

thinking, but it is our duty to struggle hard against those who practice aimless terrorism. It is also our duty to struggle against the trend that considers terrorism a basic method of struggle.»<sup>(4)</sup>

One cannot categorize an isolated strike as a purely terrorist act. If there is a political motive, justified by the historical conditions and the interests of the workers, and especially if the balance of forces is not in favor of the revolutionary forces, then the revolutionary act transcends its moral value. It becomes a means of mass agitation and mobilization in the revolutionary process. We shall always remember when a group of Russian revolutionaries invaded one of the Czar's prisons in 1905. Lenin then said with enthusiasm: «This is an honorable victory. This is the real victory after a bloody battle with an enemy armed to the teeth. This is not an attack against any hated figure. This is not a shameful act, and it is not an impatient outlet... This is the beginning that prepares and equips, taking into consideration the balance of forces. It is the beginning of the acts of the vanguard factions of the revolutionary army.»<sup>(5)</sup>

This Leninist analysis applies to the revolutionary acts of Castro and the Cuban revolutionaries when they invaded the Moncada garrison. While in prison, Castro drew up a correct revolutionary tactic concerning the means of struggle against Batista's reactionary authority. He explained in one of his letters, «Now, if there are men among us who are trigger-happy and ready to deal with the devil to get a gun, they should be purged from our ranks with no second thoughts! Also those cowards who retreat at the decisive moments of battle should be done away with immediately. In general, those people are impatient, but we, the true revolutionaries, don't want anarchists... within our ranks. We want men who are aware of their historical destiny, who know when to be patient and when not to be, and how to plan the future of their homeland in a scientific manner.»<sup>(6)</sup>

## TERRORISM AND ZIONISM

Imperialism and Zionism consider any armed struggle as terrorism, to be fought. They consider any national liberation movement as terrorist, illegitimate and internationally banned. Under this cover, imperialism and Zionism attempt to misrepresent the nature of the aid which the national liberation movements receive from the progressive and socialist movements and peoples of the world. The imperialist and Zionists also try to distort the noble causes and goals of the revolutionary struggle. The PLO, the internationally recognized, sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian revolution, is nothing more than a terrorist organization from their point of view. According to imperialism and Zionism, it should be destroyed since it is illegi-

timate. For this reason, the Zionist enemy tries, with propaganda and lies, to justify its fascist, aggressive policies and terrorism against the Palestinian people everywhere. The butcher of Lebanon, Ariel Sharon, confirmed: «We have to fight terrorism on the scale of all continents, 365 days a year, day and night, within our borders and the borders of all countries all over the world. We should wage a firm, well-planned and endless war against terrorists. If we do not prepare ourselves for this war soon, the phenomenon of terrorism will quickly spread inside and outside our borders.»<sup>(7)</sup>

At the same time, we find that imperialism and its allies, especially Zionism, are searching for combat methods of added force, and employing terrorist methods of violence.

## THE DEFINITION OF TERRORISM

In an attempt to define international terrorism, the special committee affiliated with the UN had to deal with two main interpretations. One was very limited; the other was broader. Imperialism and Zionism describe any act against imperialism, Zionism or reaction as a terrorist act. This contradicts the real definition of terrorism and international public opinion. Until now, there is not one formula for defining terrorism that is agreed upon by all. What is confirmed, as principled and just, is that the UN recognized the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people wherever they may be, branding 'Israel' and Zionism as racist and expansionist. Imperialism and Zionism worked hard to prevent the approval of any legal or international formula for defining terrorism; they vetoed all suggestions by the socialist and non-aligned countries.

The UN General Assembly also adopted a resolution in 1974, concerning the definition of aggression. The resolution recognized the right of all peoples to employ all forms of struggle, including armed struggle, in order to gain freedom, independence and self-determination. Thus, the UN differentiated between terrorism and armed struggle based on such goals.

Terrorism is any criminal act that is practiced without any right. This applies to Zionism, that employs international terrorism to achieve its goals and foreign policy, by illegal means. The Zionists make this clear, as when Peres said: «Israel has to hit any place where terrorists exist. Israel has the right to destroy their plans and methods and to completely destroy their morale, and to hunt them as fish in the sea.»<sup>(8)</sup>

Imperialists, Zionists and other terrorists try by all means to hide the connection between their states' aggressive policies and international terrorism as a tool for these policies. There are many examples. Israeli terrorist policies are the official means to annex occupied Arab land, by waging

constant wars against the Arabs and the PLO. Begin said, «I call upon you to wage an attack against terrorists anytime and anywhere. We have the authority to wage this attack, we also have the necessary potential and we have to use it. We also have to establish special official organizations to fight the invading Arabs»<sup>(9)</sup>

Before the establishment of 'Israel', the Zionist organizations used terrorism during the British mandate in Palestine, aiming at evicting the Palestinians from their homeland. Between 1937 and 1948, the Haganah, Irgun and Stern Zionist groups performed criminal, terrorist acts and massacres against the Palestinian people in order to annihilate them. After the establishment of the Zionist entity, terrorism officially became accepted practice by the state, as a 'creative' application of its racist ideology. Terrorism, annexing Palestinian land, and exploiting this land by force became the sole means of Zionist settler-colonial expansion. The Zionists' internal and external policies reveal the terrorist practices against the Palestinians.

## CONCLUSION

1. Terrorism reached its climax with the birth of capitalism. In fact, terrorism is one of the main byproducts of the capitalist system; it was one of its main components for destroying the outmoded feudal system.

2. The economic and social contradictions of the capitalist system, with its class structure, create the basis for this inhuman phenomenon, especially as a result of the general crisis of capitalism.

3. Revolutionary violence is a natural and legitimate right, when practiced by exploited peoples against imperialism. Thus revolutionary violence and imperialist terrorism can never be equated.

4. Marxism-Leninism rejects terrorism practiced as an aim in itself, without connection to other revolutionary acts and forms of struggle, mainly, the political class struggle and mass struggle.

5. Zionist terrorism is one of the most reactionary expressions of the imperialist policies. Also, the Zionist state's terrorism against the Palestinian people is one of the most bloody and criminal forms of terrorism in the history of humanity.

(1) Lenin, *The Complete Works*, Spanish edition, Havana, Vol. 28, p. 64.

(2) Ibid, vol. 23, p. 21.

(3) Lenin, *Party Organizer and Party Literature*, Spanish edition, Moscow, p. 18.

(4) Lenin, *The Complete Works*, Spanish edition, Havana, Vol. 5, p. 15-16.

(5) Ibid, Vol. 9, p. 270.

(6) Castro, Fidel, *The Fertile Prison*, Spanish edition, Havana: International Publishing House, 1980, p. 165.

(7) *Hatena* newspaper, Spanish edition, May 24, 1974.

(8) *Mario Latin* newspaper, Spanish edition, July, 1974.

(9) *Haaretz*, Spanish edition, May 21, 1974.