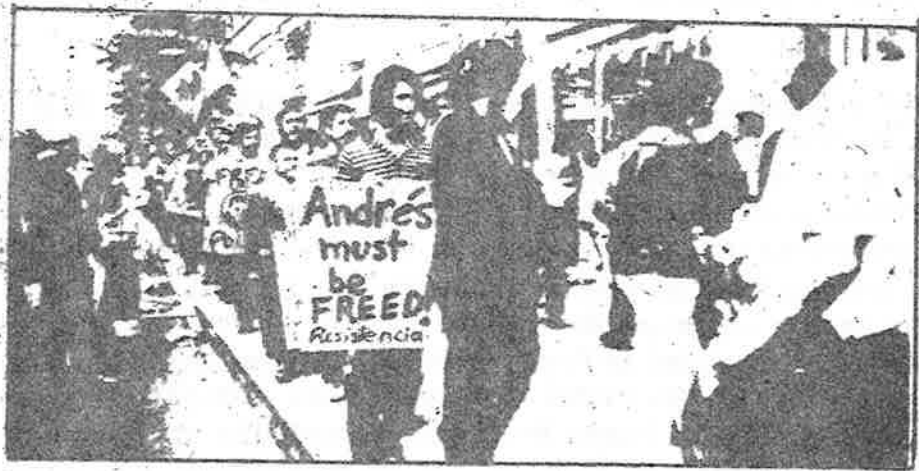


INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO! FREE THE 5 PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS!



**SATURDAY
NOV. 13**

**MARCH TO THE
UNITED NATIONS**

**JOIN M-L CONTINGENT AT
UNION SQUARE 12:00 NOON**

On October 30, 1950, an armed uprising erupted in several of the towns of Puerto Rico. The town of Jayuya was taken over by the patriots and the new Republic of Puerto Rico declared there. These actions were led by the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, then headed by Pedro Albizu Campos. They were clearly directed against yankee imperialist domination of the island. The Nationalist Revolt of 1950 was an anti-imperialist declaration of war against the most powerful enemy of humanity at the time.

The courage sacrifice and determination of the Puerto Rican people to fight for freedom were well exemplified by these patriots, against whom the colonial administration had to mobilize the police, then the National Guard, and then the U.S. army with their tanks and bombs. After squashing the revolt, an intense repression followed, violating the most elementary democratic rights of the Puerto Rican people, who were put in jail for the simplest "crimes" of displaying a Puerto Rican flag in their own homes. However, this only served to intensify the contradiction between U.S. imperialism and the Puerto Rican people, who up until this day have sustained a courageous struggle against U.S. imperialism and for the freedom of their country.

This struggle has 5 living symbols - the 5 nationalist political prisoners who are still held in U.S. prisons for continuing the war for national liberation in the territory of the U.S.: Oscar Collazo (imprisoned in November 1, 1950) and Lolita Lebron, Andres Figueroa, Rafael Caneel and Irving Flores (in March 1954). These 5 political prisoners are a constant reminder of the colonial situation of Puerto Rico, and we as supporters of the right of self determination of all oppressed nations must also support the struggle for their unconditional release.

With the purpose of demanding their freedom a march and rally to the U.N. (starting from Union Square at 12N) will be held next Saturday November 13. Forces from the communist movement and the national movements, including as well the many opportunists, revisionists and Trotskyites, will be there, all raising their particular slogans, many of them not even supporting the activity itself or its purpose. This is not an unusual situation, as on the one hand the movement of the masses is still plagued by all types of opportunists who haggle and maneuver for its control, and on the other the communists have not yet completely succeeded in firmly exercising consistent leadership among the masses. We in the League for Proletarian Revolution (LPR-ML) actively support the struggle for national liberation of Puerto Rico, and demand the unconditional release of the 5 prisoners. At the same time it is our duty to raise a number of questions that are intimately linked to the struggle for the liberation of Puerto Rico, and attempt to give answers to those questions raised to us by the masses in support of this struggle. These are: (1) How do we concretely support that struggle? (2) How will we free the 5 nationalists? and (3) What is the role of communists and what is the role of opportunists in this struggle?

HOW DO WE CONCRETELY SUPPORT THAT STRUGGLE? HOW WILL WE FREE THE 5 NATIONALIST PRISONERS? It is not enough to say we support. Our words have to be backed by our deeds. We must bring the case of Puerto Rico to the masses of the people, the true makers of history. It is the masses, through their boundless energy and revolutionary spirit, led by its vanguard the working class and its Party, and enlightened by revolutionary consciousness which we must instill through our work among them, that will become a great reserve in the U.S. for the national liberation struggle in Puerto Rico. We must learn to rely on the masses, on the working class, and not on slimy politicians who will promise anything in exchange for some votes, not on poverty pimps, or other social props and supporters of the bourgeoisie, who try to buy us off with their temporary support in order to divert our struggle their own way. We must not rely on opportunists either, who masquerade as "socialists" and come to the national movements with their sinister plans and hidden agendas, loudly voicing their support from one side of their mouths, but betraying it on the other.

The masses are our "true bastion of iron" upon which we must build our struggle from which we gain strength and eventually win. We must never be tempted by "swift" results, money and resources, publicity, etc. that the political swindlers may have to offer. We will soon find out that this is only temporary "support" to stab us in the back, that these "get-rich-quick" schemes will get us nowhere. Rely on the masses and our struggle will grow steadily and firmly towards victory. This is a law of society and it applies just as well to the struggle for the freedom of the 5 nationalist political prisoners. Only with the support of the masses will we be able to free them, and any "shortcuts" will only make the road longer.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF COMMUNISTS, AND WHAT IS THE ROLE OF OPPORTUNISTS?

We communists wholeheartedly support the struggle for the self-determination of the Puerto Rican nation. We do so in the spirit of Proletarian Internationalism that guides us,

and because national liberation struggles are part of the worldwide struggle for proletarian revolution. In this era of imperialism and proletarian revolution, national liberation struggles form a common front with the world's proletariat against imperialism and social imperialism. The struggles of the third world in particular are surging forward, successfully leading the struggle against colonialism, imperialism, hegemonism and social imperialism. The world today is thus in "great disorder" with the future bright for revolution, which is the main trend in the world today. Revolutionary storms are brewing every where, and everywhere people are fiercely engaged in battles for their liberation. In all of Africa for example it is only a matter of time for that long oppressed continent to attain its freedom, in Indochina the peoples of those countries have gained tremendous victories proving one more time that a small country can defeat a large and powerful one if it is truly determined and relies on its own forces to do so. As our Chinese comrades say: "Countries want independence, nations want liberation, people want revolution. This is the irresistible trend of history."

Everywhere in the globe it is being proven that it is "the people, and the people alone, who are the motive force in the making of world history", and the interference by the two superpowers (U.S. imperialists and U.S.S.R. social imperialists) is met every day with more and more resistance from the people. This shows that their days are counted, that they are doomed to failure, to be crushed by the mighty wheels of history, by the oppressed peoples of the world. By supporting the struggles of the third world for national liberation and independence, we are in fact supporting, concretely advancing, the struggle for proletarian revolution in this country, for the freedom of all oppressed peoples and nations and for the final downfall of imperialism and social imperialism.

This however is not the case with the opportunists that are going to be at the U.N. on November 13, and who continue to leech on the Puerto Rican national movement. These opportunists, who garb themselves with assorted "socialist" or "revolutionary" names, put forward fundamentally the same bankrupt lines. These are: "peaceful transition" the "divided nation theory" and alliance with the Soviet social imperialists. These lines will be put out by the opportunists although will all kinds of justifications and revolutionary phrases, We must learn to identify them and rout them out completely as they are extremely dangerous and can only lead to failure.

PEACEFUL TRANSITION. The opportunists refute the fact that there is no other way but through armed struggle to gain complete liberation. They tell the masses that imperialism can be defeated "peacefully" through the ballot box or through international pressure at the U.N. and other international forums. We do not negate the relative importance of these forums, but we must reject the opportunists' placing these as primary over other forms of struggle. We are certain, and history is right there to prove it, that only a people rising up armed against the oppressor can gain victory. No oppressor has bowed down from power gently, but rather forcibly, by revolutionary struggle of the people. We must not be fooled either by those who speak of elections, the U.N., etc. as a tactic, and yet in reality make it the most important aspect of their political work, as we can see in the recent declarations by Mari Bras who said:

"This is why they would like to get us out of the race. In these elections no voting results will have as much importance as the votes obtained by the PSP and the election of this party's candidates. The political future of our country will be defined by that showing." (Claridad, Sept. 25, 1976 p. 5S.)

This line of "peaceful transition" already tried in Chile and Indonesia can only lead to failure and massacre of thousands of patriots and revolutionaries. There can be no revolution without armed struggle. At the same time that we warn against the main danger, represented by these social pacifists and reformists, we must also guard against the many anarchist groups who are constantly calling the people to take actions isolated from the mass struggle, These actions also can only lead to failure and massacres since they are not laid on the firm foundation of mass struggle, they do not rely on the masses, nor its vanguard and party, but rather hold them in contempt and go their own way in individual actions. As Chairman Mao teaches us: "Political power grows out of the barrel of the gun" and also "Our principle is that the Party commands the gun, and the gun must never be allowed to command the Party."

"DIVIDED NATION" This theory holds that the nation of Puerto Rico exists also in the U.S. thus totally rejecting what material reality tells us. Opportunists hold this theory in order to justify their incorrect practice of opposing the creation of a multinational communist party in the U.S. and pushing for the example the Puerto Rican national minority in US to

ganize separately from the rest of the multinational working class in the U.S. This is a divisive tactic aimed only at enslaving the class rather than liberating it, by reinforcing the national divisions that the ruling class in this country is so fond of keeping for its own oppressive interests. But the fact is that the working class in the U.S. is multinational and must be organized in a multinational communist party. That is what we stand for. This party must resolutely defend the rights of all oppressed national minorities and oppose all manifestations of national oppression. Only under these conditions, and through this multinational unity, can the whole class achieve complete liberation. We must not be fooled by these opportunists. Regardless of nationality, we must unite our class, fight to organize ourselves at higher levels, we must fight to build a multinational communist party of the working class which actively and concretely give support to the liberation struggles around the world and carry out the proletarian revolution in this country. Fight all forms of national chauvinism and oppression, the main danger, and also guard against all manifestations of narrow nationalism, these are our duties!

ALLIANCE WITH SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM.

The opportunists are easily identifiable by whom they ally with. On the one hand they put up a revolutionary face by opposing US imperialism, but on the other, they pose the Soviet Union as "friends of the people" which they are not! The principal enemy of the Puerto Rican people is U.S. imperialism, as it is U.S. imperialism that controls and oppresses the Puerto Rican nation who must win independence from it. However, there is another enemy, Soviet social imperialism, which poses as a "friend" and yet represents also a grave danger to the Puerto Rican national liberation struggle and to all peoples in the world today. Why?

The Soviet Union is today ruled by a renegade revisionist clique which has temporarily turned over the Great October Revolution and restored capitalism in that country. They are now trying to gain hegemony over the world and are frantically competing with the U.S. for their piece of the world pie. They are a most dangerous source of war, and everywhere they meddle, offering weapons to one liberation group pitting it against another causing civil strife (as in Angola) and through this gain control of that movement and eventually of that country's riches and resources. Their support against U.S. imperialism is a false, since all they want is to liberate one country from the rule of the U.S. to place it under its own imperialist rule. And because they speak "socialism", but act imperialism, is that they are such a dangerous enemy of the people, and must be opposed always. In the case of Puerto Rico they have already tried hard to control the national liberation movement and are going long steps to to gain a foothold by propping its mouthpiece of PSP as legitimate representatives of the PR liberation movement in the U.N., and by concocting all kinds of schemes such as the Havana Conference of last year. The Soviet social imperialists are like the tiger at the back door who tries to sneak in while we are fighting the wolf at the front door. We must guard against this great danger and expose all those who try to prop it up as "friends of the people" for what they are opportunists and traitors who would fool the people, refusing to warn them and disarming them by allying with it for their own narrow interests. We must always remember the words of Enver Hoxha - to never rely on one of the superpowers in order to fight the other!

Opportunists are everywhere to be found - in the national, student and working class movement etc. We must rout them out for good. In November 13 we urge all honest communists, advanced elements, and revolutionary minded people, to attend the activities at the U.N., be alert to identify who the friends of the people are, and who the enemies, side with the friends and expose and rout the enemies. In the struggle in support of Puerto Rico's independence and for the unconditional release of the 5 nationalist political prisoners, raise with us these slogans and demands:

**UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE FOR THE 5 PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS!
RELY ON THE MASSES FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE 5 !**

**INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO !
PEOPLES" WAR IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY !**

**LONG LIVE PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM !
WORKERS OF ALL NATIONALITIES UNITE!**

DEATH TO IMPERIALISM AND SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM !

LEAGUE FOR PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION M-L

Box 513, Triboro Station

New York, N.Y. 10035