



RABBLE-ROUSER

Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia

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DISARMAMENT IS A MIRAGE OPPOSE IMPERIALIST WAR WITH REVOLUTION, NOT PEACE

From December 1 to 3, 1995, people from around the country will gather in Canberra for the "Notice to Quit" peace camp and protest on the lawns of Parliament House. (A rally in solidarity with the Canberra protest is planned for Melbourne on Sunday, December 3 at 1pm in the Treasury Gardens.) The organisers of "Notice to Quit", the Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition, say that the theme of the demonstration is,

"designed to remind law makers it is time to quit nuclear tests and weapons, and time for US military bases in Australia to go. It is also time for the Australian government to stop supporting regimes such as the Indonesian dictatorship and the Papua New Guinea government which are waging wars in East Timor and Bougainville respectively." (*Green Left Weekly*, 8/11/95).

This just isn't good enough! We refuse to leave our fate, and that of our sisters and brothers across the globe (including Bougainville and East Timor) in the hands of those very same ruling classes responsible for nuclear weapons, imperialist warfighting bases and counter-revolutionary wars.

The 'peace and disarmament' perspective of the Notice To Quit organisers is based on the illusion that imperialism can somehow be persuaded to behave sensibly and abolish nuclear weapons and dismantle warfighting bases.

While generally uniting with anti-war sentiments, revolutionary communists have always argued that as long as the system of imperialism exists, peace and disarmament (including the shutting down of military bases) are impossible, and war inevitable, even continuous.

Because ultimately the future of the earth and all humanity is involved it is crucial for all who are struggling to abolish nuclear weapons, imperialist warfighting bases and imperialist war itself, to thoroughly check out the ideas guiding their actions. Don't simply adopt what is comforting (i.e. calls for peace and disarmament). Don't blindly accept what is being dealt out by the official leaders of a peace movement which accepts the outlook and continued existence of the very social order that is the cause of war.

All anti-war activists must struggle with these questions and the confusions and illusions which are rife in the peace movement in Australia. These are political confusions and illusions which hold back the struggle against imperialist war and its weapons.

ISN'T DISARMAMENT THE BEST WAY TO GET RID OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND PREVENT WAR?

NO! The cause of war in this era is the imperialist system, and it is the rivalry among imperialist blocs and powers and their necessity to redivide the world that propels things toward inter-imperialist wars and the threatened use of nuclear weapons in a World War III. Because it might seem realistic to attack war by attacking the weapons of war and to oppose the threat of imperialist nuclear war with a programme of peace and disarmament, does not stop this from being a superficial and wrong analysis.

Attributing nuclear weapons, warfighting bases and imperialist war itself to the evil designs and schemes of one or another group of imperialist generals or politicians can only contribute to disarming and disorienting the struggle of the people against imperialist war and its weapons.

Imperialist wars, their nuclear weapons and their warfighting bases must be opposed with revolution, not peace and disarmament. Ultimately, world imperialist war can be prevented only by the forcible overthrow of imperialist powers by mass armed proletarian revolution in large and/or strategic parts of the world.

It is with this understanding and toward this aim, and not in some illusory movement for peace and disarmament that the struggle of the proletariat, oppressed and revolutionary peoples of the world must be directed.

It is revolution and communism which is the path toward the elimination of the root cause of imperialist wars and all the other evils inevitable in a society ruled by exploiters.

ISN'T PEACE AND DISARMAMENT SOMETHING EVERYONE SHOULD SUPPORT?

To those who say nuclear weapons could lead to the horrible end of the human race; we say that imperialism is an endless horror for the great majority of the world's peoples. Getting rid of mass famine, genocidal wars against subjugated peoples, etc means getting rid of imperialism.

Revolutionary Marxists cannot, without ceasing to be Marxists, be opposed to all war. There are just and unjust wars. On the one hand there are the unjust wars waged by the ruling classes of the world's imperialist powers against each other and against the oppressed peoples of Africa, Latin America, Asia. On the other hand there are the just wars fought against the imperialist ruling classes.

Calling upon the Australian government to "stop supporting regimes" like Indonesia and Papua New Guinea which are at war with oppressed peoples is piss-weak. The least we could do is to support the struggle of the people of East Timor and Bougainville.

The military struggle which the workers and oppressed wage against the ruling class in any given country is also a just war. As the great Lenin said, "To repudiate civil war, or to forget about it, would mean sinking into extreme opportunism and renouncing the socialist revolution."

DOESN'T THE EXISTENCE OF U.S. BASES INFRINGE AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE?

No. Australia is a lesser imperialist power which happily and heartily feasts at the imperialist dinner table. The Australian imperialists are just as eager and pressed to acquire an even larger plate. If the US-led bloc does launch an imperialist war against its enemies, the Australian bourgeoisie will be just as guilty as any other for its having taken place. Does anyone seriously suggest that US warfighting bases in Britain and Germany "infringe the national independence" of those major imperialist powers?

The Australian imperialists' decision to allow US bases to be established at Pine Gap and Nurrungar etc., represents the deadly calculation Australia's ruling class has made between the intertwined prongs of protecting their own imperialist interests, and preserving and developing their own position within the US warfighting bloc.

Revolutionary communists in Australia struggle against every effort to identify the interests of the proletariat with those of the Australian imperialist bourgeoisie. The workers, oppressed and revolutionary people must come to see through the bloody imperialist nature of the national banner.

SHOULD WE "REJECT MILITARY SOLUTIONS TO THE HUMAN PROBLEMS OF INEQUALITY AND INJUSTICE WHICH ARE THE REAL CAUSE OF INSECURITY AND CONFLICT" AS THE NOTICE TO QUIT ORGANISERS URGE?

No. We should reject such pacifist nonsense.

"An oppressed class which does not strive to learn to use arms, to acquire arms", argued Lenin, "only deserves to be treated like slaves."

".....The fact that the bourgeoisie is armed against the proletariat is one of the biggest, most fundamental, and most important facts in modern capitalist society. and in the face of this fact, [we] are urged to 'demand' 'disarmament! This is tantamount to the complete abandonment of the point of view of the class struggle, the renunciation of all thought of revolution. **Our slogan must be: the arming of the proletariat for the purpose of vanquishing, expropriating and disarming the bourgeoisie.** These are the only tactics a revolutionary class can adopt, tactics which follow logically from the objective development of capitalist militarism, and dictated by that development. Only after the proletariat has disarmed the bourgeoisie will it be able, without betraying its world-historical mission, to throw all armaments on the scrap heap; and the proletariat will undoubtedly do this, but only when this condition has been fulfilled, certainly not before." (*War Programme of the Proletarian Revolution*).

So if you are really a supporter of the self-determination struggle of the people of East Timor, Bougainville etc., your political position is not limited to calling upon the Australian government to cease bankrolling counter-revolution.

What's wrong with building support for the military and political victory of the anti-imperialist struggle of the oppressed peoples and nations? And if Australia goes to war against our class sisters and brothers what's wrong with calling for the defeat of the Australian imperialists? Nothing. It's the least we can do.

RABBLE-ROUSER n.

1. a troublemaker;
2. one who arouses the political discontent of the people;
3. Maoist agit-prop newsheet from the CRCPA

For centuries the exploiters have denounced the downtrodden who rise up to throw off their oppressors as 'the rabble'. The ruling class use their TV, radio and press to insult and attack the struggles of the oppressed and lecture us about the 'horrors' of revolutionary communism. The bourgeoisie say it is wrong to rebel.

The imperialists' hatred is focussed on the revolutionary communism of Marx, Lenin and Mao; of the Paris Commune; of the storming of the Winter Palace and the building and defence of the first socialist state led by Lenin and Stalin; of the Long March and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, led by Mao Tsetung; and, of the People's War in Peru led by the Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path).

This is because in the revolutionary communism of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, it is the masses who make history — the countless multitudes of the exploited and oppressed all over the world. Marxism-Leninism-Maoism boils down to a simple truth, which for the bourgeoisie is like daylight to a vampire. That simple truth is: **It Is Right To Rebel!**

It is only People's War — the armed struggle of the masses in their millions, led by an authentic Communist Party guided by Marxism-Leninism-Maoism — which can sweep away the old order and open the door to the profoundly liberating communist future.

Today a situation in which the proletariat can launch the armed struggle for power does not exist in Australia. And anyone who expects to wake up one morning and find that The Revolution has come, without years of painstaking preparation and activity by those who see now the need for revolution, will never see it.

The Revolution will not grow out of the day-to-day economic struggles of the workers. The Revolution will not emerge out of the gradual and peaceful accumulation of socialist influence. The possibility of communist revolution in Australia is linked to the development of *revolutionary situations* in which the ruling class can no longer rule in the usual way, and the heightened crises in the country and the world draws millions of workers and oppressed into the fight to overthrow the Australian imperialists.

The task of communists in Australia now is to *prepare* for these exceptional moments in history by accumulating revolutionary strength — the immediate task being the reconstitution of the Communist Party of Australia on the basis of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism. It is only with such a revolutionary Communist Party of Australia that the proletariat will be ready and able to seize victory when the conditions for revolution are ripe.

The creation of revolutionary public opinion is an important part of the communists' painstaking work of accumulating revolutionary strength. Despite its limitations, *RABBLE-ROUSER* strives to create revolutionary public opinion by agitating around the burning events of the day. *RABBLE-ROUSER* aims to cut through the smokescreen of the imperialists' media, its politicians, other agents etc., so that the proletariat and oppressed can see the real class interests at work in society.

RABBLE-ROUSER supports the outbreaks of protest and rebellion of the masses. At the same time, we have no desire to lead a non-revolutionary mass movement. Real communists view everything from the standpoint of the revolutionary struggle for power. We make it our business to stimulate in the minds of those who are dissatisfied with this or that aspect of the Australian government, or opposed to imperialist war, the idea that the whole imperialist world order is worthless and must be overthrown.

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