

Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)

'Marxist-Leninist Weekly' Feb 3rd 1988

 *Workers of all Countries, Unite!* 
MARXIST-LENINIST WEEKLY
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PROTEST AGAINST BRITAIN'S CRIMES AGAINST IRISH PEOPLE!

At the time of the year when Irish people by annual tradition commemorate Derry's Bloody Sunday of January 30th, 1972, we have been forcibly reminded by current events:

that the depredations which the British government (all British imperialist governments, regardless of party) have carried out and still undertake in the name of 'law and order' and 'keeping the peace' in Ireland have no basis or sanction in any true legality. In fact their every move involves them in committing the most vicious crimes themselves against the Irish people.

Just last week the British government decided to suppress the Stalker/Sampson Report into the calculated assassination of 6 patriots in South Armagh in 1982, announcing that no further prosecutions against the R.U.C. assassins would be initiated; whilst on Thursday the heartless British judiciary rejected the appeal of the Birmingham Six for a re-trial.

WHAT DO THESE EVENTS SHOW?

They demonstrate once again, just as did the Derry massacre in 1972, that the British imperialists are nothing but the most implacable enemy of the Irish nation and her rights. They have no interest in real justice, because by violating the national rights and integrity of Ireland and the Irish people they have themselves violated the basis for legality, justice and law and order in Ireland - the Irish people's inalienable rights, just as any sovereign nation - to national ind-

pendence, and, in our case, this means reunification as well.

The British imperialists are prepared to stop at nothing in their abiding imperialist strategy to keep us Irish people in subjection through colonial annexation of the north and partition of Ireland and 'divide and rule' over the Irish people; and this includes their many centuries of cynical pretence in basing this on 'legal' grounds, right from the time that England's king, Henry II, first came up with the 'legal' justification for his illegal

conquest, a parchment from his political ally, the Pope of Rome, making him sovereign of Ireland.

'BRITISH JUSTICE' AS IT AFFECTS IRISH PEOPLE

Insofar as questions of 'justice' interest the British imperialists and their political parties, it is merely to use courts of law, judicial enquiries, tribunals etc. as a means to cover up their own crimes against the Irish people, whilst concocting 'legal' justification for continuing and intensifying their criminal activity against Ireland and the Irish people. Their courts of law and tribunals, in fact, are the arena where they actually carry out more such crimes.

For instance, their refusal to grant a re-trial of the Birmingham Six simply compounds the original crime and injustice of their arrest, torture and lynch-trial in the first place; it adds insult to further injury for these six innocent Irishmen (and their families), having already suffered now 14 years of wrongful imprisonment.

It was the same with the notorious Widgery Tribunal which pretended to 'enquire' into Derry's Bloody Sunday massacre, where the British legal process constituted in reality - one should say - a means by which the British imperialists could assassinate the many innocent demonstrators of January 30th, 1972, all over again, by exonerating the British Army of any real blame and protecting them from prosecution.

Now after the years of enquiries (and scandals) into the November/December events of 1982 in South Armagh - the death of 6 patriots at the hands of what was clearly a specially S.A.S.-trained R.U.C. assassination unit - those Irish people have been murdered all over again, and not only this: it means that the British government has given the green light to their colonial army and paramilitary forces in the north of Ireland to further develop the shoot-to-kill policy, as has been shown by the welcome the British decision received

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DEMONSTRATION

Rejection of Birmingham Six
appeal--- Exoneration of
Shoot-to-kill policy

**PROTEST
AGAINST
BRITAIN'S CRIMES
AGAINST IRISH
PEOPLE!**

RALLY AT THE G.P.O.
DUBLIN

Saturday February 6th
2.30pm sharp

followed by march to the
British Embassy

Organised by Spirit of Freedom
Committee

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from Paisley and the other unionist fascist leaders.

In other words, a 'legal enquiry', which was set up to examine what even the British at the time had to admit was a crime on the part of their forces, has been used as a means for their exoneration in the original case, so as to repeat and step up such crimes in the future!

What these facts show once again is that, as far as the British imperialists are concerned, the law is just as their notorious counter-insurgency expert, General Sir Frank Kitson, described it: simply another means 'to remove unwanted members of the public', which should be tied in as closely as possible (but discreetly) with the imperialist military tactics.

20 YEARS SINCE 1968 CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

What these facts show is that, in the Twentieth Anniversary Year of the 1968 Civil Rights Movement, the Irish nation now has no more real civil rights than they did twenty years ago, and that, whilst British rule lasts in any part of Ireland, Irish people will continue to be denied their democratic rights; and law and order will continue to be simply the cover for British imperialism to continue their crimes against Irish people, in Ireland and against emigrant Irish in Britain.

The facts must lead all Irish people to the conclusion that we must step up the struggle to rid Ireland of British colonial occupation, partition and interference altogether if we Irish are to have our rights and true law and order in our own land.

IS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE 'REPUBLIC' DEFENDING IRISH PEOPLE?

Despite the clear lessons of the last 20 years (let alone the last 800!) those, who claim they are 'leaders of the nationalist community', continue to bleat about keeping up the pressure on the British government to redress these grievances through democratic means, which they claim, 'excludes street politics' and certainly excludes armed struggle to vindicate our nation's inalienable rights.

What can the purpose of such a policy be, but to promote illusions that the British imperialists themselves will agree to reform their own system and change their own aggressive nature in order to accommodate the rights of the Irish people?

One might as well plead with a leopard to change its spots and stop killing gazelles.

Why is it that the only thing that concerns these Dail parties and other constitutional 'nationalists', like John Hume and the SDLP, is that the current flagrant crimes of the British government against Irish people (being carried out in the name of 'judicial procedure') are 'liable to undermine the confidence of nationalists in Ireland and in the security forces in Northern Ireland and in the Anglo-Irish Agreement'?

They put such issues of 'public confidence of Irish nationalists in British justice' as higher considerations than the real questions: that the British government should bring the R.U.C. colonial assassins to justice and immediately free the innocent Birmingham Six. But even when do they talk of these objectives, it is only 'in order to restore public confidence in the Anglo-Irish Agreement and the security forces in Northern Ireland'.

In a word, the sole concern of these 'constitutional nationalists' is giving their 'criticisms' and good advice to the British imperialists on how they should act with 'more legality' - in addition to bolstering their claim to being 'the natural leaders of the nationalist community' and thus keeping up British imperialism's sectarian divide and rule definitions under the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which split the one Irish nation artificially into 'two communities' - is to restore confidence in the deception that the British imperialists are really interested in justice and legality as moral objectives in themselves, instead of 'British justice' being what it really is to them, simply one more weapon of national subjugation of the Irish.

BRITAIN'S 'REWARD' TO IRELAND FOR EXTRADITION

Issues which Free State politicians proclaimed would stand an improved chance of being resolved satisfactorily with the dawning of allegedly 'better relations with the British government under the Anglo-Irish Agreement' were the case of the unjust imprisonment of the Birmingham Six and abuses by British security forces in the north.

Well, the British government got what it wanted out of the Anglo-Irish Agreement - extradition of Ireland's patriotic fighters from the 'Republic of Ireland'. This is extradition on terms which no really sovereign state could tolerate in its international relations - i.e. extradition on the mere say-so of the

foreign government. And now the British government has rewarded the subservience of the national traitor Free State Staters with the customary regal boot - the suppression of the Stalker/Sampson Report and the rejection of the appeal of the Birmingham Six!

THE IRISH MONOPOLY BOURGEOISIE - ONE SINGLE CLASS OF NATIONAL TRAITORS, BOTH UNIONISTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL NATIONALISTS

The fact that the 'constitutional nationalists', the Free State Staters, are only indignant about British government mistakes' out of concern to help refurbish illusions in 'British justice' only goes to show once again that these constitutional nationalists' always want to help the British imperialists stay in Ireland, just as do their monopoly capitalist class brothers (and rivals) of unionist colonial fascism, because to refurbish illusions amongst the Irish people about 'British justice' is to strengthen one of the main British imperialist weapons of political deception with which they complement their means of military subjugation in Ireland.

In fact, the 'constitutional nationalists' seek to prevent the exposure of the real question of criminality, the very fact of British occupation in Ireland, because - along with the unionist section of the monopoly bourgeoisie in Ireland - keeping British imperialism in Ireland is their best means to serve their own class interest also. Continued British occupation and partition of Ireland is the best means to preserve the capitalist system in the country for the benefit of the Irish monopoly bourgeoisie, i.e. by cynically manipulating the national question in order to divide the Irish people. It enables the Irish bourgeoisie as well as the foreign imperialists to benefit from dividing the working class and keeping them under their class exploitation. Thus the constitutional 'nationalists' are only interested in a cynical way about keeping some reputation as nationalists by 'criticising the British' - i.e. to help the British keep the Irish people divided as 'two communities', instead of sincerely appealing to all Irish people, regardless of background, to unite in the common struggle against the common enemy and exploiter of all Irish people, regardless of background - the struggle for Ireland's liberation from British imperialism, the struggle which, ever since the United Irishmen, has been the infallible means to unite the Irish nation.

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CONDEMN THE CRIMES OF ISRAELI ZIONISM AND SUPPORT THE HEROIC PALESTINIAN PEOPLE!

After decades of the most unspeakable barbarities already, the martyred Palestinian people are facing still further suffering at the hands of the Israeli Zionists these days.

When a renewed democratic upsurge erupted last December 9th, in protest against the squalid shanty-town conditions and fascist military regime in the West Bank and the Gaza strip - areas which were occupied as a result of Israeli aggression in the 1967 War - the Israeli authorities replied immediately to these demonstrations of school and student youth with naked military force.

Some 41 Palestinian people, including many teenage youth, have been killed, many of them shot down in the first instance when they came out simply with their banners and placards, and then as they heroically resisted the onslaught of the genocidal Israeli occupiers with their bare hands, with stones and petrol bombs.

RUTHLESS REPRESSION AND ILLEGAL MEASURES OF ISRAELIS

The indignation of right thinking people all over the world has been aroused once again, as we nightly witness on the television the killing and wounding of men, women and children.

The Israeli Zionist authorities have attempted to use the weapon of curfews,

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WE, ORDINARY IRISH PEOPLE, MUST CAST ASIDE ALL ILLUSIONS AND ORGANISE OURSELVES TO WAGE THE STRUGGLE OURSELVES

The lesson is that those who claim to be 'the natural leaders of the Irish nation' are themselves hand in glove with British imperialism, in particular in helping maintain the deception of the possibility of 'British justice' benefitting Irish people, in particular under the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Let us have our own IRISH JUSTICE, and throw away these illusions of 'British justice for the Irish!'

Let us deal out justice to those who have committed the crimes in Ireland and

siege and starvation to try and break the resolve of this valiant people in the refugee camps. Then they have attempted to deprive the Palestinian people of their leaders by forcibly expelling selected people from their homes into other countries - an act which is entirely in violation of international law, including even in the case of people in occupied territories.

Now the Israeli Zionist authorities have publicly and in the most brazen manner proclaimed a deliberate policy of random beatings to be dealt out by their troops as a 'substitute punitive measure in place of bringing rioters to court', which has put many innocent Palestinian people into hospital with severe lacerations, concussion and broken limbs, some in a critical condition, who have been attacked simply as they went about their business or have been dragged out of their houses.

PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE NOT COWED

Instead of cowering or subduing the people, this Hitlerite nazi-type of fascist terror of the Israeli Zionists has aroused the entire Palestinian population in defiance of the occupiers.

As well as the continuous street battles with the occupation army, a struggle engaged in by men, women, boys and girls alike, the Palestinian people are

against the Irish people!

The only way for our nation to achieve justice is this:

THE WHOLE IRISH NATION MUST RISE AND UNITE IN STRUGGLE TO THROW BRITISH IMPERIALISM OUT OF IRELAND ONCE AND FOR ALL!

We must smash the deceptions and subjugation of the fascist 'divide and rule' Anglo-Irish Agreement, that through such means, through the Inter-governmental Conference etc., Irish people can receive redress. We can only receive redress for Ireland if we Irish people are prepared to fight for it ourselves.

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replying to the terror with a widespread strike. This strike exposes amongst other things the reliance of the Zionist Israeli state on the labour of the Palestinian people from whom they make super-profits (more than \$250m from fruit exports alone). And yet these are the people whom the fascists will give no rights to even to call any area on earth their home.

In the past decades, since the second World War and especially in recent years in events such as the massacres at Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in the Lebanon, the reactionary rulers of Israel have stopped at nothing in their attempts to destroy the Palestinian people and forever still their just struggle for their homeland. But this policy is doomed to failure.

PALESTINIANS HAVE NEVER GIVEN UP STRUGGLE

Israeli policy is doomed to failure because, in the first place, the Palestinian people refuse to lie down and die. They have never given up their struggle, fighting with every means that any people can use to defend their rights.

Their heroic fighters have time and again reorganised and renewed the struggle whenever the Israeli Zionists have thought they have dealt them a decisive blow, such as by their forced expulsion from the Lebanon.

Above all the Palestinian people have refused to leave their own territory, even choosing to live in the ditches of what were once their own farms rather than be forced into exile. The Israeli Zionists these days are trying sully this heroism with the contemptuous assertion that 'they (i.e. the Palestinian people) would prefer to live in tents and refugee camps than settle the question by negotiations!'

Now the mass character of the Palestinian people's just struggle is confirmed once again by the present uprisings in the occupied territories. The present upsurge has struck fear into the Israeli Zionists and their U.S. imperialist backers, because it is more powerful and more united than for some time past, although the demonstrations, mass actions and patriotic armed struggle have never ceased in any case.

PALESTINIAN CAUSE IS JUST

The Palestinian people will be victorious also because their cause is profoundly just - a fact which has been recognised always by the world's peoples and increasingly by the governments of all nations gathered in the United

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Nations, irrespective of the social system they represent.

The United Nations has repeatedly condemned the Israeli government and just recently even the United States, the financier and main backer of Israeli Zionism, was forced to support the UN Security Council resolution condemning the shootings in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Of course, this vote of the United States is forced on them out of fear of total exposure in the eyes of world public opinion. Hypocrites that they are, in the same week that this U.N. vote was taking place, they carried through another loan of billions of dollars to the same Israeli state, most of it for military means which will again be deployed against the Palestinian people and the neighbouring Arab peoples.

DEMOCRATIC AWAKENING WITHIN ISRAEL ALSO

The Israeli Zionist rulers are facing a growing crisis, not just because of the growing revolt of the Palestinians, but also because the democratic movement inside Israel itself is awakening.

This trend, which achieved enormous dimensions in the protests at the occupation and crimes of Israeli Zionism in Lebanon after 1982, is becoming increasingly consistent, and now actions are being held within Israel and by democratic Israeli people as well as Palestinian people to demand an end to the genocide in the occupied territories.

WHO ARE THE RACISTS AND FASCISTS IN THIS INSTANCE?

It is well-known that the racist Israeli Zionist policy persecutes not only Palestinian people who have lived on these lands for countless centuries, but it also treats oriental Jews - including Palestinian Jews, those who were indigenous to Palestine before the foundation of the state of Israel in 1948, as well as those from the various other Middle East and North African countries - as second class citizens.

Yet when democratic people protest against Israeli Zionism, the Israeli Zionists try to counter this by condemning it as Hitlerite racism and 'anti-semitism'!

But the fundamentally racist basis of the Israeli state and the fascist nature of the ideology of Zionism is becoming more

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and more exposed itself and the Israeli Zionists are facing more and more opposition at home and abroad.

Thus the Palestinian people's struggle is also strengthened for this reason.

PALESTINIANS BASE STRUGGLE ON SELF-RELIANCE

Lastly, the Palestinian people will win victory because in the first place they rely on their own efforts to advance their struggle.

This is not to say that they do not encourage and welcome solidarity and assistance from democratic and anti-imperialist people and countries abroad. But it is the heroism of their own entire people and their patriotic fighters which has kept alive their cause for decades, and not simply the various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, and certainly not the stands and interventions of this or that super-power, whether posing as allies of the Palestinian people or as would-be Middle East 'peacemakers'.

THE TWO SUPERPOWERS - OVERT AND COVERT BACKERS OF ISRAELI ZIONISM

For example, U.S. imperialism which uses Israel like a highwayman's pistol to intimidate the Middle East countries and make them yield up their oil and other natural resources, has time and again tried to get the Palestinian people to give up their rights by allowing some neighbouring ruler, client governments of U.S. imperialism, to 'represent' them in negotiations with Israel - i.e. negotiations on a basis which could only lead to a complete sell-out of the rights of the Palestinian nation. At all times the Palestinian people have said that only they and their own organisation, the PLO, could represent them.

On the other hand Soviet social imperialism has also pretended to 'befriend' the Palestinian people. It has promised them arms and also to defend them if they

are attacked. But not only have the arms been few, of poor quality and obsolete, the Soviet social imperialists have tried to dictate when and how such weapons they have given shall be used, thus severely hampering the cause of the Palestinian people on the front of armed struggle. It has still less defended the Palestinian people when under genocidal attack, apart from making what is now a ritual of militant-sounding speeches at the U.N. and press statements from TASS.

The Soviet Union, which has no longer been socialist since the days of Khrushchev, has itself in various ways greatly assisted the Israeli Zionists also, since they became another imperialist super-power, despite their alleged 'anti-imperialist solidarity' with the Palestinian people and condemnation of Israeli Zionist aggression etc.

By their own policy of racist and anti-semitic persecution of the Jewish people in the Soviet Union they have engineered a large scale exodus of such people from the Soviet Union to Israel, thus bolstering the Israeli Zionist state with frightened people who are themselves afraid of genocide.

The Soviet Union for its part tries also to cultivate client states in the region, posing as their friend against expansionist Israeli Zionism, while all the time it uses the situation just like U.S. imperialism to make money as common hucksters selling vast arsenals of weapons into the region and buying oil on the cheap.

'Marxist-Leninist' Weekly hails the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people and condemns the Israeli Zionists' genocidal attacks on the people of the occupied territories. We are sure that the Palestinian people will be victorious because they know how to defend their rights and will not be diverted from carrying the struggle through to victory by any false friends, any more than they have withdrawn in the face of a vicious enemy.

MEETING

MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY -8PM
GRATTAN BAR (upstairs)
CAPEL STREET, DUBLIN (LIFFEY END)

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST TODAY

Organised by Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)