Hands Off Soviet Russia! [November 1919] by A. Raphailoff

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The imperialists of the world are continuing their infamous armed intervention in Soviet Russia. The counter-revolutionary Tsarist generals, backed up by Allied troops, Allied ammunition, and Allied money continue shedding the blood of the Russian workers and devastating the territory of the proletarian Republic. Moreover, the Allies are tightening the iron ring of the blockade around Soviet Russia, thus dooming millions of women and children to unheard of misery, starvation, and disease.

All this is being done because the workers and peasants of Russia have cast off the yoke of exploitation and oppression and have devoted themselves to the task of reconstructing their life on such foundations as will eliminate all oppression of the poor by the rich, all exploitation of the toilers by the capitalists. This is why the capitalist countries, where all the power is concentrated in the hands of the big commercial and financial interests, are waging this predatory war against Soviet Russia. Defending *their class* in Russia they are thereby protecting *their own interests*, for they know that the example set by the Russian workers will inevitably be followed by the workers of their own countries.

Hence, America's participation in this war against Russia!

American troops are still on Russian territory, and American ammunition and money are still being used for the purpose of strangling the only proletarian Republic in the world.

America's intervention in Russia is frequently referred to as President Wilson's private war. This is correct only insofar as the formalities required for the waging of this war have not been complied with: It is being carried on without the consent of Congress. Yet, as a matter of fact, it is not altogether President Wilson's *private* war. It is rather the class war of the American plutocracy, the class war of the international moneybags. American capital is vitally interested in crushing Soviet Russia and it does not stop at mere technicalities, even if it means the violation of laws of its own creation. In waging this war, President Wilson plays the part of the faithful servant of the American plutocracy.

American workers, you must realize this and bear it firmly in mind. You must know that every American soldier sailing for Russia goes there to shed the blood of the Russian workers and peasants who are now engaged in a desperate struggle against the capitalists of the world — those brigands of the international highways. You must bear in mind that every rifle, every cannon, every machine gun which is being sent from the United States to Russia means death for the many Russian workers and peasants who are sacrificing themselves in order that the workers the world over may be liberated from the yoke of international capital.

Workers of America! It is not sufficient to know and to bear all this in mind — you must act accordingly. Your slogan must be: Not a soldier for war against Soviet Russia, not a cent, not a rifle to help wage this war.

This slogan has already been adopted by the British, French, and Italian workers. In Great Britain, in France, and in Italy the workers are refusing to load ships with ammunition and provisions destined for the foes of Soviet Russia. **The Soldiers are refusing to go to the Russian fronts!!**

American workers, you must follow their example! To every invitation to play the part of Cain towards your Russian brothers, to every request of the American government to enlist for active service in Russia, or to load ships for the bloodstained Russian White Army, there must be one answer: "HANDS OFF SOVIET RUSSIA!"

THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF AMERICA.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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