

# American Populism: FASCISM IN DISGUISE

Nixon's State of the Union Message marked a new level in the move of the U.S. ruling class toward fascism. Finding that the U.S. working class did not like the tough law and order talk dished out by the candidates in the last elections, the Rockefellers, Morgans, Duponts and their political hired hands are trying a different approach. Suddenly we find the big imperialist mouthpiece Nixon, joining the other ruling class puppets, like Wallace and Jimmy Carter in the South, in bowing down to the "common man" and the "little people". Nixon even raved about "returning power to the people" and the need for a "new American revolution".

Why have the imperialists changed their tone? How can it be that the self-proclaimed hangmen of popular revolution around the world, who have murdered millions of poor and oppressed people for profit suddenly talk about "fighting big business and big government" and giving power to the "blue collar" workers? The answer lies in the deep crisis that the imperialists are in the middle of. In Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, the imperialists are suffering defeat after defeat. But they cannot afford to lose control of their colonies, so they must expand their counter-revolutionary wars against the peoples of the world. It is the U.S. workers who must pay for this expansion.

But here in the U.S., workers are not going along with this. To the working class the imperialists' wild scheme to enslave the people of the world means welfare cuts, bad contracts, mass layoffs, and open police attack on the most exploited and oppressed workers. The masses of workers are fed up with this system that makes things worse instead of better; that takes their sons away to die fighting the imperialist wars. They want something better.

The imperialists know that they must control their own working class if they are going to continue to enslave other nations. With this in mind they are "courting" workers with "revolutionary slogans" and promise of "drastic change". But their phoney populist talk is only the front man for the real change; the change from a system that still allows a few "freedoms" to the system of fascism.

As George Dimitroff, the great Bulgarian Communist said, "Fascism in power is the open terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinistic and most imperialist elements of finance capital."



This is what Nixon means by "New American Revolution."

That means that for most of us fascism is the smashing of all our civil rights, poverty wages and the right of the fascist U.S. rulers to murder and plunder at will. It means the trade unions become the open arm of the U.S. rulers, within the working class. The trade union leaders are working hard to create these fascist labor fronts of highly bribed workers right now, by actively fighting against rank and file participation in union leadership, and by sabotaging the drive to organize the masses of unorganized workers, as in the case with the Teamster Union attack on the United Farm Workers' drive to organize lettuce pickers. Tied in with the fascist's strategy of dividing the working class is the chauvinistic attacks on national minorities and workers of other nations.

## Phoney Populism Nothing New

Mussolini and Hitler came to power talking "socialism" and "anti-capitalism" to the Italian and German people. At the same time, they carried out a policy of murdering and terrorizing the working people of their own and other countries, a policy of fascism. They claimed to be for the "little man", but in fact, Hitler and Mussolini simply carried out the fascist rule of the German and Italian imperialist rulers. Many workers in those countries supported Hitler and Mussolini because they too lived better by robbing the wealth of other nations. The imperialists in those countries knew that only by bribing a section of the

working class could they carry out their open terroristic expansion. But the fascist armies were crushed and their cities blown to bits and the German and Italian workers learned the reality that fascism is the deathbed struggle of desperate capitalists and can only lead to the destruction of the working class.

We must learn from the fate of the German and Italian workers. It is the duty of communists and all who love the working class to point out the real meaning of this "revolutionary" talk of the Nixons and the Wallaces. We must see that supporting a policy of enslaving other nations will surely lead to our downfall and destruction. Behind Nixon's right to work jive is the crushing of organized labor, and leaving select groups of fascist gangs to carry out their bidding. Behind the "power to the people" talk is the open fascist rule of the Negro and Puerto Rican nations and open attacks on the national minority workers who are fighting for their rights. Welfare will become a reward for carrying out the capitalists' orders. These "masters" are talking peace, while making war. They try to twist patriotism, love for one's country, into chauvinism, hatred for other countries. A recent example of this was the prisoner of war farce that the imperialists invented to whip up hatred for the Vietnamese and prepare for the invasion of the North. They talk freedom while they push this chauvinism into hatred for the Negro nation and all blacks. They shout about "power to the people"

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ple" while they push male supremacy to divide our class. Wallace claims he wants everyone to have guns, but does he want to face armed Negroes? Of course not.

The imperialists and their puppets are trying to convince the working class that they have a new system, neither capitalist nor communist. But behind their smooth slogans is the ugly face of rising fascism, the real system of the capitalists.

We must smash their phoney slogans and expose what is behind all their jive; the rich

capitalists desperately trying to confuse and mislead the rising revolutionary struggle of the working class. We cannot stop rising fascism by raising our own slogans of "fighting the fat bosses", "leading the poor against the rich" and other vague talk about revolution. We must call things as they are: It's not a fight between the rich and poor, but a class struggle between the working class and the capitalist class. The capitalists and their puppets talk populism only to cover up the growth of fascism in the U.S.

We must learn from history. Fascism was smashed

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only in those countries where the working and oppressed people were led by a class conscious organization of working class fighters; a communist party. We must build a communist party to bring class consciousness to the working class! Led by a communist party we can unite our class to smash the bloody rule of the capitalist imperialist class once and for all. Led by a communist party we will insure real democracy for the working class, by establishing a dictatorship of the proletariat that will never allow the rotten capitalists to enslave the working class again!