

AGAINST LIBERALISM—FOR COMMUNISM

A Message to All Activists in the Struggle for Peace

November 1, 2001 by Floyce White

Petroleum. Natural gas. Opium. Refugee labor. These are the commodities on the new Silk Road of Asia. Treasures reaped by the merchants, who fight each other for control of trade. Treasures unseen by the millions of dead in the off-and-on oil wars. The prolonged war in South America differs only in substitution of cocaine and coffee for opium poppies. The rich disco in Cairo and Miami. The poor kill each other for soldiers' pay. Such is life under imperialism.

When the Soviet Union lost the Cold War and its government collapsed, the Russian capitalists lost most of their empire. Chinese capitalists returned to being colonial compradores to again-victorious America. The "Opening of Vietnam" and the attempt at a New Bases Treaty for the Philippines were immediate consequences of the Sino-Soviet surrender. The advance of US capital into the fringes of the old Soviet empire could be seen by satellite photography as trails of smoke and dead bodies from its participation in wars around the Persian Gulf and Mediterranean. A new version of "Manifest Destiny" was unwrapped as the Free Trade Area of the Americas. Western European capital hurried to duplicate this in its European Union. Japan became increasingly isolated and crisis-ridden as it and the "Four Tigers" were no longer special investment opportunities. Sheer butchery in Rwanda, the Congo, West Africa, Angola, and the Horn of Africa reflected the changes in imperial strengths. The hundreds of millions of war-related and economic refugees throughout Eurasia, Africa, and the Americas testified that human suffering is the greatest product of any empire.

It took only ten years for the American New World Order to draw attacks on its homeland. The threat from the skies is every bit as terrorizing now as it once was from Soviet and Chinese nuclear missiles. The extinction of all humanity from plagues of biological warfare is every bit as possible as our eventual extinction from radiation-caused genetic mutations.

American capitalists tell us that the enemy is foreign capital, foreigners, and anyone who seems to not be their supporters. Their advice is to support the US military as it drops bombs and shoots radioactive shells at foreign targets. Their advice is to support the US police forces as they spy on and shoot people who seem to match stereotypes/profiles of the "criminal types" who are poor, have dark skin, or speak a foreign language. American capitalists are forever telling us to shut up, do as we're told, and get back to work. Foreign capitalists tell us that they love Americans—until death rains from the skies.

The ongoing tradition of the peace movement is to repeat the lie that capitalists are our friends. Part of the peace movement postures as the anti-communist, loyal-opposition pacifists who say that business is good and should not be disrupted by war. Part of the peace movement postures as "anti-imperialist" and spreads the lie that petty-capitalist rule labeled as "socialism" in the USSR, China, Vietnam, or Cuba represents the unity of working-class people. They spread the lie that

petty capitalists in Central America or Palestine are allies in a common struggle against big US corporations. The current “anti-globalization” movement is even more blatant: it falsely equates worldwide opposition to big capital with support for locally-based small capital. The approach of these peace movements is to increase the political power of small capitalists—that is why communists refer to them as *petty-bourgeois movements*.

Many working-class people participate in various petty-bourgeois movements. We discover political people who mouth “anti-capitalism” but never advocate direct workers’ takeover of the workplace, direct tenants’ takeover of rental and mortgage housing, direct homeless takeover of empty buildings or land, direct neighborhood takeover of stores, or any action that can immediately end property relations. We feel a burning hatred of the rich, but the rich brats who go slumming in leftist movements tell us there is no anti-property solution. Their revolution is the despicable revolving door, where our struggle is used to help small capitalists replace big capitalists as the ruling exploiters. Forgotten is the principle of worldwide workers’ solidarity against all capitalists. Forgotten is the method of listening most to the ordinary nobody. Instead, insults are used to divide working-class people—such as the idea that homeless, sick, and hungry poor whites somehow benefit from racism and imperialism. As obviously fascist as is the movement for “white power,” many radical-liberal and socialist organizations endorse and promote “black power” and other segregation movements. Day-to-day activism confirms the simple fact that broadly-inclusive organizations are controlled by their purse strings. Multi-class committees mean money-dominated politics.

The concept of *niche oppression* lingers as a stench of death over the liberal-oriented socialist movement. All of the devices that capitalists use to divide workers are resurrected as sacred cows: nationality, religion, sexual revolution, supposed “race” or “ethnicity,” and so on. In this way, the landlord always claims to be more oppressed than his tenants, since he points out plenty of ways that the culture and organization of bigger capitalists restrict his ability to do whatever he pleases. The small employer who practices vegetarianism is supposedly “progressive” while his junk-food-eating employees are “backwards.” Liberal ideas are reflected in all the current socialist theories, such as the jargon of “triple-layered oppression” or the line that “workers can’t win by themselves.” The purely-commercial leftism displayed on the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica or on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley is the suicidal end point of liberalism in the workers’ movement. We must totally break from liberalism and differentiate ourselves from liberals. We must unite against the rich—and especially against liberal, pro-capitalist ideology within the movements for social change. Our slogans must be:

SHARE NOT TRADE
ABOLISH EMPLOYMENT—END WAGE SLAVERY
NO RENT—NO MORTGAGE—NO HOMELESSNESS
COMMUNISM IN OUR LIFETIME

This article is the second in a series, available at <http://www.geocities.com/antiproperty>