



# TRUTHS AND LIES ABOUT SOCIALISM

## 3. On the falsification of history

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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF KNE



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
OF THE COMMUNIST YOUTH OF GREECE

# TRUTHS<sup>AND</sup> LIES <sup>ABOUT</sup> SOCIALISM

## 3. On the falsification of history



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Athens 2013

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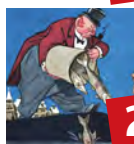
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"Long live the worldwide Socialist Revolution!", Soviet poster

**ДА ЗДРАВСТВУЕТ ВСЕМИРНАЯ  
СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКАЯ РЕВОЛЮЦИЯ !**

# PROLOGUE

This book is the final part of the C.C of KNE publication "Truths and Lies about Socialism".

In the two previous parts of the series we dealt with issues of the socialist economy and workers' power respectively.

In this part, we answer some questions regarding the distortion and falsification of the history of the socialist construction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the history of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. We highlight the truth against the lies, and the defamation of socialism that is fabricated and promoted by bourgeois media, historians, schools, institutes, propagandists etc.

The goal of this particular publication, of course, is not to analyze thoroughly and in depth all aspects of every historical question. It would not be possible in a such small publication. The intention is, focusing on certain key aspects of bourgeois propaganda, to answer specific issues of falsification of history, with arguments and historical documentation, referring to sources and documents.

As in previous parts, in each section we quote extracts from the interpretation given to the historical facts by the textbooks, the bourgeois and the opportunist propagandists.

Their own arguments are our starting point for developing our answer.

The historical subjects that we have chosen and developed in chronological order, each in a specific section, are the following:

**1.** The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, where we highlight who actually reinforced Hitler and Nazism-fascism and on the other hand, the efforts of the Soviet Union to prevent war.

**2.** The Nazi atrocity in the forest of Katyn. We present the truth about the massacre of Polish officers in Katyn and that the distortion of Nazi propaganda even reached the cinema halls,

**3.** The Yalta Agreement. We respond to the myth of the division of the world between the "great powers".

**4.** The truth about the Berlin Wall. Why was Germany divided in two states? Who was responsible for this? What were the real reasons for the erection of the Berlin Wall?

**5.** The counter-revolutionary events in the countries of Eastern Europe. We present the real facts and their causes, in Hungary (1956) and in Czechoslovakia (1968) that provoked the internationalist assistance of the Warsaw Pact.





"Demonstration, in April 1917",

painting by A. Ostrumova-Lebedeva



The image is a painting depicting a large crowd of people gathered in a square. In the background, there is a large, multi-story building with a central tower and arched windows. The crowd is dense, with many people holding red flags. The sky is blue with some white clouds. The overall style is somewhat abstract and expressive, with visible brushstrokes and a limited color palette of red, blue, and white.

# INTRODUCTION

The victory of the counterrevolution in the Soviet Union and the other countries of socialist construction in Europe has allowed the expansion of a huge operation aimed at the falsification of history by domestic and international centers of capitalism (EU, etc.), by the ideological apparatuses of the bourgeois state, by the bourgeois mass media and journalists.

The most important moments of the USSR's history are turned on their head, arguments are drawn from the arsenal of the Nazi propaganda machine and presented as historical truth, documents and historical papers are forged.

The falsification of history may be about the past, but it aims at the present and the future, the youth's conscience. The hundreds of publications, documentaries (CIA, BBC's production), the books, the movies produced on a mass scale every year are not just about some "scientific research".

This entire industry has a single objective: so that young people do not know the truth, so that the first attempt to build socialism is slandered, so that what socialism offered humanity is concealed, so that people are convinced that capitalist barbarity is supposedly "eternal". They aim to prevent people from choosing the only way that can meet today's needs, the organised struggle, for the liberation

of man from capitalist exploitation, the struggle for the workers' power.

In this sense, the revelation of the distortion, the defense of historical truth, the history of the international communist movement, the Soviet Union, do not concern the past.

The study of the history of the working class movement and its vanguard, the Communist Party, is a source of inspiration and strength for young militants, it is a source of lessons and conclusions for today's struggles, for the new social revolts and revolutions to come.

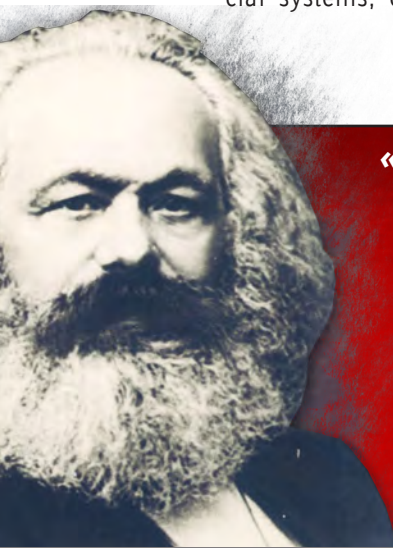
**The history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century:  
history of conflict between socialism  
and capitalism, between  
the exploited and the exploiters**

The 20<sup>th</sup> century was marked by the first attempt to abolish the capitalist exploitative system. With the October Revolution in Russia in 1917 a new era of socialist revolutions began and simultaneously a period of fierce struggle was launched between the two opposing social systems, capitalism and socialism.

This conflict marked the history of humanity throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The October Revolution proved in practice that capitalism, reaching its highest and last stage, imperialism, is the antechamber of the socialist revolution. From the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the era began for the historical passage to the higher social system to be realized, socialism-communism. The setbacks in social evolution do not negate the character of the social era. Now not only will it happen, but it will deploy the experience of the first attempt so as to make it irreversible.

Soviet Russia was born in the midst the fire of the World War I, in the midst of the harsh conflicts between the capitalist states over the division of the world and the markets. The workers and the poor peasants in Russia, organized in the Soviets (councils of delegates) did not stop at overthrowing the Czar but with the guidance of Lenin and the Bolsheviks overthrew the new bourgeois power, ended the war for the Russian people and built the first workers' state in the history of humanity.



**“The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guildmaster and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, that each time ended, either in the revolutionary reconstitution of society at large...».**

Karl Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*,  
“Synchroni Epochi”, p. 25



With the October Revolution in 1917, opened the epoch of the socialist revolutions and at the same time, a period of hard struggle between socialism and capitalism, which marked the history of the whole 20<sup>th</sup> century.

From the first moment all the other capitalist states attacked young Soviet Russia. It underwent a coordinated imperialist intervention which it repelled, facing the armed counter-revolutionary action of the Russian plutocrats that wanted to regain power and to continue the exploitation and the oppression of millions of Russians and other peoples who were subservient to the czarist empire. Although the counter-revolution was assisted by the invasion of its foreign allies, it was finally defeated by the revolutionary forces, the fledgling revolutionary workers' state. Of course, the attacks of the bourgeoisie, the machinations, the sabotage, the undermining never stopped. The first workers' state was a thorn in the side and an enemy for the entire capitalist world. It was living proof to the workers of the world that they can overthrow their exploiters and build

their own society. For this reason, it was a beacon of struggle and hope for all the peoples of the earth, it became a "home-land" of all the workers.

The foundation and the bases of the socialist economy and power that were built the decades of '20 and '30 were a huge feat, which was achieved in the framework of a negative correlation of forces at a global level and imperialist encirclement. This feat demonstrates the superiority of socialism, which is why that period attracts the onslaught and hatred of capitalists against the USSR, the Bolshevik Party and its leader J. Stalin. And while in the USSR the workers, the poor farmers with socialist construction were carrying out unprecedented achievements, with enormous gains in living standards for the people, the capitalist world was plagued by crises.






During the decades '20-30, there were set the foundations of socialism in the Soviet Union. The builders of socialism had enormous achievements (abolition of unemployment, Stakhanovite movement, upgrade of the living conditions etc.). That is the basic reason why that period of the USSR history concentrates the attack of the bourgeois and the opportunists. (photo: One of the biggest achievements of that period, the construction of the Metro of Moscow).

The capitalist crises of 1929-1933 and 1937-1938 led to wretchedness, poverty and unemployment of millions of workers all over the world. They created hard competition between the capitalist states. They proved the impasses of capitalism, that no form of its management can be advantageous for the peoples. During this period capitalism demonstrated its most gruesome aspect, fascism-nazism, in Germany and Italy. During this period the ground was laid for the outbreak of the competitions even in a global confrontation, the World War II.

World War II, like World War I, was the result of imperialist competitions for the redistribution and control of markets. The contradictions between the capital-

ist states were accentuated even more because of the capitalist crisis but also because of the existence of the Soviet Union. It was proven, both before and during the war, that -despite their contradictions and the opposing sides formed- the common enemy of all the capitalist states was the Soviet Union. The elimination of the USSR was the declared objective of Nazi Germany, but it was also the objective of the so-called "allies" (USA, Great Britain), who tried in different ways to strike at and undermine workers' power.

In this direction, they supported Hitler's accession to power in Germany. Besides, Nazism-fascism was and is the offspring of capitalism. In Nazi Germany, the US and Great Britain found the best "ally" in the offensive against the Soviet Union.



History has proved that fascism can only be defeated by the working class, as the Soviet people did, who gave more than 20 million dead to defend freedom from the Nazi onslaught. The hoisting of the red flag with the hammer and sickle over the German parliament (Reichstag) in May 1945 will remain etched in the peoples' memory as a symbol of the decisive role of the USSR in the defeat of fascism, the Anti-fascist Victory of the Peoples.

The war ended by triggering processes that paved the way for the socialist construction effort in a number of countries in Central and Eastern Europe that had been liberated by the Red Army. In this way, the imperialist encirclement of the USSR was broken with the formation of the other states of socialist construction (Romania, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, Albania, Yugoslavia). This new correlation of forces paved the way for the victory of the revolution in China, Vietnam, North Korea, later in Cuba, the struggle for national independence and against colonialism was linked to the path for socialist construction.

Even after the war the overthrow of the USSR and the other socialist states remained a stable and uniform objective for the capitalist states. International capitalism elaborated a multidimensional and a coordinated policy of aggression, erosion, undermining, economic weakening of socialism. It established international military and political alliances (eg NATO) to coordinate its policies against socialism.

It organized interventions, counterrevolutionary actions, etc. The USSR quickly managed after the war to recover economically, which constituted one more achievement of the socialist economy and power. The achievements of the peoples of the socialist countries had a positive impact on workers' struggle all over the world, winning rights, gains (at work, social services, etc.). At the same time, the USSR supported the struggle of the peoples throughout the world, the liberation-anti-imperialist movements in Asia, in Africa, in Latin America.

The overthrow of socialism in the years 1989-1991 resulted in a temporary setback for the global working class. The counter-revolutionary overthrows occurred in the context of a tough confrontation between the two opposing systems for decades and under the weight of the retreat of the revolutionary features of the CPs in the socialist countries, the violation of the scientific laws of the socialist construction.

Problems, weaknesses, mistakes in strategy, first and foremost of the CPSU, which gradually evolved into obstacles and then later into a force for overthrow of the socialist power. Capitalism got a 'rematch' and peoples around the world lost their bulwark and support in the struggle against capitalist exploitation. The overthrow of socialism created disappointment, demobilization of the struggle, confusion and strengthening of opportunism in the international communist movement. We experience the negative effects today, over 20 years after.



The Red Army crashed fascism-Nazism. Soviet soldiers raise the red flag at the Brandenburg Gate, Berlin, May 1945.

The defeat, however, is historically temporary. Besides no socio-economic system, including capitalism, was established in one attempt. Our era, for over a century, is the one for the transition from capitalism that has reached its historical limits to socialism-communism. There may be historical setbacks, zigzags but it continues to advance, to move forward; it continues to be history of the social struggles, the class struggles for the future of humanity. The first attempt at the construction of socialism provided rich experience and conclusions for the working class struggle. This is the experience that makes us stronger today, which enriches our contemporary

struggle for socialism-communism. The capitalists erase and rewrite the past to prevent the future of humanity from being realized. But they cannot achieve this. It is the inevitable development of history, of man who is heading to social liberation.

### **We learn-we are inspired We continue**

The history of the socialist construction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century was a gigantic effort, a historic step for mankind. We study and interpret it from the standpoint of the general interests of the working class. We defend the histori-




cal contribution of socialism, we draw conclusions from the causes that led to its overthrow. This study and these conclusions are the ones that have provided the opportunity and ability today to our party, KKE, to develop its strategy, its perception on socialism-communism, to enrich it based on the historical experience, as reflected in its new Program adopted at its 19<sup>th</sup> Congress.

The answer to anticommunism is the aggressive projection of socialism-communism, the militant response to the falsification of history of the socialist construction in today's conditions is the restoration of the truth to the eyes of

the working class and the youth of the popular strata. It is an element in the struggle against capitalism.

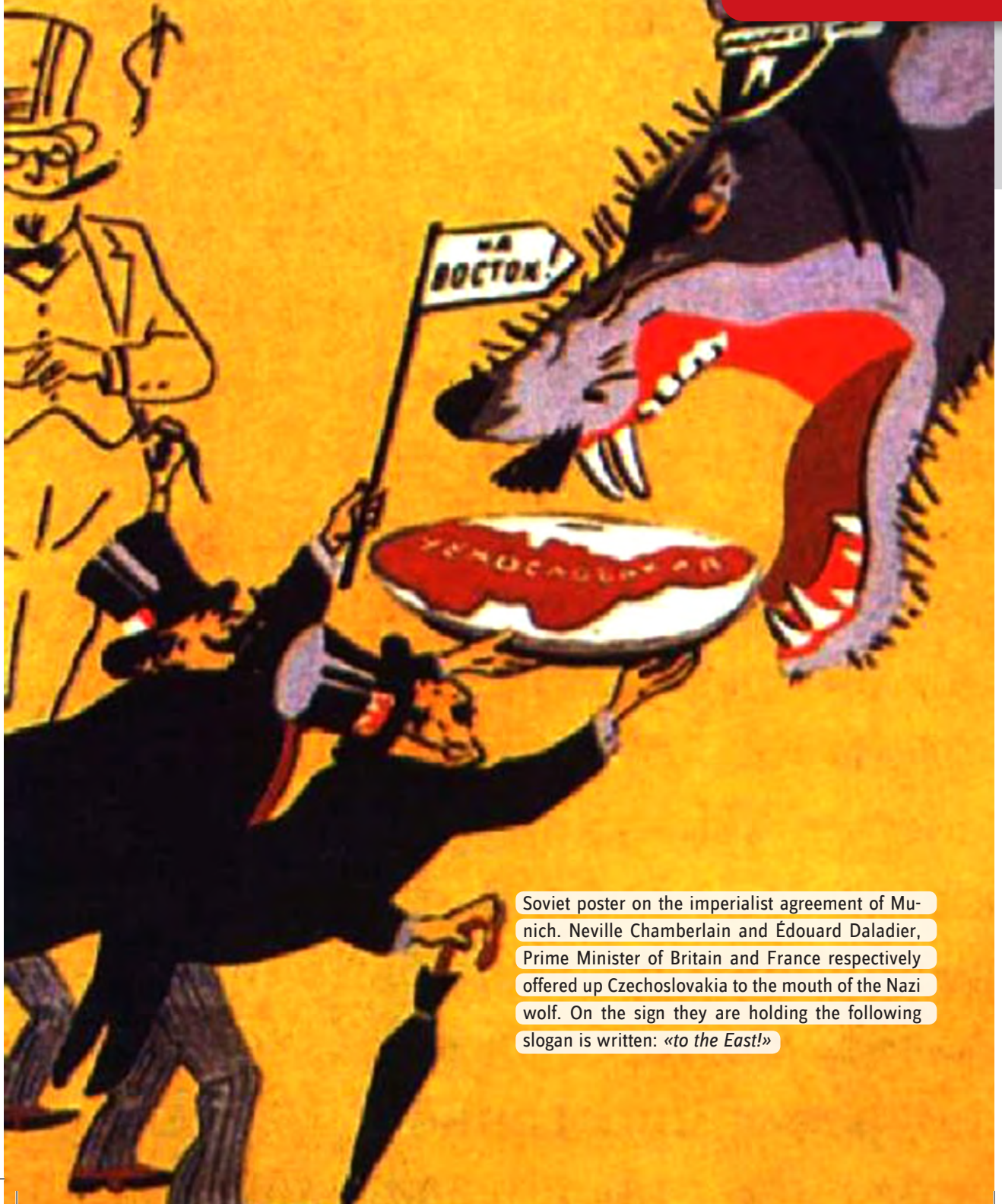
In the following pages we highlight the historical truth on some key historical matters that have been distorted and falsified systematically in the pages of textbooks, university publications, in columns and articles of the bourgeois media, in the analyses of the bourgeoisie and the opportunist historians, in the propaganda of fascist Golden Dawn as well as in cinemas.

The new generation needs to learn, needs to be inspired and learn; it needs to organize and fight for its rights, for the socialist-communist society.



**«The social revolution is not restricted only to the conquest of power and the formation of the economic base for the socialist development, but is extended over the entire course of socialism; it includes the development of socialism in order to approach the higher communist phase. Subsequently, the new relations will be extended and deepened, communist relations and the new type of man will develop to a higher level that guarantees the irreversible prevalence of communism, provided that capitalist relations have been abolished on a global scale or at least in the developed and influential countries in the imperialist system. The socialist course contains the possibility of a reversal and a retreat backwards to capitalism, as the experience from the counterrevolutionary overthrow in the USSR and the other socialist countries showed. Retreat is in any case a temporary phenomenon in history. The transition from an inferior mode of production to a higher one is not a straightforward ascending process. This is also shown by the very history of the prevalence of capitalism.»**

**Programme of the KKE**



Soviet poster on the imperialist agreement of Munich. Neville Chamberlain and Édouard Daladier, Prime Minister of Britain and France respectively offered up Czechoslovakia to the mouth of the Nazi wolf. On the sign they are holding the following slogan is written: «to the East!»

# THE MOLOTOV-RIBBENTROP PACT

*«Besides, Hitler was reinforced by his choice in favor of war and his signing of the Treaty of Non-aggression with the Soviet Union on 23 August 1939 (The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact) which was accompanied by a secret protocol with reference to the eventual dismemberment of Poland».*

(History's textbook of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of Senior High School)

With these words history is “taught” in the textbook of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of Senior High School. Similar and very imaginative references fill the pages of the bourgeois newspapers. What is, however, the truth about the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (which named after the ministers of Foreign Affairs of the two countries, Vyacheslav Molotov of the USSR and Joachim von Ribbentrop of the Nazi Germany) signed on 23 August 1939 by the Soviet Union and Germany?

The Soviet Union, indeed, signed a non-aggression pact with Germany ensuring 21 valuable months for its war preparation. The Soviet Union's leadership saw clearly that the bourgeois “democratic” states, in Europe, mainly Britain and France, but also the US, tried to set the fascist Axis against the Soviet Union, in order to benefit from any outcome and smash the devastated winner, either the USSR or Germany. The documentary evidence is undeniable.

The agreement was signed after the proposal of Germany and after the unsuccessful efforts of the USSR to come to an agreement with Britain and France, while discussions with Germany in the conference of Munich and individual joint declarations of Britain-Germany and France-Germany preceded it. Germany knew that it could not attack the USSR before strengthening its position at the expense of Britain and France by conquering a number of European countries. First it had to conquer and then it could attack (the USSR). And this is exactly what it did.

Let's start over. The imperialist World War II was a result of the intensification of the inter-imperialist contradictions for the redivision of the world. These contradictions accentuated even more by the existence of the Soviet Union in conjunction with the global capitalist economic crisis in the 1930s throughout the capitalist world (1929-1930 and a new outbreak in 1937).



## The Second World War in Europe

Map of Europe which records the movements of the Soviet and the Anglo-American troops towards Germany in 1942-1945. The main theatre of the war was the Eastern front. Germany lined up against the USSR the 60-75% of its total forces while on this front it lost 10 million soldiers from the 13 million soldiers that totally lost on all fronts of the war. The Soviet Union paid a heavy price in blood in this war, with over 20 million dead-among them thousands and thousands of members and cadres of the Bolshevik Party. Incomparably smaller were the losses of other countries, 405 thousand of the US and 375 thousand of Great Britain.

(Source: Great Soviet Encyclopedia)



For many capitalist countries the crisis could only really be overcome through their participation in the war.

The war, as a result of the intensification of competition, the aim to change the correlation of forces between the capitalist states, the division of the markets, the preparation of the war through the development of the war industry etc. had enormous economic importance for the bourgeois classes that were in competition. For example, here is what US newspapers wrote in September '39 with the start of the war. The New York World Telegram wrote: *«The favorable effect of the general European war on the economy of our country will be multifaceted and will be manifested in many sectors of the economy»*. And the New York Herald Tribune added:

*«If the oil sector affects the great powers, then in the opinion of the economists, the US business will be destroyed... because the whole US economy is developing with the prospect that the war will last for a long time»*.<sup>2</sup>

Simultaneously, the objective of all the imperialist powers, either "democratic", or fascist, was the overthrow of the first workers' state, the destruction of the Soviet Union.

But the intensification of the contradictions between the bourgeois states was so acute that it even led to the pursuit of

temporary peace, of agreements with the USSR. The USSR took advantage of these exact inter-imperialist contradictions and initially signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, and later, when that expired, entered the "anti-Hitler coalition".

### **«The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact reinforced Hitler»**

The core of the defamatory position on the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact is that with its signing Hitler was "reinforced". More or less they say that this pact led to the beginning of the war: *«The Second World War,*

*indeed, could not have been started if the shameful Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact had not been concluded (...)*». (To Vima newspaper, 05-03-2006).

But the historical events prove the exact opposite. The Soviet Union was the only country that tried to prevent the war, the only

country with a peace policy, political opposition to a new imperialist war, because it was not a capitalist country. The Lord Cecil from Britain, one of the architects of the League of Nations and not a communist, stated: *«Only the Soviet Union, may be exempted from the charge that it did not make use of the League of Nations to stop the present war. If in 1938 the proposals made by the then Commissioner of Foreign Affairs of the CC Litvinof were adopted, the war would be impossible, at least with its current form»*.<sup>3</sup>

**Common objective of all the capitalist states during the World War II was the overthrow of the USSR**

To the proposals of the Soviet Union the answer of the imperialist powers was the so-called policy of "appeasement", which was accurately reflected in the imperialist Munich Agreement, detailed below.

### **The policy of "appeasement"**

Let's look in detail at the events that preceded the signing of the Nazi-Soviet Pact.

Germany, with Hitler's coming to power in 1933, manages in a short time to significantly reinforce the economy and especially the war industry and its armaments.

This development was actualized thanks to the mass support and the investments of the German monopolies (Krupp, Thyssen, etc). Strong investments were made from French, English and American monopolies, too. The same

### **Who reinforced Hitler?**

Nazism-fascism is a creation of the capitalist system, its most barbaric and criminal form.

The Nazi party was lavishly reinforced with billions of dollars from German monopolies, like "Krupp" and "Thyssen". With their support Hitler came to power.

In February 1933, Hitler met with representatives from the 25 largest industries. In this meeting they agreed to set up fund with three million marks to support the Nazi party in elections.

The German industrialist Fritz Thyssen, one of the supporters of Hitler, wrote: *«I personally offered a total amount of one million marks to the Nazi party. (...) German heavy industry put at the disposal of the national socialists the amount of about two million marks a year».*

Respectively, particularly important for the economic and military reinforcement of the Nazi Germany were the big investments of US and British monopolies, such as "Standard Oil", "Ford", "General Motors" and "General Electric". It was recently revealed that IBM, too, collaborated with Nazi Germany.

In 1939 representatives of the Federation of British Industry and their German counterparts met in Düsseldorf where in their joint declaration they noted that the objective of their agreement was *«to ensure the greatest possible cooperation of the industrial systems of their countries».*

As it has been characteristically written: *«It was the "golden rain" of US dollars that "fertilized" the heavy industry and in particular the war industry of Hitler's Germany. It was the millions of dollars that were invested by the foreign monopolies in the war economy of Germany to rebuild the war capabilities of Germany and put in the hands of Hitler the weapons he needed to attack. With the financial support mainly of the US monopolies, Germany in a short time rebuilt a strong military industry capable of producing huge quantities of high-tech weapons, many thousands of tanks, airplanes, weapons, latest technology warships, etc.»*

(see Soviet Information Office, Falsifiers of History, ed. Soviet News, London, 1948, p. 12)

**Monopolies and fascism: Blood ties that cannot be prescribed", Sunday issue of Rizospastis, 23/8/2009**







#### **The Nazi provocation at the Reichstag**

The leadership of the Nazi party, the night of 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February '33 organized the arson of the German parliament (Reichstag) and blamed the communists as being the culprits. On this occasion, a pogrom of arrests started. In September, in Leipzig the trial of the accused as arsonists was held, of the Bulgarian communists Georgi Dimitrov, Popov and Tanef and Ernst Torgkler, cadre of the German Communist Party. In the course of the trial, the defendants were transformed into the prosecutors. The provocation was exposed and the communists were acquitted.

year Hitler turned against the German Communist Party and the Communist International through the arson provocation at the Reichstag.

From 1936 the whole German industry, with a focus on the industrial area of Ruhr in the region of the Rhine, was more openly war-orientated. The same year Italy with the help of the Germans occupied Abyssinia (Ethiopia). Only the USSR condemned the conquest of Abyssinia while the bourgeois democracies took a neutral stand<sup>4</sup>. On November 25th 1936 the pact against the Communist International ("Anti-Comintern Pact") is signed originally by Germany and Japan

(subsequently enrolled in it Italy, Hungary, Spain, Denmark, Finland, Slovakia, Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, etc.). Within the same year, the civil war began in Spain. The bourgeois democracies of the West either remained aloof, leaving helpless the Spanish democratic government, or reinforced the Spanish fascist Franco.

Britain and France pursued a policy of "appeasement" towards Germany. Thus, when Nazi Germany annexed Austria in March '38 *«Great Britain, France and the USA although theoretically condemned the annexation, in practice they did not take any measures (diplomatic or mili-*

tary) to prevent it» as Henry Kissinger admitted, who served for years as a diplomat and US Secretary of State.<sup>5</sup>

Before the annexation of Austria, in November '37, there had been a meeting of Hitler with Lord Halifax, then Minister without Portfolio of Britain in Obersalzberg. At that time Halifax was reported as having the following position: «He (Lord Halifax) and other members of the British Government were fully aware that the Fuehrer had not accomplished a great achievement only in Germany, but by destroying communism in his country, had blocked his way to Western Europe and that Germany, therefore, could reasonably be regarded as the bulwark of the West against Bolshevism».<sup>6</sup>

In the same month, in San Francisco a secret meeting was held between representatives of Germany and seven US industrialists and political figures. In the meeting the

collaboration between Germany and the US was agreed to «organize together the huge markets of Russia and China». <sup>7</sup>

Hoover, former US president, also came to Europe and met with Hitler and Göring (second in command of the Nazis), and when he returned to the US he was revealing: «I am sure that neither Germany nor the other fascist states wish war with the Western democracies, since these democracies do not prevent the advance of fascism eastwards».<sup>8</sup>

Sumner Welles, then Undersecretary of State of the US, later described the aspirations of the monopolies of the "western democracies" as follows: «The pre-war years, the powerful financier and commercial complexes of the western democracies, including many US companies were firmly convinced that the war between the Soviet Union and the Nazi Germany would have served only their own interests. They be-

The signing of the Anticommunist Pact ("Anti-Comintern") by Germany and Japan on 25 November '36. Subsequently Italy, Hungary, Spain, Denmark, Finland, Slovakia, Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, etc., joined it.







Picture of the meeting of Adolf Hitler and Herbert Hoover, former US President, in March of '38.

*lieved that Russia inevitably would suffer defeat and therefore communism would be eliminated. Also Germany as a result of this conflict would get exhausted and for many years would be unable to really threaten the rest of the world».*<sup>9</sup>

This was the essence of the policy of "appeasement": to direct Germany to the East, to attack the Soviet Union.

Contrary to the tolerance and support of the capitalist states, the Soviet Union resolutely condemned the attack against Austria and called on all states to make

collective efforts to rescue peace. Britain rejected the proposal of the USSR.<sup>10</sup>

The policy of "appeasement" gave freedom to Hitler to launch a new attack. This time, with the pretext of the German minority that lived in Sudetenland, targeting Czechoslovakia, a country with a very strategic position in Europe and a developed heavy industry, especially arms industry.

The Soviet Union, which since 1935 had signed an Agreement of mutual assistance with Czechoslovakia, was ready to defend it from the Nazi invaders. A similar agree-





The signing of the imperialist Munich Agreement that encouraged and facilitated the conduct of the war against the USSR. (In the photo from left to right, the Prime Minister of Britain Neville Chamberlain, the French Prime Minister Édouard Daladier, the German Adolf Hitler and the Italian fascist Benito Mussolini).

ment had been signed by Czechoslovakia with France, while the soviet-Czechoslovak agreement included the condition that the obligation for the Soviet Union would be valid provided that France fulfilled its obligations.

However and when it was realized that France would not fulfill its obligations, the Soviet Union officially stated that it would stand by Czechoslovakia, even if France would not. The only condition of the Soviet Union was Czechoslovakia to defend itself and request Soviet assistance.

But the imperialists had already taken their decisions. The policy of "appeasement" reached its peak with the surrender of Czechoslovakia to Germany.

### **Imperialist Munich Agreement**

On 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September 1938 the Conference of Munich was held with the participation of Britain, France, Germany and Italy. Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union were not invited. The conference reached an agreement that was simply announced

to the government of Czechoslovakia. With it a part of Czechoslovakia was ceded to Germany in which the German minority resided. Czechoslovakia was obliged to hand the fortifications and the equipment that existed in these territories to Germany.

Within the framework of the conference, a private meeting of Hitler with the Prime Minister of Great Britain N. Chamberlain was held, on 30th September, a joint Anglo-German declaration was agreed expressing the "desire" of the two countries not to fight each other.

A corresponding Franco-German declaration between the Foreign Ministers of France and Germany, Bonnet and Ribbentrop, was signed on December 6th 1938.

So an entire year before the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact the "democratic" countries of Britain and France had made declarations of non-aggression with Hitler!

The Soviet Union was the last to have done it, and only when it was clear that the "democratic" imperialist countries did

not intend to accept the USSR's proposals, as we shall see later on. So, the second main argument of the falsifiers of history is refuted—that the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact is one of the best proof of the ideological "affinity" of communism with fascism-Nazism, or that both the USSR and the Germans had equally imperialist aspirations.

In March of '39 once again Germany, undisturbed, completed the conquest of Czechoslovakia. Only the USSR, did not acknowledge the conquest and described it as «*an arbitrary, violent and aggressive act*».<sup>12</sup>

The conquest of Czechoslovakia greatly reinforced the Nazi Germany, both militarily and economically. Göring, talking to Mussolini, referred to the benefits this conquest offered to Germany: «*The action of Germany had resulted in the improvement of the position of both the Axis forces and especially of the economic possibilities that were obtained when the huge productive capacity of Czechoslovakia (in*

## Objective: The eradication of the Soviets

The Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw in the following words, in June '40, graphically described how the imperialist powers and specifically Britain had as their main objective the overthrow of socialism in the USSR.

*«In the last 20 years the only thing we did was to discredit Russia and its leaders, furiously trying to humiliate it. The leaders, we elected, were in their majority capitalists, who had nothing better to wish than how to unite with Germany against Russia and the capitalist powers and root out the Soviets-whatever Bismarck did, in his era, and joined Thiers to suppress the Paris Commune».*



German troops invading Poland on 1<sup>st</sup> September of '39, act marking the start of the World War II.

*terms of military capabilities) was ceded to Germany. This has significantly favored the increase of the effectiveness of the Axis powers vis-a-vis the western powers».<sup>13</sup>*

So, here's what armed the hands of Hitler to push the Nazi machine against the Soviet Union.


### **USSR-Britain-France's negotiations**

In March '39, Britain and France agreed to start negotiations with the USSR for a joint defense agreement. The negotiations

lasted about four months and led to a deadlock. Britain and France demanded unilateral commitments from the Soviet Union, which if it fulfilled them it would inevitably lead it to war with Germany, the moment that Britain and France did not assume any obligation towards the USSR.

The British Foreign Minister in a confidential memo submitted to France in March '39 wrote: «We wish to close any agreement according to which the Soviet Union will offer us assistance if we suffer attack from the East, not only with the





*purpose of forcing Germany to make war on two fronts, but for the reason that the main issue in case of war is the attempt to involve the Soviet Union in it.»<sup>14</sup>*

As regards the delays and the impediments that the English set on the negotiations the Times wrote: «*A strong and quick alliance with Russia can damage other negotiations*». The German Ambassador in London, Dirksen in a letter to the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs in August '39 assessed that: «*The prevailing impression here was that the bonds [ of Britain ] with other states that formed during recent months was only a means for a true reconciliation with Germany and that these bonds would cease to exist as soon as the single most important goal that is worth the effort -the agreement with Germany-would have been achieved*».<sup>15</sup>

As proved, Britain indeed, at the same time as the negotiations with the USSR for the creation of the supposedly "Anti-Hitler alliance" had secret negotiations with Germany in July-August '39. In the discussions the signing of a pact of non-aggression and the division of the spheres of influence between Britain and Germany were included. Between the countries that were to be shared was the Soviet Union.<sup>16</sup> The negotiations with the USSR, were simply a means of pressure on Germany in order to achieve a stronger position in the share of the loot.

This attitude of the capitalist states, with its variances, expressed the intra-bourgeois contradictions that permeate the interior of the countries. The "national"

sections of the bourgeoisie of Europe were divided into "Germanophile" and "Anglophile", on the basis of their economic interests, ie if they thought that the British or the German state could best serve their long term interests.

Faced with this situation, and while Japan had already started aggressive actions against the USSR<sup>17</sup>, the Soviet Union accepted the proposal of Germany for the signing of the non-aggression pact. Meanwhile, on 22<sup>nd</sup> of May Germany had signed the "Rome-Berlin Axis" pact (Pact of Steel).

History has proven that the USSR remained the target of the imperialists even when the "anti-Hitler alliance" was created. For example, it is characteristic that Britain and the US delayed "opening up" the second front in Europe in order to facilitate Hitler in concentrating his troops and his attention on the "Eastern" front against the USSR. The "second" front opened up with the invasion of Normandy, only when the outcome of the war had been determined and the advance of the Red Army to Berlin had begun. The same is proven by the post-war attitude of the US-Britain-France against the Nazis by deploying many Nazi cadres in the reconstruction of the state apparatus of the Federal Republic of Germany and not only. (see More data in chapter "*The truth about the Berlin Wall*").

With the signing of the Pact, USSR gained time to prepare its defense, created fissures in the imperialist alliances and their joint stance against it.<sup>27</sup>

## The "Secret Protocol"

Last and most basic element of their argument is the notorious "Secret Protocol" accompanying the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and supposedly provided the "distribution" of the states of Europe, zones of influence between the USSR and Germany.

Let's see how, in a very crude way, this position is presented in the bourgeois press:

*«So let me inform the ignorant or the forgetful that the secret protocol provided for the division of Europe into two spheres of influence. The Soviet Union obtained Finland, Estonia and Latvia (Lithuania was added later), the largest part of Poland, the Romanian Bessarabia, even Greece! Most of the spheres of influence were later converted into territories under occupation. Poland was invaded by Germany and the USSR jointly imposing the fourth partition in the history of this tormented country. Then, the Baltic states were also occupied by the Soviets, while the USSR fascinated by the excitement of the conquests attacked against Finland too but it had a hard time doing it. Since for a period of three months the Soviet giant struggled to occupy as it suffered devastating losses and the danger of a debacle, retreated from its grandiose plans, stopped the war and settled for 10% of Finnish territory».* (To Vima newspaper, 05-03-2006)<sup>18</sup>.

Aside the asininity that various people blinded by rampant anticommunism

("Stalin and Hitler shared Greece, too!") let's see what are the notorious territories that the Soviet Union "occupied".

Regarding the partition of Poland and in order to know the historical truth we have to go back in 1918 when the Soviet Russia signed with Germany the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Then Soviet power came out of the war by ceding to Germany territories of the czarist empire (Western Belarus, Western Ukraine, part of Lithuania). These territories passed to Polish sovereignty after the end of the intervention of the 14 capitalist states against the soviet power and the Soviet-Polish war in 1921.

In these territories, the polish population was still a minority in 1939 despite the systemic campaign of "polandisation" conducted by the bourgeois governments of Poland in the decades of the 20s and 30s.

Germany on 1<sup>st</sup> September '39 attacked Poland, creating a provocation on the German-Polish borders, an act which also resulted in the beginning of the war. The "guarantor" forces of Britain and France declared war on Germany without conducting it! (This period, which lasted for almost a year, was named the "Phoney War"). The USA declared an attitude of neutrality.

On September 17 and after the Polish government rejected the assistance of the Soviet Union and Poland was being totally defeated (on September 8th Warsaw was already being besieged), the Red Army crossed the borders and blocked the road to the Nazi troops.

By September 17th the Polish govern-

## The imperialists support Finland and plan a more general attack against the USSR

The imperialist powers, especially Britain and France, lavishly and by all means supported Finland against the USSR. It is characteristic that while the two countries were at war with Germany they did not hesitate to provide significant quantities of armaments to the Finnish army. «*During the first three months of war, Britain, according to a Chamberlain's statement in the House of Commons on 19 March 1940, sent to Finland 101 aircraft, over 200 artillery pieces and hundreds of thousands of projectiles, aerial bombs and anti-tank mines. At the same time, Daladier reported to the House of Representatives that France had given Finland 175 aircraft, about 500 artillery pieces, over 5000 machine guns, 1.000.000 projectiles, grenades and various other munitions.*» (See Soviet Information Office, *ibid*, pp. 50-51).

The imperialists were planning not only to provide armament but to send an expeditionary force of 150,000 men against the USSR. But the refusal of Norway and Sweden to let the troops to pass through their territories prevented the implementation of these plans.

The US also stated their availability to participate in the war of Finland against the USSR. Before the war began the Import-Export Bank of the US had given Finland a loan of 10 million dollars while the export of war material from the United States to Finland was permitted: «*We exhorted it to make war*» (The statement is given in the USSR Ministry of Defence, *The World War II, 20<sup>th</sup> century*, Athens, 1959, p. 74)

At the same time, as was later revealed, a general attack on the Soviet Union was being prepared, through Turkey and Iran, aiming at the oil wells of the Caucasus. In a document of the Foreign Ministry of Sweden it is referred to the Anglo-French expeditionary force: «*The mission of this force is part of the general plan of aggression against the Soviet Union*» and that «*starting on 15<sup>th</sup> May, this project will come into force against Baku and even earlier through Finland*» (see Soviet information Office, *ibid*, p. 51).

ment had essentially ceased operating on Polish territory while the remaining Polish troops were ordered to enter Romania and Hungary. It is significant that on September 19th the Ambassador of Poland in Moscow admitted that he did not know where the government was and that two days earlier he had been informed that he could contact it through Bucharest.

Remarkably even W. Churchill, speaking on the radio, on October 1<sup>st</sup> 1939 argued that: «*That the Russian troops should stand on this line was clearly necessary for the safety of Russia against the Nazi threat. In any case, the line is there, and an eastern front has been created which Nazi Germany does not dare threaten. When Ribbentrop was called to Moscow*



*last week it was for him to learn the fact, and to accept the fact, that the Nazi plans for the Baltic states and Ukraine must be aborted».*<sup>19</sup>

Also, it is indicated from the questioning of executives of German secret services after the war that, the Nazi regime, in cooperation with Ukrainian nationalists, were planning to establish in these territories an "independent" pro-Nazi state, with the simultaneous mass extermination of communists, Poles and Jews.

As regards the "Soviet occupation" in the Baltic countries the truth is as follows: in 1918 in the Baltic countries popular masses rose up and formed Soviet governments. The imperialist intervention, however, in Soviet Russia led to the overthrow of the Soviet power in those countries. In 1939-1940 those countries (which were taken from the USSR by the weapons of the German-Polish and the Entente in 1918-1921) with the willingness of the vast majority of the people reintegrated into the USSR.

### **The war with Finland**

The case of Finland is different. The Soviet Union, immediately after the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, began the effort of shielding of its borders and reinforcing its defense.

The borders of Finland are just 32 kilometres away from Leningrad, so for the

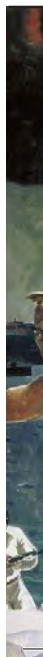
defense of the Soviet Union an agreement with Finland was crucial, given the good diplomatic relations of Finland-Nazi Germany and of the great military preparations that were taking place at the border of Finland against the USSR. The negotiations between the two countries started on 12 October '39. The aim of the capitalist states was for Finland to be used against the USSR, that is why it was supported in various ways.

The USSR initially proposed to Finland the signing of an agreement for mutual assistance. The refusal of Finland brought the Soviet counterproposal for a shift of the Finnish borders and the lease of land for the installation of a naval base, in exchange for an area double the size. Finland rejected this proposal, too.<sup>20</sup>

The refusal of Finland to accept the proposals of the USSR led to war between the two countries.

In this war, Finland counted on the support of international imperialism. The United States, Britain and France lavishly offered money and weapons to Finland while preparing an expeditionary force as well as a general offensive against the USSR. On 12 March 1940, despite the intense pressure of the US, Britain and France on Finland to continue the war, it signed a peace treaty with the USSR, the troops of which had already reached

**The contribution of  
the Soviet people to  
the Anti-Fascist Victory  
has made an indelible  
mark on history**



Helsinki by February. The two countries undertook the responsibility to stop the war and not to participate in any coalition that was directed against the other country. Finland ceded certain territories to the Soviet Union.<sup>21</sup>

Some of these historical facts are concealed or distorted in order to falsify history. The Soviet Union, signing the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, enhancing the defensive line, was able to face the massive offensive of Nazi Germany. This truth cannot be denied and even bourgeois historians such as F. Dallas who stated that the signing of this pact was caused by the desire of the USSR «to prevent the direct attack of Germany against the USSR, to gain time to strengthen its defense» and that «in the then specific historical conditions this position of the Soviet State was perfectly realistic». But, also, the anticommunist William L. Shirer wrote: «That the shameful

*secret agreement gave to Stalin the same time to breathe, which Czar Alexander I secured from Napoleon in 1807 and Lenin from the Germans at Brest-Litovsk in 1917, was evident. (...) And most importantly of all, as the official Soviet History of Diplomacy emphasized later, reassured the Kremlin that if Russia had later been attacked by Germany, the Western powers would already have irrevocably been involved against the Third Reich and the Soviet Union would not have resisted alone against German power, as it had during the course of the summer of 1939. All of this is indisputably true»<sup>22</sup>.*

The Soviet Union thanks to this precious period of 21 months managed to defeat the "invincible" until then Wehrmacht, to wreck the imperialist plans for its destruction and to liberate Europe, raising the Red Flag in Berlin.

"Defense of Sevastopol", painting of Alexander Alexandrovich Deyneka.







2

# БЕЙ ФАШИСТСКОГО ГАДА!

"Crush the fascist  
monster!" Soviet poster by  
Alexei Kokorekin (1941).



# THE NAZI ATROCITIES IN KATYN FOREST

*«Katyn represents a small fraction of the crimes and carnage of Stalinism.»*

(“Avgi” newspaper, 1/3/2009)

The execution of thousands of Polish captives of war in the region of Smolensk, Belarus recently returned to the forefront of the anti-communist propaganda. The occasion was the film “Katyn” by A. Wajda and the online posting of documents supposedly proving Soviet guilt.

The media of our country did not pass up on this opportunity either and rushed to repeat everything that was supported by the notorious Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda of Hitler’s Germany against the Soviet Union. Particular fervor in this case is showed by the various opportunists.

In fact, everything the modern Nazi apologists allege is based on the findings of the Nazi “investigation” of 1943, which is completely unreliable, and the documents presented in 1992, for which there is, at least, serious evidence that they are forgeries.

## **The Nazis “discover” the mass graves in Katyn**

Let’s start over. Katyn is in the Smolensk region in Belarus. In this region,

the Soviets held Polish prisoners of war in camps. But after the attack of Germany against the Soviet Union in May of ‘41, these territories came under the control of Germany.

Two years later, in April ‘43, about two months after the defeat of the Nazis at Stalingrad, the Nazi radio station in Berlin reported the news of the “discovery” of a mass grave of 3,000 Polish officers in Katyn. Over the years, the victims reached the number of 25.000! “Jewish Bolshevism” was identified as the culprit for this crime. We note here that the time of the “discovery” of the mass grave raises questions, but let’s move on.

The Nazis according to the instructions of Goebbels for *«wider exploitation of this propagandistic material»*, as he used to say, tried to lend an international dimension and “objectivity” to their claims, with the organization of an “investigation”.

For this purpose, they created an “International Committee”, whose members, except for one Swiss, came from states-allies of Germany. In the “investi-

gation" the Polish Red Cross also participated, while the International Red Cross refused.

The "Committee" remained in Poland for only two days and examined only nine bodies which the Nazis had already chosen. That is how the "scientific conclusions" were drawn.

Despite the massive Nazi propaganda campaign, only the exiled Polish government adopted their version of events.

The Times even criticized every attitude of acceptance of the conclusions of the "Committee": *«Feelings of surprise and regret for those who know so well the insidiousness and genius of the propa-*

*ganda machine of Goebbels, victims of the trap it itself set up».*

Also, W. Churchill, known for his anti-communist sentiments, then noted that any investigation carried out by the Nazis will *«be a fraud and its conclusions a product of terror»*.<sup>23</sup>

Actually, later, two of the participants in the "International Committee" (the Bulgarian M. Markov and the Czech Fr. Hájek<sup>24</sup>) withdrew, testifying that the findings were fabricated and that they signed them under pressure and due to fear. And the head of the Committee G. Butch was executed in 1944 by the Germans, thus keeping his mouth forever closed.

Nazi propaganda posters about Katyn. On the first is stated: *«If the Soviets win the war, Katyn everywhere!»* and on the second: *«Katyn, the forest of the dead»*.



## The truth is revealed

The first response of the Soviet Union to what the Nazis claimed immediately came when the Pravda newspaper wrote on April 19, 1943: *«Conscious of the rage of progressive humanity as a whole over the massacre of peaceful citizens and particularly of Jews, the Germans are now trying to arouse the hatred of gullible people against the Jews. For this reason they have invented a whole collection of "Jewish commissars", who, as they claim, were involved in the murder of 10,000 Polish officers. For such experienced forgers it was not very difficult to invent names of people that have never existed-Lev Rybak, Avraam Borisovich, Paul Brod-ninsky, Chaim Finberg.*

*No such persons ever existed either in the "Smolensk department of the OGPU" or in any other part of the NKVD [organs of the Soviet state accused of the crime]».*

Even in CIA analyses, the "defect" is recognized in the argument of the Nazis about "Jewish Bolshevism", with the ascertainment that a large part of the victims were Polish Jews<sup>25</sup>.

After the liberation of Poland by the Red Army, the Soviet Union established a scientific committee headed by Professor N. Burdenko to investigate the case. The investigation began in September '43 and was completed in January '44. The Committee findings emphatically showed that those responsible for the

execution of the Poles were the Nazis.

We mention the following key points of the Soviet investigation:

Forensic investigation showed that it would be impossible for the Polish to have been buried in 1940, as the Nazis claimed. Based on the degree of decomposition of the corpses, they must have been buried at the earliest in 1941-42. Most likely, according to the Committee, the Poles were executed in the fall of '41, ie when the region was under German occupation.

Dozens of witnesses testified to the Committee arguing that they had seen the Polish after the spring of '40. As an indication:

A farmer testified that he had seen the Polish working in the railroad

the months of August-September '41.

A teacher testified that she had hidden a Pole in her house who had escaped from the concentration camp in '41. If someone believes the German report this Polish must have been a ghost since he was included as number 3,796 on the list of those executed by the Soviets in the spring of '40!

Also, the deceased number 1105 was well alive for several years<sup>26</sup>. And these two were not the only ones.

Among the witnesses there were several who said they had been forced by the Gestapo to sign as witnesses the German report.

The Soviet investigation also revealed

What is said until today  
against the USSR  
about Katyn is  
reproduction  
of Nazi propaganda



that the Germans released an announcement calling anyone who had information about the *«mass executions of Polish war captives and priests by the Bolsheviks in 1940»* to give it to the German police and that they would receive payment. The offer for payment reveals that it was not very easy for the Germans to find "witnesses".

On the corpses, documents (letters, receipts, etc.) were found, following the German invasion and the spring of 1940 when according to the Germans the Poles were executed<sup>27</sup>.

The evidence was indeed confirmed by the American mission that was present in the investigation, according to the British historian G. Roberts. Based on what Kathleen Harriman recorded, daughter of the US ambassador in Moscow, who participated in the mission, it is confirmed that the corpses were not buried three years ago as supported by the Nazis.

The American Ambassador Harriman again according to Roberts-summarized the conclusions of the US mission as follows: *«From the evidence in general and from the testimony, Kathleen and the member of the Embassy believe that in any case the massacre was carried out by the Germans»*.

### **From Goebbels to the "free world"**

Until 1945, the case of Katyn was referred to the diplomatic documents of the US as "Nazi propaganda" while reports in American and British newspapers such as The New York Times presented the case of Katyn as a *«black fraud»* of the Nazis.<sup>29</sup>

By the end of the World War II the former imperialist "allies", while changing attitude towards the USSR, changed their attitude towards Katyn, including it in their anticommunist arsenal.

The first indication of this attitude was revealed at Nuremberg Trial, when the American and the British side refused the Soviet Union's request to include the case of Katyn amongst the matters to be investigated at the trials. So, the

procedure of interrogation was limited to only six testimonies (3 for Soviet guilt and 3 for Nazi).

In 1951-1952, during the Korean War, "the Madden Committee", was established by the US House of Representatives which concluded that the Polish officers were executed by the Soviets and proposed to bring the Soviet Union to the International Court. Among the "reliable" witnesses that testified at the "Madden Committee" was Dr. Otto Stahmer, Goering's counsel at Nuremberg!

**The "evidence"  
presented by the Nazis  
were quickly proven  
false**



Members of the Madden Committee, along with the US President Harry Truman.

Also, in a confidential report by the US Ministry of the Interior in July 1952, which includes the US-Britain's conversations on forming a common strategy in the UN, the need is stated to utilize the Organization for anti-Soviet propaganda, with one of the issues to be utilized to be Katyn.

After the war, while now the imperialists had vindicated Goebbels for good, there were voices, and not communist ones against the falsification of history.

Noteworthy is the case of Alexander Worth, offspring of the czarist exiled emigré in London where his work "Russia at

War: 1941-1945", published in 1964, made clear the objections and concerns about the version that said that the Soviets were guilty for Katyn. At the same time, he noted the similarity of the technique of the mass murders at Katyn with other cases of Nazi executions in Western Europe<sup>30</sup>.

A second witness in favour of the historical truth is that of a German who had taken part in the battles of the Eastern Front and intervened with a letter in the debate that the Times had opened about Katyn, in 1971. Among other things he

## KATYN: Evidence of forgery

The “documents” presented in 1992 and proved the supposedly “Soviet guilt” are the following:

- a. A four-page text, dated 05.03.1940, in which the People's Commissioner for Internal Affairs A. Beria proposed to the Political Bureau of the CC of the CP(SU) the execution of 25,700 Polish captives of war.
- b. The extract from the Minutes of the 13th Session of the Political Bureau, also dated 05.03.1940, in which Beria's request was approved.
- c. A letter from the then head of the KGB AI. Shelepin to N. Khrushchev, dated March 3, 1959 on the destruction of such documents.

Of the dozens of remarks of jurists and historians-researchers on the authenticity of the documents we can distinguish the following:

- A serious indication of forgery was the total identification of dates in the proposal of Beria with the decision of the Political Bureau. Never had something like that happened in history of the USSR. There was a distance between the dispatch of a document from its discussion in the Political Bureau, if its discussion was finally approved. This time span was at least of 5-6 days. This “detail” of course, according to the jurist C. Zlobotkin, was later “corrected”, as the proposal of Beria in the minutes of the Trial was included with the date «... *March of '40*». In this form it is presented until this day.
- Such documents followed a strict protocol and specific “forms” in the way of their writing. A series of such features are absent from “documents” which have been presented. In the letter of A. Shelepin to Khrushchev, for example, there is no stamp of the CC of the CP (SU) or registration number, or any of the usual indications of such documents (eg. confidential, private, etc.).
- Finally, an independent forensic analysis, which was launched in November '07 and ended on March 31 2009, showed that in the Beria document different typewriters had been used, significantly enhancing the possibility of forgery.

See the video on the KKE's channel on Youtube,  
«*Katyn provocation exposed*» [www.youtube.com/watch?v=tfctQg3-yLI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tfctQg3-yLI)







Forms, stamps and other materials used in the forging of "documents" about Katyn.

noted: «Joseph Goebbels, as the historical data show, had deceived many people. After all, this was his job, and few will doubt his almost absolute ability in it. What really is surprising, however, is that [the ability of Goebbels in deception] may still appear in the pages of the Times 30 years later. Writing from experience I do not think that the last moment of the war Goebbels managed to fool many German soldiers in Russia on the issue of Katyn... The German soldiers were well aware of the executions in the back of their minds... we, the German soldiers, knew that the Polish officers were not exterminated by anyone other than by our own»<sup>31</sup>.

### **The counterrevolution and the discovery of the "documents-proof"**

The victory of the counterrevolution provided the modern followers of Goebbels the vindication they have been wait-

ing for since 1943. The evidence of Soviet guilt was finally "discovered"! In particular, in 1992, and while the sitting of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation was in progress on the declaration of the CPSU as an "unconstitutional" organization, the legal team of B. Yeltsin announced that they have just found in the Archives "top secret" documents, which proved the responsibility of the leadership of the Communist Party, and of course of J. V. Stalin for the murder of the Polish officers in Katyn.

From the first moment the lawyers who defended the CPSU expressed serious doubts about the authenticity of the documents, submitted in photocopies.

Eventually the documents were not presented in their original form and the Constitutional Court did not include them in its decision. Even in a "rigged" against the CPSU these "documents" could not stand. This fact, of course, like the other evidence that proves the forgery of the

documents did not discourage the imperialists and their copyists.

Actually, the Russian government in 2010 posted on the Internet these notorious documents in digital photos. The master copies have yet to be seen...

### **The network of forgery**

Those who claim that the Soviet Union was guilty of these crimes have nothing more to say than the arguments of the Nazi propaganda or at best reproduce what Madden writes in his report. In contrast, supporters of the historical truth reinforce their position with new information which continues to emerge even today.

In 2005 Russian historians who were studying the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defence in Podolsk discovered the existence of an entire file with documented testimonies of German military officials, who had personally taken part in the execution of the Poles in Katyn.

In June 2010, the deputy of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) B. Ilyuchin made, in a press conference, a shocking revelation. He announced that a few days before he had come into contact with one of the document forgers in the Katyn case.

In particular, according to what he de-

nounced, in the early 90s, under the auspices of the Security Services of the then President B. Yeltsin a special group was formed with as their mission the forgery of a number of documents.

The group initially worked in facilities that belonged, before the counterrevolution, to the CC of the CPSU in the village Nagornaya and then transferred to Zarechie region. The forgery group, whose participants were members of the security forces and the President's apparatus, were "ordered" to create or forge documents.

Hundreds of thousands of such documents were "planted" in Russian archives in the coming years.

The witness provided material evidence to confirm his testimony, such as sheets of paper produced in the 40s, various documents of the CC, counterfeit stamps, and even a whole file marked as "confidential", which "is not subject to declassification".

He even participated in the falsification of the "Decision" of the Political Bureau of the CC of the CP (Bolsheviks) which allegedly approves Beria's request for the execution of the Polish captives of war.<sup>32</sup>

Two months after their defeat at Stalingrad the Nazis "discovered" the graves in Katyn.

These serious allegations, which are even accompanied by evidence and the identi-

### **The case of Katyn is still a "weapon" for the falsification of history and for anticommunism**



Two months after their defeat at Stalingrad the Nazis "discovered" the graves in Katyn.

fication of specific people who took part in the network of forgery, still raises even more doubts about the authenticity of the "documents" about Katyn.

The abundance of evidence that prove that the Poles were executed by the Nazis raises, objectively, the question: Why is all this not reproduced in the press or in the history books at least for appearances or for reasons of "objectivity"?

The answer is that the historical truth does not concern either the "scientists",

the "cultural figures", or those who are simply paid for their propaganda. The Nazi propaganda, whose expediency was revealed from the very beginning, was quickly adopted by the "democratic" capitalist states because it served the a-historical theory of the "two extremes", the anti-scientific construct regarding "totalitarianism". Also, the case of Katyn has become a "weapon" in the falsification of history, in the slandering of socialism, in its the equation with fascism-Nazism.





Bulgaria's liberation by the Red Army. On the banner is written: "Long live the leader of the Red Army, Marshal Stalin".



# THE YALTA AGREEMENT

*«[KKE] steadfastly remains faithful to the dictates of Stalin. For this reason, it now publishes the horrifying plan for the «people's economy», in order to exclude the possibility of its votes exceeding the level agreed to in Yalta between Stalin and Churchill, i.e. level of influence of 10%...»*  
(newspaper "Kathimerini", 15/12/2010)

The above lines represent the "vulgar" and uneducated version of the myth of the division of the world at the Yalta Conference. We say uneducated because the columnist of the newspaper "Kathimerini" makes the mistake and in his anticommunism confuses the Yalta Conference with another popular urban myth that was created by W. Churchill, that supposedly Churchill distributed with Stalin the Balkan countries on a "piece of paper" at the meeting in Moscow in October 1944. From this "mess" itself anyone understands how overt the distortion of history is, the adherence to Goebbels' tactic "keep saying it and they will eventually believe it".

This myth created by W. Churchill is propagated more "tactfully" in the history textbook of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of the Senior High School: *«Already in the second ten days of October 1944, Churchill and Stalin, with Roosevelt absent, had divided up their influence in the southern Balkan Peninsula, Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, with Britain dominant in the first*

*case, the Soviet Union in the second and equal shares in the third case».*<sup>33</sup>

The aim of this "mythology" was to attack the trust of the people for the Soviet Union that had defeated fascism and liberated many peoples of Europe. Another aim was to be equated with capitalist "great powers" which strived to divide the world into "spheres of influence" to increase their profitability. Equating the USSR with the imperialist powers, which were bargaining and determining the future of the world, aimed to inculcate the working class and the youth with the idea that every effort for revolutionary change, for the overthrow of capitalism, is futile since the "grandees" reconciled and agreed in advance. In Greece, in particular this tale was used to illustrate that the USSR was a traitor to the people's interests and that the armed conflict in December and then the struggle of DSE (Democratic Army of Greece) was the "adventurism" of the Communist Party of Greece, a doomed struggle, as it did not have the support of the Soviet Union.

But what is the historical truth? Let us clarify the following: What actually was discussed and agreed at Yalta. Did they indeed divide up the Balkans on a piece of paper.

### **The Yalta Conference**

The Yalta Conference, or the Crimea Conference took place while the Second World War was still in progress, from 4 to 11 February 1945, at the former Palace Livadia in Yalta of Crimea. The conference was attended by J. V. Stalin, Chairman of

the Council of the USSR People's Committees, F. D. Roosevelt, US President and W. Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain.

The Conference took place while the Red Army had achieved significant victories and advanced to about 100 km outside Berlin. In these circumstances, while Britain and the USA still needed assistance from the USSR, and the war with Japan continued, the Soviet delegation at the Conference tried to put a brake on a series of aspirations of the imperialists.

J. V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of the USSR People's Commissars, F. Roosevelt, US President and W. Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain at the Yalta Conference.





The main issues discussed at the Conference were the following:

As the war was ongoing, decisions were made for the organization of military operations.<sup>34</sup> The Soviet Union's participation in the war with Japan was also decided on, provided that the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of Mongolia was preserved as well as the return of the naval base of Port Arthur and the Kuril Islands to the USSR.

The second key issue was the capitulation terms of Germany. With the resolute attitude of the Soviet Union, the imperialist plan for the dismemberment of Germany was rejected (see more details in the chapter about the Berlin Wall). In the discussion for the capitulation terms of Germany it was decided that Germany should disburse compensation for the damage it caused.<sup>35</sup>

The USSR, Britain and the US signed a Declaration for a liberated Europe which amongst other things stated:

*«This Declaration provides for the amenable policy of the three forces and their joint actions to solve political and economic problems of liberated Europe in accordance with democratic principles (...) In accordance with the principles of the Atlantic Charter for the right of all peoples to elect the form of government they wish to live under, the restoration of sovereign rights and self-government should be ensured to those peoples who were violently deprived of it by the aggressive nations».*

In the context of the Declaration decisions were made on the Polish and the

Yugoslav issue, which in both cases concerned the formation of a national unity government.<sup>37</sup>

Finally, the Conference laid the foundations for the creation of the "United Nations" as an effort of international-transnational understanding, which would replace the dissolved and bankrupt "League of Nations".<sup>38</sup>

Even bourgeois professors do not accept that there had been a "distribution" in Yalta. For instance Th. Veremis writes: *«Despite the widespread impression that the grandes distributed the continent into spheres of influence in Yalta, the conference just confirmed a certain fait accompli. The advance of the Red Army in the Eastern Europe created a new reality on the ground»*.<sup>39</sup>

### **The tale about the division of the world on a piece of paper**

As already mentioned, the Conference of Yalta is often confused with the tale that has been served by Churchill about the division of the world on a piece of paper. The "story", as Churchill writes, is: *«I wrote on a half sheet of paper Romania: Russia 90% others 10%, Greece: Great Britain 90% (in agreement with the US) others 10%, Yugoslavia 50- 50%, Hungary: 50-50%, Bulgaria: Russia 75% others 25%. I gave it to Stalin... There was a slight pause. Then he took his blue pencil, put a big mark on it and gave it back. As long as it took to be written everything was arranged».*

## The negotiations of Britain-USA-Germany

Both before and during the war Britain and the US had often covert and overt negotiations with Nazi Germany aiming at an agreement against the USSR.

Britain in June-August '39, when it was officially negotiating with the USSR, was simultaneously negotiating secretly with Germany. The negotiations were intended to define zones of influence between Britain and Germany while preparing an additional Anglo-German non-aggression pact and a loan of Britain to Germany.

Later in May '41 (about 1 month before the German attack to the USSR), the notorious Nazi Rudolf Hess went to Britain where he had official negotiations with prominent political figures of this country. Hitler's proposals conveyed by Hess provided for a signing of a peace between Germany and Britain that would ensure the integrity of the British Empire, with the sole exception that the German colonies should be returned to Germany. Germany would have freedom of action in Europe and would also project some "claims" as regards the Soviet Union that it would fulfill them either through negotiations or through armed violence.

In February '43 the US through the special envoy of Allen Dulles also had secret talks with the Nazis.

On May 12<sup>th</sup> of '43 the Spanish dictator Franco, speaking on the radio, urged Britain and the US to detach themselves from the USSR and with his mediation to make a deal with Germany. The Spanish Foreign Minister submitted a secret memorandum to the British ambassador in Madrid in which he stated: *«Germany is the only force in Central Europe, which is able to carry out the great common affair and especially to stop the expansion of communism, even to eliminate it. In front of the danger of communism, in the name of the European solidarity all secondary disagreements must be set aside to enable us to face this serious danger together.»*

The talks and the projects were still going on even just before the war. The American ambassador in London had described the goal of the imperialists as follows: *«To transform Germany into a base and defensive stronghold against Russia because they believed that communism was a greater threat than the revival of Germany.»*

In early March '45 the US and Britain had negotiations with Germany, rejecting the USSR's request to join these talks. An agreement was reached during the negotiations so that on the one hand the Germans allow the passage of the Anglo-American troops on the Western Front and on the other hand, the Germans won the promise for soft conditions of truce. In fact, the Germans continued the war on the Eastern Front against the Red Army and in the Western Front opened the way for the Anglo-Americans. Thus, the 12<sup>th</sup> Nazi army, for example, moved from the West to the Eastern front to fight against the USSR. (See The USSR Ministry of Defense, *ibid*, p. 50-51, 140, 286-7, 350, 405-6, 414).



The US, in August '45, when supposedly the world had been "divided" committed the greatest crime in human history, with the dropping of two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (5-6 August 1945). This action, which was not dictated by any military necessity and cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of people, aimed at terrorizing and intimidating the Soviet Union and the peoples of the world. (In the picture the gigantic column of smoke which rose after the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima).

Before saying anything else we will note that the story with the "piece of paper" is only described in Churchill's work "The Second World War", released in six volumes between 1948 and 1955, and nowhere else. It is worth noting that the "piece of paper" is not referred to in the Foreign Office files opened to the public in previous years.

The validity of the "memoirs" of Churchill is still disputed by bourgeois historians. Even in the American bibliography Churchill's "story" is not considered valid. Characteristic is the stance of the American historian Wickler on the memoirs of Churchill: *«They're "memoirs" that have been devised and skillfully presented, it is a work in which "the facts" are provided*



in the way the author would like to convey them to the future generations»<sup>40</sup>.

It has also been written in an American academic journal: «Particularly in the United States, some doubts have been arisen with regard to the accuracy of Churchill's reports. Gabriel Kolko has gone so far as to fully reject the story of Churchill and aptly states:

*The "tick" of Stalin, translated into actual words, means nothing whatsoever. The next day Stalin sent Churchill a draft of the discussion, and the Russian carefully tossed out phrases that implied the creation of spheres of influence, which Churchill excluded from his memoirs».*<sup>41</sup>

Also, Churchill presents himself to be negotiating and representing US interests. It is apparent from the correspondence of F. Roosevelt with J. V. Stalin that this claim is totally unfounded.

Specifically, in Roosevelt's letter to Stalin on October 4, 1944, the US president writes about the forthcoming meeting of Stalin with Churchill: «*You certainly understand that in this world war there is literally not a single issue, political or military, that does not interest the United States. I am absolutely convinced that the three of us, and only the three of us, can find a solution to the problems that remain unresolved (...) In this sense, al-*

*though I understand the Prime Minister's desire for the meeting, I prefer to consider your upcoming talks with Churchill as a preparatory meeting for us three (...)»*<sup>42</sup>

Historical events following both the meeting in Moscow and the Conference in Yalta have their value regarding the alleged agreements about the "division of the world" between USSR-US-G. Britain.

Just one month after Yalta, USA and Great Britain negotiated secretly with the Nazi Germany and as a result the main forces of the Wehrmacht transferred from the Western to the Eastern Front.<sup>43</sup>

These historical events and others (co-operation of imperialists with Nazis immediately after the war, persecutions of the Communist parties in France, Italy, etc.) reject the propagandistic arguments that the world was divided between the Soviet Union and the imperialist countries.

The conflict of socialism with capitalism existed and it was conducted throughout the war and inside the "anti-Hitler" alliance. It could not be otherwise. The historical facts reveal that imperialism neither wanted nor could peacefully coexist with the unwavering class enemy, socialism, let alone to make a deal with it for the "division of the world".

The goal of the myth about the "division of the world" was to shake the trust of people for the USSR and to identify it with the imperialist powers



Postwar Soviet poster against imperialist aggression.

### The "Cold War"

Just one year after the Yalta Conference W. Churchill speaking in Fulton, USA revealed once again that the target of the imperialists was the Soviet Union. In this speech, which marks the start of the so-called "cold war", W. Churchill said amongst other things: «From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an "Iron Curtain" has descended across the continent. (...) Now I come to the second danger of these two marauders which threatens the cottage, the home, and the ordinary people—namely, tyranny (...) From what I have seen of our Russian friends and Allies during the war, I am convinced that there is nothing they admire so much as strength, and there is nothing for which they have less respect than for weakness, especially military weakness (...). The close alliance of the English-speaking peoples, the organized aerospace and naval cooperation of the USA and Great Britain are the only way to our freedoms (...). Together fraternally united, we will be the masters of the future...».

During the war, which was named "cold" because the two opposing sides were not in direct military conflict, the propaganda of "a lack of freedom" and "totalitarianism" in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries prevailed, as well the attempts to undermine and overthrow the socialist system.



4



**Weg mit dem Dreck!**

**Um Deutschlands Einheit müssen Krupp und Adenauer weichen!**

"Get rid of the dirt!"

For the unity of Germany Krupp and Adenauer must leave", GDR's poster.



# THE TRUTH ABOUT THE BERLIN WALL

*«In August 1961 the USSR and East Germany erected, around West Berlin, the notorious Wall to block communication between the two parts of the city and the escape of East Germans, especially of the young people, to the West. In the following years many East Germans died trying to cross the wall and escape to the West, which denounced the construction of the Wall as a manifestation of barbarism. The Berlin Wall became the symbol of the division of Europe until its fall, in 1989.»*

(History Book, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of Senior High School)<sup>44</sup>

The construction of the Berlin Wall by the German Democratic Republic (GDR) for decades constitutes the main "ingredient" of anti-communist propaganda. The disaster presented as "proof" of the failure of socialism, as "evidence" of capitalism's victory. The relentlessness with which they attack and slander the socialist construction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, of course, proves exactly the opposite. Otherwise why slander with such fury a "failed" and a "non-existent" enemy?

From the textbook to the glossy pages of magazines and newspapers of the plutocracy the defamation is repeated that the wall was built so as not to allow East Germans to escape from the "oppression". What we quote above from the history textbook of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade is indicative. Along the same line, but less "tactfully", the propagandists of the bourgeoisie say: *«Surprising everyone, the city of Berlin was cut in two, raising an impenetrable*

*wall, imprisoning an entire people in the name of socialism, dividing a country into two, families, relatives, friends and acquaintances. Then, for those who dared to pass this wall without the permission of the authorities, the prospects were two: death or prison».*<sup>45</sup>

The distortion of history is blatant. Let us begin again and see who dismembered Germany and the reasons that imposed the erection of the Berlin Wall.

## **Who wanted -and achieved- the dismemberment of Germany**

The imperialist plans for the division of Germany had begun even before the war ended.

The US President F. Roosevelt in the Tehran Conference presented on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1943 a plan for the dismemberment of Germany into 5 states and 2 other areas under international control.

A similar proposal was supported by Churchill, too.<sup>46</sup> Another imperialist plan for the dismemberment of Germany was the "Morgenthau Plan", prepared by the American officer H. Morgenthau at the US President's order.

The plan foresaw amongst other things:

- a.** the separation of Germany into two states, one north and one south.
- b.** the autonomy of the industrial area of Ruhr and its conversion into an international zone.
- c.** the conversion of Germany from an industrial into agricultural country.<sup>47</sup>

It was even stressed that *«it will be easier to deal with two Germanies than with one»*.<sup>48</sup>

This plan was the basis of discussion of Roosevelt with Churchill in the Conference in Quebec, held on 12 to 16 September '44. In this conference the two leaders decided the detachment of Ruhr and Saar from Germany and its conversion *«mainly into an agricultural and livestock area»*.<sup>49</sup>

At the Conference of Moscow, in October '44, Churchill presented his own proposal for the division of Germany into three states, while the US Assistant Secretary of State S. Welles supported the creation of three states in Germany's position, noting that *«many Germans, undoubtedly, will try to find in this instance a way of restoring unity, but then we will subdue them by force»*.<sup>50</sup> The US and Britain presented these plans at the Yalta Conference, but thanks to the USSR's attitude those plans were rejected. In the decision related to

Germany, in which, of course, there were compromises with the imperialist powers, the occupation of Germany by the victorious powers was decided, but it was noted that this would be temporary.<sup>51</sup>

Shortly afterwards, the USSR, the USA, Great Britain and France signed the *«Declaration on the Defeat of Germany and the Assumption of the Supreme Authority»* on June 5th, 1945. According to this, Germany was divided into four occupation zones (American, English, French, Soviet) and Berlin-which was in the Soviet zone-into four areas respectively. On June 9th military governments of the occupation zones were established. Each state took on the responsibility for a part of Germany and a sector of Berlin.

On the day of the Antifascist Victory of the Peoples (May 9th, 1945) J. V. Stalin stated that the Soviet Union *«does not intend either to dissolve or annihilate Germany»*.<sup>52</sup>

Despite the decisions taken at Yalta, the imperialist powers returned with a proposal for the dismemberment of Germany at the Potsdam Conference. The Soviet Union, represented by J. Stalin rejected the proposal as unnatural and argued that the issue was not the dismemberment of Germany, but its conversion into a peaceful and democratic state.<sup>53</sup> There is a similar testimony from the American diplomat Harry Hopkins, who was not at all favourable to the USSR. Hopkins says that Stalin treated *«without enthusiasm»* the proposals of Britain and the US for the dismemberment of Germany<sup>54</sup>. So in Potsdam the aim was established to create a



Map of Germany. West Berlin was located in the heart of the Democratic Republic of Germany. There it bordered the Federal Republic Germany.



*«unified German, demilitarized, denazified, democratically organized state.»*

Quickly, already by 1946, the imperialist powers had shown that they were not prepared to resign from their plans. On September 15, 1946 a report of the US State Department was published on the developments in Germany with the following position: *«The US cannot accept any possible dominated by the Communists Germany (...) we would have to continue with the unification of West Germany-with the British and feasibly with the French, too-and by restoring the economy in this region. This alternative would mean the division of Germany into an eastern and a western state»*<sup>55</sup>. Similar positions were expressed by the British, too.

These plans did not just remain on paper. On December 2, 1946, the US and Britain decided on the unification of their occupation zones while later France joined the unified zone. In June '48 they went even further by introducing a new currency in the three occupation zones that were under their control. Specifically, the law on the "Rearrangement of the German monetary system" the "old mark", the "Reichsmark", was replaced by the "Deutsche Mark". The creation of a separate state was decided in London in December '47, while officially the capitalist Germany, Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), was founded on May 23, 1949.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, every time was presented with a fait accompli. Thus, on June 23, 1948 there was monetary reform in the Soviet zone, too, with the establishment of the East German

mark, and on October 7, 1949 the German Democratic Republic was founded (GDR). Its foundation had a transitory character, while the objective of a unified Germany remained.

It is characteristic that in the first constitution of the GDR neither flag nor emblem was determined, since this would happen in the Unified Germany. The flag and the emblem of the GDR were introduced 10 years later.

Meanwhile, the efforts continued for the implementation of the Potsdam decisions. On May 23, 1948 there were calls for a referendum throughout Germany, to create a unified Germany, as proclaimed at Potsdam. In the capitalist occupation zones the referendum was banned. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), which led socialist construction in the GDR, returned to the referendum proposal in 1952. That same year the Soviet Union, with the "Stalin Note" as it became known, asked the USA, Great Britain and France, for the reunification of Germany in accordance with the Potsdam decisions. The imperialist powers rejected all these proposals.

The adherence of the USSR to the Potsdam declarations for a unified German state clearly demonstrates its opposition to the dismemberment of Germany, that it was the only force not to have pursued it. Of course, as we can assess today, this objective to create a unified *«demilitarized, democratic»* German State was not realistic, as objectively the unified German state would be either capitalist or socialist. This position reflects to some extent the overestima-



The provocations of the imperialists against the GDR were continuous. In West Berlin thousands of agents and dozens of organizations of espionage and terrorism acted. (In the photo provocateurs on the borders in action against the GDR).

tion of the postwar correlation of forces by the Soviet side.

On May 6, 1955, the Federal Republic of Germany, already militarized since October 4th, 1954, joined NATO, an imperialist organization directed against socialism. Things were more straightforward. The creation of the Warsaw Pact (May 14, 1955) and the integration of the GDR in it

was a response to the integration of the FRG in NATO.

From all the above it is evident who pursued and achieved the dismemberment of Germany. The imperialist alliance of US-Britain-France aimed at the capitalist reorganization of the western part of Germany, with the prospect of then absorbing the eastern part. The British officer's, Sir



The GDR's territorial integrity was repeatedly violated. Provocations like that of October 1961, where the US military forces lined up on Friedrichstraße (just a few meters away from the territory of the GDR), were blocked with the support of Soviet tanks.

Orm's statement is characteristic : *«If we neglect this task (ed : the creation of an anti-Soviet bloc in the Western occupation zones) the alternative could be communism up to the Rhine»*<sup>56</sup>.

### **The imperialist aggression imposed the construction of the wall**

A geographical clarification of Berlin's location in Germany is necessary because it is systematically obscured, despite its huge importance for subsequent developments. Berlin was entirely situated in the territory of the GDR. Half of it was not in the territory of the FRG and the other half in the GDR, as one may mistakenly think. West Berlin, which was under the con-

trol of the imperialist powers, was in the heart of the German Democratic Republic. It neither geographically belonged to or bordered the FRG. It is if a part of Athens was part of the Bulgarian state. Due to this geographical position, West Berlin was chosen by international imperialism as a global center of imperialist strategy against socialism. West Berlin was an outpost of imperialism, a time bomb, a counterrevolutionary gun tower in the very bowels of the socialist GDR and the socialist system. Since the early postwar years, the international strategy of capital aimed openly at the overthrow of socialism, either through a military strike ("Roll-Back" strategy) or through the *«change through other approaches»*, ie the strengthening of



the counterrevolutionary overthrow from within.<sup>57</sup>

G. Burnham, a then senior official of the CIA, openly stated that goal of the American foreign policy should be the disappearance of «communist power».<sup>58</sup>

In these plans, West Berlin played an important role as an international center where thousands agents acted along with 80 organizations of espionage and terrorism. Among them, the American CIA and the West German BND, led by Reinhard Gehlen, former leader of the Nazi secret services. (After the war Gehlen enlisted in the US Army ordered to set up a spy network against the USSR and eventually returned to the FRG).

Particularly revealing regarding the activities of American intelligence services in Berlin is the confidential report of the CIA "Effects of Soviet Restrictions on the US Position in Berlin" (12-6-1948) which referred to the problems created by the embargo by the USSR on West Berlin, in 1948.

Let's see, some characteristic passages: «contrary to many published reports, the main adverse effect on the US from the Soviet restrictive measures imposed on Berlin since the departure of the USSR from the Allied Control Council was not the interference in transport and commissions, but the reduction of concrete actions of the US, which were mostly related to espionage, propaganda and corporate administration. (...) As a result: a) the general usefulness of Berlin as a center of a spy network weakened and more specifically, the access to Soviet deserters and German anti-communists became even more diffi-

cult. b) As German friendly cannot move freely to and from the Soviet Zone, or in the city, the US cannot support as before anti-communism in the Soviet Zone. c) US propaganda cannot be disseminated freely, excluding radio. d) Goods manufactured in Berlin cannot be transferred to the Western Zones (i.e. the subsequent West Germany)...».<sup>59</sup>

Yet all this activity against socialism was being freely conducted throughout Berlin, as there were no borders! Let us examine in more detail how exactly the imperialist strategy against the GDR expressed itself.

Since the foundation of the GDR, the FRG openly and officially expressed the aim of overthrowing socialism, since it considered it as "occupied territory", while the PEPCO (Political and Economic Projects Committee) committee was set up in February 1950 by the American congressman McCloy, in order to organize political and propaganda activities against the GDR.

These plans were expressed in many ways. One of them was the undermining of the productive base of the GDR. Many were the subversive actions and the sabotages, in the early years of the GDR: In 1949 there were major sabotages in the Saxon textile industry, in 1952 in the Solvay company projects, in 1953 in the agricultural production of the Kreis Wittstock area, in the cement plants of Goschwitz and in the factories in Zwonitz. Later, the undermining-especially in 1958-focused on the socialist reconstruction of the economy. In most cases it was proven that there had been a direct connection with the FRG intelligence services.

The subversive activity was not limited to the sabotage of the economy but also aimed at the sabotage of the masses. There had been a continuous creation of dozens of organizations, associations, magazines etc. where thousands of agents acted under the cover of cultural-humanitarian activities. The German newspaper Tagezeitung on September 25, 2007 wrote that the

BND had 10,000 agents in the GDR!

Part of this activity was the transmissions of the radio stations Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe from the territory of the FRG, which channeled false news and even an open call for organized counterrevolution against the socialist states.

With this "arsenal" in its hands, the FRG was preparing its plan for the so-called "X

At the border of the Federal Republic of Germany with the GDR and Czechoslovakia, hundreds of radio and television stations, located in the FRG, broadcasting the GDR and in other socialist countries with subversive content. Such stations existed in West Berlin, too (in the territory of the GDR).



Day", the day of the violent overthrow of socialism in the GDR and of its annexation by the FRG. This day was June 17, 1953, when protests were utilized in order to develop an attempted counterrevolution.

A year before the coup d' etat, Kaiser, then head of the "Ministry for All-German affairs" of FRG stated that *«it is completely feasible that the day X comes faster than the skeptics hope»*. The Der Spiegel magazine wrote in 1952: *«The plan of the general staff for administrative takeover (ie in the GDR) is good and ready. The only thing missing-after the signing of the general contract by Chancellor Adenauer-is the opportunity to apply it»*. Just four days before the onset of the coup d' etat, the then Minister Sronter stated: *«The federal republic is Germany. All other regions (ie the GDR) are teritory, which has been removed from us and is being retained and should be reconnected»*.

The attempted counterrevolution was rebuffed by the people of the GDR with the internationalist assistance of the Red Army. This failure led imperialist forces to direct their tactics to a change "through other approaches" and not the violent overthrow. An important contribution to this effort was made by social democracy.<sup>60</sup>

### **The construction of the protective wall**

In August 13, 1961 the GDR responded to the increasing imperialist aggression by practicing its self-evident right: to establish separate state borders with the construction of the Antifascist Protective Wall. Until then, the borders were invisible-they

passed through houses and streets, they were neither secured nor controlled. Half a million people crossed them every day. Thousands of West German, American and British agents moved freely in Berlin.

Let us examine certain events prior to the commencement of the erection of the protective wall in 1960-61.

In May '60, with the borders open, the American military forces carried out military exercises in West Berlin to deal with *«communist disturbances»*.<sup>61</sup>

In March '61, the West German military magazine Wehrwissenschaftliche Rundschau wrote openly: *«Because the options of the West have been exhausted in terms of repelling the East, we are left with only the possibility of violent change of the status-quo»*. Within July there were 105 challenges on the borders between East and West Berlin.

In July 10, the West German press required *«to use all means of the cold war, the war of nerves and the war of the shootings... Therefore, not only conventional military forces and equipment is needed, but undermining and the incitement of the internal resistance, the work in illegality, the decay of power, sabotage, disruption of transport and economy, disobedience, rebellion...»*. A few days after Ernst Lemer, Minister of the FRG, went to West Berlin to direct the conduct of psychological war against the GDR. The same period saboteurs set fire to the electrical station of the city, on Lenin Avenue and also set fire to the Humboldt University.

The aggression of imperialism continued putting NATO troops in central Europe on



alert and the "western" tanks passed the Brandenburg Gate, entering the territory of the GDR. During the same period, the then West German Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss stated that one had to be prepared for a kind of civil war in Germany!

He, just before the construction of the wall, recommended the immediate increase of the strength of German troops by 50% and their equipping with nuclear weapons! Also, the CIA memo in May 19, 1961 entitled "Berlin contingency plan-

ning", proposed the creation and support of armed terrorist groups in the GDR and the other socialist countries.<sup>62</sup>

Everything indicated that the FRG and international imperialism were preparing a new "X day", a new counterrevolutionary effort. Thus, on August 11, 1961 the parliament of the Democratic Germany ordered the government to take all necessary measures to ensure the peace and security of socialism. On the night of 12 to 13 August, the construction of the wall

### The "open borders" policy

The policy of open borders, especially with West Berlin, created, multifaceted and serious risks for the GDR even regarding the existence of the state. Apart from the comfortable and continuous passage of spies and saboteurs through West Berlin, the looting of human and financial resources of the GDR played an important role in the imperialist plans. An artificially preserved monetary rate of 1 to 4 between the western and the eastern mark, which was aided by such propaganda methods, brought to GDR a continuous haemorrhage of skilled workers and scientists to West Berlin. This part of the East Berlin population and its surroundings, enjoying the benefits which derived from the work of the working class and the other strata of the socialist state (education-specialization, social benefits, cheap housing and nutrition, etc.), continued selling its labor power to the capitalists, in conditions that raised its income. This deprived the socialist state of the necessary human resources for the more effective implementation of central economic planning, but also greatly enhanced the profits of the German monopolies and the capitalist economy of the Federal Republic of Germany. This fact was recognized even by political defenders of German monopolies, such as the social democrat professor Fritz Baante, who estimated in 1965 that the FRG owed the GDR over 100 billion marks and added: *«To a certain extent our prosperity is a result of discrimination against the GDR»*.



Essay of History of KKE, Volume II (1949-1968),  
Sinchro Epoch, pp. 582-584



Sketch of the Eulenspiegel magazine (August '61) which satirizes the problems created in the socialist economy, the policy of open borders in West Berlin. A part of the East Berlin population enjoyed the benefits of the socialist state (health, free education, cheap housing and nutrition, etc.) but worked in the western part. Specifically, the sketch shows a woman who works as a domestic worker in West Berlin, taking advantage of the cheap and stable food prices in the GDR for the family she works. «*This time, my gracious lady, I will be able to bring only 16 butter bars. Food is getting worse for us in the East!*»!



began. Undoubtedly, the construction of the wall created problems for many families because of the restriction of visits for a period of time etc. These problems, however, were a direct consequence of the imperialist aggression, aiming openly to the overthrow of socialism. The GDR had no other choice, it was in defensive position and had every right to protect the workers' power from the diverse and multipronged nature of the imperialist subversion.

### **The propaganda concerning the migratory flow**

Bourgeois propaganda pretends to not know all these threats the GDR had to deal with and claims that the wall was built to ensure that the East Germans will not "escape" from the GDR.

As we showed above their claim is unfounded, since the wall was an action entirely imperative to address the imperialist aggression and for the protection of workers' power.

The propagandists of the bourgeoisie, knowing that when you mix truth with a hundred lies you become more convincing, utilize the real emigration flow from East to West to slander socialism. But what is the truth?

According to statistics of the GDR between 1949 and 1989 about 2 million people went to the FRG.

Similarly, there was a migration flow from the FRG to the GDR (according to data from the GDR, between 1951 to 1965, 622,767 Germans emigrated from the FRG



«The "punished" Nazis or how they throw fish back in the water». Soviet poster of 1947 which satirizes the use of former Nazi officials from the imperialist states.



to the GDR<sup>63</sup>), despite and in opposition to the imperialist aggression and propaganda. Bourgeois propagandists often mention the number of people who immigrated to FRG speaking of 3,5 up to 4 million!<sup>64</sup> The reason, according to them was that they were trying to escape from "oppression". The truth of course is different.

The reorganization of the economy on a socialist basis resulted in affecting not only the capitalist ownership and but also the upper middle strata.

In the socialist GDR, as in any socialist construction process, the class struggle intensified, which was expressed as always at all levels (economic, ideological, political). With these data, but also with a series of economic factors, which we will develop below, plus the very important elements of the common national roots but also of the family, friendship bonds (it is worth noting that due to the different sizes of the two states, 2/3 of the residents of the GDR had relatives in the FRG while only the 1/3 of the FRG population had relatives in the GDR), plus the 12 year free movement of persons and the corresponding construction of all kinds of human relationships actually created an emigration flow to the FRG, which clearly was reinforced by the economic reforms in the GDR that intensified elements of the market at the expense of the central planning and certainly contributed to the weakening of

the communist consciousness.<sup>65</sup>

The economic factors that have contributed to the migration flows are based on the economic "advantage" the FRG acquired in the postwar years through the financial support from the imperialist Marshall Plan and the non-payment of the war reparations.

More specifically: The FRG was massively reinforced by the Marshall Plan. By the end of 1951, the FRG took from the Marshall Plan 4 million dollars versus 2.4 million dollars that France took (calculated at prices of the time). Simultaneously, with the agreement of the London Conference (1953)

**The construction  
of the anti-fascist  
protective wall  
was necessary to  
safeguard socialism  
in the GDR**

imperialists essentially relieved the FRG from the obligation to pay war reparations. The GDR on the contrary fully complied with its obligations. So, out of all the war reparations the GDR gave 98% and the FRG, which was almost three times larger in terms of geography and population, gave only the remaining 2%! In these data the natural imbalances between the two countries must be aggregated because of their size or the distribution of natural resources, etc.

The following point is indicative: in 1936 in the GDR region about 27% of the total German products was produced, but 95% of the raw materials for this production came from the western part.

This economic advantage was used in diverse ways against the GDR and

## The “numbers” of “the dead of the wall”

The propaganda “puzzle” for the Wall is completed with the talk about “numbers” regarding the number of “the dead of the wall”, which every year is growing at a geometric pace. So the FRG courts in 1992 reported 224 deaths, in 1996 490, in 1997 1,065 dead. Among them murdered, drowned in the Baltic Sea, etc. The official, however, statistics on deaths on incidents in the Wall, both according to the FRG government agencies and the international media ranged from 86 to 200 deaths in the most extreme cases.

What, of course, is not known and is consistently concealed is the armed attacks on the Wall from the side of West Berlin. The murder of the two border guards of the GDR in 1975 is revealing. The penalty imposed on the perpetrator by the FRG courts, was the offering of a bouquet! The assassinations and the provocations by the capitalist and “democratic” West are rewarded!

***«The global conflict between socialism and imperialism as  
expressed in the GDR and Berlin»  
Kommunistiki Epitheorisi, Issue 1/2010***



socialism. Thus, the FRG could for example use this advantage to attract workers from the GDR paying higher wages or by offering tax allowances to those who were leaving it.<sup>66</sup>

The loss of skilled manpower placed obstacles on the economic growth in the GDR and caused huge economic losses. Similar problems were created by the circulation of two currencies in Berlin.<sup>67</sup> Finally, another important weapon of the economic warfare was the so-called list of the CoCom Committee (Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls) which included all products prohibited for export to socialist countries. The list

was constantly renewed, aiming at the economic strangulation of the GDR and of the other socialist countries, especially in the first years after the war when production was still disorganized.

It should also be pointed out that indeed there was a significant part of the population of the GDR who wanted to “escape” to use the terminology of the bourgeois publicists: the former Nazis.

Even before the foundation of the GDR, 520.734 former members and cadres of the Nazi party and state were fired and lost their rights in the Soviet Zone by March of '48.<sup>68</sup> All these people had every reason to want to emigrate to the West, where a “bright future” was waiting

for them. Unlike what happened in the Soviet Zone and later in the GDR, in the capitalist Germany the Nazis not only were not punished but they were also utilized in high positions in the state, the army and the secret services of the FRG. It is characteristic that the first ministerial council of the FRG had more members of the Nazi party than in the first government of Hitler! It could not have been any different, since Nazism-fascism was and is the offspring of imperialism.<sup>69</sup>

This is the truth about the Berlin Wall that actually symbolized two worlds. Within a city the conflict between capitalism and socialism was expressed in the most emphatic way. On the one side there was the capitalist "prosperity". the one that constructed and still constructs colossal "walls" for the peoples: exploitation, economic crises,

poverty, unemployment, imperialist wars, ignorance.

On the other side of the Wall, the Socialist Europe, made possible by the conquest of power by the working class, the liberation from the shackles of the capitalist exploitation. Despite the mistakes, the weaknesses and the opportunist deviations socialism had unprecedented achievements, rapidly developed the level of social welfare, which constitute a criterion for the superiority of socialism. It was a superior system. In socialist countries the workers enjoyed rights that capitalism could not possibly dream. The only right "forbidden" was the freedom of capitalists to bleed the workers.

To preserve this "right" the capitalists struggle, so they slander socialism. Because they know, that no force can block the way to the future of mankind, socialism-communism.

GDR stamp for the 25 years from the construction of the Antifascist Protective Wall (1986).





5

VÍTĚZNÝ ÚNOR  
1948  
1968

60  
h



Stamp for the 20 years since the  
establishment of the workers'  
power in Czechoslovakia in  
February, 1948.

ČESKOSLOVENSKO

J. PAUKERT

1968

ČJIRKA

# THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY EVENTS IN EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

*«In autumn 1956, Hungary announced its withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, but Soviet troops invaded the country and suppressed the uprising.»*

*«In 1968 the Czechoslovak attempt to distance from Moscow was met with invasion in the country from the member states of the Warsaw Pact.»*

(History book, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of Senior High School) <sup>70</sup>

The historical experience of the socialist construction in the Soviet Union and the People's Republics of Europe confirmed that class struggle continues during the socialist construction, which means that it is even possible, a counter-revolution. The attempts to overthrow the workers' power in a number of European countries (counter-revolutionary coup in the GDR in 1953, counter-revolution in Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Poland in 1980-81) was nothing more than efforts of the defeated bourgeois classes of these countries to retake the power in their hands. These efforts, as we shall see below, were strongly supported by international imperialism with any means and manner.

Of course, at the appearance of the above counter-revolutionary actions a catalytic role was played by the domination of the opportunist forces in the party and state organs. These leaderships not only weakened the vigilance towards the action of imperialism and underestimated

the sharpening of the class struggle but in the process the same parties became vehicles of the counter-revolution, leading also popular forces "to the arms" of the counter-revolution and supported the counter-revolutionary actions (e.g. Nagy in Hungary, Dubcek in Czechoslovakia).

All these counter-revolutionary actions are raised by the imperialist propaganda as riots for "democracy" and against "repression", while their treatment by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries is presented as an "invasion".

What is written in textbooks is characteristic and corresponding references are flooding the bourgeois press at the "anniversaries" of the events. The interpretation that is given by the imperialist propaganda in the events it is accepted also by the opportunism.

But what did really happen? Let's see how the counter-revolutionary events were developed and organized in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.





The counter-revolutionaries organized a huge manhunt that was directed mainly against the members and the cadres of the Party of Hungarian workers. On 30 October '56 for example, according to the Associated Press 130 people were arrested in the Party offices and were hanged upside down or beaten to death.


### **The counter-revolutionary attempt in Hungary**

From 13 to 16 of June '53, the leadership of the Party of the Hungarian Workers led by Mathias Rakosi, Secretary General of the CC and Prime Minister, visited the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet leadership. After this visit, the Political Bureau of the Party decided to include in its composition also the cadre of the Party, Imre Nagy. On July 2, Nagy, who supported the bourgeois multi-party system, was ap-

pointed prime minister.

These developments sharpened the internal party struggle. In 1955 Nagy was deposed from the party and state posts and later expelled from the Party. In December of '55 the anti-communist writers' club "Petofi" was created. M. Rakosi, Secretary General of the CC of the Hungarian Workers Party, in plenary session of the CC in May '56 characterized the position of Stalin for the sharpening of the class struggle in conditions of the





workers' power as "wrong and harmful." Two months later, Rakosi was dismissed from his duties. On 13 October '56, Nagy was restored and reintegrated in the party lines. From the above, it is clear that in the leadership of the party occurred intense struggle, confusions and mitigation of the revolutionary line. It also seems that there were different trends of opportunism within the Party, the more open led by Nagy and the centrist by Rakosi. The Party not only showed weakness to deal with the counter-revolution, but the opportunism paved its way.

The counter-revolutionary events began on October 23rd '56 with the organization of a large counter-revolutionary concentration with misleading slogans like "socialism with Hungarian colors", and requesting the promotion of Nagy in the leadership of the government.

At the same time, focusing on the country's capital, a huge wave of terrorism and murders against communists was unleashed. The leadership of the Party confronted the situation by declaring a state of emergency in the country, calling for help the Soviet troops and proceeded to deal with Nagy in order to take over as a President of the cabinet.

When Nagy took over, he opened the borders with Austria and allowed to penetrate the country thousands of counter-revolutionaries and agents, fascist and reactionary elements who had left the country. The equipment and supply of counter-revolutionists was done by the airlift of Vienna-Budapest, mainly by American planes.

### **The attack against the workers' power peaks**

In the morning of 25<sup>th</sup> October, the public order institutions with the help of military forces of the province that hadn't been eroded by the counter-revolution, declared strict curfew in Budapest in order to facilitate the suppression of the armed counter-revolutionary groups. This measure was suspended by Nagy who proceeded with negotiations with the counter-revolutionaries. At the same time, he was threatening the Ministry of Defense that if they attacked the "Korvin" arcade, where the most important counter-revolutionary forces were gathered, he would resign.

At the same time, the government of Nagy was promising arms to the revolutionary workers' guards that were established in various companies and in party offices, but delivered them to the counter-revolutionaries. Nagy could not come open as enemy of socialism. As it is noted in the publication of the Hungarian's state Information Service: *«... Imre Nagy on his announcement at the radio on the 25<sup>th</sup> October noted that the "intervention" of the Soviet troops in the fights was demanded by the vital interests of our socialist regime. (...) Even Imre Nagy could not appear on the scene, rather than a steadfast follower of the socialist people's power, as a friend of the Soviet Union, as an irreconcilable enemy of the counter-revolutionary attackers. (...) If Imre Nagy on October 23 positioned already against the Warsaw Pact and in favor of a "neutrality according to the*

## The subversive activity of imperialism

The declassification of secret documents from the archives of the imperialist powers allows us to have a "picture" of the subversive activity that the secret services of international imperialism carried out in various ways. Indicative for this activity are the following directions given in the report of the National Security Council «*The US policy toward the Soviet "satellites" in Eastern Europe*» that was approved by the US President D. Eisenhower, in July '56:

*«In order to encourage the establishment of governments that have been elected freely in the "satellites" as a means of disorganization, and not as an end in itself, you should be ready in any case, covertly and under the appropriate guidance to help the nationalists in every way in which independence from the Soviet domination is possible and where the consistency of the US and the "free world" will not be endangered by it.»*

(See. National Security Council Report NSC 5608/1, "US Policy toward the Soviet Satellites in Eastern Europe", July 18, 1956-published on the website of "George Washington University").

*model of Austria", it could not even be spoken his appointment to President of the Cabinet.»*<sup>71</sup>

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, the Soviet troops withdrew from the country at the request of Nagy. Then the counter-revolutionary forces continued even wilder their attack. «*The counter-revolutionary terrorism was dominating in the streets of Budapest the Communists and progressive people were murdered in groups. Thousands of the Party militants, presidents of rural associations, presidents of councils, supporters of socialism were imprisoned throughout the country and their slaughter was being prepared. In the political arena capitalists, landlords, bankers, princes and counts had reappeared, led by Midsenti. They appeared in the Parliament, in two days they founded 28 counter-revolutionary parties*»<sup>72</sup>.

Fascists and supporters of the Nazis were

openly involved in the counter-revolutionary events. The correspondent of the East German newspaper Veli Autsonntag wrote about someone of the counter-revolutionaries: «*The first I saw on him was the medal of the German Iron Cross*»<sup>73</sup>, while the French newspaper France Soir wrote that «*the most reactionary and fascist elements*» had a leading role in the events<sup>74</sup>.

The Nagy government's announcement on the withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact and the "neutrality" of the country on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November gave such momentum to the counter-revolutionaries that even led the Reuters correspondent to write: «*Since yesterday there is a manhunt in Budapest streets*», people «*are hunted and slaughtered like dogs, hung on poles and balconies. Across the country there are scenes that refer to the return of "whites" in Hungary of 1919*»<sup>75</sup>.

### **The role of international imperialism**

The involvement of the imperialist powers to "Hungarian uprising" is evidenced by what a British official stated 40 years later, without revealing his identity: *«In 1954, we were taking agents from the Hungarian borders, which we drove to the British-controlled area of Austria. We took them to the mountains and we gave them battle courses... Then, when we trained them with explosives and arms, I took them back... We trained them for the uprising»*<sup>76</sup>.

The Pravda also wrote in an article: *«The western bourgeois newspapers write with enough sincerity that reaction was preparing the Hungarian events a long time ago and with diligence, both internally, and from the outside, that from the beginning*

*anyone could see in all the experienced hand of the conspirators. The leader of the American spy Allen Dulles openly stated that "we knew" what would happen in Hungary.»*<sup>77</sup>

The imperialists also throughout the duration of the counter-revolution through the radio station Free Europe, which was funded and guided by the US government, were calling the Hungarians to "rise up". With its broadcastings, they were calling them to make sabotage, to support with food and supplies the counter-revolutionaries, and to support their actions it was broadcasting that the US would send military aid. The radio station, according to what Henry Kissinger wrote, impelled the Hungarians to *«stay committed in their revolution and not to accept any compromise*

The counter-revolutionaries after murdering this communist, they threw over him the portrait of Lenin.







Armed Czechoslovakian workers defending the workers' power (1948).

*(...) Fighters for Freedom, don't hang your guns on the wall!»<sup>78</sup>*

The US plans are revealed also in the recommendation of G. Dulles at the meeting of National Security Council on October 31 '56, on the US policy in Hungary and Poland, while the counter-revolution was under way. He said for Hungary: «(...) 22. *Immediate human aid for the Hungarian people. (...) 23. If it comes to power a government at least so independent also in Poland: a. To be prepared to provide (...) economic and technical assistance in reasonable quantities, enough to give the Hungarians an alternative solution to the total dependence on Moscow. (...) To make appropriate steps to reorient the Hungarian trade to the West».*<sup>79</sup>

### **The repulse of the counter-revolution from the Hungarian working class and the Red Army**

As it was mentioned, coherent communists, workers and peasants had formed revolutionary guards and tried to deal with counter-revolutionary groups. But, only in some areas they managed to arm themselves and to repulse terrorism. Finally, on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, a Revolutionary Workers' and Peasants Government was formed by cadres of the Party in Szolnok city and invited the Soviet Union to help to suppress the counter-revolution. The USSR responded to the request, fulfilling its internationalist duty, and on November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Hungarian communists and vanguard workers with

the help of the Red Army prevailed over the counter-revolutionary forces.

### **The counterrevolution in Czechoslovakia**

The events that took place in Czechoslovakia in the summer of 1968 for many years have been presented by the imperialist propaganda as the so-called "Prague Spring". The bourgeois press presents the events as something "new", as a "peaceful uprising for democratization" etc. All these of course are reproduced by opportunists of various kinds. In reality, this "Spring" was nothing more than an attempted counterrevolution with the sole aim of returning Czechoslovakia to the "winter" of capitalist restoration, of the exploitation of man by man.

The counterrevolution was exactly the work of those social forces that pursued the return of capitalism. The class struggle obviously did not stop after the conquest of power by the working class in 1948. The defeated bourgeois class, with the help of the international imperialism, did not quit, and never does, the fight to take back the power. As long as the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia followed a revolutionary, Marxist-Leninist direction, those forces were confronted by workers' power. The dominance of opportunism, however, led to the inability to confront them and at the end to the party leadership itself supporting them.

### **The opportunist corrosion**

During the plenary of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia that took place in January 1968, Alexander Dubcek was elected as the

General Secretary of the CC. This election signified a more unfavorable correlation of forces within the context of struggle inside the party, as well as the course of the socialist construction. Opportunism, with the pretext of an alleged creative criticism of "bureaucracy", attacked the achievements of socialism and with the slogan "socialism with a human face" launched a war against revolutionary workers' power.

The opportunist corrosion of the higher organs of the Party also caused appointment of counterrevolutionaries to the state organs, who were the leaders of similar actions. Thus, there was no possibility for the mass revolutionary reaction of many healthy coherent communist forces. The limited reaction was treated with abuse, even with persecutions from their workplaces, like for example the workers of the industry "Auto Praga"<sup>80</sup>.

The dominance of opportunism in the party organs is expressed clearly in the CIA report of April '68 with the title "Czechoslovakia in transition": The report says that «*Dubcek "retired" most "Stalinists"*» (meaning from the leadership of the Party), while in a different section the following estimation is documented regarding the Council of Ministers of Czechoslovakia: «*It is composed mostly of technocrats rather than ideologists (...) it consists of ministers that range from former conservatives (meaning defenders of socialist construction) to extreme liberals*».

The same report includes the opinion of a "conservative" (that is in support of socialism), member of the CC of the Party, about everything that was happening

ΤΟ ΣΥΝΤΑΓΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΛΑΟΥ, ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΛΑΟΝ, ΔΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΛΑΟΝ

ΕΘΝΟΣ

ΑΘΗΝΑΙ, ΕΣΩΤΕΡΑ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗ

29

ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΥ 1968

ΤΑΧΙΔΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

ΤΑΧΙΔΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

Οι Τόξοι:

ΕΝΩ ΚΑΙ Η ΕΘΝΟΣΥΝΕΛΕΥΣΙΣ ΗΡΗΝΗΘ  
ΝΑ ΕΙΡΚΙΝΗ ΤΑΣ ΣΥΜΦΩΝΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΜΟΣΧΑΣ

ΑΠΟΝ ΜΕΧΡΙΣ ΕΣΧΑΤΩΝ

τησαν  
δου»  
ανίαν  
ΓΥΜΝΑΣΙΩΝ



Έναντίον των Ρώσων έφηρμόσθη  
το σχέδιο άμύνης κατά του ΝΑΤΟ

του Συμφώνου  
της Βαρσοβίας

ΥΠΕΡ ΤΟΥ ΜΟΡΠΙΤΣ



## The bourgeois press in the service of the counterrevolution

The big publishing groups supported from the very first moment the counterrevolutionary forces of Czechoslovakia. New York Times wrote: «*unfortunately, the war in Vietnam and the sad situation of the balance of payments do not give the USA the ability to play in the near future a significant role in the assistance of Czechoslovakia*».

The Times characterized the counterrevolution as «*one of the most optimistic movements in the communist world*», while they wrote that «*If the Czechs and the Slovaks want to construct a freer society, they are obliged to detach themselves from Moscow*».

The French Le Monde wrote: «*Czechoslovakia must try now to cause inside and out of COMECON (meaning the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance) a revision of the exchange of commodities*».

Accordingly, in Greece the bourgeois newspapers reproduced the counterrevolutionary propaganda with front-pages and huge titles (the photo shows a front-page of the newspaper Ethnos).

The bourgeois press had a similar attitude towards the counterrevolutionary events in Hungary. The magazine Times (photo) for example declared in 1956 as "man of the year" the "Hungarian freedom fighter".





since Dubcek became the GS of the CC: *«There are demands to return to the situation before 1948 and there are demands for private ownership of the companies with up to 50 workers (...) while a West German bourgeois journalist was permitted to observe a meeting of the Communist Party»*.<sup>81</sup>

### **The counterrevolutionary forces organize against workers' power**

The dominance of opportunism led to the disarmament of coherent party forces and left the field clear for the counterrevolutionaries, as their activity to organize different anti-communist groups that acted in favor of capitalist restoration, was tolerated and it was not confronted. Some of these groups were K-231 (Club 231) and the Club of non-party members (KAN). Many intellectuals also had a "rich" counterrevolutionary activity, like L. Vaculik<sup>82</sup>.

All these groups, supported in every way by different imperialist centers, and with the tolerance of the leadership of the CP of Czechoslovakia, where the opportunists ruled, were able to appear openly with anti-socialist-anti-communist slogans and declarations for the establishment of a bourgeois political system. Furthermore, both the Socialist Party that was guided by the Socialist International and the Popular Party started acting in the same direction, while church authorities were amongst the counterrevolutionary forces. All these organizations unified their action, despite their differences, in order to overthrow socialism and they managed to mobilize students and intellectuals, but also parts of the working class.

However, we must note, that according to sources of CIA itself, the participation of workers in the counterrevolutionary activity was limited. It is characteristically noted, in a CIA report of July 1968, just before the internationalist assistance that the Warsaw Agreement gave to the people of Czechoslovakia, that the workers have not involved themselves actively in the "liberalization".<sup>83</sup>

### **Imperialism and Counterrevolution**

Starting with formal commitments and "news" about German and American credits, loans and "aid", international imperialism cultivated the appropriate climate, while its eminent executives, German bankers, churchmen, military, journalists and secret services' agents, but also the well-known American "Sovietologist" Z. Brzezinski were moving throughout the country and participated openly in counterrevolutionary activities.

The penetration of all of them became easier when on April 1968 along the borders of Czechoslovakia and the FR of Germany, 5 centers of passport validation opened, which sold at a price of 8 dollars their validation to the citizens of FRG. Each center allowed over 7.000 cars per day to pass the borders. Basically, there was no control. Thus, Czechoslovakia was truly "flooded" with secret agents and other counterrevolutionary elements. Only during the first 3 days of June, about 75.000 West Germans arrived in Prague and stayed there as tourists. This way it became possible to import guns in Czechoslovakia.<sup>84</sup>

The magazine "Spiegel" also revealed that the secret services of the FRG used the tourist flow of West Germans to Czechoslovakia for the gathering of information and the incitement of counterrevolutionary attitudes. Specifically, the border authorities of the FRG documented everyone that went to Czechoslovakia and based on that documentation the espionage of the FRG chose those people who could be used as agents or informants.<sup>85</sup>

The support of the counterrevolutionaries of Czechoslovakia by the FRG was not limited to this activity. In March 1968, the German politician Strauss declared that beginning from 1968 the governments of the USA and the FRG did great work in slandering the leadership of the CP of Czechoslovakia in the eyes of the Czechoslovakian people.

According to the statement of Strauss, *«the western world must subtly and gently use all the channels of ideological and economic influence for the constant weakening of the role of the CP of Czechoslovakia in the state and political life of the country and for the gradual detachment of Czechoslovakia from the USSR. In order to succeed in these goals, it was decided to conduct a wide propaganda campaign for the removal from leadership positions of the communists that were committed to the issue of socialism»*<sup>86</sup>.

After these events, in September 1968 the plan of support for the counterrevolution "Zephyr" that NATO had organized, was

History shows  
that opportunism,  
under conditions  
of socialist construction,  
develops into  
a counter-revolutionary  
force

also revealed. The Lebanese newspaper And Dunya revealed on September 11<sup>th</sup> of 1968: *«During a wide study of the situation in Czechoslovakia, NATO realized that the unorthodox elements (meaning the opportunists) started playing a great role in the weakening of the communist ideology in Czechoslovakia and in the future we will be able to rely on these elements. (...) The Council of NATO elaborated the program "Zephyr" that aims at the creation, inside Czechoslovakia and around it, of a situation that could contribute to the declaration of neutrality and the exit of Czechoslovakia from the Warsaw Pact»*<sup>87</sup>.

### **The Internationalist Aid of the Warsaw Pact**

In August 1968 the development of the events in Czechoslovakia were at a critical point. Then, a part of the party and state leadership that realized the gravity of the situation, and with no other choice, appealed to the state-members of the Warsaw Pact for help. Indeed, the Warsaw Pact, except Romania, responded to the appeal on the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 1968.

The military aid of the Warsaw Pact had a decisive impact in changing the climate and the correlation of forces. The counterrevolution was defeated and A. Dubcek was deposed from the position of the GS of the CC of the CP of Czechoslovakia and in 1970 he was

expelled from the Party. As it is also noted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume of the History Essay of KKE, the internationalist aid to Czechoslovakia, as well as Hungary «were actions in accordance with the principles of the alliance of the member-states of the Warsaw Pact, actions imposed by the conditions. The conflict went beyond the national borders of these countries;

it was an integral conflict between the two socio-economic systems. This factor is overlooked by those forces which, consciously or not, are talking about an invasion against other countries, contrary to the will of their people. In reality, this opinion leaves workers' power unprotected against the counterrevolutionary action of international capitalism<sup>88</sup>».

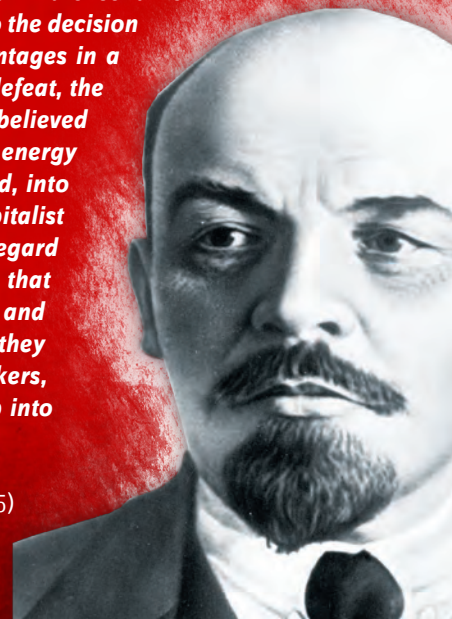
### V.I. Lenin on the counterrevolution

What happened in Hungary and Czechoslovakia confirmed that the taking of power by the working class is not a "one-act play", but, as V.I. Lenin wrote *«requires a long, difficult and stubborn class struggle, which, after the overthrow of the power of capital, after the destruction of the bourgeois state, after the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, does not disappear»*.

Class struggle continues also after the victory of the revolution, until the construction of the classless society. The words of Lenin are rather enlightening:

*«This historical truth is that in every profound revolution, the prolonged, stubborn and desperate resistance of the exploiters, who for a number of years retain important practical advantages over the exploited, is the rule. Never—except in the sentimental fantasies of the sentimental fool Kautsky—will the exploiters submit to the decision of the exploited majority without trying to make use of their advantages in a last desperate battle, or series of battles. [...] After their first serious defeat, the overthrown exploiters—who had not expected their overthrow, never believed it possible, never conceded the thought of it—throw themselves with energy grown tenfold, with furious passion and hatred grown a hundredfold, into the battle for the recovery of the "paradise" [...] In the train of the capitalist exploiters follow the wide sections of the petty bourgeoisie, with regard to whom decades of historical experience of all countries testify that they vacillate and hesitate, one day marching behind the proletariat and the next day taking fright at the difficulties of the revolution; that they become panic-stricken at the first defeat or semidefeat of the workers, grow nervous, run about aimlessly, snivel, and rush from one camp into the other [...]»*.

(V.I. Lenin, Complete Works, vol. 37, Synchroni Epochi, pp. 264-265)







"People", painting of the Soviet painter Konstantin Yuon (1921).



# EPILOGUE

*They own newspapers and printing offices // to make war against us and shut our mouths // (Let's not count the politicians!) // They have priests and professors // Who earn much money and are ready for everything.*

*Yes, but, what for? // Are they so afraid of truth? // Either way, everything will disappear, this will happen soon // They will be forced to observe that // all these are not needed for nothing anymore".*

*B. Brecht, They have Legal Books and Decrees, 1931*

No matter how many pages the bourgeois writes, how many books and newspapers they print, history cannot be erased, the lie cannot conceal anything that has been written in blood. The historical truth resists, the memory of the people is not deleted.

The socialist construction, which in the 20<sup>th</sup> century "embraced" one sixth of humanity, remains the greatest achievement of the working class, of mankind so far. Its contribution in all areas of human life has been indelibly recorded during the entire 20<sup>th</sup> century, it bears no comparison with the capitalist barbarism we live in.

This contribution does not lose any significance from the fact that historical research today, from the standpoint of the general interests of the working class, identifies problems and deviations in the strategy of the international communist movement, weaknesses.

During World War II, the international communist movement failed to form a

political line for the transformation of the war into a struggle for power, for socialist revolution. Problems which were inherent in the strategy of the international communist movement even before the war had an effect on this.

After the Second World War the balance of power in favor of the socialist forces was overestimated. The fact that despite the improvement in favor of socialism and the breaking of the encirclement of the USSR, the global correlation was still in favor of capitalism. The strategic problems increased after the 20<sup>th</sup> Congress of the CPSU and the opportunist turn that it signaled.

The capitalist states organized and carried out a diversified offensive against the socialist countries. After the war they moved quickly to implement the line of the so-called "cold war", acting in a uniform and methodical manner with all means at their disposal: direct aggression, efforts aimed at the economic weakening of the socialist countries, the utilization of subversion and

forces that wanted to politically liquidate the socialist system. The uniform strategy of international capitalism was enhanced and the unified response of the international communist movement was not organized. The counterrevolutionary forces that were inside the socialist states (Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, etc.), were underestimated despite the fact that they had the full support of the international plutocracy. Correct conclusions did not emerge from the counterrevolutionary actions in these countries to protect socialism, the fact that the determining factor in the conquest of power by the working class in Central and Eastern Europe was the direct military and political assistance of the USSR and the presence of the Red Army was underestimated.

It constituted a basic weakness that after the war the ideological unity of the international communist movement and an international organization of the CP had not been achieved, the huge void left by the dissolution of the Comintern had not been filled. The restoration of the unity of the international communist movement presupposed a front against opportunism. Only in this way could the ideological and political unity occur on a revolutionary basis.

The strategic problems in the international communist movement were also reflected in the strategy of the parties, both of the CPSU and of the CPs in the capitalist countries. The line of the "peaceful coexistence" between capitalism and socialism was detrimental, prettified capitalism and created the false perception that for a long historical period both systems would coexist and compete peacefully. The CPs in the capitalist

countries did not establish that socialism was their immediate strategic objective in their programs. They proclaimed in words the necessity of socialism, but in their political line they posed intermediate governmental goals. In many powerful Communist Parties the line of "Eurocommunism" revised basic positions of Marxism-Leninism, of the revolutionary worldview and strategy and gradually these CPs degenerated into social democratic parties. History itself has shown how illusory and destructive the concept they adopted regarding the possibility of a "gradual", "peaceful" transition to socialism is, as well as the negation of the revolution, the notion that the "broadening" of the bourgeois parliamentary democracy, that a "good" management of the system may be an intermediate goal, a "stepping stone" towards socialism. This view disarmed the Communist Parties, consolidated parliamentary illusions and eroded their revolutionary character.

The historical experience of this entire period confirms fundamental positions and conclusions regarding the revolutionary strategy.

Our era is the era of the transition from capitalism to socialism, because capitalism entered its reactionary phase over a century ago. The overthrow of socialist construction with the victory of the counterrevolution does not negate this socio-political revolutionary movement as a necessity and a relevant perspective.

The character of the revolution, as the central element of the strategy of the Communist Party, is not determined by reference to the existing balance of forces, but



by the maturation of the material conditions for socialism. This is what determines its necessity and timeliness.

There is no intermediate socio-economic system between capitalism and socialism, therefore, there can be no intermediate type of power. The nature of power will be either bourgeois or workers' (proletarian). The view regarding the possibility of establishing an intermediate form of power has not been confirmed in any country.

Opportunism as an ideological and political current has a social basis and must be ceaseless struggled against. Revisionism and political opportunism are manifested in the political working movement, within the communist movement. The lack of timely and consistent confrontation against opportunism possibly, under certain conditions, can fully transform a communist party into a bourgeois social-democratic type of party.

### **Everything was written with blood cannot be deleted by ink!**

Young communists and communists study history, we draw all the valuable experience of the previous generations of revolutionaries, the heroic traditions of the international communist movement, the Party and our people. To be more capable, more effective in the struggles ahead, the revolutionary struggle for the overthrow of capitalism.

We have faith in the right and the irresistible power of the organized people. Under one flag, the flag of the global working class struggle we will continue and we will win.

Because socialism is timely and necessary!

**«The counterrevolutionary overthrows of the last 30 years do not change the character of our era. The current period of the major retreat of the international labour movement, is in historical terms a temporary one. We live in the era of the necessity for the transition from capitalism to socialism, as the material pre-conditions are mature for the socialist organization of production and society. This flows from the maturation of the social character of labour and the sharpening of its contradiction with capitalist ownership. This contradiction has brought the capitalist mode of production in full contradiction with contemporary social needs. The maturation of the material pre-conditions is not determined by the correlation of forces. (...)**

**The KKE's strategic goal is the conquest of revolutionary working-class power, the dictatorship of the proletariat, for the socialist construction as the immature phase of the communist society. The revolutionary change in Greece will be socialist.»**



Programme of the KKE

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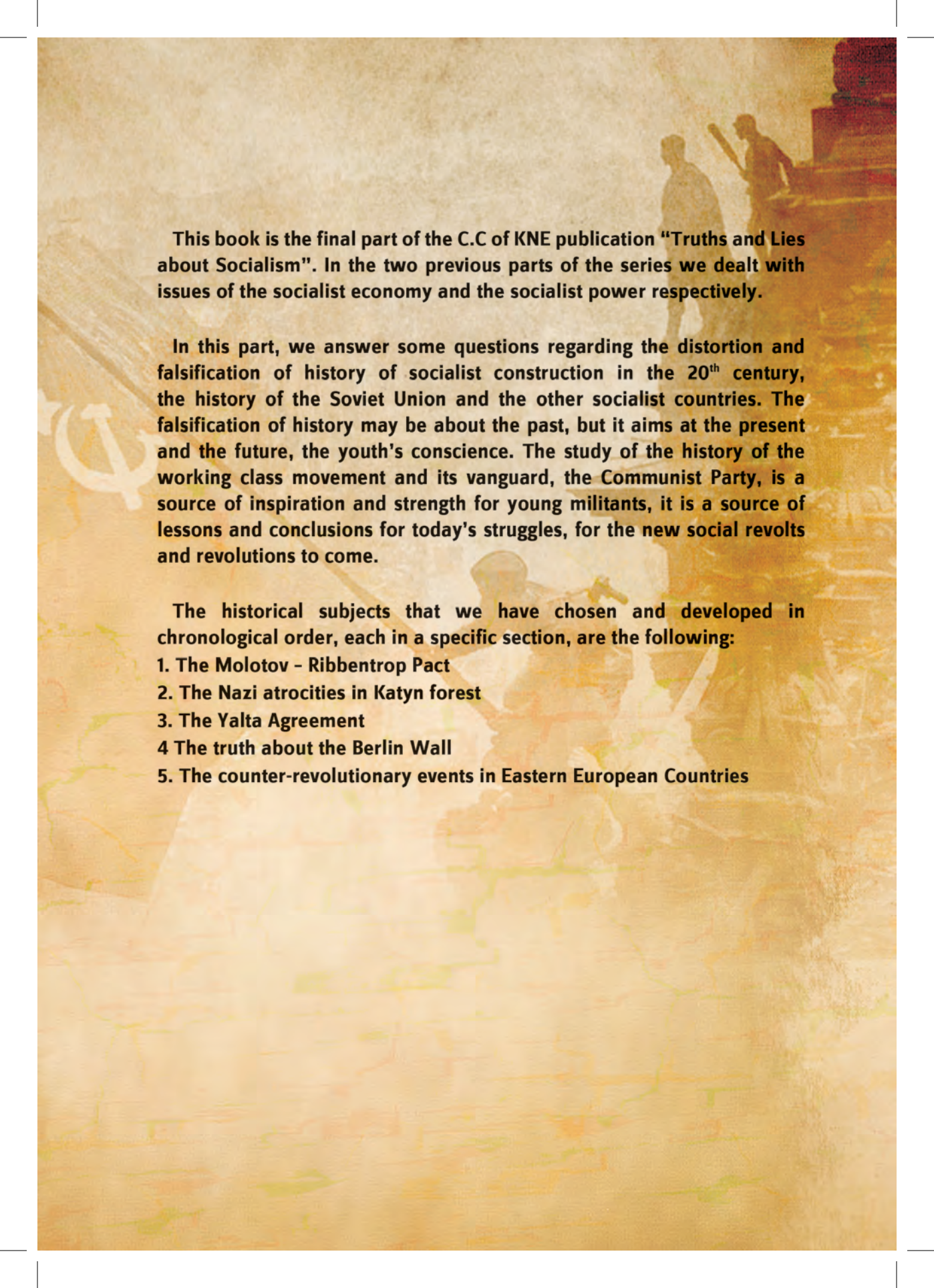




**CENTRAL COUNCIL  
OF THE COMMUNIST YOUTH OF GREECE  
TRUTHS AND LIES ABOUT SOCIALISM  
3. On the falsification of history**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> edition*

Typographical correction-Layout: "Odigitis"  
Printing-Bookbinding : Typoekdotiki S.A.  
September 2013  
Synchroni Epochi Publications S.A.



The background of the page features a textured, painterly illustration. On the left, a large, light-colored hammer and sickle symbol is visible. To the right, there are silhouettes of two workers; one is standing and holding a tool, while the other is partially visible behind him. The overall color palette is warm, consisting of various shades of orange, yellow, and brown, giving it an aged or historical feel.

**This book is the final part of the C.C of KNE publication "Truths and Lies about Socialism". In the two previous parts of the series we dealt with issues of the socialist economy and the socialist power respectively.**

**In this part, we answer some questions regarding the distortion and falsification of history of socialist construction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the history of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The falsification of history may be about the past, but it aims at the present and the future, the youth's conscience. The study of the history of the working class movement and its vanguard, the Communist Party, is a source of inspiration and strength for young militants, it is a source of lessons and conclusions for today's struggles, for the new social revolts and revolutions to come.**

**The historical subjects that we have chosen and developed in chronological order, each in a specific section, are the following:**

- 1. The Molotov - Ribbentrop Pact**
- 2. The Nazi atrocities in Katyn forest**
- 3. The Yalta Agreement**
- 4 The truth about the Berlin Wall**
- 5. The counter-revolutionary events in Eastern European Countries**