Campaign against Reagan visit Oppose the visit of this foreign imperialist warmonger

On his recent visit to the President of the United States of America at the White House, Garret Fitzgerald promised that the Irish people would give Reagan a "True Irish welcome" when he visits Ireland this coming June 2nd-4th.

The question that faces us, the Irish people is : what sort of man did Fitzgerald give this promise to, and can Fitzgerald be said to have been acting in the true interests of the Irish people in making such a promise on our behalf?

Reagan is notorious as the advocate of every kind of reactionary and fascist policy within the United States, for a start. It was Reagan who, following his anti-trade union policy (in contradiction to his hypocritical support for alleged "free" trade unions in Poland when it is in the warmongering interests of U.S. imperialism against its equally rotten rival, Soviet social imperialism) sacked some 20,000 air traffic controllers in the United States, simply because they went on strike to demand, justly , more staff to reduce air It was Reagan, the open opp accidents etc. onent of women's rights, who shot down the Equal Rights Amendment. It is Reagan, the famed like thinker of Thatcher on the question of monetarism, who has cut state spending, especially on social welfare , education etc., and cut literally hundreds of thousands of jobs and living standards of the poor, whilst boosting less labour-intensive war industries. Reagan has condemned a whole new generation to the same soup kitchens of the '30s, to shacks in shanty towns , and condemned the youth to hopelessness, crime and drug addict-ion, only to treat all the ordinary youth as criminals

But still more odious, Garret Fitzgerald has promised a welcome on behalf of the Irish people, to a politician who is notorious throughout the world as the leader of one of the two superpowers, which considered seperately or together, constitute the greatest threat to the future and very lives of the masses of humanity today.

Alleging the so-called "defence of U.S. imperialism's vital interests", Reagan and U.S. imperialism feel themselves fully justified in military intervention in any corner of the globe, however remote from America ; and even justified in plunging the whole world's people into another and still more catastrophic world war, into a nuclear holocaust.

Reagan, the man with whom Garret Fitzgerald wants the Irish people to shake hands in friendship and kinship, is the leader of an aggressive world power, which on the excuse of "combatting international terrorism" justifies the butchery, either directly, or by proxy. of literally hundreds of thousands of people in Lebanon, El Salvador and other Latin American countries such as Guatamala and Chile. Reagan is the bully and himself the real "international terrorist" who ordered the massive invasion of Grenada, a small country of some 110,000 people, by a country of some 250 million! Reagan is the heartless sadist who looks on without remorse at the Hitlerite Blitzkrieg of Israeli Zionism against the Palestinian refugees and the people of the Lebanon, including the mass extermination at the Shatilla and Sabra camps.

We are supposed to give this fascist and imperialist, Ronald Reagan, a warm Irish welcome because he lays claim to Irish forbears. But is this just.

Let us look again at who this Reagan is and what his real concern in Ireland is.

REAGAN IS ANTI-IRISH

Having started with the utterly reactionary stands of Reagan which makes him notorious both inside America and throughout the world, what about his stand with regard to Ireland, this land of his forefathers ?

First of all, Reagan is the closest and much admired friend of Margaret Thatcher, the present British Prime Minister, another vicious enemy of the Irish people as have been all her predecessors Tory, Liberal of Labour.Reagan is the friend of those who preside without the slightest humanity or democratic principle over the unjust and criminal military, fascist-type colonial regime in the north of Ireland, where torture to extort confessions or perjury is the order of the day, where assassinations carried out directly by British army and their undercover SAS, or by fascist loyalist gangs incited and organised by British military intelligence are simply normal instruments of colonial government, where political prisoners, genuine Irish patriots, are branded as criminals, as they have been branded down through our centuries of struggle for freedom.

And what of Reagan's attitude to Irish freedom itself ?

FIGHT TO AVERT THE DANGER OF ANOTHER WORLD WAR

This man who is presented as an Irish ex- patriate is openly boasting of his efforts to sever the honest support of genuine Irish-Americans for the struggle back home ; and he is proud that the same Currency Regulations are now being used to confiscate "terrorist money" in just the same way he has confiscated 'narcotics money" Thus Reagan himself joins the long list with all the British imperialists, who have tried to "brand Ireland's fight for freedom as eight hundred years of crime". Reagan is one of the strongest advocates of extradition for political refugees, and again boasts about his trials and convictions of Irish-Americans and Irish in America who are trying to assist the struggle back home in the north.

A dangerous deception has long been floated by the class of parasites and national traitors who constitute the ruling cirlces in the south since the betrayal of the "Free" State Treaty in 1921. This is the solemn pledge in the Constitution to "neutrality". Under this deception "Free" State soldiers have done the dirty work for U.S. imperialism in United Nations peacekeeping forces, including in the Lebanon, where their job was to harrass and suppress the just struggle of the Palestinian people and hold open the gate for the criminal Israeli Zionist invasion of Lebanon. But apart from the name of the Irish people being lent to support U.S. imperialism in such criminal acts against the oppressed people of other countries, under the cover of "neutrality" and "peacekeeping" this deception is also being used to conceal from the Irish people the very real threats and dangers of the preparations for world war led by the two superpowers, U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism. This is to keep the Irish people quiet amongst the rest of the peoples and nations of the world which are rising up increasingly in struggle against the war preparations, the two superpowers and all imperialism.

Recently, propaganda in the mass media was carried which made out that probably the most serious threat to the Irish people in the event of a world nuclear war would be invasion by hordes of marauders fleeing the after-effects of the nuclear devastation in Britain.

But this is not the real threat which British imperialism actually does pose for the Irish people on the nuclear front, in addition to its daily and ongoing national aggression and colonial occupation after eight centuries.

The issue is that the claim to "neutrality" for the southern "free" state is a dangerous deception in the conditions where British imperialism, by virtue of its unjust annexation of the northern 6 counties, actually holds the people of the north of Ireland i.e. Irish people for U.S. imperialism's NATO bloc, as well as for its own military, strategic and exploiting interests.

But why not look at the south where "neutrality" is supposed to be a reality? How can we have"nothing to do with NATO" as it is officially alleged, if the "Free" State army undergoes training with NATO armies and is keeping exact pace with all the countries of NATO in adopting uniform and standardised military equipment and specifications - preparations which are for a unified NATO army in event of world war ? Every day Leinster House politicians are hinting quite openly that they would be prepared to trade "neutrality" and partition for NATO membership and re-unification (by gracious consent of Her Majesties government). Besides there already exist in the south short wave stations for "civilian air traffic control", such as Mount Gabriel in West Cork and which are paid for by massive grants from the British Ministry of Defence, and are linked directly into defence reconnaissance in Britain itself.

The Irish people can neither feel indifferent to their own fate as a people, certainly to the fate of some truncated part of the nation. But neither can the Irish people feel indifference to the fate of the people of the whole world or any of its brother and sister nations. Our centuries long patriotic struggle for our own national emancipation has made us still more sensitive to the sufferings of our fellow oppressed and exploited.

We protest against Reagan's visit not in order to praise its "opposite number" (but actually kindred spirit and blood brother) Soviet social imperialism. We are abhored as much by the Soviet atrocities and fascism in Poland and Afghanistan as by U.S. imperialism's role in Lebanon and El Salvador. We fight against both because both are oppressors and threatening and blackmailing the whole world with their war preparations.

We must mount the most uncompromising and militant protest against Reagan, both for the fascist warmonger he is and for what he represents : which is the class of imperialist exploiters and parasites that hold state power in the U.S.A. -- who are part of the one and the same world class of imperialist parasites exploiters and warmongers in the Soviet Union, or for that matter in Britain, our national enemy. In making our just demand "YANKEE ASSASSIN GO HOME", we are hitting at Soviet social imperialism, British imperialism and imperialism as a world system and striking a blow for freedom from imperialism, against the war preparations which is in the interests of all the world people.

Join the campaign against Reagan visit

AND FIGHT TO AVERT THE DANGER OF ANOTHER WORLD WAR ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLED BASIS :

1. OPPOSE BOTH SUPERPOWERS, U.S. IMPERIALISM AND SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM and THEIR AGG-RESSIVE MILITARY BLOCS, NATO AND THE WARSAW PACE!

2. OPPOSE ALL IMPERIALIST WAR PREPARATIONS, BOTH NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ' OPPOSE ALL ACTS OF IMPERIALIST INTERVENTION AND AGGRESSION AND SUPPORT ALL PEOPLES FIGHTING FOR NATIONAL AND SOCIAL LIBERATION !

3. THROW BRITISH IMPERIALISM OUT OF THE NORTH! FOR A RE-UNIFIED IRELAND FREE OF FOREIGN COL-ONIALISM, FREE OF NATO AND ACTIVELY NEUTRAL AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR. NO COLLABORATION WITH BRITISH COLONIALISM OR WITH NATO!

CAMRAIGN AGAINST REAGAN'S VISIT is contactable at P.O. Box 695 , Dublin 8. Title: Campaign Against Reagan Visit: Oppose the Visit of this Foreign Imperialist Warmonger
Organisation: Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)
Date: 1984

Downloaded from the Irish Left Archive. Visit www.leftarchive.ie

The Irish Left Archive is provided as a non-commercial historical resource, open to all, and has reproduced this document as an accessible digital reference. Copyright remains with its original authors. If used on other sites, we would appreciate a link back and reference to the Irish Left Archive, in addition to the original creators. For re-publication, commercial, or other uses, please contact the original owners. If documents provided to the Irish Left Archive have been created for or added to other online archives, please inform us so sources can be credited.