist countries, in the ranks of the revolutionary forces and in the worker's forces.

Therefore, imperialism could move from a defensive position in the struggle against the forces of national liberation throughout the world and the forces of the international socialist revolution to an offensive position against this international front. This move enabled the imperialists, by exploiting the international situation, to accomplish reactionary imperialist victories over the national liberation movement in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Additionally, the American and West German neo-colonialist forces have gradually been replacing the old colonialist powers of Britain, France, etc. on these continents.

Imperialism has not only rushed into plotting counter-revolutionary action and reactionary coups in the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, but has also waged, what is termed by American politicians, particularly former Secretary of State, John F. Dulles, as, "private wars and limited warfare" throughout the world. These are being waged in an attempt to defeat the forces which are rising against colonialism and imperialism, and this attempt is what we are witnessing in Indochina, in general, and in Vietnam, in particular.

However, imperialism has not been contented at plotting more counter revolutions, coups and attacks on the liberation forces throughout the world. Imperialism has also endeavored to sabotage and encircle the worker's movement in the capitalist countries, and it has further gone to the extreme by attacking the countries of the socialist camp for it has bombarded the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, a part of the socialist camp.

Imperialism has gone even further than that and plotted counter-revolutions in the socialist countries, as happened in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and previously, in Hungary. Thus exploiting to its advantage the general economic, political and democratic problems in the socialist countries, in order to organize counter-coups and revolts.

Presently, we observe that the basic characteristics of our contemporary time is the intensification of the attacks by imperialism, colonialism and international reaction and the increase of disjointedness among the ranks of the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist international front.

We can further observe that imperialism is achieving victories over the forces of national liberation in more than one country and is daily creating semi-permanent problems for the socialist countries, as well as, waging limited wars in order to halt the international, socialist, revolutionary march and the march of the national liberation movements. Movements which are struggling to inflict total defeat upon imperialism and colonialism.

We observe, on the other hand, a series of international concessions to imperialism and the encirclement of problem areas which are foci of tensions in the world.

We observe, also, a current, based on the policy of "co-existence" in international politics, intent on liquidating the problem area of tension in the world. We saw this happen in Europe with the Soviet Union-West German treaty and the Polish-West German treaty, these asserted the outcome of World War II. There are still attempts occurring to resolve the Berlin question, these simultaneously with attempts to peacefully resolve the Middle East problem. Here we cannot but observe that the resolution of these problems is always at the expense of the weaker nations. The resolution of disputes, in Europe, resulting from the second World War was implemented through a series of agreements which were not at the expense of one country to another for they were based on the balance of power in that area, but in Indochina imperialism has failed to force the Vietnamese people to accept a solution which is favorable to imperialist interests or the interests of the Saigon government. This imperialist failure has caused imperialism to broaden the scope of its armed aggression to include Laos and Cambodia. This move took place in the face of the determination of the people of Indochina, with the support of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, to carry the task of national liberation to its final completion.

The national liberation movement in the Middle East is suffering from a sharp subjective crisis, whose origins go back to the class nature of the leadership of the movement. A leadership which is of a petit-bourgeois nature and which is unable to draw a revolutionary program which will subordinate the production front to the fighting front and is unable to adopt a theory of "armed people" who fight along side conventional forces — long term people's liberation war — on all the Arab land in order to defeat imperialism and to achieve the tasks of the new democratic national liberation revolution in the Middle East. The solution of the Middle East problem, as a result of that subjective weakness, comes at the expense of the people of the area and at the benefit of Israel and imperialism.

We can see, from all the preceding, that the international revolutionary movement and the national liberation movement throughout the world are suffering from many difficulties and problems. These provide imperialism with the ability to advance its blows and attacks against these fronts, as well as, wage it limited, private wars.



This does not mean that the future is on the side of imperialism and its attacks. The future will, inevitably, be on the side of the world socialist revolutionary forces and the forces of national liberation throughout the world. What all this means is that instead of defeating imperialism in a relatively short period, imperialism will be able to live longer as the result of these conditions which the revolutionary and national democratic movements are now going through over the world.

Q. What is the nature of the relationship between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, not just concerning the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP), but concerning the whole Palestinian resistance movement?

A. Here we must start with the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) as an organization committed to an advanced Marxist-Leninist position. The Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) has many critical observations of the Soviet Union's direction in the international Communist movement, and also about the Chinese direction in the international Communist movement, as well as both of their directions on the problems of national liberation and the problem of the East, internationally. We can say, ideologically, that our position on the relations and struggles within the international Communist movement is closer to that of the Vietnamese and Koreans and we are always ready to pursue that advanced ideological line. I am unable to give any information on the practical relations with the Soviet Union or People's Republic of China, but there are some organizations that have relations with the Soviet Union. It is strange, though, that our Chinese comrades presently have good relations with the rightist wing of the resistance, particularly represented by Fateh.

Although the Soviet Union supports the United Nations resolution and its implementation, we should not consider the Soviet Union as one of a front with the imperialists and colonialists. We should be Marxists in our analysis of the Soviet Union and the countries in the socialist camp which follow the Soviet line in their relations to the Middle East problems and the international problems.

Those positions are the results of the contradictions between the economic and social structure (state apparatus) in those countries and their international revolutionary commitment to anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist world revolutions and their problems.

Those contradictions exist, until today, in the interests of changing the proletarian internationalist principles of common struggle against imperialism and colonialism to the benefit of the developing subjective interests. Subjective interests which are the outcome of the general economic and social development of those countries and which are also the result of the assertion of the state apparatus in those countries.

Q. What is the nature of the relationships between the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) and the Communist parties throughout the Arab world? What are the relationships with the trade unions in the Arab world, especially in light of the fact that the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) is the organization which spoke of class struggle more than any other organization and in some cases intervened directly in that class struggle?

First, the Arab Communist parties in the area, with the exception of the Sudanese Communist party which is presently being subjected to a campaign of repression and persecution, are in general

reformist, social democratic parties which have adopted a position of a reformist nature toward many of the problems of the area and the world. Generally, the Arab Communist parties, among the ranks of international Communism, adopt the Soviet Union's line in their understanding of the problems of national liberation and world socialist revolution.

Our relations with these movements and these parties are confined within a limited framework and it is difficult to develop a strong relationship with them for this depends on the development of these parties of revolutionary positions toward the current problems placed upon the Arab revolutionary movement.

Our relation with the Sudanese Communist party is much stronger because the Sudanese Communist party is taking a more correct and revolutionary position, more than any other Arab Communist party, toward the problems of national democratic revolution in the Sudan. Further, the Sudanese Communist party, in its internationalist relations, is taking a semi-critical position of, and is not dogmatically committed to, the Soviet Union's line.

Second, concerning the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's (DPFLP) relationships with the trade unions; we must thoroughly understand that the worker's unions in our country are controlled by an ideologically corrupted worker's aristocracy. An aristocracy corrupted by the prevailing petit-bourgeois culture in the Arab national liberation movement.

These leaderships are not revolutionary leaderships. Our relation with the Arab working class comes about because the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) is committed to the proletarian ideology and we present the national liberation problems from their true revolutionary source and not as a result of a subjective wish.

The introduction of the class struggle in the national democratic revolution and the achievement of the tasks of the national democratic stage in the Arab countries necessitates a clear definition of the true class allies set apart from the class enemies who are tied to imperialism and colonialism. If we do not clearly define the allies, we will find ourselves faced with the big feudal and bourgeois comprador forces in our countries, as well as, faced with the omnipresent rightwing of the petit-bourgeoisie, who assume a class role based on positions which are tied to imperialism and colonialism, and who exist for the protection of the total interests of imperialism and colonialism and who are hostile to the forces of national liberation and the cause of the national democratic revolution.

The national struggle, at this point, against colonialism, Zionism, and reaction in the area is tied, by necessity, to the class struggle against the class forces tied to imperialism and colonialism. Class forces who act, for their own interests, as a watch dog, and who constitute a historical guarantee of security, for the Zionist movement.

These questions are part of the two interviews made by the Vietnamese Solidarity Committee in Milan and the representative from the Italian newspaper, Manifesto in June 1971.

It is the duty of all revolutionaries, progressives and patriots to:

- Support the resistance movement's left, represented by the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP)
- Thus enabling it to crush all submissive and defeatist conspiracies
- And enabling it to carry the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy and the Jordanian puppet regime.

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