

TRUTH

A REVOLUTIONARY TROTSKYIST BULLETIN IN DETROIT

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Stop the bombing!

Bring the troops home now! Defend the revolution!

The U.S. government began to bomb the Iraqi people in Baghdad on January 16.

The U.S. government, its allies, and their paid propagandists offer all sorts of reasons for this barbarous act — Kuwait, Hussein, alleged aggression, etc., etc.

They are all lies.

The U.S. government is bombing the Iraqi people of Baghdad and other cities in a desperate effort to stop the popular revolutions developing in the Middle East and throughout the world — the uprising of the Palestinian people against the illegitimate State of Israel, erected on the bodies of Palestinian dead, ejected from their own land — “the intifada”; the overthrow of the feudal Kuwaiti monarchy; the political revolution developing in the USSR ...

The U.S. aims to subjugate the Iraqi people, the Arab peoples, and all the peoples of the Middle East, steal their oil, their factories, their labor ...

We urge all working people in the U.S. to fight to stop the bombing, for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. forces from the Middle East and to defend the revolution developing in the Middle East by any means necessary.

U.S. troops are not fighting for the interests of working people in the Middle East or anywhere else. It is a matter of time before honest U.S. soldiers begin to see this, just as they did in Vietnam. They will see that they are fighting children, women, young men, a

whole people. They will begin to turn against the officers and the government officials that have deceived them, that have

used them, just as they did in Vietnam. It is in the best interests of any honest soldier, of anyone who is in the armed forces because he thought he had no where else to go, of anyone who genuinely wants to do the right thing, of anyone who is anything but a hired killer, to make an all out fight to stop the bombing and to bring all the troops home now.

The workers and their unions have the power to stop the war and force the U.S. government to bring all the troops home now ... with demonstrations, strikes, boycotts, a general strike. . . .

We urge the workers to use that power.

The Arab peoples' revolutions are our revolutions. We must defend them.

The Arab peoples' enemy — the rich capitalist ruling class in the U.S. that lives in luxury while workers and their families suffer and die — is our enemy. We must work together to defeat it.

This in turn will be a step toward a workers party, a workers revolution, and truly socialist societies, with no poverty or oppression of any kind.

No blood for oil!
Stop the bombing!
Bring the troops home now! ■

TRUTH

A bulletin published by the Trotskyist Committee of Detroit.

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit is named after Leon Trotsky, a leader of the first successful workers socialist revolution and a founder of the Fourth International, the world party of the socialist revolution. The Trotskyist Com-

mittee of Detroit is associated with one of the international tendencies of the Fourth International, the International League for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International.

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Down with the oil thieves' imperialist aggression!

Declaration of the International League (for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International)

To working men and working women of all countries:

The imperialist forces concentrated in the Persian Gulf have begun a devastating war. The words about "peace" and "law" covered the preparation. They did not stop the bloodshed; they only lulled to sleep and demobilized the people and hid the *goals* of the war.

This war has begun with the massive bombing of the population of Baghdad, to terrorize them and crush them, to remind the whole world that the only way this army of killers can win — killers hired by the multi-millionaires of the banks and industry — is by massacring the people.

It is a *war for oil*, a sordid exchange of human blood for oil. The workers must guide themselves by their interests as a class, by their objectives of socialism and of the liberation of oppressed peoples.

One side, the "Empire of the Dollar," with its associates and its lackeys, wants to *crush* the Arab peoples in order to control their oil, to financially control all the riches of the Middle East, to maintain puppet governments of "kings" and "emirs," like the ones in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, that swim in fortunes amassed with the misery of their people, and in order to militarily control this region in the world.

The other side, that of the Iraqis and the Palestinians, and which *other* peoples will join the longer the war lasts, struggles, lifting up the oppressed peoples against the imperialist domination of their riches, against Washington's lackeys, the feudal princes, for the national emancipation of the Arab peoples.

The bourgeois defend the imperialist side and their objectives in the war. The bourgeoisified leaders of the workers movement try to put an equal sign between the imperialist pirates and the Arabs exploited and oppressed by imperialist capital. We *Trotskyists*, as spokesmen of the revolutionary workers and of consistent communists, do not waiver:

SOLIDARITY WITH THE IRAQI AND PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR AL-LIES!

IMPERIALIST PIRATES OUT OF THE GULF!

DOWN WITH THEIR LACKEY GOVERNMENTS AND DOWN WITH THE IMPERIALIST MILITARY STATE OF ISRAEL!

For the workers and peasants of the Middle East the war is a war of *liberation*, a *popular* and *revolutionary* war, **THEIR WAR**.

For the workers of the imperialist countries, the war is a *crime* of their governments and therefore, the *enemy* is in their own country: it is the capitalists.

For both, for the "Western" worker and for the Arab people, the enemy is, definitively, the same: imperialist capital and its political servants.

Working men and working women of all countries:

While imperialism's military men launch thousands of missiles, thousands of tons of bombs on the Arab people, the priests, the journalists, the professors, and the *paid* politicians of this same imperialism, make sermons to us about "peace."

What peace are they talking about, ask the *Trotskyists*, the internationalist workers?

An *American* peace, the peace of the "Empire of the Dollar," achieved by crushing Iraq, that restores and reaffirms the throne of the "emirs," parasites commissioned by the multi-nationals, that maintains imperialist armed forces in the zone, that maintains the Palestinians under the racist military oppression of Israel, that maintains the oil and the riches under the control of the

magnates of foreign capital?

THIS "PEACE," WE DON'T WANT. It would not be peace, but another name for **SLAVERY**, and it would be a **TRUCE** until the next war.

Or is it a question of a *democratic* peace, based on the self-determination of the Arabs, the withdrawal of the imperialists, the overthrow of imperialism's *puppet* governments and the dismantling of the imperialist State of Israel?

THIS IS THE PEACE THAT WE WANT. It would improve the life of the peoples of the Middle East and facilitate here and throughout the world the struggle **FOR SOCIALISM**.

But this peace **PASSES THROUGH** the most exemplary defeat — more than in Vietnam — of Bush's killers, through the most unconditional withdrawal of his troops, through the failure and the downfall of the governments that have sustained this commerce in human flesh for oil, and it passes through the victory of Iraq, Palestine and its allies, which will be **MORE** every week.

For their own interests as a class, the responsibility of the workers, throughout the world, is to **STOP** the imperialist aggression, mobilize themselves in demonstrations and strikes, in a general strike, refuse to fight against the Iraqis and the Palestinians, and defend their cause.

The rulers of the imperialist countries promote racism to stop the immigrant workers — torn from their land by the misery that imperialist domination engenders in the weak countries — from *uniting themselves with the struggle of their Iraqi and Palestinian brothers* against the "Empire of the Dollar." The workers with class consciousness will rise up against the racism and the persecution of the immigrants.

Working men and working women of all countries:

The war has revealed a profound crisis in the world workers' movement, a crisis that explains all the divisions among the workers, before the bosses, as well as before the governments and politicians of capitalism.

Some organizations that are influential among the workers have placed themselves on the side of the imperialist bandits, they help them in their war and they share their goals of robbery and domination. Like the parties of the badly-named "Socialist International," which, meeting in the Hotel Waldorf New York, adhered to Bush's side.

They are neither workers nor socialists: they are **SOCIAL-IMPERIALISTS**, that try to attract a part of the working class to the side of the multi-millionaire bandits in exchange for crumbs from booty from pillage, usury, and the enslavement of the weakest peoples.

But, in another way, the social-imperialists are also the Kremlin leaders, the Stalinist bureaucrats, that support the Washington government. They try to attract the parties that are

badly-named "communist," and they reserve for themselves a part of the war booty, violating the national sovereignty of the Baltic, Caucasian, and non-Russian republics within the USSR.

The socialists are a *bourgeois* party of the working class. The Kremlin bureaucrats are a *bourgeois* cancer within socialism; they work for the restoration of capitalist property in the USSR. Both, with their partisans, make up the **SOCIAL-IMPERIALIST** group that actively helps the workers' enemies.

DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM AND SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM! FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONAL!

Working men and working women of all countries:

THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL) is a tendency of Trotskyism. It affirms that, among those that call themselves Trotskyists, divided into different tendencies, this world crisis has revealed **THE SAME** divisions as in the working class. A petty bourgeois tendency, associated internationally to the United Secretariat, makes concessions to imperialist interests in the Middle East; but **THE LARGE MAJORITY** of the Trotskyist organizations have been, in all countries, in the first ranks of the **MOBILIZATION** against the intervention of the oil pirates in the Persian Gulf.

This fact demonstrates, in our way of seeing, the considerable progress for the workers movement that will be signified in the break of the consistent **MARXIST** sector of Trotskyism, with the petty bourgeois sector of Trotskyism, and the unity of the first, of the Marxists, for **THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL**.

The world will not go back to being the same after the war unleashed in Iraq. It is a manifestation of the **PRE-REVOLUTIONARY WORLD CRISIS**. The year 1989, the dictatorships of the Stalinist bureaucracy shook. The year 1990, the domination of the whole planet by six or seven powers in the service of a handful of gigantic capitalist enterprises and of the financial aristocracy that owns them.

The working class must not look toward the past — toward these decades of "American peace" under which millions of human beings have suffered in hunger, misery, wars, repression — but toward the future. It must not look toward the past, toward the Stalinism that has degraded the conquests of the construction of socialism and that has corrupted the communist movement. It must look forward.

TOWARD THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION!

The crisis and the war convulse the order of the exploiters. Its barbarism awakens and arms the oppressed. The monstrous domination of capital has brought together, organized the centralized work of millions of human beings of all races and nations that, today, overthrowing the political power of the capitalist exploiters, will be able to use the tremendous technology that the bourgeoisie employs for robbery, destruction, and oppression, for the enrichment, the culture, and the freedom of the working masses. **AND ONLY IN THIS WAY WILL IT BE POSSIBLE!**

DOWN WITH THE IMPERIALIST BOURGEOISIE AND ITS SOCIAL-IMPERIALIST LACKEYS!

WORKERS, JOIN THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FOR THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION!

International Executive Committee

The International League

for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International

January 19, 1991 ■