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POLITICAL DEFINITIONS EVERY UP-AND-COMING
REVOLUTIONARY SHOULD KNOW AND UNDERSTAND

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"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not your enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle."

-- Sun Tzu

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't."

-- Anatole France

"To overcome the intelligent by folly is contrary to the natural order of things; to overcome the foolish by intelligence is in accordance with the natural order. To overcome the intelligent by intelligence, however, is a matter of opportunity."

-- Zhuangzi Liang

"He who gains victory over others is strong, but he who gains victory over himself is all powerful."

-- Lao Tzu

"If you are deaf, dumb, and blind to what's happening in the world, you're under no obligation to do anything. But if you know what's happening and you don't do anything but sit on your ass, then you're nothing but a punk."

-- Assata Shakur

107. Vacillate: To shuck and jive. To waiver from one side to the other.

108. Variable capital: Capital invested in labor. Only the capital invested in labor can produce varying quantities of surplus values, depending on how long and how hard you work the workers.

109: Vanguard Party: A group of people or a political organization at the forefront of or leading a struggle or revolutionary movement. The instrument by means of which the militancy and rebelliousness of the people can be transformed from purely reflexive, trial and error reactions into purposeful, planned, and pragmatic struggles for power.

110. Womanism: A form of feminism focused especially on the conditions, concerns, and issues of black women.

100. Token: A member of a minority group that is accepted within a majority group solely to give the appearance of diversity and inclusion.

101. Terrorism: The deliberate, systematic murder, maiming, and menacing of the innocent to inspire fear in order to gain political ends.

102. Totalitarianism: A government based on centralized control by an autocratic authority. The political concept that a person should be totally subordinated to the state and where strict control of all aspects of life is enforced.

103. Uncle Tom: A character in Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom Cabin that is depicted as a pious and faithful black slave. Today, the term is used to describe a black person who is overly subservient to, or overeager to win the acceptance and approval of, white authority figures.

104. Underprivileged: A person or group of people who, because of racism, are deprived of much of the fundamental rights of all members in a civilized society.

105. United Front: Longterm alliances or the working together of different groups on a clear cut political program to oppose oppression.

106. Unity-Criticism-Unity: The process of members of a group or organization united on a set of principles and objectives to struggle internally behind closed doors among themselves, observing and analyzing each other's errors, and offering constructive criticism to each other to correct those errors, in order to overcome any shortcomings, to strengthen each other, and thus advance the group, unit, or organization towards its stated goals.

(3)
1. Agent Provateur: One who joins a group or organization to disrupt unity and encourage its members to commit criminal/illegal acts in which they can be arrested for. He/she pretends to be sympathetic towards the aims and goals of the group or organization that he/she infiltrates.

2. Amerikkka/Amerika: The white settler nation which has occupied/colonized North America since the 1600s.

3. Axiom: A statement that is thought of to be established, accepted, or self-evidently true.

4. Automation: The process of using mechanical or electronic machines to do routine repetitive work automatically instead of employing human hands and minds.

5. Anarchism: The philosophy of total freedom without any governmental structure or state. It negates the necessity of the dictatorship of the proletariat to re-educate and organize the masses and protect the gains of the revolution as a transitory stage in the development towards true communism where the state will eventually wither away.

6. Bourgeoisie: The exploiter class most characteristic of the capitalist system. The rich and the super-rich. The ruling elite who owns and manages the means of production. They are the real rulers in a capitalist society who dictates policy and has everyone else either working for them to maintain the status-quo, or those who must work/slave for them in order to survive. This class only works it if wants to. Also included in this class are people with very powerful positions in production and the government.

7. Black: A political designation to refer not only to African Americans but to people of color who are engaged in revolutionary struggle in Amerikkka and all over the world. It should not be taken to mean the domination of African Americans or the exclusion of other people of color from black revolutionary organizations.

8. Black Revolutionary Power: The taking of state power by Blacks in order to revolutionize the entire country on the basis of their enriched concept of New Man/New Woman.

9. Black Power: The mobilization of the political and economic power of Blacks to compel/force the racist power structure to respect their rights and improve their conditions.

10. Buffer: Something or someone who is used to separate potentially antagonistic forces; e.g. middle-class, well-to-do Blacks are often used as a buffer between poor Blacks and the white supremacist power structure.

11. Capitalism: A mode of production, or economic system, where the bourgeoisie or capitalist class owns the means of production and exploits the labor of the proletariat. Because the proletariat owns nothing, they are forced to sell their labor power on the market in exchange for what they need to survive. When they work for the capitalist, the capitalist owns the value that they create and only pays them a portion of this value to sustain themselves. The rest is called surplus value, or the profit exploited from the worker, which is the basic law of capitalist economic relations.

12. Communism: A social system based on the collective ownership of the means of production as well as the absence of any state, classes,

90. Scab: A worker who refuses to join a labor union, refuses to strike or returns to work before a strike has ended, or works for less than union wages or on non-union terms.

91. Serf: A member of a servile feudal class bound to the land and subject to the will of its owner.

92. Slumlord: A landlord who makes huge profits by overcharging tenants for substandard and dilapidated properties.

93. Smoke-and-mirrors: Something intended to disguise or draw attention away from an unpopular or unpleasant social issue. A red herring.

94. Solidarity: Unity of a class, group, or nations that is based on common interests, objectives, and standards.

95. Spin doctor: A person who is skilled at ensuring that the masses of the people will view or interpret an event or issue from a particular point of view.

96. Subterfuge: To deceive by artifice and stratagem in order to escape or evade or to conceal and illicit purpose or intent.

97. Subversion: A systematic attempt to overthrow or undermine a government or political system by persons working secretly from within.

98. Sweatshop: A shop or factory in which employees work for long hours at low wages and under poor conditions.

99. Syndicalism: A revolutionary doctrine by which workers seize control of the means of production by direct action, i.e. general strike.

83. Strike: A stoppage of activity by a body of people, usually for the purpose of expressing a grievance or for forcing management or authority to comply with their demands.

84. Skinnerbox: A laboratory apparatus in which an animal is caged for experiments in operant conditioning and which typically contains a lever that must be pressed by the animal to gain a reward or avoid punishment.

85. Scientific method: Principles and procedures for the systematic pursuit of knowledge involving the recognition and formulation of a problem, the collection of data through observation and experiment, and the formulation and testing of hypothesis.

86. Sleeping giant: An individual or group of people that has great but unrealized or newly emerging power and potential.

87. Self-determination: The ability of oppressed people and nations to choose the course of their own destiny free from reactionary, outside interference.

88. Semi-colony: An oppressed nation that is colonized by the oppressor nation but does not exhibit all of the characteristics of a traditional colony. For example, in the U.S., New Afrika, Chican@, and First Nations are considered internal semi-colonies. As imperialism has advanced into the global arena, the U.S. no longer depend on these internal semi-colonies as its main source of new wealth but instead extract super-profits from Third World nations that are called colonies and neo-colonies.

89. Sabotage: Destruction of an employer's property (i.e. factory, machinery, tools, etc.) by a group of discontented workers for the purpose of hindering the production of goods.

borders, government control, etc. (5)

13. Collective: A cooperative unit or organization that utilizes its strength in unity to struggle for common goals and objectives.

14. Cliqueism: The tendency to form into little groups based upon emotional or opportunistic alliances which negates overall organizational unity.

15. Counterrevolutionary: Someone or something that goes against revolutionary principles and practices.

16. Capitalist accumulation: The major part of the profits derived from the exploitation of labor that is reinvested in new and more advanced means of production.

17. Class society: A tier society where the people are separated into different categories based upon their financial relationships to the means of production.

18. Clandestine: Kept or done in secret, often to conceal an illicit, improper, or revolutionary cause.

19. Colonialism: Foreign domination of a country or people where the economic, political, and military structure is controlled and run by the occupying force.

20. Constructive criticism: The positive correcting and pointing out of mistaken ideas and incorrect practices, and the offering of concrete practical solutions that builds instead of tears down.

21. Democracy: A system where the people enjoy the freedom and will to pursue their own destiny.

22. Dogmatic: The rigid, unbending, and inflexible; failing to take into account the changing conditions or the differences between one situation and another.

23. Dollar Imperialism: Sham independence whereby one country is independent in name only and often rely on countries like the united states for economic aid which turn the country accepting the aid into a puppet state.

24. Democratic centralism: The unity between freedom and discipline. The democratic part of the term defines the equal participation and voice expected from all members of an organization. The centralism refers to the mandate that all members uphold all decisions made by the democratic process of the organization.

25. Dialectics: The study of contradictions within the very essence of things. The scientific analytical approach to studying contradictions within nature by taking into account the historical development and the interaction of related things. Dialectics hold that nothing exists independent, isolated, or unconnected from each other, but that all phenomena are connected and part of the whole. They are dependent upon and determined by each other. Dialectics also hold that all things are in constant motion. They move from a qualitative level with constant small changes to a qualitative level with their very essence or character making a giant leap to a new existence. These changes follow a definite pattern determined by the external and internal contradictions within themselves. This being that all phenomena are made up of opposite forces, i.e. internal contradictions which are the bases for change; i.e. external contradictions which interact and become the conditions to change.

and these relations, the property holders came to exercise a relationship of domination, exploitation, and wealth over the property-less. Other forms of these relations are between master and slave, feudal lord and serf, landlord and peasant, capitalist and worker, etc.

78. State capitalism: Under state capitalism, the state nominally owns the means of production but production is organized around profit, not the needs of the people. The Soviet Union became state capitalist under Khrushchev, and China became state capitalist under Deng Xiaoping. In both cases, a new bourgeoisie developed within the state apparatus and the Communist Party itself.

79. Super-profits: These are the profits derived from workers being paid less than what is necessary for their subsistence -- workers that are super-exploited.

80. Socialism: The transition stage between the capitalist mode of production and communism; where the means of production are owned collectively by the people through the states and where the basis for production is for the people's welfare, not profit. People work and contribute to society according to their ability and receive according to their needs and conditions.

81. Surplus value: The value which the workers produce over and above the value of his/her labor; capitalist profit. The difference between the value of the work done and the wages paid for that work. This is the original source of all profits.

82. Status quo: The present existing state of affairs; keeping things just as they are.

71. Revolution: A complete and radical change from one social system into another. The complete struggle waged by the people to rid themselves of an oppressive system of government into a more progressive and humane society. This includes not only the political structure, but also the philosophy and ideology, mode of production, relations of production, as well as the spiritual and social mentality and outlook of society.

72. Reactionary: Those forces or people who oppose revolutionary change and actively work to prevent or destroy any progressive/revolutionary movement.

73. Revisionism: Deviation from and the manipulation of the correct revolutionary line (or of a particular belief or practice) to suit one's own personal vested interest.

74. Revolutionary Army: An armed group of activists that arises from within and on the side of an oppressed group for the expressed purpose of waging the armed struggle against the oppressor.

75. Rebellion: An attack upon existing authority by members of an oppressed group, usually with the intention on the part of the rebels to take state power. It is usually spontaneous.

76. Reformism: The amending and making of internal changes within an existing system, such as by changing laws, introducing and funding poverty programs to the people without changing the whole system.

77. Relations of production: These are relations in which people in a given society must arrange and enter into by necessity to perpetuate human existence. Since the birth of class societies

26. Emotionalism: The practice of acting out of one's passions, feelings, and the spirit of the atmosphere. (7)

27. Empire: Empire in these modern times represents the highest developed stage of a capitalist nation that is characterized by expanding its spheres of influence throughout the world by using military power to gain control over peoples and lands.

28. Empiricism: The practice of analyzing situations in a subjective manner based only upon individual or personal knowledge and experience, neglecting external investigation, history, and knowledge.

29. Economics: The study of social laws governing the production and distribution of the material means of satisfying human needs.

30. Equalitarianism: Concepts advocating or characterized by the belief that all men, women, and gender-nonconforming people should have equal political, social, and economic rights.

31. Exploitation: The unjust method of using people for profit and advantage. Also, when one group coerces another group to grant them a greater value, created by their labor, than they are given in exchange. The main exploited classes in the world today are the peasantry, proletariat, and lumpen-proletariat which are almost wholly found in the Third World.

32. Fascism: A repressive form of government that takes on police state characteristics, in that, all forms of political, economical, and social opposition are forcibly suppressed to maintain the status quo.

33. Feudalism: A repressive system of government where the common masses of the people -- vassals -- renders services to the oppressor -- lords -- and in return receives protection and use of land.

34. First World Lumpen: The class of people in the First World who are excluded from the productive process. By virtue of living in the First World, this class, on average, receives more material benefits from imperialism than the global proletariat. As such, their interests are not the same as the exploited classes and are not included in the lumpen-proletariat. But their conditions in many ways parallel those of the lumpen-proletariat standing in stark contrast to the majority of the First World population. This class includes prisoners in the united states.

35. Generalized contradiction of capitalism: socialized (or group) labor but private ownership and profit.

36. Growth and split: A method used for expansion when a particular unit had developed to sufficient strength, an individual or group of individuals was detached to form the nucleus of another unit.

37. Hegemony: Worldwide occupation, control, and manipulation by an imperialist power over underdeveloped countries through economic, military, and political domination.

38. Imperialism: An economic system that V.I. Lenin defined as the "highest state of capitalism" which is marked by exploitation, rape, and subsequent oppression practiced by one nation over another for greed and profit; the globalization of capital, the dominance of finance capital, and the division of the world

65. Production: The human activity which adapts natural resources to human needs. A process of acquiring the material necessities of life, i.e. production of food, clothing, oil, etc.

66. Progressive: That person, organization, action, movement, phenomena, or train of events in moving/raising the human, social, economic, political, and scientific level of society. That which moves man/woman forward into the future, away from the past.

67. Proletariat: The largest class which comprises the majority of the working masses. They must sell their labor power in order to survive. They represent the lowest level of the employed, lowest wages, less benefits and rights, and usually have little or no power or control over their working conditions, management, and planning. It is the class that has the most to lose due to the advent of increased technology, automation, and cybernation because they are being driven out of their jobs into the ranks of the unemployed. Marx classified them as the most revolutionary class (potentially) because of their sheer numbers as well as their social consciousness and needs which is directly tied to the whole process of production.

68. Propaganda: The publicized activity by which a political/revolutionary organization politicizes the masses.

69. Pig: A police officer or other representative of the government's repressive apparatus.

70. Racism: The philosophy and practices which pursues or condones the systematic oppression of another race because that race is believed to be inferior.

57. Objectivism: The method of analysis which takes into account the entirety of the situation. Approaching a situation open-mindedly, without prejudice.

58. Oppression: Unjust and cruel exercise of authority to deny people their human rights, as well as their right to a decent healthy life. Intolerable living conditions such as inadequate health, education, medical care, housing, etc.

59. Profits: The money that the capitalists gain by underpaying others for their labor.

60. Pure democracy: A democracy in which power is exercised directly by the people rather than through political representatives.

61. Power: The ability to act or produce an effect. Possession of control, authority, or influence over others or over one's own life.

62. Petit-bourgeoisie: The middle class or privilege worker who enjoys a relatively comfortable level of existence. The small businessmen, entrepreneurs and self-employed. Artists, entertainers, doctors, lawyers, and athletes also belong to this class. They do not own or control the major means of production, but their main aspiration is to obtain the status, wealth, and power of the bourgeoisie.

63. Pacifism: The belief that disputes between nations should be settled peacefully. Refusal to participate in military action or violence as a means of resolving disputes.

64. Politics: A process by which the political and social decisions involving the organization of society are made. The method of solving contradictions.

into imperialist and exploited nations.

39. Individualism: A narrow and selfish approach or outlook based upon putting oneself (or one's interest) before the interest of the people, comrades, or organization. ⑨

40. Irresponsible criticism: Frivolous and irrelevant correcting or pointing out of minor and needless points, which, instead of building, tears down and obstructs progressive growth and development; nitpicking; ungrounded and unfounded criticism; criticizing without investigation and thinking first.

41. Initiative: The self-reliant exercising of one's imagination, creativity and the will to tackle all problems, and fervently develop new strategies and programs. Being in the forefront and taking the lead, i.e. to "Seize the time."

42. Insurrection: A concentrated attack upon existing authority by members of an oppressed group, usually with the intention of taking power, if only temporarily during the course of revolutionary struggles.

43. Liberation: The state of freedom from a repressive or exploitative existence, where the people have gained control of their own lives and the right to self-determination.

44. Lackey: A flunky. To wait upon or serve slavishly.

45. Leninist cadre organization: Lenin was a leader of the Soviet Union, the first socialist country in history. A cadre organization is a tight-knit group of people who work together on a common goal.

46. Liberalism: Tolerance for things that violate political principles.

47. Lumpen-proletariat: Those who are not able to sell their labor due to the limitations of capitalism at providing full employment and, as a result, often live as parasites on other proletarians; The under-class, unemployed, marginally employed, and those who live outside of the law, i.e. criminal element. The elderly, infirmed, and disabled are also part of this class because they are marginally employed and, therefore, are not a secure part of the reproductive process. Those on welfare and social security are also members of this class.

48. Labor Aristocracy: Refers to the working class that benefits from the imperialist world's super-exploitation of the people in the Third World. For example, white workers in the U.S. benefit from the super-exploitation of the Third World so greatly that, as a class, they are no longer exploited at all and in fact benefit from imperialism. These white "workers" are not workers anymore, but constitute the petty-bourgeoisie.

49. Mass organization: A group of people without a specifically worked out universal ideology (such as Maoism) leading it. Membership requirements are less strict than for a cadre organization because the aim of a mass organization is to unite as many people as possible often around a single issue.

50. Managerial class: The managers of the capitalist enterprises and institutions who are involved in the day to day running of affairs, i.e. government officials, politicians, judges, corporate executives, etc.

51. Mass line: The political guiding principle of a revolutionary organization that must pro-

vide concrete programs for the systematic transformation stage of the oppressed masses through collective struggles.

52. Means of production: The means which capitalism needs to undertake production; normally including factories and industrial plants in which to produce machinery and tools with which to fashion raw materials, and the new materials themselves, such as fuel and oil.

53. Morale: The moral or mental condition of the individual or group with respect to courage, discipline, confidence, enthusiasm, and willingness to endure hardship and sacrifice.

54. "Man behind the gun": (Vietnamese) This means that propaganda must precede the organization of the oppressed masses into physical bases or units of armed struggle. (Only when a people have been imbued with a new vision of themselves in a new political role can they exercise, to their fullest, their specially humane qualities of will and courage, of initiative and ingenuity, of intelligence and skill, of creativity and unity.)

55. Neo-colonialism: Foreign domination of a country or people by imperialist power where the economic, political, and military structure is manned and run by the native bourgeoisie. The imperialist maintain control of the economy because they continue to own the means of production, and the client state is totally dependent militarily and politically for their survival, e.g. the Philippines.

56. New Man/Woman: One who is politically conscious, creative and socially responsible. One who puts politics in command of economics and will always work together for the best interest of their communities.