

The fact that we have come here together signifies the beginning of a real attack on fascist culture. We are not sitting alone somewhere contemplating the cosmos. There is no "individual salvation". In the face of organized fascist oppression --OUR MAIN WEAPON IS UNITY.

Today we are uniting on the basis of exposing and repudiating fascist culture. This is a tremendous basis of unity. Fascist culture would have us asking "what can you do for me?" or, "how can I be amused a little longer?" We have no use for questions like this. We want to ORGANIZE TO CHANGE THE WORLD, not to discuss it endlessly or dissect it. Revolutionary students and intellectuals have a great role to play in the American people's struggle against fascism. The American Communist Workers Movement (Marxist-Leninist) has called upon us to take up the struggle in the cultural and ideological sphere. This is our own struggle. Friends and supporters of the Rhode Island Student Movement from all over Rhode Island have come together in the course of a common struggle to sum up experience, clarify lines, and learn from each other's experience in exposing and repudiating fascist culture and in building mass-democratic, anti-fascist organization-- the complete anti-thesis of what fascism offers us.

This forum is being held at a great time in history. The economy of US imperialism is approaching total breakdown due to the development of its internal contradictions. Competition between the US and advanced capitalist countries is growing more and more intense. Anti-imperialist revolution is developing and winning ever-increasing victories in the face of imperialist oppression and exploitation.

The American people are seeing the true nature of their oppressors as the US government falls more and more heavily on the force of arms to maintain its tottering rule. Greater oppression will only hasten the development of the revolutionary political consciousness among our people. The American Communist Workers Movement (Marxist-Leninist) has taken up the task of building a revolutionary party based upon Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in order to lead the American people in their struggle against fascism and for socialism. Chairman Mao teaches that "A single spark can start a prairie fire". Our prairie fire will be the mass-democratic, anti-fascist revolution of the American working class and people. The spark that we are creating is the spark of mass democracy. With deep ties among the people and the weapon of mass democracy, our oppressors will only become more isolated and frantic until the American people rise up and sweep them away in a revolutionary storm.

end item

126. ADDRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN COMMUNIST WORKERS' MOVEMENT (M-L) AT R.I. STUDENT MOVEMENT FORUM TO COMBAT CULTURAL FASCISM

Providence, August 20, 1972, (NAMN)--The following is the full text of the statement given by a representative of ACWM(ML) at the R.I. Student Movement forum to

Combat Cultural Fascism, as reprinted in R.I. Student, Vol. III, No. 8. A representative of the American Communist Workers Movement (Marxist-Leninist) addressed the progressive students, workers, and professionals gathered for the evening session of the Forum.

He began by speaking on three points that were repeated often throughout the day's discussion group presentations, emphasizing their political significance in light of our task today of arousing the masses against American fascism and through this, building the revolutionary Party of the working class and people, based on Mao Tsetung Thought, to lead the anti-fascist struggle.

The three points were: 1) the question of participation and unity, 2) the relationship between objective and subjective, and 3) how a small and weak force can grow to defeat a large but decaying force.

Concerning the first point, the speaker stated that conscious participation in finding out about things goes against everything the bourgeoisie teaches us. Through conscious participation alone, can we come to know the nature of things. He pointed out that we'd actually know very little today about revolution, communism, or the People's Republic of China if we hadn't participated consciously in the act of finding out about these things. He went on to say that conscious participation in struggle on a principled basis of unity with others is the key to opposing and thwarting social fascism (socialism in words, fascism in deeds) within our organization as well as fascism in general.

Concerning the second point, the speaker noted that fascist logic tells us that our general experience cannot be systematized and analysed in order to be used to further understand the world and change it. Fascist logic says that experience is merely disunited fragments of what goes on in the lives of millions of people, that understanding it is a matter of personal taste or definition and that experience cannot be summed up objectively. He went on to explain that fascist logic is incorrect because it fails to see the subjective aspect of our experience in relation to the objective situation. Our subjective experience is living, growing, struggling and building organization must be aligned to objective developments in the world. We must see our own experience in light of the fact that REVOLUTION IS THE MAIN TREND IN THE WORLD TODAY, and we must act in accordance with the general world revolutionary developments and needs, if we are to be victorious in defeating American fascism.

The ACWM comrade dwelled on the third point for some time, stressing that to correctly assess our weaknesses and strengths, we must fully grasp the truth that a small and weak, but correctly oriented force, can grow to defeat a large but dying force. He said that although we are small in number, we represent what is new and growing as opposed to what is

old, decaying and dying. And although our size is presently small, we are by no means alone, nor impotent. There are other such groups across America, directly under the leadership of ACWM (M-L) or inspired by the work of ACWM (M-L) that are grasping the need to arouse the masses of Americans against the growing fascism of American rulers, and who are actively working to build a Party that will lead us in our struggles. (News and reports of these groups can be read in NORTH AMERICA NEWS). All organizations from basic discussion groups formed to solve actual problems among people, to wider scale political organizations like RISM and activities like discussions, forums and campaigns, work to create an atmosphere in which ideas contend, contradict, get resolved and spread among the people, becoming a material force in changing the world.

An analogy was then developed between the ancient dinosaurs who ruled the pre-mammal earth, feeding off nature and producing very little and today's US imperialists who feed off the labors of the world's working and oppressed people, produce nothing themselves except slave laws, slave culture, and slave economy. As the conditions on the earth's surface changed making it difficult for the dinosaurs to live with the activity of small mammals, destroying the reptiles' ability to reproduce, so with ourselves today. We are small but active revolutionary forces destroying the imperialists ability to spread fascist and slave ideas. And as the conditions in the world change, becoming excellent for revolution and hopeless for reaction, our activity will develop to the extinction of bourgeois rule and the establishment of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat in America.

Rhode Island Student Movement's campaign to "COMBAT CULTURAL FASCISM" must be seen, he said, in light of the larger War of Annihilation On the Cultural Front. In military terms, we are involved not in a war of attrition where the two sides are equally matched and battle it out till the complete defeat of one and the complete victory of the other, but in a war in which we start out small, win where we can and learn from our failures, annihilating the enemy in a protracted way.

* Finally, the comrade dealt with the importance of recognizing the existence of fascism in the US today, that fascism is not merely something going on during the thirties and forties, but that American fascism has developed and now enslaves us. In the final analysis, it is only through developing struggle to defeat fascism, under the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party, can we be free. Communism is the direct opposite of fascism, and it's in building one that the other is destroyed. In this regard, the speaker warned that the revisionists will try to negate the force of MAO TSETUNG THOUGHT and confuse the people of the nature of fascism in order to salvage imperialism. He read this quotation from the Red Book of Chairman Mao:

"Whoever wants to know a thing has no way of doing so except by coming in contact with it, that is, by living (practicing)

in its environment...If you want knowledge, you must take part in the changing of reality. If you want to know the taste of a pear, you must change the pear by eating it yourself...If you want to know the theory and methods of revolution, you must take part in revolution. All genuine knowledge originates in direct experience."

The talk was ended on the note that everything comes down to practice in building organization and in arousing the masses. We will come to know more about revolution only by increasing our participation in revolutionary struggles.

"Our task today is to continue to develop the work of arousing the masses and to take very seriously the sacred internationalist duty we have to BUILD THE PARTY based on MAO TSETUNG THOUGHT. Comrades and friends, our march will be a long one. Let us begin the long march to destroy the fascist enemy in the United States:

ORGANIZE TO CHANGE THE WORLD!
AROUSE THE MASSES! BUILD THE PARTY!
DEATH TO FASCISM!
LONG LIVE THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST WORKERS MOVEMENT (ML)!
LONG LIVE CHAIRMAN MAO!
A LONG LIFE TO CHAIRMAN MAO!

end item

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