

*"The people," said a farmer's wife in a Minnesota country store  
while her husband was buying a new post hole digger,  
"The people," she went on, "will stick around a long time.  
"The people run the works, only they don't know it yet –  
you wait and see."*

*Carl Sandburg*

### *Chapter IX*

#### **Conclusion: For A New Kind Of Democracy, For Consistent Democracy**

The great 19th century poet Walt Whitman noted that democracy "still sleeps, quite unawakened. Its real history remains to be written, because that history has yet to be enacted." Many things have changed in America since Whitman wrote these words, but his verdict on democracy in America still rings true.

Today fascism threatens, through violence and terror, to put an end to the limited democracy which now exists. It threatens to unleash a new imperialist world war. The fascist menace represents barbarism at home and abroad. Every effort must be made to educate, organize and mobilize against the twin plagues of imperialist war and fascism. But this battle must not be waged to merely retain what was won yesterday. Certainly it is important to defend our existing democratic rights and living standards, but to put an end to fascist reaction, white supremacy and imperialist aggression, the chains of our slavery must be broken once and for all. They will not be broken by more dollar democracy. They will be broken through the fight for democracy of a radically new type, democracy for the majority. This democracy places real political power, and the ownership of the means of production, in the hands

of the working class. We cannot simply fight for democracy for the few, it must be democracy for the many.

Democracy for the majority means complete and consistent democracy, participation by the entire people in the politics of government and affairs of the state and in the solution to the most important problems of the society. This consistent democracy can only occur in the context of the social ownership of the means of production, and fundamentally different forms of government and state operation than exist now. Consistent democracy means genuine equality of races and nations, at home and abroad. Emphasis is not on the proclamation of equality, but on establishing the conditions for its actual existence. Consistent democracy means the abolition of the military apparatus of U.S. imperialism and all imperialist powers, and an end to U.S. aggression and intervention militarily, politically, economically and ideologically.

This is the kind of consistent democracy we must fight for. It is the absolute opposite of the proposition that "the business of government is business." The essence of democratic government is not business, but political power in the hands of the working class.

Our struggle is for complete, universal and unlimited democracy, in which there exists direct popular legislation by the working people. This can only occur on the basis of the social ownership of the means of production. This is the road to a new tomorrow. It is a socialist road.

There are those who will fight against fascism and imperialist war, but not for socialism. But the path of consistent democracy, of political power in the hands of the working class, leads inevitably to socialism.

Just as Galileo demonstrated that the earth moves, so does society move. The natural order of society is progress. Those that carry the fascist sword want to turn back progress, to unleash a reactionary reign against democracy and peace. Just as the world turns, so society advances. The fascists are against the natural order of the universe. They must be stopped, and they can be stopped.

To defeat the menace of fascism and war depends upon the consistent and militant action of the working people, united as the fingers of a hand into a single fist. To defeat the menace of fascism and war requires a bold, revolutionary political party of the working class to lead the struggle. To defeat the menace of fascism and war means we must win many of the middle class and farmers away from the influence of the fascists, and defeat the influence of the fascists within the ranks of the workers. To defeat the menace of fascism and war means we must be vigilant, and take action at the proper time. These have proven to be the correct road to fight the fascist menace before. They remain our guide today.

**Now is the time to take action. Now is the time for all those concerned with the danger of fascism at home and imperialist war abroad to unite in action against reaction, racism, fascism and war for progress, equality, democracy and peace. This is the road to break the chains of our slavery, the slavery of racism and the slavery of wages.**

In this struggle, the American people face an awesome responsibility and an historic opportunity. All that is possible must be done to stop the fascist menace in America from unleashing a new round of world barbarism. In this struggle, we remember the great traditions of struggle of the slaves, Sons of Liberty and the Abolitionists, the John Browns, Harriet Tubmans and countless others. We remember those that fought in Spain against Franco's fascism. We remember all those who have struggled and died in combat against U.S. imperialism, whether in our factories, farms or streets at home, whether in the rice paddies, jungles or mountains abroad. These we remember, although it is the future toward which we look.

Working people of America, men and women of the factories and fields, of all races and all nationalities, young and old, stand up! Stand up to fight against racism, repression and terror, against the fascist menace that is sweeping our country. Stand up to fight against the preparation for imperialist war and aggression.

**Unite to Fight Against  
Reaction, Racism, Fascism and War!**

**Unite to Fight For  
Progress, Equality, Democracy and Peace!**