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Linking better democratic banners with ruling struggle

Declaration of the 8th. Plenum of Central Committee
Communist Party of Colombia (marxist-leninist)

PROLETARIOS DE TODOS LOS PAISES . . . UNIOS!!

Revolución

Organo Central del Partido Comunista de Colombia (marxista-leninista)

Presentation of the international supplement

Today we start publishing this International Supplement in English of the "Revolution" newspaper, with a view to doing it in other languages as French, Portuguese, etc., very soon.

We are determined to issue, summarily, our Party's main political stands with relation to the most outstanding national and international events. We want foreign-language readers to receive a more objective information and to keep the track of the Party's strategic aims; its tactical and conjunctural behavior and its organizations' activity at home and abroad.

The struggle against imperialism, US imperialism mainly; against bourgeoisie and Virgilio Barco's dictatorial regime; the Party's instruments' activity in developing the armed, economic, theoretic and legal or clandestine political struggle, have been followed up weekly in the pages of the Party's Central Organ: *Revolución*. We expect to keep doing the same with this Supplement, in a brief although enlightening manner.

Our aim is to spread the Colombian people struggle in several ways in order to win new friends, fellows and even members for the Party's, the Liberation Popular Army's (EPL) and the other organizations' ranks led by the Colombian marxist-leninists.

The quicker we overcome the different technical problems presented when issuing this Supplement, taking into account our severe clandestine and persecutorial conditions the more frequently this Supplement will appear. Our goal is to publish it monthly, handing a general view of this periodic activity.

We count on your theoretic and material support as that is the engine which makes all this work function.

We hope this work pleases you. We also are looking forward to receiving your suggestions and proposals. Do subscribe to the newspaper to be able to receive this Supplement whenever it comes out. This enables you, moreover, to contribute to the struggle for national and social liberation of the Colombian people and to its perspective towards socialism.

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Linking better democratic banners with ruling struggle

Declaration of the 8th. Plenum of Central Committee Communist Party of Colombia (marxist-leninist)

After analyzing the situation in our country and the possible tendency, the 8th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Colombia (marxist-leninist) pointed out that fascist elements have been getting involved in the economic, social, political and military situation, as well as in the state layouts. This happens within the current regime and with no contradiction with the restricted democracy in Colombia, under the guide of US imperialism.

Under Barco's command bourgeoisie has increased and sharpened war and aggression against revolutionaries, democrats, popular fighters and masses. State terrorism, "dirty war", militarization of civil life and cutting of legal activities become a permanent practice. The increasing official repression is expressed in all power measures such as military actions every where, indiscriminated bombings, civil population massacres, wide counter-guerrilla actions, militarization of cities, reinforcing of military and paramilitary apparatus, killings of popular leaders, etc.

In our country there are open advocates of fascism in the state apparatus, the military command, the church dome, the leadership of traditional parties, the big mass media, coordinating their action to use violence as an answer to popular rebelliousness.

As bourgeoisie faces different kinds of problems its main goal is to destroy the revolutionary movement and parti-

cularly the guerrilla. With coordinated military, political and psychological actions, it seeks its demobilization, taking off its mass and confidence bases.

But in spite of reaction attacks, the popular movement has not been defeated. Nevertheless, this could happen if political aims are not stated as well as the right means to fight and overthrow fascistization. Advances and weaknesses of the popular movement shows that the present situation is not completely in favor of the revolutionary process; there are ups and downs and advanced groups. It is necessary to organize the working class and the masses, and to strengthen revolutionary trends to face the reaction offensive and to be able to give a response to the civil war imposed by the bourgeoisie.

Within this context unitary processes mean an important achievement; they have encouraging perspectives in spite of bourgeois efforts to split or weaken them. The Guerrilla Coordinator Simón Bolívar (CGBS) has had a small influence lately and that is something to be worried about. However, from its second conference some positive conclusions arose, specially when it summons for military operations against imperialism and bourgeoisie; these are beneficial facts for the achievement of a more meaningful advance. This becomes outstanding if we take into account that the CGBS has the commitment of the whole guerrilla movement.

In this particular moment official

proposals, such as changes, reforms, readjustments, are done to legalize fascistization politically and socially. Bourgeoisie and the leadership of traditional parties go together around a coordinated fascist alternative, linked to demagogic promises about the defense of human rights, political guarantees, the trap of workers participation in enterprises administrations, etc. Of course, the antiterrorist law and official terrorism are not the same thing as the proposal of constitutional reform and popular consultation, and we cannot deal with them in the same way. Furthermore, there are different levels of contradiction among bourgeoisie and the traditional parties, which we must take advantage of. That is why we must consider particularities when preparing the response, but always in order to widen the revolutionary movement and its activity.

Bourgeoisie and government behavior is closely linked to the international situation and the imperialist policy that, with the aim of facing and destroying the revolutionary and national liberation struggles in Latin America, keeps on increasing a wide-range counter-insurgente policy, which is not only designed for the military field but also for all people spheres. But at the same time, liberation struggles spread their influence, go beyond the borders and demand international solidarity. The common interests between fighting peoples, and the useful feasibility of coor-



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minating actions in fighting against a common enemy and for similar aims, are clear facts.

Imperialism combines military actions with political pressure. Thus, while it promotes "dirty war" and state terrorism, it speaks about "peace" and "democracy". Conciliation and pacifism isms serve to that policy. Policies forwarded by the superpowers to face revolutionary and liberation struggles, coincide with their agreements and their aims to hegemonize the world.

American troops in Honduras, military reinforcement in Panamá and the permanent claims and threats to invade Colombia in behalf of a so-called anti-drug-smuggling struggle, show the Pentagon interest of broadening its presence and cheating its claws in strategic areas such as Serranía de la Macarena, San Andrés y Providencia and the Pacific area.

The political and the decreasing Colombian economic situation are linked together with severe consequences for the popular masses in such extent, that even some state organizations have recognized in a reluctant manner different symptoms of the Colombian Crisis. Due to the severeness of these problems the life standard of the working masses is getting an even worse condition. The huge resources of state repression make this social situation unbearable.

We know that the real causes rest on the increasing dependence and the capitalist economic structure itself; that is why fundamental solutions are needed, although this does not deny the necessary economic struggle for workers' demands. When analyzing the economic situation it is important to point out the influence of drug-smuggling in it, as this contributes yearly with millions of dollars.

Moving "hot money" from Colombia to other countries has sharpened even more the economic problems.

As the political situation in our country has changed, it becomes also necessary a change in the Party's tactics in order to face the growing fascistization, the sharpening of civil war features and the reactionary changes promoted by the bourgeoisie, its Parties and government.

The political struggle is still the main form of struggle, but today it becomes outstanding the struggle against fascistization and the development of civil war. Therefore, it is necessary to raise militant spirit, arouse mass actions; education, training and organization for armed struggle in a wide field; the political mass organiza-

tion with ruling perspectives; the strengthening of the EPL and of the combativeness of the CGSB.

In short, our people and particularly the working class with our Party at the head, must get ready for the better to face the civil war developed. Obviously, fascism offensive and civil war extension will not be stopped neither with pacifist chorus, nor with reformism, nor with conciliation.

We cannot replace fascism with the decrepit bourgeois democracy, like revisionism and social democracy claim it can be. We must intensify the ideological and political struggle against them, as well as against leftism and anarchism.

The struggle for democratic demands is in force, submitted naturally, to the core of the tactical change. The unitary policy and the banners of our Party must be adequated to this new situation, keeping in mind that some slogans and proposals have been handled and wasted by bourgeoisie, social-democracy and revisionism.

We will go on fighting for political freedoms such as:

- Freedom of speech, necessary to educate and mobilize the working class and the masses for socialism and ruling struggle.

- The defense of national sovereignty and the non-pay of foreign debt, the defense of natural resources and the nationalization of our natural wealth with no indemnity.

- The right to organize political juntas, linked to the task of organizing and educating the masses in political groups in the context of our United Front Policy.

- People's right to raise in arms against oppression. This demand is linked to the struggle of the guerrilla organizations to obtain the recognition of their state of belligerent forces. It is also linked to the political task to prove that there is a civil war development in Colombia, and that the armed struggle is completely in force and legit in the struggle against the regime and imperialism.

- Complete right of strike adding the importance of political strike in its different expressions.

We will keep on fighting in favor of the role of the people as primary constituent, since people's political rights have been systematically denied. We will keep on bearing the struggle against state of siege, militarization of civil life, state terrorism and "dirty war", for wages rise, for increasing welfare budget and against inflation.

We will give a vigorous impulse to

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the democratic unitary and democratic alternative, which offers an important choice for our united front work. We are working for a wide front against fascism and imperialism. We promise to work thoroughly for a national strike, convoked by the last Convergence Congress, around which we will achieve a great consensus.

The tactical change approved by the 8th Plenum claims for stronger efforts toward the EPL, the CGSB, as well as the militias and other military mass organizations to improve resistance and self defense work, as in the way the current situation is demanding us to.

It is necessary to keep on strengthening ideologically, politically and organizationally our Party and its instruments, according to the conclusions of the 2nd. National Conference of Cadres and the Leadership's orientations.

Right now, when class struggle is sharpening and the changing of the situation is for the worse, we renew our international and national commitments of unrestricted fidelity to working class and of fulfilling thoroughly our revolutionary objectives to reach national liberation and socialism.

April 1988

8th PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF COLOMBIA (MARXIST-LENINIST)



Unity of people in arms advances

The Colombian guerrilla revolutionary movement as a whole, organized in the Guerrilla Coordinator Simón Bolívar (CGSB) held its Second Conference a few days ago, in a certain place of our country. That Conference was a big political and military success, and it meant a step forward in the hard unity path to which popular combatants are pledged.

The main commanders of M-19, FARC, UC-ELN, Quintin Lame, PRT and EPL gathered evading the offensive of the reactionary armed forces and specially its wide work of "intelligence". They examined the path passed over from the First Conference, when the CGSB emerged, in a fraternal, militant, critical and self-critical atmosphere. The conclusions arisen express new levels of unity and decision to dynamize even more the Coordinator activity in both, the national and international outlook.

The Second Conference of the Guerrilla Coordinator published the following political declaration:

For a popular and democratic agreement

Six months after the First Conference when the Guerrilla Coordinator Simón Bolívar emerged, it gathers for the second time.

We have already passed one stage, we have gained in approach, joined aims and mutual knowledge in shared struggles, and combats.

We are conscious of the confidence coming from unity in our country and our responsibility as people's armed force. Today we take new decisions and assume greater commitments facing Colombia's fate.

Once again, oligarchy turned its back to the people. Those who cause the national crisis have done an agreement about their regime recomposition.

Oligarchic state institutions are unhinged, they are overflowed because of political conflicts, uprising of social and guerrilla insurgence, and popular processes autonomy and rebelliousness.

The Colombian regime became insufficient and inefficient, not only for national problems and demands, but also for its own interests. That is why minorities speak about constitutional reforms. We cannot deceive ourselves: The pact of La Casa de Nariño, the constitutional reform and the referendums are not in the interest of opening to participation, democracy and changes. Promoters of war and our country's collapse want to adjust some questions in order to avoid changes. Therefore, they rely on terrorist laws and "dirty war" which has had its latest and cruelest expression in these past massacres of Urabá banana plantations. They have created some instruments in order to legitimize its rule, by means of a "coup" to the popular sovereignty.

The people in this process is the great absent and it will be convoked to legalize one hundred more years of exclusion.

Therefore, we, armed and unarmed insurgence, have as a duty make people achieve and perform the decisions about our country's fate.

Facing the oligarchic pact, the CGSB proposes a democratic and popular agreement.

1.- To reject and fight against the pact of La Casa de Nariño and its antidemocratic consequences.

2.- To fight against terrorist Law and "dirty war" and to raise life struggle to a new level.

3.- To hold a great National Consultation which allows the people to decide about the necessary and desired changes. That consultation will be promoted in demonstrations, rallies, strikes, landtakings, forums, town councils, popular mayors, regional plebiscites and convergence meetings. All this process must have as an aim a great National People Convention.

4.- Colombia needs a new constitution which comes from the people itself, and from its struggles, which expresses the new social and political forces for which the constitution of 1886 is out of date. The National people Convention would be an organism to decide on sovereignty according to its bases and policy.

The new constitution will have to:

- State the national sovereignty and self-autodetermination.
- Establish popular sovereignty and direct democracy.
- Establish a new democratic and popular government.



FARC, EPL, M-19, UC-ELN, Quintin Lame, and PRT commanders.

UNITY...

— Guarantee living, working, education and health rights, political and civil freedoms for men and women in our country.

— Guarantee a land reform which gives land to peasants and an urban reform which gives dwelling for everybody.

— Guarantee all rights for indian people and other ethnic groups.

5. Redefine the energetic policy of our country, reviewing association contracts and nationalization of Caño Limón (an important pipe line) defending national sovereignty.

6. Consider Central American people's struggle, specially that of Nicaragua and Panamá against US imperialism

agression as our very struggle.

To put forward this popular and democratic agreement we commit to:

— Push and support a movilization and fighting offensive in all the country in order to go on regional and national strikes.

— Make military actions in order to defend and promote those proposals.

— In relation to oil problem, the CGSB considers that pipe line sabotages must have a political solution. UC—ELN in particular, is ready to stop these sabotages as long as a national negotiation arises where working class, popular movement, democratic personalities, towns in oil areas, popular juntas, etc., participate.

CGBS. Colombian Mountains.
April 1988

UC—ELN	Camilist Union — National Liberation Army
EPL	Popular Liberation Army
M—19	Movement April 19th.
FARC—EP	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army
QUINTIN LAME	
PRT	Worker's Revolutionary Party



EPL combatants.

Editorial of "Revolución" N°. 267 21 st to 27 th of March/88

Down with U.S. invasion to Central America

The sending of new troops to Honduras shows US imperialism interest of making a direct aggression to Nicaragua.

In fact, the four batallions of the 82th Aerotransported Division of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, are the same which invaded Grenada in 1983, as well as the Infantry units that make emergency exercises in Fort Ord, California. They are fast moving forces, adapted to make aggressions in a short period of time.

More than 3.000 Green Berets have already arrived to the military base of Palmerola, in a huge occupying operation; and bombings from unidentified airplanes over military targets in Nicaragua started almost simultaneously.

This new wave of American Troops goes together with the American military bases in Honduras and the military assistance for Azcona's army. They support directly Contras in Nicaragua. Now, the Honduran Government has "officially requested" Reagan's help in order to avoid a presumed invasion by the sandinist army to Honduras.

What a cynical and smug cover is this of Reagan and his puppet Azcona! It becomes quite clear the beginning of a greater invasion, resulted from the warlike policy of US imperialism and its anger because of Contras' having been receiving blows from Nicaraguan army. Since Contras have failed militarily, despite American propagandistic and military support, Reagan has nothing else to do but finding puerile pretexts to invade directly.

About ten days ago, the Sandinist Army started an important military offensive against Contras' operating in the Honduran border and inside. So far, there are 400 casualties contras and they are retrating to their bases in Hon-

duras. Despite American aerial help, they have been beaten, and their leaders, with Reagan at the head, have been obliged to intimidate with real threats of aggression.

The sharpening of the situation in Central America is not only related to the fact that Honduras has been massively occupied, and to the display of forces from that country to Nicaragua among other regions. This situation is also expressed in the imperialist provoking and warlike activity in Panamá, the threats to send troops to Colombia, and the permanent White House statements saying that they will not tolerate the advance of revolution in El Salvador, Guatemala, etc.

U.S. imperialism policy in that region is quite meaningful. It combines the demobilizing activity of Esquipulas II with the sadly famous "National Security Doctrine", and its theories about low intensity conflicts, taking into account bitter imperialist experiences in Vietnam. Now, with a bigger claw, including diplomatic activity of its dummies and a violent military action, it tries to stop revolutionary processes in Central America and the Caribbean area and to revert by any means the Nicaraguan revolution.

It clears up that the only thing Esquipulas does is to exert pressure on Nicaragua, making easy counter revolutionary work and having no influence when facing the brutal offensive of American troops. Up to now, in relation to American military occupation to Honduras, Esquipulas signer governments do not say a word. They protect themselves with a clear cover-up incapable of hiding their disgraces. Honduras and Costa Rica, which unmasks itself everyday more, claim against a supposed Nicaraguan aggression, invoking the famous "official helping request" from govern-

DOWN...

ment to government.

Esquipulas as well, says nothing with relation to the disestablishing and subversive imperialist activities in Panamá. Meanwhile, Panamanian people fight against economic blockade, political pressure and military aggression, set up by imperialism and its allies inside the country. As a common cause joins US, we are and will be shoulder to shoulder with the panamanian people struggle.

Reagan warlike activity is spread allover the Central American area and it even reaches Colombia. We must keep in mind with relation to Urabá for instance, some facts which make us be aware of a feasible American aggression to our people, such as its strategic location near the Panamá Canal, the class struggle sharpening and the activity of the guerrilla movement, specially the EPL activity. Some voices claiming for an aggression like this to Colombia have been heard lately in USA.

For these reasons we must be worried about the increasing American attempts to step forward aggressing Nicaragua. What is happening in Nicaragua and in all Central American countries, is closely linked to Latin America and particularly to our country.

Imperialism and bourgeoisies are ready to request yankees help, when they be overpassed by revolutionary actions. The aggressive nature of imperialism and its expansionist activity are thoroughly displayed in this region; therefore, being able to face our common enemies is our present duty.

The UN Security Council and the OAS are going to gather to state their view about the going-on Central American crisis.

We reject resolutely the aggression to Nicaragua and we will strive against imperialism and its allies. We call all democrats, anti-imperialists and revolutionaries to unite and reject imperialist plans of aggression, and to act jointly with the Nicaraguan people and the Nicaraguan revolution.

We commit to widen anti-imperialist struggle and to work for the anti-imperialist front building, which will strengthen new forces and will gain space in rejecting imperialism at different levels.

If the American army invaded directly Nicaragua, our Party and our EPL would act conjointly in different ways in order to fight against our common enemy.

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