

The Great Robbers' War

Dokument of Freie Deutsche Jugend



There we lay in the great robbers' war,
And across, the same dirty corpses lay,
Workers, like us. So then we thought,
This is not our battle, not our war.
(Proletenpassion, Austria 1978)

The great robbers' war

Capitalism, who's yoke the vast majority of mankind is temporarily again forced to submit to today, has emerged on the basis of private ownership and the development of commodity-production. The hallmark of capitalist society is that the most important and decisive means of production are owned by the capitalist class and the owners of large estate; and exploited by these, the class of wage-workers, robbed of the means of production, is forced to sell their capacity of labour. Production for the sake of profit, competition between the particular capitalists leads to an anarchy of production.

The worker's wage is far from near to the value of the commodities they produce for the benefit of the owners of banks and factories. This fact and anarchy of production regularly result in the incapability of the workers to buy the mountains of commodities they have produced.

This was and is the basis for the regular re-occurrence of crises in capitalism.

The bourgeois state, as different its appearance may be: republic, military dictatorship, fascist regime, is naught but the power-organization of the ruling capitalist class, ensuring the continuation of their exploitation-rule and the suppression of the up-and-coming working class and all wage-workers.

The laws of capitalist development have resulted in a more and more increasing concentration and centralization of capital, namely the formation of monopolies, controlling whole industries and lines of production: The industrial capital merges with the bank capital, forming the finance capital, which becomes the common form of capital within the capitalist economical order. Thus, the epoch of the rule of industrial capitalism, with its predominantly „free competition“ in the beginning of the 20th century, moves on to the epoch of imperialism, the last of all historical epochs of capitalism, with it's monopolist rule of the finance capital.

The capital-export becomes an essential hallmark of imperialism, while in times of industrial capitalism the commodity-export was typical. This capital-export is linked with an

intensification of the inter-monopolist battle about cheap raw products, sales markets, and areas for capital investment. Before, in the pre-imperialist phase, the capitalist states had already subjugated, even conquered most of the globe, creating colonies and semi-colonies, as well as areas of influence, they controlled economically and politically.

Now, since the beginning of the last century, the division of the world has been complete. And because of the anarchy of production and the unevenness of the economical and political development of the individual countries, the battle about the re-division has inflamed.

This battle is fought by the respective states of the different national, capitalist groups.

Inevitably, this continuous battle, causes armed clashes and imperialist wars. Two times already, these have escalated in world war in the last century.

The robbers know that world war was and is their solution to their crisis in the battle of re-division and the temporary preservation of their exploitation-system. European Commission's economists wrote: „World War II served as the final exit strategy – following the 1937-38 recession - out of the Great Depression - sadly to say. The mobilisation effort brought about full employment not only in the US but throughout the world.“ (Economic Crisis in Europe: Causes, Consequences an Responses; 2009)

ses; 2009)

With entering imperialism, the capitalist system reaches the highest stage of its development. Imperialism has enormously increased the world-economy's productive forces and has gained influence in the whole world. While at the same time it creates the traits and stench of capitalism's decay, its decomposition and parasitic degeneration: it immensely intensifies the inner contradictions and conflicts of capitalism and thus inevitably causes the termination of the whole capitalist system. Although it more and more establishes its absolute power, the finance capital's capability to exploit the enormously increasing productive forces is on the decline. Power is concentrated in the hands of a few financial giants. Imperialism extremely escalates the contradictions between exploiter and exploited, between imperialist states and colonies, it divides the world into suppressed and suppressing nations. And in the clash of all these contradictions, it bears the world-revolution.

It creates all the preconditions of socialism by concentrating the means of production and socializing labour, through the



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growth of the working class, their organizations and the revolutionization of broad levels of the exploited.

The First and Second imperialist World War cost millions of dead and wounded, undermined and destroyed finances, industry and transport, brought famine and misery to the vast masses of workers.

The answer to the barbarous First World War were the revolutions in a number of European countries and the victorious revolution in Russia.

The answer to the barbarous Second World War was the socialist revolution's victories in China and elsewhere, as well as the national liberation of formerly dependent countries.

Both World Wars shook the whole capitalist system and accelerated its general crisis towards its downfall. Even the temporary defeat of the working class' rule in the former socialist states did not change that. Quite the contrary. Since 1990 the leading imperialists' battle about the re-division of the world became obvious again.

One of the traits of capitalism, increased by imperialism, is the unevenness of the political and economical development of the individual countries and areas.

This unevenness of development and the resulting battle about the re-division of the world strongly accelerates during the current world economic crisis. It now becomes clear that only the temporary New has prevented the Old waging any more world wars. Since socialism has been defeated by „the imperialist peace“ (peace?), the imperialists' arming against each other and against the peoples, has reached higher dimensions than ever: during the last ten years alone military spendings have risen by 45%. The monopolies' newspapers are already writing about the threat of a world trade war or forthcoming wars of economy.

Who still denies the threat of another world war or even talks about a gradual, step by step democratic development from capitalism to socialism, contradicts the basic facts and laws of social development. This is betrayal, deriving from the most shameless cooperation with the bourgeoisie to preserve and solidify the capitalist system.

The German robber

In the Manifesto of the Communist Party, criticizing the playing down of the German case, Karl Marx wrote it would be a mistake to „proclaim... the German nation to be the model nation, and the German petty philistine to be the typical man“.

The creation of a German bourgeois national state was not the result of the struggle for bourgeois liberties in the course of a bourgeois revolution. The cowardliness of the German bourgeoisie and its betrayal of the upcoming German working class in the revolution of 1848 built the foundation of

this, up until now, reactionary, nationalist monster of German bourgeois national state.

The German Reich of 1871 began its existence with annexations. It began its existence by crushing the workers revolution and the first attempt of working class rule. It helped to crush the Paris Commune.

Its fragmentation, the feudal structure continues to have its effect, today. This mostly suits the most reactionaries and is a basis for their counter-revolutionary solo efforts. It did not take long for that monster to show how catastrophic it was for the peoples of Europe.

The concentration of capital increased in the capitalist states the following decades. Earth was ruled by capitalism and the imperialist division of the world was complete.

Only the German imperialism missed out, due to their de-



layed development.

It had hardly any colonies or areas of influence, where it could have invested their growing monopoly-profits. An insatiable demand for power has made up this robbers' history, since.

Two world wars resulted from that. Twice it was the German robber who most aggressively pushed and began a world war, in order to re-divide the world.

At the end of Second World War the German robber was resoundingly defeated by the alliance of the world's peoples. He was temporarily beaten, politically, militarily and economically.

The German monopolies only managed to escape their termination in at least one part of Germany, through the temporary subordination to the imperialists of the USA. In the other half the GDR (German Democratic Republic) was founded as the better part of Germany, by eliminating the basis for fascism and war, temporarily anyway.

And today?

Long before 1990 the monopolies and their Western Germany had become an economical Great Power again and took part in the worldwide imperialist exploitation.

The Annexation of the GDR, the subjugation of 16 million people under the dictatorship of the German bourgeoisie caused the situation of German imperialism to change fundamentally. Since then it tries to undo the results of the defeats in both World Wars.

On September the 1st 1994, the 55th anniversary of the Second World War's beginning with the invasion in Poland, the then German Federal Minister of the Interior, Wolfgang Schäuble, threatened: Germany could be „asked, or out of its own security-necessities be tempted, to master the stabilization of eastern Europe alone and in the traditional manner“. Ever since, the imperialist FRG (Federal Republic of Germany) not only fights for hegemony against the imperialist competitors in the eastern European former socialist states, candidly threatening with war within Europe, but more and more politically, economically and militarily subjugates the rest of the EU and persistently enlarges its lead over its EU-competitors, namely GB and France.



The FDJ supports the international Anti-War campaign "Class Struggle Against World War". Together with other supporters we prepare a tour with five lorries to the 66th Anniversary of the Liberation from Fascism, through three countries: the annexed GDR, the Czech Republic and Poland. On 8th may 2010 the rehearsal for this procession took place in Berlin.

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The necessity to destroy the whole apparatus of state of the only just annexed GDR and to instead pin on the suppression and safeguard of the annexed country marks the beginning of a conversion of

the FRG's whole apparatus of state, which not only stretches out onto other countries step by step, but also forces the other countries to convert their own apparatus of state.

Economically, the FRG is leading in Europe today. No other European country gains as much from trade and exploitation in other countries as the German imperialism. it belongs to the top three European countries with current account surplus, namely 175 billion dollars. In comparison, the Netherlands have a surplus of 40 billion and Austria 10 billion. All the other 13 Euro-states have a balance of payments deficit of altogether 300 billion dollars. (The Swedish economist de Vylder interviewed by the news platform German Foreign Policy, May 12th 2010) This shows the tendency of the other European countries getting more and more indebted to German imperialism.

But not only in Europe the German imperialists are leading. Worldwide, German banks are some of the biggest creditors. And behind Russia and the USA the FRG is the third biggest arms dealer.

Until 2008, the FRG exported more than any other imperialist. Since then it is fighting against the up-and-coming competitor China about the world champion of exports title.

Currently German imperialism celebrates itself as victor of the world economic crisis. And as a matter of fact, primarily the German imperialism profits from the crisis, through exploiting its own workers, through the workers' loyal deferred compensation and tolerated deterioration of working conditions and thus is enabled to flood the international markets with cheap commodities and thereby mainly profits by exploiting other countries.

The French and British imperialists are right, when they identify the low labour costs of German imperialism as a weapon, which reduces their own economies to rubble.

As well as that, the Euro is a weapon. Through it, the unevenness of development between the capitalist and imperialist EU-states was tried to even out. But inequalities between capitalist states cannot be extinguished by a monetary union. In the current crisis this becomes very clear. With introducing the Euro, the indebted countries could no longer devalue their currency by inflation, which is why their foreign liabilities increase. As yet, German imperialism is the beneficiary of this monetary union. And has come to be the biggest creditor in Europe and one of the biggest worldwide.

At the same time though, the contradictions escalate in the imperialist system in general and particularly for the German imperialism. The example of Greece makes this clear: If the banks of German imperialism alone have loaned 45 billion Euros to Greece, and now „want their money back“, then they would have to squeeze 45,000 Euros out of every Greek citizen, if baby or oldtimer. If they were to pay back every foreign bank, who share this generous intention, they would have to pay 236,000 Euros each. This little Greek example shows that this system is not working, not without igniting the resistance of the peoples of the world.

The current crisis worsens the general crisis of capitalism; it escalates:

The contradiction between capital and labour, because the costs for the burial of capitalism are to be paid by the workers;

The contradiction between the big imperialist and the weaker capitalist states, because the undermining of state and territorial sovereignty is pushed ahead, which forces the bourgeoisies of the afflicted countries into extreme class struggles, and can easily result in abolishment of bourgeois democracy to enforce the imperialist measures;

The contradiction between finance capital and the peoples of weaker countries, because the total exploitation of countries like Greece, Spain, etc inevitably evokes the struggle of the peoples, and even causes armed interventions of the creditors, to suppress rebellion;

And hence, above all, the contradictions between the big imperialist countries themselves; For it is going to become evident that in the struggle for the leftover treasures of weaker

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states, a military intervention of one imperialist power would evoke immediate reactions of the others.

Compared with its main rivals, USA and China, one of the biggest, the German imperialism is cooped up in a home market of only about 80 million people, who, on top of that, are getting increasingly poor through its measures inflicted upon them. This is the reason, why the second biggest exporter becomes the biggest aggressor. None of the other imperialists is as dependent on exploiting the whole world, in order to secure its profits. In the bourgeois language of the German economic newspaper Handelsblatt, this reads like that:

„Germany's 30 DAX-companies, but also those of the second row, in MDax and TelDax made more than two thirds of their income in foreign countries. None of the biggest industrial countries worldwide achieved such a high rate.“ (30.07.2010)

German imperialism only manages this now, because the workers stay still in the FRG. While struggle has long been going on in other countries, the German working class becomes Europe's blackleg.

The world economic crisis is held on the workers' backs worldwide. The plundering is seemingly endless. Instead one can observe misery, poverty and hunger rising. Nevertheless the workers and youth are fighting. Demonstrations in France, Greece, Portugal, Italy, Turkey, Spain... . Several general strikes in Greece, plant occupations in Marseilles and Paris.

And the workers of the FRG?

They keep their feet still, go to work and stick their head into the sand.

No, even worse, they watch their capitalists internationally pushing the competition between the workers. They watch, as their capitalists cut wages, increase the number of production units and lower the price per unit.

Because of this, capitalists of other countries are forced to drop their prices and thus, to increase the exploitation of their workers, suppress them harder and drive them into misery. Especially in these times of world economic crisis, this grows to an enormous extent.

Why does the German working class put up with this?

The workers of the FRG are not organized. If they are, at the maximum in a trade union. There they have long lost their fighting spirit, because the unions support the government's plundering. Like this the German worker becomes the world's strike-breaker.

Deutsche Bank, Siemens, EON, Daimler... are well aware:

A German cost-cutting diktat, forced onto Greece, linked with the granted loans, which, by the way, the government in Berlin only agreed to under the condition that Greece buys 60 more Eurofighters and three more submarines;

A German cost-cutting diktat, forced onto Ireland, causing the overthrow of the Irish Government;

Every additional German diktat may secure their profits to-

day and still only accelerates the crisis and escalates the contradictions, causing their profits to be the less secure tomorrow.

If the Euro fails, Deutsche Bank fails and the whole German imperialism fails to use the capitalist „peace“ to plunder and subjugate the EU countries, in order to begin the open war about the re-division of the world on a stronger footing.

The German military boot has been marching through the world again since the annexation of the GDR. It still marches against weaker countries, joint with its imperialist competitors. But more and more candid, it prepares to march against them.

For us, this can only mean:

Let us finish with the diktats of pauperization against other peoples.

Let us finish with the wars against other peoples.

Let us finish with the warmongers this time before the great war.

„People all over the world are now discussing whether or not a third world war will break out. On this question, too, we must be mentally prepared and do some analysis. We stand firmly for peace and against war. But if the imperialists insist on unleashing another war, we do not need to be afraid of it. Our attitude on this question is the same as our attitude towards any unrest: first, we are against it; second, we are not afraid of it. The First World War was followed by the birth of the Soviet Union with a population of 200 million. The Second World War was followed by the emergence of the socialist camp with a combined population of 900 million. If the imperialists insist on launching a third world war, it is certain that several hundred million more will turn to socialism, and then there will not be much room left on earth for the imperialists; it may be that the whole structure of imperialism completely collapses.“

(Mao Tsetung on the correct handling of contradictions among the people. X. Can bad things be turned into good things)



Stop Germany's course of war inwards and outwards



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