

Down with the imperialist Tory-liberal govt and the monarchy!

For hundreds of years British imperialism has plundered and continues to plunder hundreds of millions of workers in the semi-colonies. Now US imperialism dominates British capital. From the super-profits that is raked in from the colonies and semi-colonies, some crumbs were thrown as privileges to the few million workers in Britain. But the vast majority of the profits goes into the hands of the imperialist banks, the same banks that you bailed out yesterday with trillions of pounds/dollars across Europe and North America.

These same imperialist banks are making super profits: HSBC on the 2nd August 2010 reported that they increased profits by 121% over the past 6 months, to 7 billion pounds; Barclays reported in February that their profit was a record 11 billion pounds for the previous year; Goldman Sachs reported in January a record profit of \$5 bn for the previous 3 months; on the 15th July JP Morgan Chase reported a record 76% increase of profits of \$6.3bn for the previous 3 months. At the same time the imperialist Tory-liberal regime reports cuts of \$128 bn. The world economy is stagnating so the only way for the capitalists to sustain their profits is to take back more from the working class. These imperialist banks that you bailed out yesterday, have no loyalty to you nor to the Pakistani worker, nor to the Hindu worker, nor to the South African worker. Their only loyalty is to their profits. 'British jobs for British workers' is a cruel myth promoted by the capitalists, and sustained by the union bureaucracy, to divide the working class, to put worker against worker, while imperialism rakes in super-profits.

Drawing the lessons of the French May '68 and recent class struggles

The spontaneous march of 50 000 students and lecturers in London on Wed 10 Nov, where they occupied and took over (for an hour) the Head quarters of the Conservative party shows that the struggle of the working class in Britain has entered into an offensive stage. Beneath the supposed calm in the working class is a deep hatred for the regime and big capital. This hatred has burst out in a student mass protest. In Dublin 50 000 students were marching too against the imperialist attacks.

At the start of May 1968 in France what started as a rebellion of students against the French imperialist attacks quickly spread to all workplaces. Most of the workplaces were occupied and taken over by the working class. Thus while the students demands were the trigger, what was really at stake was a workers rebellion against the French imperialist regime. More than 11 million workers in France were on strike. What sustained the rebellion was the occupation of the workplaces by the working class. De Gaulle had to flee the country as the imperialists feared another French Commune.

In London today the student demands merely reflect the deep, widespread class hatred against the capitalist regime. The working class are ready to take action against the regime, even to overthrow it but what prevents the masses

from doing it is the role of the treacherous leaders within the working class, including the Socialist Workers Party, the CPGB, the Workers Power, the Socialist Fight, the CPB, the trade union bureaucracy.

In May 1968 the French Communist Party marched at the head of the demonstrations in order to win control of the spontaneous uprising. The masses were raising the slogan 'Away with de Gaulle' but the French CP wanted the masses to concentrate on elections. Time and time again the French CP raised economic demands: they raised a demand for a 35% increase in the minimum wage and a 7% general increase- this was rejected by the masses, they raised the demand of a 10% general increase and this too was rejected for a while. But eventually the revolutionary momentum was lost and after 30 days of heroic battles, an agreement was struck and the strike ended. Section by section of workers who were still occupying the factories were forced out by the combined forces of the French CP and the imperialist regime. World imperialism and Stalinism have drawn the lessons of May 1968 in that they promote stayaways and pickets outside of workplaces- they do everything to prevent workers occupying workplaces because this directly leads to the development of a dual power of workers that could lay the basis for the workers to take power and overthrow the capitalist regime.

May 1968 was not an isolated event but came out of a lengthy process of international workers struggles: In the period before, French imperialism suffered defeats in Morocco, Algeria, Vietnam. Even the French October of 2010 was preceded by uprisings of the working class in Martinique, Guadeloupe, Madagascar. It was preceded by 8 general strikes in Greece, by a general strike of immigrants across Europe on the 1st March, by workers strikes in Ukraine, Russia, Rumania, by general strikes in Spain and Portugal. In Kyrgyzstan the working class burnt the parliament to the ground and kicked out the US puppet regime of Bakiev. There have been uprisings in Mozambique against the bread and electricity price increases; the masses in South Africa were preparing to come out in a general strike during a 3 week strike of over 1 million public sector workers. These are all indicators that the world working class is seeking ways to go onto the offensive against the imperialists and not just engage in defensive struggles.

What is the immediate way forward?

The first task is to make a call for general strike committees, of workers, unemployed, students, rank and file soldiers, centred around the call of **'Down with the imperialist Tory-liberal regime and the monarchy'**. The banks control all industry in Britain. These banks were bailed out with workers money; workers should occupy and take control of all industry and all the banks. Delegations should be sent to the army barracks to call the rank and file soldiers to form committees and to send delegates to the general strike committees. There should be immediate setting up of workers self-defence committees as part of the general strike committees. Take over the HSBC, the Bank of Scotland, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, Barclays and all other banks, expropriate them without compensation to the capitalists and place them under workers control. Workers should occupy and take over their union offices, kick out the treacherous bureaucrats who shield the imperialists by

calling for symbolic action only in March next year. Share the work among all who can work, irrespective if you are British or immigrant, legal or 'illegal'. Call a Congress of delegates of workers, unemployed, students and rank and file soldiers in Britain, where worker delegates from across Europe are invited, where worker delegates from the British colonies and semi-colonies are invited. Expropriate all British, French, German Japanese and US imperialist assets in all the colonies and semi-colonies, without compensation, and place them under workers control.

The lessons of the betrayal of the French May 68 and Oct 2010

The French CP and pseudo left (anti-capitalists, International Socialist Tendency, Workers Power, the FT-CI, International Communist Union) aligned against the French working class to keep the struggles defensive: 'against the cuts' and preventing at all costs that the demand be raised for the working class take power in their own hands and doing away with the imperialist regimes with their own methods.

Indeed the first response of the CPGB is for all the coalitions to unite to form one anti-cuts campaign. The SWP calls for a broader student movement and a general vague call for more radical movements to be formed; Workers power calls for an international 'revolutionary' student movement to be formed; The Socialist Fight are still hiding under the table (we can expect their profound words when the movement is on the decline). The SWP calls for support for a student movement of 24th November when the main task is to get the working class mobilised, to prepare to occupy the workplaces and to go on the offensive. The spontaneous uprising of the 10th November shows that the masses are already to the left of all the 'left' organizations in Britain. These 'left' want to, just like they tried in 1968, to limit the struggle to student organization, in other words to neutralise any uprising against the state and big capital. They want to keep the demands centred on 'maintaining' past gains, whereas the only way to defend past gains and extend them is for the working class to take power in its own hands, no parliamentary route or law will win anything. If the fight hots up as in May 1968, whatever gains the capitalist makes will soon be eaten up by price increases. When imperialism capitalism is in mortal danger they will become the most 'democratic' the most 'radical', they will promise the earth, but when the moment passes, they will turn on the masses, like they slaughtered the Paris Communards, they will make the streets flow with our blood. Down with Maastricht of the imperialist butchers! Down with the imperialist Obama regime.

Let the flames of London, Athens, Paris be taken to the whole of Europe and indeed the whole world! For those who support the above programme we call for the formation of an Organizing Committee to refound the Fourth International on the barricades of London, Paris, Athens. The Workers Power group and its League for the Fifth International, by confining the struggle to a largely student struggle has passed to the other side of the barricade, that of the HSBC and of imperialism in general. The march starts with the Conservative party HQ, it passes through the occupation of all workplaces, the occupation of the union offices, the occupation of Buckingham palace, the dispersal of the parliament and ends up with the new workers power, the

dictatorship of the working class and the decisive end of the current dictatorship of the parasites, the handful of capitalists.

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