

Guatemala and the Wall St. Invasion

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WALL STREET IMPERIALISM has succeeded in overthrowing the progressive, people's government of Guatemala and in replacing it by one that is to the liking of the United Fruit Company. Thus is added another to the long list of crimes against democracy committed by Yankee imperialism

over the years in Latin America.

Guatemala is added to Cuba,



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Puerto Rico, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, and the various other countries south of the Rio Grande which have felt on their necks the jack-boot of the big monopolists who dominate

American foreign policy.

In the old days, before the advent of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Washington would have made the Guatemalans bow to its imperial will by sending in the marines in force to terrorize them; but now, when colonial and semi-colonial peoples in various parts of the world are striking out for national liberation, more indirect methods of coercion and repression have to be used. Hence, the elaborate efforts that are now being made by the pen-pushers and politicians of Wall Street to make it appear as though the overthrow of the Arbenz government was the work of the Guatemalan people themselves.

But few will be deceived by this transparent fakery, least of all the peoples of Latin America. The peoples know too much of the ruthless policies of Wall Street and its reactionary Latin American stooges to see in this latest outrage anything but what it actually is, the grossest American invasion of the political sovereignty of Guatemala. It will all add fuel to the fire of the hatred of Yankee imperialism that now burns nearly

everywhere throughout Latin America. The would-be United States rulers of Latin America will, in the long run, pay dearly for this outrage upon Guatemala in all the countries of Central and South America.

GUATEMALA will also cause world-wide repercussions against American imperialism. The day is forever past when the United States rulers can make and unmake governments in Latin America at their pleasure, and get away with it scot-free. It is safe to predict that wherever American imperialists are busy trying to grab control of countries (which is all over the capitalist world) they will confront the issue of Guatemala under most inconvenient circumstances. The tragic Guatemalan situation particularly exposes the cynical pretenses of Washington to be the friend and protector of the smaller peoples.

By the overthrow of the Arbenz government, Washington has served notice upon the peoples of Latin America that they will be allowed to set up only such governments as Wall Street approves of. This is a violent invasion of their national sovereignty. It is an arrogant attempt to deny these peoples not only the right of revolution, but also of every other progressive step forward. It is compounding the injury to declare that all such progressive governments are the work of Communist "infiltration" (whatever that is) and Russian influence. But such arbitrary measures will not succeed. All that this new policy will do, in the long run, will be to make the eventual anti-imperialist, anti-colonial revolution in Latin Amer-

ica all the more drastic and ruthless when it gets under way.

ONE OF THE MOST sinister aspects of the whole disgraceful Wall Street attack upon Guatemala has been the condonement of it by the decisive leaders of organized labor in the United States. They made no protest against it, which means that it had their blessing. They are labor imperialists and one of the most important planks in their general program of American imperialist expansion is complete domination of Latin America by Wall Street (and, as far as the labor movement is concerned, by themselves). It is in this imperialist spirit that these misleaders of labor, a few years ago, split the Latin American Confederation of Labor, the great mass defender of democracy throughout Latin America.

The countries of Latin America are among the most tyrant-ridden and poverty-stricken in the world—and for this condition the stranglehold of American imperialism upon the whole area is fundamentally to blame. The Arbenz government with its progressive policies, was a ray of hope for the peoples in this generally tragic situation. But Wall Street could not tolerate such a forward-looking government, which was a menace to its whole oppressive regime in Latin America. The reactionary consequences are there for the world to see. But such policies are those of the Yankee imperialists in Guatemala are merely sowing the whirlwind. A few more "victories" such as the one in Guatemala and American imperialism's cause will be hopelessly lost in Latin America.