AMID THE IMPERIALIST LIES—
WHICH WAY FOR A LASTING PEACE?

NATO armed forces in Lebanon and the Middle
East on a “peace-keeping” mission and to protect
the “national security”—A FAT LIE! U.S. aid to
counter-revolutionaries and reactionaries in Nica-
ragua and El Salvador for “democracy” and “free-
dom”—ANOTHER BIG LIE! U.S. and Caribbean
forces invade the island of Grenada in defense of
“democracy” and to “rescue” the “endangered”
U.S. students—ANOTHER BIG LIE! The imperial-
ist “Soviet” Union and Cubans in Afghanistan,
Africa, and Central and South America defending
“socialism”—MORE LIES!

Once again, the masses are being duped, are
being led down the path of destruction, are being
called on by their imperialist rulers, bourgeois
politicians, and labor, civil rights and “socialist”
leaders who support them, to fight and die for the
imperialists’ benefit. Both imperialist blocs (NATO
and Warsaw Pact) talk “peace” while carrying out
an arms race and deployment deadly enough to
blow up our world several times over. Both talk
about “democracy,” but suppress genuine mass
democracy and self-determination, not only within
their “home” boundaries when need be, but also
in the oppressed nations, colonies, and semi-
colonies they super-exploit. And the “Soviet”
Union has used every opportunity it could to
“export” its own brand of “Communist” support
and aid, i.e., the imperialist kind, and take control
of genuine mass movements for self-determination
and socialism in numerous parts of our world.
Both blocs talk about the “threat against the na-
tion,” when in these imperialist nations workers
are going without food, housing, heat and many
basic democratic rights, and the real threat is to
the imperialist bank accounts and spheres of in-
fluence.

There is nothing (and cannot be anything) “pro-
gressive” about the wars carried out by the mem-
bers of either bloc. Every war they instigate or
participate in is an unjust war. Both blocs are in a state of crisis and are desperate for expansion and PROFITS. All are interested in acquiring or re-acquiring new territory, raw materials, oil, markets for capital, cheap labor and new military positions. The imperialists on both sides, are not at all concerned about peace, democracy, socialism or self-determination. Instead, the imperialists carry out wars to: 1.) beat back and disunite the growing mass working-class unrest caused by the miserable conditions under imperialism (mass unemployment, hunger, lack of housing, opportunity, etc.); 2.) thwart the revolutionary national movements for self-determination and democracy; 3.) crush their imperialist rivals and seize their markets and spheres of influence.

On this we must be clear. Generations of workers and oppressed peoples before us were hoodwinked by similar lies in World Wars I and II. They were, at least at first, won over to chauvinist and patriotic calls. They were told that the great imperialist powers on one or another side in these wars were "democratic" and were fighting for democratic aims even though all the imperialist powers involved had for decades killed and tortured millions upon millions, suppressed revolutionary movement after revolutionary movement, and smashed class struggle in one country after another, and continued to do so after both world wars. The results are so painful—close to 40 million dead and nearly 60 million maimed. Add millions more dead and injured in unjust local and regional wars. And we are all becoming more and more aware of the devastation that could result from today's sophisticated armaments.

We are internationalists. We seek to tell the working people, the poor and the downtrodden masses the real truth about past wars and why they were fought. We seek to expose the cold facts about present wars and wars that are developing. Most of all, we seek to build a spirit and trend of proletarian internationalism in the U.S. and world-wide.

What does this internationalism mean? Internationalism means supporting the right of nations and peoples in other lands to determine their own future. Internationalism means opposing the actions of one's own government to thwart revolutionary developments in other countries and nations, it means actively aiding revolutionary movements in other countries and nations. Most importantly, internationalism means doing the utmost in one's own country to bring about a fundamental change in the existing economic and political order. In the imperialist NATO and Warsaw Pact countries for example, this means working for the overthrow of the capitalist-imperialist class and governments, and their replacement with real working-class socialist governments and economies (not the phony imperialist "socialism" of the "Soviet" Union, France, Poland, Cuba, etc.). Internationalism means that if world war should break out (and it is inevitable if imperialism remains), one must work to turn the imperialist war into civil war against the bourgeoisie, must work for the defeat of one's own government. That is the content of real internationalism. Nothing less!

We seek to help the working class distinguish between unjust reactionary wars waged by and between the imperialist powers and just revolutionary wars waged by the oppressed nations and the world proletariat. We seek to give the unemployed, the hungry, and those who have lost all hope a revolutionary alternative to killing and being killed for the imperialists. Our task is to correctly sum up history and apply it to present and developing conditions. We must not be fooled again: in reality, we can't afford to be fooled again!

To help workers grasp history and present tasks, the Organization for a Marxist-Leninist Workers' Party has published Part I of a major theoretical and polemical work. A review of that work, and information on how to order follows. All advanced workers and revolutionary and international-minded individuals are highly encouraged to order copies of Part I (volume one), study it, and struggle with us for internationalism and against chauvinism and bourgeois patriotism.
in Russia in March and November 1917. This part ends with the establishment of the Communist International as the fruits of the revolutionary upsurge at the end of and following the war. The First through Fourth Congresses of the CI are reviewed, the general theory, principles and tactics of Communism are discussed, and the CI work in this period is briefly mentioned.

Part II will be ready for publication next year. This section centers around World War II, an analysis of its character, and the tasks of the proletariat during it. Through an analysis of fascism, the history of imperialism and interimperialist conflict, and the economic and political development in the Soviet Union, the imperialist nature of World War II is shown: the Soviet Union became imperialist by the outbreak of the war; the Allied imperialists were not “democratic,” but were fighting for imperialist aims; and thus the entire war was imperialist and the workers of all nations should have turned their guns around. In this part, we also deal with the degeneration of the CI after the Fourth Congress, and its collapse at the Seventh Congress. We criticize the different opportunist lines (e.g., “Communist,” “Socialist,” Trotskyite) which one way or another told workers to fight and kill each other during the war.

Part III will deal with the upcoming war. We will analyze world development since World War II, bringing out where imperialist development and expansion, imperialist crisis and interimperialist rivalry, and working class and national liberation struggles are leading the world. We will do a survey of opportunist lines on the upcoming war and will bring out the specific tasks of the proletariat to prepare for revolution. We hope to help the proletariat ready itself for the severe struggle ahead to turn the third imperialist world war into civil war.

Orders for volume one can be placed with the OMLWP. Price until December 1, 1983 is $6.00 (300 pages, paperback, postage included). After that, price will be $7.50. Make check or money order payable to Workers’ Truth Publications. Send to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 5830, Chicago, II. 60680.
IMPERIALIST WAR AND PROLETARIAN CIVIL WAR
CONTENTS VOLUME ONE

Preface

Part I: Imperialist World War I—Civil War Develops

Chapter 1. The Marxist-Leninist Analysis of Wars
1. The epoch of imperialism and socialist revolution
2. Types of wars in this epoch
3. The analysis of wars must be based on the epoch
4. The concrete analysis of each war

Chapter 2. Imperialist World War I
1. The development of the imperialist powers and their conflicts
2. Class struggle and the national revolutionary movement
3. Sharpening contradictions lead to war
4. Robbers, profiteers and mass misery
5. Peace with annexations

Chapter 3. Imperialist World War I is Transformed into Proletarian Civil War
1. The collapse of the Second International and the split in socialism
2. Imperialism and the split in the working class
3. The struggle of the internationalists
4. Civil war

Chapter 4. The Establishment of the Revolutionary International Organization of the Working Class—the Third (Communist) International
1. Consolidating the platform and organization and building Communist Parties—the First and Second Congresses
2. The CI and the national revolutionary movements (1919-1922)
3. The end of the revolutionary upsurge; new tactics—the Third and Fourth Congresses

The Organization for a Marxist-Leninist Workers' Party works for the development of proletarian revolution and socialism in the U.S. and aids the struggles for socialism and national liberation in other countries and nations. To this end we concentrate our efforts on building the revolutionary working-class party in the U.S., founded on the basis of the merger of genuine Marxism-Leninism with the advanced section of the rising working-class movement. Internationally, we strive for the establishment of the revolutionary M-L International, and promote internationalism. For more of our literature write to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 5830, Chicago, Ill. 60680.