

LENIN AND THE MILITARIZED COMMUNIST PARTY

COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL (RED FRACTION)



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1st Edition

978-1-300-13391-9

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I. INTRODUCTION

We are marching in a compact group along a precipitous and difficult path, firmly holding each other by the hand. We are surrounded on all sides by enemies, and we have to advance under their almost constant fire. We have combined voluntarily, precisely for the purpose of fighting the enemy, and not to retreat into the adjacent marsh, the inhabitants of which, from the very outset, have reproached us with having separated ourselves into an exclusive group and with having chosen the path of struggle instead of the path of conciliation.¹

The fundamental objective of this article is, just as the purpose of *El Maoista* magazine is presented, to serve the two-line struggle in the International Communist Movement, raising the fundamental questions and problems of the World Revolution. Therefore the objective of this article is not to make a systematic exposition of the conception of the revolutionary party of the proletariat through the development of Marxism in its three stages, but, as part of the celebration of the 100 years of the Great Socialist October Revolution, to show the background of the militarized Communist Party that is present in Leninism and the Bolshevik Communist Party, supporting the indispensable necessity of it to unleash and lead the revolutionary armed struggle as People's War in each

¹V.I. Lenin, *What Is to Be Done?*, 1902.

country, to give new impulse to the World Revolution. Since the emergence of Marxism, the question of the revolutionary party of the proletariat was taken as a key problem by its founders Marx and Engels, because the goal of Communism, the emancipation of humankind, will be achieved through the political emancipation of the proletarian class, which means the dictatorship of the proletariat as the necessary transition period for the elimination of social classes, a condition for the transition into classless society, a mission that demands the proletariat constitute itself in a political party. Marx established that this party must be different and opposed to all other parties that ever existed in history, in essence, a party of the class and internationalist, corresponding to the nature of the proletariat as a single international class.

While reaffirming the principles established by Marx and Engels regarding the party of the class, Lenin emphasized:

[T]he unity of the proletariat in the epoch of social revolution can be achieved only by the extreme revolutionary party of Marxism, and only through a relentless struggle against all other parties.²

²V.I. Lenin, "Reply to the Debate on the Report on the Work of the Council of People's Commissars" (December 23, 1920), "Eighth All-Russia Congress of Soviets," *Complete Works*, Vol. XXXI (Moscow: Progress Publishers, 1974).

Imperialism, as the superior and last stage of capitalism, as monopolist, parasitic, decomposing and agonizing capitalism, is the epoch of its complete sweeping-away from the face of earth by the proletarian revolution. Lenin affirmed:

Give us an organization of revolutionaries, and we shall overturn Russia!³

The Great Socialist October Revolution of 1917, of which we celebrate its centenary, marks the beginning of a new era, the era of the World Proletarian Revolution, of the transition into classless society, luminous Communism. The most important, most decisive, factor for this great triumph was the existence of the Bolshevik Party. We specify: the existence of a vanguard party of the proletariat, as a combat organization, gifted with a solid guiding thought, correct general political line whose center was expressed in a correct military line and counting with a Great Leadership, the great Lenin.

In 1948, while synthesizing 100 years of struggle of the working-class and World Revolution, Chairman Mao affirmed:

If there is to be revolution, there must be a revolutionary party. Without a revolutionary party, without a party built on the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory and in the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary style, it is impossible to lead the

³V.I. Lenin, *What Is To Be Done?* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, first ed., 1973), p. 157.

working-class and the broad masses of the people to defeat imperialism and its running dogs. In the more than one hundred years since the birth of Marxism, it was only through the example of the Russian Bolsheviks in leading the October Revolution, in leading socialist construction and in defeating fascist aggression that *revolutionary parties of a new type were formed and developed in the world*. With the birth of revolutionary parties of this type, the face of the world revolution has changed. The change has been so great that transformations utterly inconceivable to people of the older generation have come into being amid fire and thunder (...) *With the birth of the Communist Party of China, the face of the Chinese revolution took on an altogether new aspect*. Is this fact not clear enough?⁴

This great synthesis of the experience of the first 100 years of the proletarian revolution highlights the necessity of the Party as a fundamental, central, and decisive question. It tells us that a revolutionary party is necessary in order to make revolution, a revolutionary party built on a solid Marxist-Leninist ideological base, forged in the “Marxist-Leninist working style,” which means a revolutionary Party of a New Type — Bolshevik, Leninist, as a combat organization of professional revolutionaries.

Regarding the relation between the Communist Party and the process of the World Revolution, Chairman Mao affirmed:

⁴Mao Zedong, “Revolutionary Forces of the World Unite, Fight Against Imperialist Aggression!” *Selected Works of Mao Zedong* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1969). (Emphasis added).

...it was only through the example of the Russian Bolsheviks (...) *that revolutionary parties of a new type were formed and developed in the world.* With the birth of revolutionary parties of this type, the face of the world revolution has changed.⁵

Chairman Mao affirmed that:

Therefore the United Front, armed struggle and Party building are the three fundamental questions (...) Having a correct grasp of these three questions and their interrelations is tantamount to giving correct leadership to the whole (...) revolution.⁶

In his historical speech after his capture, Chairman Gonzalo established the necessity to fulfill the pending and delayed task of constituting or reconstituting militarized Marxist-Leninist-Maoist, principally Maoist, Communist Parties to initiate and lead the People's War where it was not unleashed, also to transform the current national liberation armed struggles into People's War, everything as part of and in service to the World Revolution, as World People's War.

The following fundamental principles of Marxism stand out in the struggle between Marxism and revisionism: class struggle, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the necessity of the revolutionary party of the proletariat (Communist Party), revolutionary violence, scientific socialism, and the very struggle

⁵Ibid. Emphasis added.

⁶Mao Zedong, "Introducing the Communist," *Selected Works Vol. II* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1965).

against revisionism. These, in the whole practical and theoretical process of the revolutionary movement of the proletariat in its almost 170 years, were what distinguished Marxists from revisionists and other opportunists, whose most accented and sharp struggles preceded the moments of great leaps, the great revolutions. Two of these pillars have always stood out the most in the struggle between Marxists and revisionists, the question of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the question of the necessity and the class character of the revolutionary party of the proletariat.

Therefore we approach the theme of the revolutionary party of the proletariat, we remark and reiterate that it is the central question that concentrates all the problems regarding revolution in a country and in the world itself. Such problems, which are also the object of other articles that are published in this same magazine, are approached here only as part of the principal problem.

As part of the world counter-revolution, revisionism is in crisis because it failed in its sinister and rotten task: save the old order and defeat revolution. Revisionism is in crisis, however, not dead, and is still the main danger for the ICM and the World Proletarian Revolution. It played, and plays, its dirty and sinister role of embellishing capitalism and dividing the masses, spreading, through all means, the illusion of “democracy as a universal value” and parliamentary cretinism as a path, to traffic with the interests and needs of the masses. This is how they act, with bigger or smaller influence,

through all countries of the world, and in the case of Latin America they are raised into the head of the Old State of the big bourgeoisie and landlords, presiding over the repression and exploitation of the masses, spreading bourgeois ideology. Now they sink in even greater crisis, but they will not disappear by themselves, they are still swarming with new forms, offering themselves as the luxurious auxiliary of the ruling classes, committed to the rotten task of deviating the masses from the revolutionary path.

Therefore, we must energetically repel their five attacks: to the party, to the dictatorship of the proletariat, to revolutionary violence, to socialism, and to Marxism. This is necessary and it must also be swept away by the People's War, part by part, together with all reaction.

The historical experience of the proletarian revolution incontrovertibly confirms the necessity of the struggle against revisionism to sweep away its harmful influence within the class and the people, [and that] by fighting it as the main danger for revolution and doing so through two-line struggle in the heat of class struggle, inseparably from combatting imperialism, its lackeys and all reaction, can we maintain the red color of the Party and make the revolutionary process of each country and the ICM advance, propel, and raise high its New Great Wave in the path of the World People's War to sweep away imperialism and all reaction from the face of earth.

Nevertheless, it is necessary to highlight and remark that in the struggle against revisionism, which must be waged implacably and inseparably from combatting imperialism, its lackeys and all reaction, we must, with all forcefulness, raise what Chairman Gonzalo affirmed: that revisionism is born defeated and dead by its rotten nature. In other words, that strategically they are like imperialism and all reaction — condemned to the dark tomb of history.

And it must be done by taking the central ideological-political questions of the World Revolution today as the starting point, notably the problems linked to the constitution or reconstitution of militarized Maoist Parties to initiate and develop the People's War, to bring the proletarian revolution to its triumph at a world scale, while sweeping away imperialism and all reaction from the face of earth, and through successive cultural revolutions to assure that the whole world enters Communism.

This process necessarily goes through understanding and taking positions on the different experiences of People's War in the world. Regarding the People's War in Nepal, for example, an experience of great importance in the ICM, which some have even raised it as a high summit of Maoism and Prachanda as the great leader of the World Revolution — Many of those who publicly reject the Prachandist treason still nourish in secret the adhesion to the conception of the Party and revolution that is proclaimed by Prachandism, such as the necessity of a new type of Maoist Party proposed by Battharai,

apart from the revisionist “*theory of fusion*,” the thesis of the “*globalized imperialist state*,” “*21st century socialism*,” and its “*multi-party competition*.”

In the immense majority of the countries (that are not in People’s War), to reconstitute/constitute militarized Communist Parties to initiate the People’s War is the principal task. In the countries where People’s Wars are being developed, the understanding regarding the militarized Communist Party is a decisive question to develop them until victory. In other words, the majority of the problems for the development of the World Revolution and its triumph are concentrated on this question. This is why the understanding regarding the militarized Communist Party is presented as a decisive question for all those who face processes of reconstitution/constitution and of unleashing the People’s War.

The development of the two-line struggle on this question is a necessary condition for the reunification of the communists in the world and to fulfill the task that was assumed by the Fifth Meeting of Marxist-Leninist-Maoist Parties and Organizations of Latin America to combat dispersion in the ICM and to realize the Unified Maoist International Conference, serving to raise Maoism as command and guide of the World Proletarian Revolution.