

Geopolitics—An Ideological Weapon of the U.S. Aggressors

Aggressive elements in the United States are persistently following in the ignominious footsteps of the Nazi expansionists. They have constituted themselves the heirs of Gestapo methods of violence against the working people and of Nazi political and military "theories"; they are enraptured with Nazi racism and geopolitics. Just as the Nazis clamoured that the "German master race needed more lebensraum", so today the American geopoliticians are clamouring for more "lebensraum" for the infinite expansion of U.S. monopolies. This, of course, is natural enough, for imperialist aggressors can no more get along without geopolitics and other misanthropic "theories", than they can without expansion, territorial conquests and predatory wars. They have need of various pseudo-scientific fabrications to justify their policy of building up aggressive blocs, of "global" strategy, of setting up military bases all over the world and especially around the countries belonging to the camp of democracy and Socialism.

Like the fascist obscurantists who were their predecessors, the American geopoliticians cite what they claim to be the decisive influence of geographical factors upon the life of society in justification of imperialist predatory foreign policy.

The capitalist system, the geopoliticians insist, cannot be held responsible for the impoverishment of the masses in many countries in Europe, Asia and Africa; they explain it by geographical "injustice", thus justifying the need for American "aid". With such geopolitical "arguments" they strive morally to disarm peoples who have fallen victim to imperialist expansion, to convince them that there is no preventing their loss of liberty and independence.

Marxism-Leninism teaches us that it is not geographical environment, as the geopoliticians claim, and not population growth, as the Malthusianists would have it, but the mode of production of material values that is the keystone of the development of the material life of society and which in the final analysis determines its development, the character of its social and political system, its ideology.

The Marxist-Leninist postulate that the influence of geographical environment upon society never has been and cannot be the determining one, that geographical environment is merely one of the factors of the material life of society and not the motive force of its development, smashes the sham theoretical arguments of the geopoliticians to smithereens.

Like its predecessors, the U.S. version of geopolitics is also inseparably bound up with racism, cosmopolitanism, Malthusianism and other barbaric "theories" intended to provide "scientific" proof of the "racial superiority" of the North Americans. Briefly outlining the aims of American geopolitics, John Keefer, one of its best-known advocates, declared that the geopoliticians were the men who burst upon the international arena with a plan for world domination in one hand and a bomb in the

To justify the aggressive designs of the U.S. ruling circles, the geopoliticians jabber away about their country being surrounded by a "hostile world" against which they have to "defend" themselves. Indeed, Spykman, Director of the Yale Institute of International Research, who is one of the chief American proponents of geopolitics, wrote that across three oceans—the Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic—the Western Hemisphere was surrounded by a "hostile world"; and from this "discovery" he draws the conclusion that the United States is bound to prepare for war.

In accordance with the "arguments" of the American geopoliticians, the U.S. area of domination must embrace the whole globe; for in view of the "threat" supposedly facing them from across three oceans, the Americans are impelled to invest capital, station troops and build bases everywhere, and put in power governments that suit their own interests.

The appetites of the aggressors have grown to such an extent that the American continent no longer suffices for them. The plans of the U.S. billionaires have long since been extended to include world domination. And, as was only to be expected, the geopoliticians have hastened to provide the "scientific" grounds for this, too. It is not only the American continent that the United States must rule, they assert; she must also take her place at the head of all continents as the supreme ruler of the world.

Distorting the facts, trying to fabricate a semblance of natural law, Spykman, Huntington and other American geopoliticians aver that if the United States receives raw material from any distant country, it is, her "geopolitical duty" to keep that country in the status of a supplier colony and to build military bases on its territory to defend the interests of the "civilisers". That is how they justify U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Greece, Spain, Guatemala and other countries, the abolition of state sovereignty, the imposition of the "American way of life" and the duty of the trust territories to reward their "trustees" by supplying the Wall Street billionaires with maximum profits.

The "necessity" of keeping the U.S. troops in Greece, setting up air and naval bases in Spain, Britain and many other countries is explained in the same manner. And the same geopolitical nonsense is exploited by the U.S. aggressors to justify the occupation of Taiwan.

Illustrative in this respect is an article circulated by the U.P. on February 21, 1955, in which N. J. Montellier, a journalist, reviews in detail the "geopolitical achievements" of the United States. After World War II, Montellier writes, the United States set up a chain of alliances, military bases and mutual assistance pacts with forty countries. American troops are now stationed beyond the confines of North America—in Europe, the Middle East, the Mediterranean area, the Far East and on Pacific islands... A week ago, he continues, it was reported that 1,370,000 American servicemen... were overseas and 1,602,000 soldiers in training in the United States... It is known from well-informed sources, he says, that 600,000 American servicemen are in Korea and Japan, 425,000 in Western Europe and 345,000 at the bases scattered about the Caribbean Sea, the Pacific islands, Alaska, the Aleutian islands, in the Middle East, Africa and the Mediterranean area. The article concludes with a list of the principal aggressive pacts signed by the United States.

The variety of "geopolitical" methods of "work" used by the American imperialists is likewise attested to by the facts cited by R. and G. Harkness in their articles in the American magazine *Saturday Evening Post* (October and November 1954). Speaking of the activity of the Central Intelligence Agency, the espionage and sabotage organisation directed by Allen Dulles, brother of John Foster Dulles, the Harknesses confirm—in words that could hardly be more explicit—the fact that this organisation financed, trained and armed the forces that overthrew the government of Guatemala and that it was directly responsible for the removal of Mossadeq in Iran.

In the past ten years most prominent American politicians and military leaders have repeatedly and openly stated that the manpower and natural resources of the entire American continent must be placed at the service of preparing and unleashing an aggressive war. For instance, last Octo-

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ber, when the House of Representatives was discussing the inflated budget providing for the maintenance of hundreds of American military bases scattered all over the world, Senator George Malone said, speaking of the American continent, that North Americans had to have in their own backyard, in the Western Hemisphere, the minerals and raw materials necessary to guarantee to their air forces the proper speed and radius of operation.

A conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1947 at which a geopolitical map of the continent's "defence" zone was drawn up, concluded with the signing of a Hemisphere defence treaty. That treaty subsequently became what is virtually a local version of the aggressive North Atlantic Pact.

This pan-American conference in Rio de Janeiro was followed by others—in Bogota (1948), Washington (1951) and Caracas (1954)—at each of which new links of the chains shackling the Latin American countries were forged. The culminating point was the adoption of the notorious Caracas anti-Communist resolution, giving U.S. imperialism police power on the continent and in fact legalising its interference in the affairs of any Latin American country. A practical application of these "protective" functions was the United States' shameless intervention in Guatemala.

Of a like nature are the so-called bilateral military agreements which the U.S. has forced upon a number of Latin American countries.

The exponents of geopolitics come up with arguments to justify each expansionist move of the U.S. imperialists; while their obedient pupils in the satellite countries and in those which have fallen victim to the greed of the Yankee billionaires contribute their "bit" in defence of the indispensability of colonisation.

The favourite argument of those who preach submission to the U.S. imperialists is the alleged "geographic destiny" of Latin America and Canada, which thereby have no choice but to follow the U.S. and be mere pawns of the U.S. war-

mongers. The supporters of this notorious "theory" try their best to prove that for countries located on the American continent there can be no other course but that taken by the United States, and that they must reconcile themselves to their role as U.S. appendages. Peron, an old admirer of the Nazi views on military theory and geopolitics, repeatedly declared that "America is a geographical and political unit" and that the era of separate states was over, for "in our day we would speak only of continents". That the day of national sovereignty is over has also been asserted repeatedly by Venezuela's dictator Perez Jimenez, Chile's President Ibanez, Uruguay's ex-Foreign Minister R. Larreta, Brazil's present Foreign Minister Raul Fernandez, as well as the "leaders" of the Organisation of American States Lleras Camargo, Davila and others.

While popularising this pro-U.S. philosophy, reactionary circles in the Latin American countries in turn endeavour to imbue the masses with the fatalistic belief that all-sided penetration of Latin America by the U.S. imperialists is inevitable. Reformist leaders and petty-bourgeois adventurers in Mexico, Chile and Argentina are making a good thing out of this disgraceful business, but its most enthusiastic and energetic "prophet" is still Raul Haya de la Torre from Peru.

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Geopolitics is nothing but an attempt to legitimise by means of pseudo-scientific arguments the policy of war preparations, colonisation and enslavement of other countries by the U.S. billionaires. It is the duty of the Communist and Workers' Parties, of all progressive forces mercilessly to expose the ideologists of the atom bomb. By so doing they will make a valuable contribution to the cause of preserving and strengthening peace, of friendship among peoples.

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