Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile

Against Sectarianism

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Our Party, in just two and a half years of existence, has succeeded in uniting around a fair revolutionary program, Marxist-Leninist, a significant number of working class activists, students, teachers, intellectuals, etc., in almost all the important cities of Chile and developed militant nuclei in various rural regions and indigenous communities.

He succeeded in educating many of his activists and turning them into good cadres, while maintaining a permanent ideological struggle, through newspapers, bulletins, magazines, against opportunist tendencies within the working class, in particular against the contemporary revisionism and against the petty-bourgeois ideology represented by castroism.



All this work, which had as main objective to develop and reinforce a true revolutionary avant-garde of the proletariat, was carried out in the middle of difficult conditions, because of the small number of activists that counted our organization at its beginnings, faced with the large machinery of party officials and union bureaucrats possessed by revisionism, in the face of its links with the bosses, the police and the government, in the face of reformist demagogy impelled, planned and led by Yankee imperialism, represented in our country by the Christian Democrat Party and supported by the revisionists of the old CP, and in the face of the confusion sown in the revolutionary ranks by Castroism and Trotskyism.

Since the Third Plenum of our Central Committee, during which the "Note on the work of the masses" was discussed and approved, our party has made great efforts to penetrate the main workers centers, to participate in the struggles of the masses, for the to organize and mobilize them, to respect the principles of the underground, to act in a planned way and to unmask the revisionists and other opportunists and yellow by taking them in the act, in their concrete actions which signified a betrayal of the interests of the workers.

In many workplaces, these efforts have paid off and our activists, acting from an independent position, have gained prestige and influence among the masses.

However, these experiences were not the most frequent and general. The party leadership did not push enough to study the "Note on the work of the masses" in the regional committees and in the bases, the discussion on the ideological foundations of the mass line was not thorough, and for these reasons, the work was faulty, partial and narrow.

The party as a whole did not understand the relationship between mass work, its revolutionary mobilization and the preparation of the armed struggle, and in certain regions, we fell into the trap of routine work and without prospects revolutionary, centred on the recruitment of militants on the margins of the struggle of the masses and on the preservation and improvement of the organization, thus isolating it from the life of our people, from its problems and its struggles.

These serious errors indicate that in our Party a tendency towards sectarianism has developed which it is necessary to fight with the greatest determination.

To combat an erroneous tendency, it is necessary to know it precisely, to detect its ideological roots and its class origin, to analyse the forms it takes in Party work and to launch against it an ideological struggle which educates the militants and creates the conditions for to enable them to recognize it and unearth it in partisan work.

If we do not launch this ideological struggle and limit ourselves to dictating rectification instructions, we would lose an excellent opportunity to raise the level of consciousness of the militants, and the rectification would only be superficial, and the erroneous tendency would reappear under d 'other forms.

Sectarianism has as its ideological basis subjectivism, in other words the idealist and bourgeois conception of the world, that which tries to make people believe that ideas do not arise from social practice, but that they have their own life, independent of the practice of Human being.

In sectarianism there is a desire to isolate oneself from the broad masses, to resolve everything through a group, a sect or a clan of elected officials. It is an expression of extreme individualism and contempt, lack of confidence and fear towards the masses of the people. It is a tendency specific to the exploiting classes.

Throughout history, we have seen the bourgeoisie resort to all kinds of sectarian organizations, such as lodges, fraternities, secret societies, terrorist groups, meetings, etc., to achieve its political goals and defend its interests. group.

The proletariat, for its part, is foreign to the sectarian spirit. He has no obscure interests or privileges to defend. Its class interests are identified with the interests of the broad masses of the people.

His revolutionary struggle, he cannot deliver in isolation, but on the contrary by grouping around him all the sectors capable of accompanying him at each stage of the struggle.

For this reason, the proletarian party, the Marxist-Leninist party, must be able, from the start, to apply the line of the masses correctly, to be able to unite with the masses, to serve them faithfully, to organize them., to direct and orient its struggles, to educate them and to lead them to lead on the path of revolution.

It is a duty that he cannot avoid, it is the essence of his work and his action, wherever he is and whatever the number of activists he counts in his ranks.

Only political work based on the mass line can develop the party and make it the core force capable of leading the revolution of our people.

Only political work based on the line of the masses can elevate the proletariat to the leading position and make it play the hegemonic role in the armed struggle for national liberation, and it is only through this work that can be prepared, organized and developed the people's war, the war of the masses capable of liberating the exploited classes of our country.

Politics is the conscious activity of a class which aims to defend its fundamental interests.

Through it, the forces that represent the various class interests of a society struggle to win majorities for their cause, to obtain their support and help in order to dominate power, serve these interests and impose their own conception of the world.

Imperialism and the bourgeoisie rely on the machinery of power, on the control of the forces of repression, on the weapons of bribing, confabulation, corruption, etc. to stay in power and exercise their power.

The proletariat only counts on unity around its party and on its political action to organize and raise its fighting capacity, generate its own military force, dislodge its class enemies from power and liberate itself and all the people from the 'exploitation.

Sectarianism is the opposite of proletarian politics and the line of the masses. It is a tendency opposed to the ideology of the proletariat, opposed to the principles of Marxism-Leninism. It is a cancer that we must learn to recognize and eliminate from the life and work of our Party.

Let's continue. The main errors that exposed the existence of sectarianism in our work are the following:

1. We have sought to build the Party and to develop it on the fringes of the struggle of the masses; this generated a sectarian and narrow recruitment of

elements which agreed with us but only in words, and prevented us from knowing and gaining the real activists acting in the masses.

2. We have failed to understand the relationship between clandestine work and open work. We did not understand that our organization is clandestine to be able to do open work among the masses, to be able to mobilize and lead them in the revolutionary struggle.

We did not encourage active participation in mass organizations on the pretext that they are led by yellows, as if it was not compulsory to fight opportunism among the masses and to cleanse their organizations of traitors and yolks.

This means: lack of fighting spirit and lack of confidence in the masses.

We have not promoted the creation of new, open and legal mass organizations, which collect workers' concerns and aspirations, serve their interests and link the Party to the masses.

- 3. By not actively participating in the struggle of the masses, we have led the Party towards isolation, we have not been able to synthesize these struggles to make them concrete platforms and instructions capable of orienting and to stimulate the class struggle, and for this reason we have not been able to mobilize the broad masses, failing to play our role as proletarian vanguard.
- 4. We have not been able to work with those who do not totally agree with us. That is to say that we did not understand that in the masses, there are advanced, intermediate and backward elements, and we did not give each case an appropriate treatment.
- 5. We thought that we could only intervene in the struggle of the masses where the party was already present and strengthened. In many cases, even where the Party was present, we only followed the masses, demonstrating a lack of interest and determination to serve the people and represent their basic interests.

These expressions of sectarianism in the Party's report to the masses were accompanied by manifestations of sectarianism in the internal work of the Party. In our opinion, the most important are: 1. In the various Party organizations, we have not implemented the correct methods which would have

made it possible to establish the right relations between the tasks of political orientation and direction and the practical tasks and organization.

Faced with overwork, we gave preference to practical and organizational tasks, leaving political tasks in the background and even forgotten. It is a grave error which tends to distance the Party from its revolutionary duties and from the life of our people.

Political work, fundamentally, must summarize and systematize the experiences of the struggle of the masses in the light of Marxism-Leninism, to bring them back to the masses in the form of political line and orientation.

This is the essence of our revolutionary work. In return, if the practical and organizational tasks are not properly resolved, it will be impossible to transform political orientations into concrete actions.

2. The error of trying to train cadres on the fringes of the mass struggle. We took care of perfecting the organization, raising the political level of the executives, of qualifying them and even of remodeling them ideologically on the sole basis of book study, courses and internal discussions away from revolutionary concrete practice.

This error has led certain cadres to self-perfect, to proletarianize far from the proletariat, to show pride and to treat their comrades with contempt.

3. The error of demanding a high ideological level and of obstructing the recruitment of honest proletarians who accept the fundamental aspects of our program and are ready to fight for the liberation of their class.

In so doing we forget the relationship between quality and quantity and we forget the fact that a proletarian has only one main recourse to raise his ideological level: to incorporate himself into the political tasks of his class party, to discipline and education.

4. The error of not having used criticism and self-criticism sufficiently and correctly in Party organizations. The basic weapon was thus despised for achieving unity and raising the ideological and political level of the militants. When they were used, it was only to solve serious internal problems, but not systematically in the heat of practice in the political work of the Party.

5. The error of placing class origin above the ideological aspect in the evaluation of activists, which tends to deprive the Party and the working class of the valuable and necessary contribution that revolutionary intellectuals can make . This manifestation of sectarianism has generally been accompanied by the error of confusing the artisans (who belong to the petty bourgeoisie) with the proletariat.

Consideration of the class origin of revolutionary cadres is an important factor in their assessment, but is not the only one. The labour movement included great leaders from other classes.

The determining factor in the evaluation of a framework is its ideological level, which must manifest itself mainly in fidelity and fervour for the revolutionary cause of the proletariat.

6. The error of hiding the Party far from the eyes of the masses, of refusing to carry out propaganda tasks under the pretext of maintaining the underground; as if it were to prevent good and effective propaganda among the masses. We thus forget that the best underground is that which the masses themselves offer to their revolutionary avant-garde.

All these errors caused by sectarianism must be analysed by us, seriously and thoroughly, in the light of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and the thought of Mao Zedong.

They have caused great harm to the development of our Party and to the revolutionary cause of our people. The struggle against sectarianism is an immediate task which we must carry out to rectify these errors and to make the Party capable of carrying out its revolutionary work with the greatest efficiency.

We believe that we can only succeed in this task if, in each committee and each cell, we carry out a review of the work and a serious discussion to determine how the work has been affected by sectarianism, and that we stimulate with the greatest determining the work of the masses in each Party organization.

In rectifying our errors of sectarianism we must consider:

1. That in the work of the Party we must give priority to politics and subordinate all other tasks to it. That ideology is part of politics, and that for our Party, it is a

proletarian policy that boils down to driving and directing the class struggle, serving the interests of the people in the short and long term.

This political definition is expressed in our Program and must be present in each of the Party's actions.

- 2. That proletarian ideology can only fulfil its leading role in revolutionary practice, in the drawing up of a just political line for each moment of the struggle and in the accomplishment of political tasks among the masses.
- 3. That the proletariat must develop an independent policy, which takes flesh and force thanks to the support of the large exploited masses and not thanks to the commitments and pacts concluded with the leaderships of the other forces. He must develop his own forms of action and his own methods of struggle, or as Mao Zedong says, "You fight your way, we fight our way."
- 4. That the struggle of the masses, their revolutionary mobilization, the building of the Party and the preparation of the armed struggle cannot be separated, being aspects of the same task.
- 5. That liaison with the masses, their organization and their mobilization is thus a single and constant task which cannot be divided into stages.
- 6. To mobilize the masses it is not enough to participate in their struggles. Or even to manage to direct them and make them more combative.

As has been said before, the Party must synthesize their struggles into platforms and political directives capable of uniting the various spontaneous movements, and into political actions with concrete objectives, to pull the masses and the struggles for demands out of the economism and put them on the path of revolution. If it does not do this, the Party can only remain the tail van of spontaneous struggle.

7. That the defeat of sectarianism implies the elimination of subjectivism which is at its source and which manifests itself as follows: a) ignorance of the problems of the masses; b) ignorance of the mass consciousness; c) ignorance of the lifestyles of the masses; d) ignorance of the various forms of mass expression; e) ignorance of the spontaneous struggles of the masses and their traditions of struggle

8. That the underground character of the Party can in no way be an excuse to isolate and hide from the masses.

That all our people must know the existence of the Party, its political line and its fidelity to the interests of the proletariat and the exploited masses, although it does not know what is its organization and where it meets.

That our Party is clandestine not to be eliminated by the enemy and to be able to serve the masses and become the core force capable of leading the revolution of our people.

That the contradiction between clandestine work and open work is resolved through independent, open and legal mass organizations, such as committees, centres, etc., which reflect the concerns and aspirations of the masses, which allow us to unite the largest sectors of workers, peasants, students, employees, intellectuals, etc., by organizing and directing them under the guidance of the Party.

The active participation of our activists in unions, central workers, confederations, etc., must be seriously boosted, nationally and regionally.

Faced with this, the Party must set a clear and defined policy, so that our activists can act in a decisive way, gather around them the healthiest and combative elements of the working class and transform these mass organizations into active instruments of the class struggle, isolating and unmasking traitors and renegades.

Our Party has already successfully launched the fight against sectarianism. Under this orientation, some regional committees succeeded, in a short period of time, in breaking the isolation and establishing serious and definitive links with the working masses.

In the struggles, we get to know many mass activists, honest and combative, who immediately understand our positions, who work alongside us and who will soon be invited to militate in our Party. To the extent that we beat sectarian tendencies, a new breath passes through our ranks.

The masses of our country are being brutally struck by the famine policy imposed by Yankee imperialism through its instrument, the government of Frei

and the handful of big native exploiters. Reform demagogy begins to fail and opportunist politicians serving the bourgeoisie begin to be repudiated by the workers.

The struggles of the masses take on an increasingly combative character and go beyond the instructions of the yellow leaders encysted in their organizations. Nothing, other than our own faults and limitations, will prevent our Party from fulfilling its glorious duty to lead and lead the revolutionary struggle of our people.

Whenever we do serious, dedicated and effective work, the masses will be with us.

Revolutionary Communist Party (Chile) 1969