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The reality of U.S. Imperialism its Dominance and Decline Arguments against the Concepts of a Transnational Capitalist Class

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In this century with acceleration and reach of the development of Multi-polarity of the world the global dominance of U.S. Imperialism is being tested. The U.S. is still a formidable Military, Financial and Political power.

Its military bases span the globe; it loots the assets of the world's people at will and is engaged in several wars as well as covert operations on all continents. The U.S. engages in brutal attacks on the Afghan People, Iraqi nation and is heavily involved in the drive to inflame war on the Sub Continent between India and Pakistan.

The U.S provides billions in Military assistance to Israel and to conservative Arabic regimes in Saudi Arabia and Jordan as well as support for the Egyptian Government. The United States Militarists have worked in Central Asia to create military bases and in Eastern Europe for the militarization of states such as Georgia and the Ukraine. The pressure to bring more of the former Soviet republics into the Imperialists Orbit continues.

Challenging the U.S. though are emerging cooperation between the peoples of the developing world. The launching of rockets and space technologies is challenging the global monopoly of the United States; the satellite launched for the Latin American continent breaks the monopoly of the United States over commercial and information transfers and this is behind the posturing over Iran's Nuclear and Rocket programs, complaints about Chinese military expenditure and the pressure on Russia.

In Russia the destruction of Socialism led to a dramatic collapse in the Life Expectancy of the Russian People from an average of 80 years to an average of 58 years of age for Men. The European and United States Capitalists were assisted in the plunder of the Soviet Peoples assets by the rise of a Comprador Gangster Class who carried out mass theft of the people's assets. The Oligarchs as they have been so euphemistically called were accepted by Western Capitalists. This was the result of 'democratisation' of the Soviet Union; the Gangsters became citizens of the world whilst ordinary citizens become prey to the People Smugglers.

The United States proclaiming a New World Order as the Sole Super power now continued with its preparations and threats for Nuclear Annihilation of the Human Species, possessing more Nuclear weapons than any other State in the world and the only nation to have used these weapons against another nation (Hiroshima and Nagasaki). They threatened Iran and the Democratic Republic of Korea with war, sanctions and continues a

blockade against Korea and Heroic Cuba. The United States government has authorized the installation of “defensive” shields in Poland ringing Russia with a military challenge.

The United States now wages a war on Terror; this is the same nation that in 1980 bombed the Tiny Caribbean Island of Grenada for electing Maurice Bishop as their prime Minister. This was because they sought to lift the ban on relations with Cuba.

The Nation of Nicaragua overcame years of Military rule and a Government tracing its origins to the local hero Sandino was installed. The United States illegally mined the harbor of Managua the Capital and funded a reactionary campaign to overthrow the Sandinista Government.

In the Tiny Island of Guam, the Chamorro people wage an unequal battle for their sovereignty against the overwhelming might of the United States Army. An Island that has been designated as the staging post for its spy flights over China.

In Afghanistan the United States armed and trained the Taliban, Osama Bin Laden was an Employee on the payroll of the United States. George Bush senior was responsible for recruiting him to fight the Progressive government of Afghanistan.

The United States is the inheritor of empire from Great Britain who until the middle of the 20th century could boast that the Sun never sets on the British Empire now exercises the entire Imperial prerogative to threaten and blockade other nations. The other European Colonial powers France, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain have fought for their place in the sun mostly look on. It is not that long ago particularly in the Asian and Pacific region that the Colonial powers have departed, in fact for some they have not yet left.

France along with the United States still holds Colonial Possessions in the Pacific and many of the Wars in the region are the legacy of Colonization. Africa is not alone in the Territorial division; the Asian and Pacific rim was also divided up; the Island of Timor was divided between the Dutch and the Portuguese, the western half being ceded into Indonesia by the Dutch and the Eastern half remaining a colony of Portugal until 1970's. Seeking independence the East of Timor was occupied and added to Indonesian Territory in 1975. After a long struggle the Timorese have gained independence but they are still the victims of maneuvering at the centre of which is the Oil in the Timor Gap. The Island of Papua treated the same and the Solomon Islands along with sections of Asia.

The Division of the world into colonial possessions and the exclusion of Japan and Germany from this club was the source of friction that led to the First and Second World Wars. The Complicating factor in the Second World War was the rise of Socialism and the beginnings of the Anti-Imperialist movement which took the form of National Liberation Struggles which in some countries went on to a Socialist Stage.

The British struggle with the Germans and the Italians in North Africa was over Colonial Possessions.

The peoples of the Pacific Island nations were the unwilling recipients of the attention of the Imperial powers as they fought for possession of the Islands and left with

the Industrial debris.

It was in this climate that many inspired by the Soviet Socialist Revolution and the National liberation movement that travelled with it set out on the struggle to free their nations from Colonial Subjugation. Through Out Asia the call for National liberation assumed an Anti-colonial anti Imperialist bent and the United States went from Liberator from the Japanese to a new oppressor almost overnight.(Vietnam, Korea, Philippines etc)

Under the weight of the emergence of the Dominance of the United States Monopolists over their allies and vanquished foes the Rules of international Capitalism were changed to give Supremacy to give the United States Dollar supremacy and the U.S. economy a boost process which accelerated the integration of financial markets under the U.S. Big Banks internationally through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

It is being argued by some that a transnational capitalist class has emerged in this process. William I. Robinson and Jerry Harris have published such a view in *Science and Society*, Vol.64 No1 New Mexico State University and DeVry University Chicago respectively.

They argue ‘It is widely recognized that world Capitalism has been undergoing a period of profound restructuring since the 1970’s, bound up with the world historic process that has come to be known as globalization (Burbach and Robinson1999). One process central to capitalist globalization is transnational class formation, which has proceeded in step with internationalization of capital and the global integration of national productive structures’ They go on to further argue that “The Traditional assumption by Marxists that the capitalist class is by theoretical fiat organized in the nation-states and driven by the dynamics of national capitalist competition and state rivalries needs to be modified.”

And to fully commit their position ‘we argue in this essay that a transnational capitalist class (hence-forth TCC) has emerged, and that this TCC a global ruling class. It is a ruling class because it controls the levers of an emergent trans-national state apparatus and global decision making. The TCC is in the process of constructing a new global capitalist historic bloc: a new hegemonic bloc consisting of various economic and political forces that have become the dominant sector of the ruling class (each good lie needs to contain a grain of truth DM)..... The politics and policies of this ruling bloc are conditioned by the new global structure of accumulation and production.”

Despite what is being argued by some Multi-National corporations do have a base in their own countries Imperialism. They are in fact what drive the Imperialist agenda of their base states. The attack on Iraq and the removal of a government that had been a reliable servant of Imperialism by the United States was dictated by the rivalry between the European Union and the United States. The position of power between these states and economic blocks is as much decided by military agendas as by the resources that they control. The Shift to Euro’s for a state such as Iraq was not tolerable to U.S. financial

interests and in particular the insertion of French influence is what was behind the public differences between the two Imperialist states. Just because Imperialist rivalries don't always break out into armed conflicts between the two imperialist powers does not mean that they are not real.

The United States being the dominant Imperialism of the Two, a position earned through the Marshall plan and the insertion of levers of Control into the economies of the European Imperial powers rebuilt by the United States with Loans and Financial dominance Built in. What is seen as Unity is actually Subservience and the main issue is that in its dominant position the United States Imperialists Dominate the Global Institutions of Capitalism, The IMF, World Bank, GATT etc. The other powers either goes along get a share or they act like Japan or Germany did and tries to grab some for themselves.

With the United States global military and financial dominance this would be extremely dangerous. In the case of Japan and Germany the United States and its close ally Britain have occupied a section of Germany as insurance and imposed their own style of government on that Country. In Japan the occupation continues and the creation of a new political System in which the Conservative Liberal Democratic Party and corrupt institutions such as the Japanese Mafia have ensured a dependent position. In Germany a compliant Corporatist Union Movement has been developed to tie the German working Class into a Class Collaboration through Industry Councils and other tri-partite arrangements. The use in the Western German Republic of former Nazis and the tight anti-communist legislation which imposed an authoritarian limitation on the growth of the Communist Party and Unions as part of the Struggle for Socialism has provided a support to the rebirth of the former Corporations that were involved in the development of the Fascist system of Government.

In Italy the Occupiers transplanted American Gangsterism into the Government and assisted the establishment of the Christian Democrat Government. Despite the often ineffectual tag applied by the United States Imperialists they have been very successful in implanting their views and their models for society into those Nations that they dominate.

The most effective tools are the Use of Hollywood, Movies and Television that spreads the Ideology to support the United States System of plunder. The American way of life comes in the form of Franchise and uses the power of the organization of franchise to uproot and supplant their corporations even in the Economies of their friends. Every-one is familiar with the McDonalds, the Seven Eleven and the Coffee Clubs, Starbucks but the Television and Music companies slip by such as Fox and HMV(Now Serco). In nations like Australia small proprietors of Milk Bars were driven out of existence by the Franchised Company. The Latest is the Small Hardware Store, crushed by the lower prices superior marketing of Bunning's a huge Warehouse of hardware. These are the Shock troops of United States Imperialism they transform the nation and destroy the national culture on the way to realizing corporate profits. They are also part of the United States military Complex.

Companies like SERCO who present as a management Company derived their profits as the old His Masters voice and used them to Develop Interballistic Missiles; they also have an Arm managing United States Military Bases.

This is ‘MODERN’ Imperialism a Dominant United States Imperialism with its Anglo Club very close i.e. Canada, New Zealand and Great Britain and Australia holding an Alliance determined in the Second world war with the other European powers Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Portugal and Spain. Including because of its economic strength Japan who ties to itself South Korea (under U.S.. occupation) it is a Chain that holds down the peoples of the world.

The attack on Marxism by Robinson and Harris is trying to obscure and lump in all the class forces together, to suggest that the nation state has been transplanted by other structures. It is not new as a theory; it was Karl Kautsky who put forward an earlier version of Super Imperialism/Ultra-imperialism. From Lenin Imperialism the Highest Stage of Capitalism (progress publishers 1976 Selected works Pgs 722-724)

‘The notorious theory of ‘ultra-imperialism’’, invented by Kautsky is just as reactionary”

‘And what better consolation could there be than the theory that imperialism is not so bad: that it stands close to inter /ultra imperialism, which can ensure permanent peace?’

Lenin Continues

‘Indeed, it is enough to compare well-known and indisputable facts to become convinced of the utter falsity of the prospects which Kautsky tries to conjure up before the German workers (and workers of all lands). Let us consider India, Indo-China and China. It is known that these three colonial and semi colonial countries, with a population of six to seven hundred million, are subjected to the exploitation of the finance capital of several imperialist powers: Great Britain, France, Japan the U.S.A., etc. Let us assume that these imperialist countries form alliances against one another in order to protect or enlarge their possessions, their interests and their spheres of influence in these Asiatic states; these alliances would be “inter-imperialist” , or “ultra-imperialist” alliances. Let us assume that all the imperialist countries conclude an alliance for the “peaceful” division of these parts of Asia; this alliance would be an alliance of “internationally united finance capital”. There are actual examples of alliances of this kind in the twentieth century – the attitude of the powers to China, for instance. We ask is it “conceivable” assuming that the capitalist system remains intact – and this is precisely the assumption that Kautsky does make- that such alliances would be more than temporary, that they would eliminate friction, conflicts and struggle in every possible form?’

Lenin goes on to argue that it is the relative strengths of the Imperial powers that determines their share of the divisions.

Robinson and Harris base their arguments on the integration and cross ownership of Transnational Corporations, ‘there has been a veritable proliferation of transnationally

oriented capitalist organizations and planning groups' ... ' it is the World Economic Forum(WEF) that stands out as the most comprehensive transnational planning body of the TCC (Transnational Capitalist Class DM) and the truly quintessential example of a truly global network binding together the TCC in a transnational civil society. The article then goes on to examine an argument about the different policies contained in the Washington Consensus (ignoring the fact that this consensus accepts the Global dominance of the United States Financiers).

The writers present the forms of international relations as the class content. They quote Lawrence Summers undersecretary of the U.S. Treasury Department in 1998

"In some ways the IMF has done more in these past months to liberalize these (Asian) economies and to open up their markets to U.S. goods and Services than has been achieved in rounds of negotiation in the region" (cited in Bello, 1998-99, 138).

The penny does not drop and these obscurers of class relations and National liberation struggles cannot see the dominance and separatist interest of the U.S. Treasury Department in promoting the interests of the U.S. monopolists. The Treasury Department is concerned that its job of increasing United States Market share is done better by the IMF than months of their efforts.

At the end of their essay they create 'an expanding trans-national proletariat is the alter ego of the TCC'. This withering away of the nation state under capitalism denies the powerful role of National Liberation struggle.

The theory Overcomes oppressed nations and Oppressor nations substituting instead a universal and homogenized Transnational Capitalist Class for the reality of nationally based Imperialisms that subvert and corrupt a section of their proletariat into support for their Imperialism and a developing world fighting for their nation's interests. Such nonsense serves the Imperialists because it does not allow the Progressives of the world to break with their own Imperialism and side with the Liberation Struggles. Albeit that they are in new forms and more Widespread.

The world has not remained Static and domination of Imperialism is under challenge from the rise of the people's movement. The Socialist Revolution and the Liberation struggle that it Unleashed is still a motor force in the History of Human Civilization. This revolution inspired millions and gave hope to the Oppressed people's through-out the world; it provided material support to struggles through-out Asia and Africa, to millions in Europe and the Americas. The struggle is still continuing but as always the world is changing and has changed.

The impact of this struggle is illustrated by a graph produced by the International Monetary fund to chart the Gross domestic Product of the major regions of the world since 1700 and projected to 2015; it was reproduced for the Australian Prime Ministers Science Technology and innovation Commission. This commission was arguing the need for the Australian government to position to take account of the growth of China and to a lesser

extent that of India.

What the graph did show was the impact of different historical events and eras on the GDP of these regions. From 1700 until approximately 1820 Chinas share of GDP grew from just over 22% to over 33% just before 1820 being greater than Western Europe for that period. India which started at just over 25% in 1700 began a long and sharp decline. This coincides with European Colonization of India. The decline of Indian share of is continuous until 1973 and declines to less than 5%. The same Graph shows the decline of China continuing until 1949 and reaching 5% of world GDP in that year coinciding with India. From that point the Growth of world Share of GDP for China begins to climb and accelerates from 1973 and is predicted to surpass the United States in the years between 2010 and 2015.

Of interest is the obvious conclusion from the graph that the dramatic rise in world share of GDP for Western Europe to 33% in 1870 from 22% in 1820 was the result of the plundering of Colonies and particular the Indian and Chinese peoples. The same graph shows that after the First World war the United States share of GDP passes that of Europe briefly and both then begin a long period of Decline the U.S, halts its decline between the 1960's and late 1980's but remains below the 25% peak. The graph then goes on to Predict a further decline in the U.S. share of GDP. The sudden decline in Western Europe coincides with the Soviet Revolution from 32% to 25% share of world GDP in the 1914 to 1950 period.

This is a dramatic show of the struggle for a share of the worlds resources and the impacts of Social and political changes on the outcomes.

Graph can be viewed online on page 2 Chapter one of the Working Group on Asia Report to Prime Ministers Science, Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC)

It is to stop this decline "To Restore America" that is the concern of the American Capitalists. The growth of China and the reemergence of Independent nations from the period of Colonial rule and semi-colonies have shaken the grip of the Imperialists on the world economy. The other dominance of Imperialism has been in Production and Technology.

The report by the Working Group on Asia Report to PMSEIC on page v of the Executive Summary

"The rise of China and India as global technological players threatens nations traditionally reliant on knowledge capital for their prosperity. A revolution in information and communications technology and liberalization of trade, has facilitated a massive transfer of business processes and investment in production from the developed to the developing world, accelerating through the last decade. Australian firms are now looking overseas for a number of their business inputs- including some R&D, components for manufactured goods and overseas investment. By sourcing these inputs from overseas, some Australian companies have improved their international competitiveness and

increased their exports”

The habit of Australian Government and Media reports is to group China with India in order to further obscure the different Social System of China from the mass of Australians whilst discussing the vital interests of the Capitalists.

The report is concerned that China is moving to a more intense form of production. The Application of the Scientific and Technical Revolution to a developing Socialist Economy has wide ranging concerns for the capitalists. It will change the relationship of combined and uneven development in favor of the Socializing economy. That is as more developed scientific and technical methods are applied to the production process the productivity of the Labor is raised and this creates a balance tipped to the Nation with superior technique. The problem for the Capitalist is that in order to compete in the global market they must find cheaper and cheaper sources for all of their inputs; in the age of the Scientific and Technical Revolution these inputs include research and development. To access these inputs they must transfer not only their production of components off shore but also their scientific research.

The problem then becomes one of control over the Nation that these skills and knowledge's are transferred to. In India the United States recognizing that India is still a capitalist nation drives and pressures India closer to the United States. This is part of the deal on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty and dragging India into the Military Industrial Complex of the United States (see Peoples Democracy on line for Details of the release of Australian Uranium to India and the problems of the United States encroaching on Indian Sovereignty)

In the Case of China Subversion of another kind is in order first to try to create a class with-in China to demand an installation of Capitalist Democracy an Urban Elite, this is to remove the Communist Party from power as the Party is still firmly linked with the masses particularly the rural Populations.

The other is to ferment and develop separatist movements. The third is to try to integrate the Chinese economy into the United States economy. The hope of the Capitalists is that the unemployment that is created by ‘the Financial Crisis’ will cause dissent and lead to the overthrow of the Chinese Communist Party. The United States will do all it can to create the basis in China for the restoration of Capitalism. They can see that the restoration of China as a dependent nation will restore their Hegemony.

ANTI FUEDAL ANTI COLONIAL STRUGGLE CONTINUES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Throughout the Pacific and Asia Feudal structures that have existed for centuries are still crumbling under the onslaught unleashed by the Anti- Colonial Movement fostered and

supported by the Soviet Union after the historic defeat of Fascism. Despite the destruction and dismemberment of the Soviet Union the struggle Unleashed against the colonial powers is continuing with new dynamics as Imperialism has tried to re-impose its will on the peoples of the world.

Papua New Guinea had the courage to refuse meddling from Australia and the movements against such meddling are continuing to grow. In Tonga those accused of trying to end the Feudal regime there have made the Parliament. These struggles are fuelled as they were in Bougainville and other places by the dominance of the large mining companies and access to the minerals and the struggle for land rights of the peoples being displaced and having their economies ruined.

The portrayal of underdevelopment in these regions is against the back drop of Mining Exploitation and that of the natural resources. Moses Havini the leader of the Bougainville Freedom Struggle in His pamphlet *Bougainville: The long struggle for freedom* (New Age Publishers) ‘In the 18th and 19th centuries the European colonial powers embarked upon a splurge of colonization within the Asia-Pacific rim. The imperialists were after and are still after today, the raw materials and natural resources of the pacific countries. The indigenous peoples of the region were and are the victims.’

‘The region was seen as a potential source of plunder, principally for gold and any other interesting finds for the “motherland”

He talks of the role of Bismarck and the Germans in Colonial conquest of his region and the British taking and Dividing off the Solomon Islands Protectorate.

And of Bougainville ‘The lands of the Bougainville people were simply just taken by the Germans for their own exploitative economic programs.’

‘Any input onto the local population by the German Imperial Government was to “educate” the natives to better understand their white masters so that they could become efficient productive agents, working in their plantations as labourers or as trained policemen to help maintain the status quo for the “fatherland”’.

The stories are the same through-out the pacific. Australia played a role as an outpost of British Imperialism and as an emerging Imperialist Nation in Its own Right. To the pacific Islanders we were Slave Traders and Plantation Owners, To the Native Aboriginal populations of Australia we were Devastation itself. The struggle against capitalism is a struggle for the rights of The Indigenous populations of the region. The National Question is unresolved in most of the Countries of the region and the struggle for development is a struggle against imperialist interests.

The struggle for independence of the west Papuan people the basis of access to the world’s largest Copper and Gold mine by the US Company Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold inc, who received the 30 year lease 2 years before “the Act of Free Choice” incorporated West Papua into Indonesia.

The United States diplomacy had previously executed the New York Agreement which

had the former Dutch Colonial masters give protectorate status to Indonesia a nation in which the United States is rumored to have provided the names of communist Trade union and progressive peoples for elimination in the Military Coup against the freedom Leader Sukarno.

The united States Military, Civil and Spy infrastructures operate in the interests of the United States Transnational Corporations, Britain France and other nations similarly operate in the interests of their own Imperialists interests.

The modern Imperialism is like all previous imperialism in a struggle for control over the world resources and against the Local people who need those resources for their survival, they will wage wars of occupation and will enlist the working people of their nation in waging these wars using Racism and National Chauvinism as a means to gain support from the working people. They still bribe sections of the working people and this is used to promote opportunism in the working classes of the developed Capitalist countries.

The arguments that Globalization, Capitalist Globalization has changed capitalism to a new stage of social development and that this leads to a common Civil Society of Capitalists forging common bonds denies the truth that thieves fall in for a ‘Bank Job’ but fall out and argue when the loot is to be divided. They continue to apply the distribution according to the relations between the thieves and this can still lead to conflict and antagonism.

We are living in the Era of the Decline of the U.S. monopolies and this is being accelerated by the rise of a multi-polar world, in which challenges are emerging in Latin America, China, and Russia. The increasing co-operation of states around the emerging economies such formations as the Shanghai Cooperation agreement ‘the Bilateral cooperation of China and Russia, Venezuela and China and so forth will undermine the Economic monopoly that the United States Imperialist have had on the world economy. The only fear to this is if the United States reverts to war as a means to restore its Hegemony, so far this option has not resulted in success.

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