BRIEF STATEMENT ON IMPERIALISM

1. Imperialism is an international system through which the capitalist ruling classes seek to maximize profits through economic, political and military control of the world's territory and peoples. It cannot stand still; it must grow or die.

2. Third World nations are the most exploited, with their economic and political systems subtly or openly controlled by the imperialists; yet it is precisely there that some of the sharpest struggles and most thorough defeats of the system are occurring.

3. The rise of socialism and the acceleration of national liberation struggles abroad contribute to the shrinking of the imperialist system, which forces the ruling classes to tighten the squeeze upon the working class at home. Imperialism causes and worsens poverty, inflation, unemployment, political repression, military rivalry, etc., none of which can be ended while imperialism exists. It has been met with continued resistance, which the ruling classes have tried to put down by force, co-option, and by playing on differences such as race, sex, age and nationality.

4. As anti-imperialists we see our task as exposing the imperialist system to as many people as possible and working toward unifying people in the fight against it at home and abroad. We support movements engaged in the struggle for systems that serve rather than exploit, particularly those engaged in struggles for national liberation.

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