

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS

BOX 12 OF 16

FOLDER 14

CC POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS

ASSUMPTIONS

- 1) THAT THE U.S..IS THE MOST POLITICALLY UNDER_DEVELOPED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD.
- 2) THAT INCREASING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE ALIENATED FROM "THE GREAT SOCIETY".
- 3) THAT THERE ARE CLASSES IN THIS SOCIETY. IT IS A BASIC FORM OF ORGANIZATION.
- 4) THAT RACISM CLOUDS CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS
- 5) THAT SEXISM EXISTS AND IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE SOCIO_POLITCAL ORGANIZATION OF THIS SOCIETY.

In order to best deal with the three questions before us, it would seem that we must define political organization and then deal with who it is we must organize and how it is that we can best maximize our organizing efforts. Within that framework, it seems to me that we will have covered all of the three questions with an initial degree of clarity.

WHAT IS POLITICAL ORGANIZATION?

To define political organization as we use it demands that we have defined the relationship between "social" and "political" forms and substances within the society. It also implies that we have a common position as to what is meant by the term "organization".

Most easily, we can say that organization is methods mutually agreed upon by individuals which facilitates the accomplishment of a goal; from the acquisition of material necessities to the organization of a state mechanism. Organization is a tool, a mechanism employed by human beings to maximize their capacity to exist without hassle. We ought to proceed from the analysis that if there is more than one human being on the planet organization is required. The substantive question, then, is one of what is the rationale and the form of that organization. In this country, we have created false dichotomies which are intrinsic to the organization of this society. We/ Things operate as if there were a distinction ~~which~~ that can credibly be made between social and political organization

①

I think that it is safe to say that the masses, all of us have been socialized to politics. That the politics to which we have been socialized is an extremely narrow, compartmentalized concept of "politics". That in fact, people view themselves as the receiver of politics ~~and~~ not as initiators. What we must be about is the politicizing to socialization. Simply, we must through political organization redefine individual and collective concepts, in ways that deal with feelings of alienation and its source, powerlessness. Possibly, powerlessness is the objective condition and alienation is the subjective response to the objective phenomena. We must find the myriad of ways which closely and intimately wed 'social' and 'political' views of ~~being~~ self and the society.

If we accept our goal as the acquisition of state power...then clearly we need to, through organization and its forms educate people as to the nature of 'the state', present apparatus and our concept. And fundamentally deal with the notion of power. We can never forget that in this country there is this myth about power which has folks mesmerized into thinking that there is, intrinsic in the vote, --power. We do not understand that

electoral politics is simply a tool that can be valuable and that it is impossible for that tool to be meaningful in a capitalistic society. POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IS A SOCIO/POLITICAL METHOD WHICH WE EMPLOY TO TAKE STATE POWER. We have to understand that we're not the first folks in history to use this method. That in fact it's a tried and true form., witness the madness around us. It is all political organization. The assumptions with which this gem began all speak to the kind of social/political organization that we have.

(2)

Coming down to earth, let us look concretely at political organization as it relates to the Motor City Labor League. We are an emerging form, early on in its development. We are ~~operating~~ operating in a society that effectively clouds class consciousness, through racism and male supremacy and a number of tertiary contradictions. Well, not totally effectively, but they've done a masterful job. Therefore part of our task is the re-education of ourselves and our people. Intellectually, emotionally and materially. It means that we must serve the needs of people that this society is wholly inadequate to deal with, by choice. It means that we must create the psychological and sociological forms which initially compensate for and ultimately will replace the present narrowly defined social order.

Many people who have begun to view themselves as political, tend to shun any discussion of service as a elementary ~~part~~^{part} of political organization. Now, that is understandable, since we have all been socialized to view service functions as intrinsically ^{ms} ~~part~~ moral. That service is somehow not a right but rather a privilege that is bestowed out of the abundance of some lord bountiful somewhere. This, I think is true, whether it is grudgingly given city services or the missionary activities of churches, foundations and ad infinitum. We do not relish the thought of being the recipient of service nor since we ^{are} becoming (discovering what's been true all along) political are we jumping out of our skins to hand it out, quote-unquote.

What we must come to understand is that all political organizing is service. That there is no separation between us and the people. That it is indeed from the masses to the masses. That on all levels all of us have needs which require service. That human beings are inter-dependent and that we must always ~~serve/all~~ attempt to meet the needs of folks. Some needs that people have are not conscious. For example, I maintain that people are far more radical than their verbalization, their voting record or their latin masses indicate. That it is possible by becoming part of a community to fulfill needs that ~~of~~ folks haven't articulated. Not the least of which is - the operational alienation that must exist within a capitalistic system. We cannot have contempt for the people. I will say that I'm no shining

example of this WHATSOEVER because I have a deep class bias toward that amorphous form know as the middle/upper-middle class in this society. I'm not wholly convinced that all of them aren;t working people. But if they are they certainly are the right wing (and fucked up at that) end of the working class. I am not totally clear, haven't done enough reading and haven't had enough discussion but I do know that there is a RULING CLASS and that they are the enemy. That one of our tasks is to identify more and more the boundaries of that class and who is in it and who maybe and for sure who isn't. IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE PURSUE AND COME UP WITH AN ANSWER_ A CONCRETE, MATERIAL ANSWER TO THE QUESTION ---WHO IS THE WHITE WORKING CLASS

(4)

RECAPITULATION

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IS THE SOCIO/POLITICAL METHOD WHICH WE EMPLOY
TO TAKE STATE POWER

IT MEANS:

1) That we develop and maintain the EDUCATIONAL MECHANISM which deal with the alienation, embryonic class consciousness, racism and sexism which is out here. That we understand that this mechanism does not separate us from folks but that we are all together and that we are all learning.

- public forums
- newspaper
- newsletter
- day to day conversation

2) THAT SERVICE is seen as a right of all people and that every action of a political being is in service of the people.

3) That we gather the resources necessary to meet the legitimate needs of people

4) That we understand that this is a tricky process because *the effects are not* necessarily seen every day of one's life and I'm here to say some people are A-1 assholes.

⑤

of the broad strata of the petty bourgeoisie and through immigration has placed the proletariat in an extremely favorable position. As in no other country in the world, the proletariat and ^{its} ~~the~~ class enemy stand face to face. The historic final conflict is at hand.

① Q of international class enemy.
② Is the p.b. + peasantry completely absorbed in USNA

Unhampered by the hangovers of feudalism, USNA capitalism, by the end of the 19th century had fully entered into its aggressive moribund, final stage--imperialism.

The USNA multi-national state is the international hangman of revolutions and the enemy of the peoples of the earth.

The trend toward shifting the economic base from mechanics to electronics has not only qualitatively increased a reserve army of unemployed, but also created a huge new army of the permanently unemployed, especially amongst the national minority workers. Every technical

Q of place of women entering the workforce at higher level than ever.

inadequate ? must talk about imperialism. Result is inevitability of war.

advance makes the position of the workers more untenable.

^{Three} Two inevitable policies of imperialism are bribery of the upper strata of the working class and terror against the more proletarian sections of the class. From the most oppressed and exploited workers there is developing a struggle against the capitalists and especially against the state. This struggle will continue to develop.

The struggle against the capitalist class is a struggle against all who live by the labor of others, and against all exploitation. It can only end in the passing of political power into the hands of the working class, the transferal of all the land, instruments, factories, machines and mines to the whole of society for the organization of social production, under which all that is produced by the workers and all improvements

purpose of the exploitation

Does this sufficiently attack the org'd t.u. bureaucracy?

The class struggle is developing most intensely among the most exploited and oppressed workers in this struggle ag. the cap. & the state esp. ag

A struggle is dev'g from the most oppressed & exploited workers ag. the cap. & esp. ag the state

P. Vol. 2, 15 Coll. Lenin's Works.

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in production must benefit the working people themselves.

The revolutionary working class movement is the gravedigger of USNA monopoly capitalism. It is part of the international movement of the world's working class for peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism.

The greatest danger facing the working class of this country is the danger of a fascist military dictatorship. Since 1932, the Executive branch of the government has accumulated emergency powers far greater than those granted Hitler or Mussolini.

The military has long ago clamped a stranglehold on the administrative bureaucracy. The military, loyal reactionary servants of imperialism, presents a grave danger to civil liberties and to the ~~labor movement.~~ *movement of laboring people.*

The struggle of the workers against the inroads of fascism accelerates the political development of the class and inevitably sharpens the antagonisms that can only end with the Dictatorship of the Proletariat--the only political form that guarantees the emancipation of all toiling masses.

[Fascism & the inevitability of imperialist war.]

The struggle of the working class of the USNA for its emancipation is a political struggle. Its aim is to defeat the fascist offensive and by doing so, pass over to the offensive of the working class, overthrowing the monopoly capitalist rule which is the seed bed of fascism. Only through the struggle for democratic rights can the proletariat establish its dictatorship.

The emancipation of the working class is the revolutionary act of self-emancipation.

Our Party declares that
its aim is to organize and
^{promote}
~~participate in~~ this struggle
of the working class of the
^{for its emancipation, to}
USNA, ^{the} develop class consciousness
of the workers, and ~~point out~~
and clarify the aims and objects
of the struggle.

Hence, our party will
support every national liberation
movement, every movement of ^{working ppl} ~~labor~~
and struggle of the people that
is directed against the fascist
offensive, for peace, for democracy,
for national liberation and
socialism.

Taking this program ~~as~~
our starting point, our Party
demands and ^{will} ~~sets out~~ to lead
the struggle for: (the
following demands are examples)
1. An end to compulsory overtime.
Strict enforcement of a 35
hour week.
2. An unemployment compensation

commensurate with the number
of dependents.

3. Prohibition of work by
children under 16.

4. Free universal medical
care.

The working class of the USNA
is locked in a life and death
struggle with the capitalist
class.

This struggle is evolving under
conditions where the workers have
no General Staff--no Marxist-Leninist
Communist Party to guide them. In
The struggle to form and develop
such a party the M-Ls are carrying
out their historic responsibilities.
Basing ourselves on the Communist
Manifesto and the Program of the
Communist International, the M-Ls
of the USNA set out to rally the
revolutionary working class around
the following program.

The working class of the USNA
constitutes the majority of the
population. The stranglehold of
the big financial capitalists
over the countryside has led
to a sharp decline in the family
farm. The growth of the working
class by absorbing the superfluous
farmers, through the destruction

gen'l destruction of



Breakdown of Proposed Program
following componet parts by VIL

1. A STATEMENT ON THE BASIC CHARACTER OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF (USNA)

1. The working class of the USNA constitutes the majority of the polulation.
2. The stranglehold of the big financial capatlists over the countryside has led to a ~~sharp decline~~ ^{general destruction} ~~of~~ in the family farm.
3. The growth of the working class by
 - a. absorbing the superfluous farmers,
 - b. through the destruction of the broad strata of the petty bourgouise
 - c. and through immigration(has placed the proletariat in an extremely favorable position.)
4. As in no other country in the world, the proletariat and the class enemy stand face to face.
5. The historic final conflict is at hand.
6. Unhampered by the hangovers of feudalism, USNA capatlism,
7. by the end of the 19th century had fully entered into its agressive final stage -- imperialism.
8. The USNA multi-national state
9. is the international hangman of revolutions and the enemy of the peoples of the earth.

the means of prod. is concentrated in the hands of a ^{small} minority of the population;

[Socialization ^{of labor} has unified the proletariat by absorbing the natl. min. & women into the work place.]

2. A STATEMENT ON THE INEVITABLE RESULT OF CAPATLISM; THE GROWTH OF POVERTY AND THE INCREASING INDIGNATION OF THE WORKERS

1. The trend toward shifting the economic base from mechanics to electronics has not only qualitatively increased a reserve army of the unemployed, but also created a huge new army of the permanently unemployed, especially amongst the national minority workers.

2. Every technical advance makes the position of the workers more untenable.

3. ^{Three} Two inevitable policies of imperialism are bribery of the upper strata of the working class, and terror against the more proletarian sections of the class.

4. From the most oppressed and exploited workers there is developing a struggle against the capatlists and especially against the state.

5. This struggle will continue to develop.

intended / was for purposes of exploitation

The class struggle is the main thing

3. A STATEMENT ON THE CLASS STRUGGLE OF THE PROLETARIATE AS THE BASIS OF OUR MOVEMENT

1. The struggle against the capatlist class is a struggle against all who live by the labor of others, and against all exploitation.

4. A STATEMENT ON THE FINAL AIMS OF THE S*D WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT ** ON ITS STREIVING TO WIN POLITICAL POWER FOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THESE AIMS ** AND ON THE INTERNATIOANL CHARACTER OF THE MOVEMENT

1. It can only end with the ~~passing~~ ^{striking} of political power into the ~~hands~~ ^{hands} of the working class,

2. the transferal of all the land, instruments, ^{factories} machines and mines

to the whole of society for the organization of social production, (2) socialist

3. under which all that is produced by the workers and all improvements in production must benefit the working people themselves.

- ge 3
4. The revolutionary working class movement is the gravedigger of USNA monopoly capitalism.
 5. It is part of the international movement of the world's working class for peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism. *proletarian revolution*

(6) A STATEMENT on the effect that the Russian absolutism which conditions the lack of rights and the oppression of the people and patronises the exploiters, is the CHIEF HINDRANCE TO THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT, and that the winning of political liberty, essential in the interests of the entire social development, is therefore, the most urgent task of the Party

1. The greatest danger facing the working class of this country is the danger of a fascist military dictatorship.
2. Since 1932, the Executive branch of the government has accumulated emergency powers far greater than those granted Hitler or Mussolini.
3. The military has long ago clamped a stranglehold on the administrative bureaucracy.
4. The military, loyal reactionary servants of imperialism, presents a grave danger to civil liberties and to the *(working class)* labor movement.
5. The struggle of the workers against the inroads of fascism accelerates the political development of the class
6. and inevitably sharpens the antagonisms
7. that can only end with the Dictatorship of the Proletariate--
8. the only political form that guarantees the emancipation of all toiling masses.

(5) A STATEMENT ON THE ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL ~~EXXRXETER~~ NATURE OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE

1. The struggle of the working class of the USNA for its emancipation is a political struggle.
2. Its aim is to defeat the fascist offensive
3. and by doing so,

reform is byproduct of rev.

- 4. pass over to the offensive of the working class,
- 5. overthrowing the monopoly capitalist class which is the seed bed of fascism.
- 6. Only through the ^{revolutionary} struggle for ^{reforms} democratic rights can the proletariat establish its dictatorship.] ~~Get reforms~~
- 7. The emancipation of the working class is the revolutionary act of self-emancipation.

7. A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PARTY WILL SUPPORT ALL PARTIES AND SECTIONS OF THE POPULATION THAT STRUGGLE AGAINST the autocracy (fascism) AND WILL COMBAT THE DEMAGOGIC INTRIGUES OF OUR GOVERNMENT

- 1. Our party declares that its aim is to organize and ~~participate~~ in this struggle of the working class of the USNA, develop class consciousness of the workers, and ~~point out~~ and clarify the aims and objects of the struggle. ~~Demands~~
- 2. Hence, our Party will support every national liberation movement, every movement of labor and every struggle of the people
- 3. that is directed against the fascist offensive for peace, for democracy, for national liberation and socialism.

- 8. ENUMERATION OF THE BASIC DEMOCRATIC DEMANDS
- 9. DEMANDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WORKING CLASS
- 10. DEMANDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEASANTRY, WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THE GENERAL CHARACTER OF THESE DEMANDS.

- 1. Taking this program as our starting point, our Party demands and sets out to lead the struggle for:

1. An end to compulsory overtime. Strict enforcement of etc.