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ISRAEL CP CALLS FOR UNITY

The following call of the Communist Party of Israel for unity with the United Workers Party in the forthcoming elections was rejected by the latter on October 11.—Eos.

FOR years our Party has been fighting for unity in the left working class camp in Israel. Our Party has turned to the Hashomer Hatzair and the Tnuva Achdut Avoda-Poale Zion and in the last year, since the unification of these two parties, to the United Workers Party with the proposal for creation of a united front.

As a result of the aforementioned calls, negotiations took place between representatives of the Communist Party of Israel and of the central committee of the United Workers Party. The discussions once again disclosed that a very broad basis exists for cooperation and a united front.

Following are the points which we propose as a basis for this united front:

1. United struggle to secure the full independence of Israel, and against any form of dependency, political, military or economic, either by British or American imperialists.

2. Struggle for the democratic and secular character of Israel; the achievement of all democratic freedoms against the attempts at domination by the fascists. Separation of church and state.

3. Struggle for a political position of peace and cooperation with the Jews and Arabs in Israel, and particularly between the working class movement and the democratic forces of both peoples. Securing equal civil and national rights for the Arab minority. Support for the establishment of an independent Arab democratic state in the Arab sector of Palestine, in accord with the UN decision of November 29, 1947. Against the occupation of the Arab section of the country by British imperialism through its puppet, Abdullah.

4. Struggle for a political orientation of friendship and cooperation of Israel with the Soviet Union and the new democracies of Europe. Defense of world peace and peace in the Middle East. Struggle against the imperialist war mongers.

5. To defend the interests of the working class and the poor. To fight for progressive labor and social legislation; equal pay for equal work without distinction of religious belief, race or color. Legislation in the interests of youthful workers.

6. To secure the possibilities of decent living conditions for families of soldiers; to secure work and homes for demobilized

soldiers after the war. Struggle against speculation and high prices.

7. Struggle for a democratic army in Israel and against militaristic education and policies.

8. Freedom of immigration and opposition to any foreign control over immigration into Israel. Against all attempts to prevent or limit immigration of those of military age. To establish a democratic policy and involve democratic forces in immigration policies. To provide the new immigrants with work and facilities.

9. Nationalization of all foreign concessions, and the major industries. Economic planning in the interests of the people.

Despite many, many attempts on our part to establish a united front of both our parties on the above basis, which expresses the interests of the working class and of the broad masses of our people, your party has until now not agreed to such a front....

The non-existence of a united progressive workers front has already led to very serious results.

The Israel government is carrying on negotiations with Bevin's puppet, Abdullah. In this way, it is forsaking the very basis of the United Nations decision, and places the independence of Israel in a position of peril and opens the possibility of direct and immediate British military encirclement. The foreign policy of the Israel government is leading us to economic, as well as military, dependency on the United States. Instead of encouraging and strengthening the Arab democratic forces that wish to establish a friendly and independent Arab state in a portion of Palestine, thus guaranteeing the sovereignty and borders of Israel, our government by its policies encourages the Arab states to grab parts of the Arab sector for themselves and views with animosity the work of democratic Arab forces.

The Israel government puts the brunt of the war on the working class and the common people. She continues to maintain the British reactionary tax system.

The families of soldiers suffer from tremendous need. Speculation is rampant. Prices are rising at a frightful rate. But instead of fighting the speculators and lowering prices, the government places the workers in military work camps, thereby hindering mobilization for the army as well as the labor interests of the workers.

At the same time, the fascists and extreme chauvinistic groups are organizing themselves and preparing the way for American imperialist penetration through

their anti-Arab and anti-democratic policies, and through their opposition to the decisions of the United Nations for the establishment of two independent states in Palestine.

We are convinced that this dangerous development in the policies of the government and in the growth of fascist forces, would not have taken place if there existed a united front of struggle of the Communist Party of Israel and the United Workers Party, which could, together with other progressive forces, have organized the people's struggle and pressure for a democratic foreign and domestic policy. . . .

The elections are coming closer, and in these elections the rightist parties of the coalition that dominates the government will participate, as well as the bourgeoisie, the clerical parties and the Mapai, which works with these rightist forces. The fascist movement is also consolidating its strength by the merger of the revisionist parties with Tnuat Ha-Heiut of the Irgun, which seeks to gain power through national and social demagoguery, through intimidation and terror. . . .

Such a front would serve to draw into itself all healthy and honest working class elements in the Mapai and other workers' parties. Such a front would help to prevent soldiers, workers and youth, who are opposed to the policies of the government, from floundering and ending up in the fascist camp.

We turn to you again, comrades, with the proposal to create a united front. We propose that we begin this immediately by the creation of a common list of the United Workers Party and the CP for the election to the constituent assembly. . . .

With comradely greetings,

COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL
Central Committee: S. Mikunis, Gen. Sec.; M. Vilner, Sec.

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