

A. Workshop Reports (Continued)

9. Strategies for Revolution Workshop *h*

Following is a report on the workshop on Strategies for Revolution. Initially, an agenda was set up with the three following areas to be discussed: 1) What is a strategy? 2) United Front Against Imperialism, and 3) Is anti-imperialism an ideology? *h*

The workshop defined strategy in the following way: Strategy from a revolutionary viewpoint is the basic plan for fundamental change in class forces; and tactics, or implementation, flow from the strategy. *h*

In addition, militancy was discussed. When working out a definition, the workshop decided that militancy does not simply mean that organizations merely leaflet and do propaganda work. Militancy means leading the people to fight back against oppression by taking our politics to them and implementing them. *h*

Discussion on the United Front and anti-imperialism as an ideology flowed from one into the other. Two positions emerged -- one having large sentiment, and the other representing the position of one individual. *h*

MAJORITY REPORT *h*

We stand for the United Front Against Imperialism as a strategy for revolution in this country at this time. What revolutionaries must do is unite the working class to lead the fight against all oppression. Listed below are a few brief points that we would like to make about the UFAI strategy. *h*

1. The united front strategy has been used successfully in other countries (such as the Peoples Republic of China, Vietnam, Cambodia, North Korea). While we obviously cannot apply this strategy dogmatically (chapter and verse) to the U.S. situation, the essence of the united front does apply. We must unite all that can be united against the enemy -- the ruling class -- under the leadership of the working class and its Party. *h*

2. Up to this point in recent history, there has objectively existed a UFAI in this country, although it was almost entirely spontaneous (without conscious working class leadership) in its nature and at no time has included all the forces that could be united. The anti-war movement is an example of this consistency of a great number of people from various classes and strata united loosely under the leadership of the (then petty-bourgeois) peace movement. *h*

3. There exists an international United Front Against Imperialism consisting of the various liberation struggles and governments who are objectively opposed to imperialism, led by the Peoples Republic of China. (u)

4. At this time in the U.S., the spontaneous struggles of the people have reached their highest level. Conscious leadership of the various struggles is required, particularly a communist party, in order to advance. The reasons for this were laid out somewhat in the N. Illinois/Iowa round robin where they speak of the cynicism of the masses of people and the increasing crisis of imperialism. (u)

5. There are two fundamental errors that can be made in UFAI work. The first is to exclude people from the struggle (or VVAW/WSO) because they aren't "pure" or advanced enough ideologically, instead of trying to unite with the positive aspects of anyone who wishes to contribute. The second (and most dangerous error at this time) is to fail to struggle with the bad aspects people or groups have -- to be all "unity." The first mistake will isolate us from the masses and keep us small. The second mistake will lead to reformism (failure to educate and lead the struggles of the masses against the whole system). Both errors have a unity in the respect that they stifle the revolutionary potential of the people and, in effect, hold the struggle back. (u)

6. The UFAI must be built around demands that the forces opposed to imperialism can be united around, and that victories can be won around. These demands will of necessity change as the conditions of the struggle change. They must be based on the summation of where the masses are at and what the greatest demands of the masses are at any one time. We must look at the various struggles of the people as battles in a class war. In such a war, one needs a strategy (UFAI) and tactics (such as the War on the VA). We must speak to and fight for the relief of the oppression people face, while at the same time raising the ideological level so the final goals are seen -- the complete destruction of imperialism. (u)

7. Our work is to bring veterans and GIs into this struggle and to advance them (with the help of communist cadre) to the understanding of the need for revolution and to becoming leaders in the struggle. Our organization is like a tube where people can enter at a very low level or programatic unity and advance to a higher level of unity, i. e. ideological. We must place no walls in this tube by pretending that we have a separate anti-imperialist ideology (a level at which people can safely rest) or by trying to do the work of a party and solve the National Question at our meetings. (u)

## MINORITY REPORT

### On Strategy for Revolution

There was a minority position in opposition to the strategy of the United Front Against Imperialism at this time in this country. The minority agreed with the majority that a United Front would be necessary to seize state power and that the primary contradiction exists between capital and labor; which establishes a unity of interest among laboring people.

In opposing the United Front strategy, the minority made these points:

1. Our primary task is developing class consciousness, the working class coming to see itself as a class -- rather than stressing alliances across class lines.
2. The main obstacles to class consciousness are the institutions of white and male supremacy.
3. Both white and male supremacy stem from concrete conditions as well as bourgeois ideology. Therefore, a) these divisions within the class have a material basis and b) fighting for greater equality could bring a greater material basis for unity within the working class, while at the same time building solidarity between whites and national minority peoples and between men and women.
4. Making unity between classes the priority over consciousness and unity within the working class itself leaves the way open to subordinating the issues of white and male supremacy to seeking broader unity between classes.

### On Minimum Program

There was a minority position in opposition to a strategy based on a minimum program. The minority agree with the majority that all people develop in stages, and that reform struggles play an important part in such developments.

However, in placing highest priority on building class consciousness and unity within the working class itself, the minority objected to the minimum program on these grounds:

1. The minimum program downplays clear class issues in favor of a broader unity across class lines.
2. Stating socialism/communism as our goal -- rather than anti-imperialism makes clear what we want and gives working people something to fight for (socialism/communism) not just against (imperialism).
3. Talking socialism/communism rather than anti-imperialism avoids the pitfall of people feeling manipulated -- wondering what we are really driving at.

Along with these two reports, the workshop would like to point out that not everyone in the workshop agreed with either of these positions. Many people were

there to learn and ask questions and had not done enough investigation to accept either of these two positions or to put forward a different position. However, during the course of the workshop, two strong positions were put forward (contained in the majority and minority reports) and there was much struggle around these two lines. *AM*

VOTE: A move for acceptance of this workshop report by unanimous consensus was accepted with no objections. *AM*

**b7**