

press review

FASCISM — A REAL THREAT TO THE PEOPLES

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News agencies reports on bloody crimes by fascist and neo-fascist groups in various countries of the world have become only too banal. The «black chronicle» is full of tragic events.

These events, which have shocked progressive world opinion, have a profound political significance. They show that the spectre of fascism is again at large.

In the conditions of the general crisis of capitalism, which affects political, financial and economic life, the condition of the working masses is growing steadily worse. On the other hand, the peoples are organizing themselves and militating in revolutionary movements. The outburst of this struggle is shaking the foundations of capitalism. Faced with this situation, world imperialism sees that it can no longer maintain its rule by «democratic» methods of government and bourgeois legality, therefore it is searching to find a way out of the impasse by applying fascist methods, resorting to open violence and terror against the revolutionary and democratic forces. The bourgeois governments, which are unable to stem the mounting tide of revolutionary events, are overthrown by military putsches and replaced with fascist governments.

Seen in retrospect, the

situation in the twenties of this century, which was the period of the emergence of fascism, is identical with the present picture; constant worsening of the conditions of the working masses, rising inflation, political instability, etc. The march on Rome was staged and fascism took power in Italy in similar circumstances. The same happened almost ten years later in Germany. Through acts of political terror, groups of hooligans and gangsters today want to create a psychosis of fear and insecurity, of political and economic anarchy in order to be able to seize state power. The plans are the same as those of the Duce and Hitler many years ago. Their disciples have risen, have organized themselves and are operating against the proletariat and the peoples.

In the Federal German Republic the Hoffmann group, which is active there, has become a rallying-point for more than 200 other fascist organizations which it organizes and trains for the battles to come. In Italy groups of organized fascists such as «The Rose of Winds», «the Mussolini Action Squads» (SAM), «the Black Order», etc have the Italian Social Movement (MSI), the reconstructed fascist party, as their co-ordinating centre. In Spain, the fascists have rallied around the group «Fuerza

Nueva». In the United States there are about 2,000 neo-fascist parties, organizations and groups. Only one of them, «The American Union of Civil Rights», has about 220,000 members organized in 50 regional branches and 400 local centres. In addition, the ill-famed Ku-Klux-Clan gangs are also active in this country. The «Column-88», the «Teutonic Order», and other similar fascist organizations operate in Britain and the «Vlaamse Militant Order» and other fascist groups carry out their activity in Belgium. The fascists carry out their activities openly in the Netherlands, Austria and other countries. The members of these groups train themselves regularly in special camps and, from time to time, armed with pistols, bombs, knives and clubs, murder and kidnap people, sowing death and terror.

The fascist groups of Western Europe, which have found a common language among themselves, are closely linked to plot together against the peoples.

The bourgeois press is obliged to write about the organization of the fascist groups in the «Black International» and the co-ordination of their activity. «There is no doubt,» the West-German magazine «Der Spiegel» wrote in one of its recent issues, «that the

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neo-nazi groups are inter-connected, that some of their actions and activities are planned and carried out on an international scale.»

In the countries of fascist rule, fascism has been brought to power by the monopolies which maintain it as the most effective means for the suppression of the resistance of the people's masses. In the countries where the fascist movement aspires to power, it has the support and assistance of the monopolies. This explains the fact that although the fascist activity poses a

real and concrete threat in many countries, the chiefs of fascist gangs are not arrested or even less tried in court. Investigations and trials are carried out from time to time, but they are directed against less important elements, those playing secondary or third-rate roles. The main leaders, those who organize and finance fascist activities either remain at large or, if some of them are arrested, they are quickly «absolved» or freed for «lack of proofs». And it could not be otherwise, as long as the leading fascists hold at the same

time commanding posts in industry, the army, etc.

Nevertheless, the fascist threat is not an unavoidable evil. It can be stopped, if the united strength of the peoples is opposed to it. The terrorist activity of the fascist elements and their attempts to seize power have aroused the indignation and anger of the democratic and revolutionary forces of all the peoples of the world, who can never forget the lessons of history, the millions of martyrs and victims of fascism in the Second World War.

