

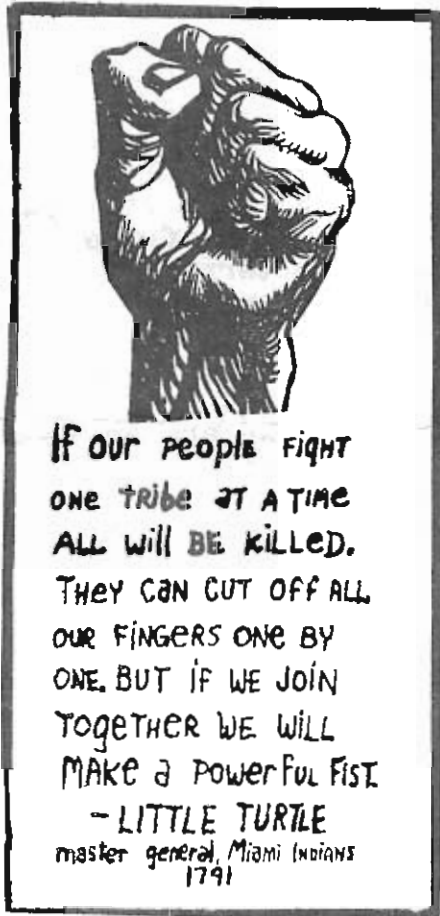
200 YEARS OF OPPRESSION IS ENOUGH !

1976 finds US imperialism in crisis. On July 4, the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee joins with thousands of other organizations and individuals to raise our voices in denunciation of the lies and glory stories passed off in "celebration" of US history.

With others, we examine our history from the viewpoint of oppressed peoples and the working class.

We note the foundations of this country: a revolution rooted in plundered land, a promise of independence based on the most vicious slave system history has known, and a promise of democracy which left out women entirely.

We note 200 years of "development": an empire based on aggressive expansion and the domination of land and nations world wide.



From the viewpoint of those committed to socialist revolution, we identify the consequences of this history within the United States today. The US ruling class has subjected whole peoples- Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans and Mexicanos- to severe national oppression. It has made the oppression of women a pillar of the imperialist system. It has divided the working class through white supremacist and male supremacist structures which bribe sectors of the working class with privilege based on skin color, national origins and sex.

These real divisions have held back the development of revolutionary unity against the capitalist class. Militant struggles based on great working class unity have ended repeatedly with white betrayal of Black demands. There has been an absence of revolutionary leadership since the Communist Party abandoned the principles of Marxism-Leninism, succumbed to national chauvinism and opportunism and ended up in collaboration with the ruling class.

The tides are turning! In recent decades, the victorious struggles for national liberation and socialism in China, Cuba, Viet Nam and Angola have cracked the power of the US empire. The Black liberation movement, the Puerto Rican movement, the Native American and the Mexicano struggles have led the development of class struggle within the United States, have exposed the common enemy, have taught us our true history, have shown us how to fight back. The women's movement has added great new strengths by attacking the structures of women's oppression which uphold imperialism. Working class struggle is advancing.

The tasks ahead are difficult. Imperialism in crisis hits Third World peoples and women hardest, driving deeper wedges in the class at the same time as conditions for struggle sharpen. Racism within sections of the working class is accelerating as shown by the strength of white supremacist mobilizations in Boston and around the country. We can expect the imperialist rulers to continue their deadly attempts to pit white against Third World, men against women, employed against unemployed, documented against undocumented, straight against gay, to defeat unity. Every working woman and man will have to face and answer the sharpest question of the age: which side are you on?

To build revolutionary unity within the working class we need to uphold the right of oppressed nations to self-determination. We need to wage an unrelenting struggle against national chauvinism and male chauvinism. We must grasp the method and heritage of Marxism-Leninism and apply it to our own history and conditions. We need to forge the solidarity of the national and class struggles in every workplace and community. And we must build a revolutionary communist party to unify and lead our struggle.

JULY 4 , 1976

PFOC has worked with many other groups and individuals in the July 4th Coalition to build massive demonstrations in Philadelphia and San Francisco on July 4, 1976. The US government, increasingly on the defensive around the world, does not want a display of militant anti-imperialist unity on July 4. To undercut the force of the demonstration, the government has established special repressive bodies - a White House task force, a Congressional subcommittee, an FBI group- to "investigate" the forces within the Coalition. They have attacked and threatened particular organizations, singling out the PSP, a leading force within the Coalition and within the Puerto Rican independence movement, and attacking its members through a special Grand Jury convened to investigate alleged Puerto Rican terrorism. The government has also attempted to discredit the aims of the entire demonstration by claiming that the PFOC is a terrorist organization, an arm of the Weather Underground, intent on violently disrupting the state's July 4 ceremonies.

The July 4th Coalition has exposed these attacks as efforts to divide, disrupt and deter this rally. We in PFOC want to publically denounce these repressive scare tactics. We are an independent organization dedicated to building the anti-imperialist working class movement in this country. We respect the Weather Underground Organization as one group among many committed to this task, but we are politically responsible only to ourselves and the revolutionary movement as a whole. Our participation in the July 4th Coalition is based on these political principles and objectives.

We have struggled within the Coalition for a sharper assessment of the impact of national oppression within the US, the leading role of the Black struggle, and for an exposure of the nature of women's oppression under imperialism.

We unite with the overall objectives of the march and rally: a massive challenge to the imperialist "Buy" Centennial and all it represents.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE JULY 4th COALITION !

FREEDOM FOR ALL OPPRESSED NATIONS

**END IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION, NATIONAL OPPRESSION
WOMEN'S OPPRESSION**

BUILD THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST CLASS STRUGGLE

Prairie Fire Organizing Committee

P.O. Box 5246- S.F. 94101