

HIROSHIMA NAGASAKI INDOCHINA

**UNITE TO OPPOSE THE
GENOCIDE OF ASIAN
PEOPLE**

The purpose of this pamphlet is to gain an insight into the dropping of the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th and 9th, 1945. Often our reaction to this act is moral outrage, seeing it as only as an unfortunate accident in the history pages of this country. We must see the dropping of the atom bomb on the Japanese people not as an isolated event but rather as one more act in the history of United States aggression against Asian and Third World people. We must come to understand that the tragedy which occurred at Hiroshima and Nagasaki over 27 years ago is directly linked to the present racist and genocidal acts being committed in Vietnam today. All progressive and peace loving people must unite and oppose the forces which perpetrated Hiroshima and Nagasaki and which today oppress people throughout the world.

**BAY AREA ASIAN COALITION
AGAINST THE WAR**

Why The U.S. Dropped

The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a racist and genocidal act committed by the U.S. government, took place 27 years ago, on Aug. 6th and 9th, 1945. Contrary to what was stated in the past, the atomic bomb was not used to shorten the war and save unnecessary casualties between the Japanese and U.S. forces. On Aug. 2, a cable sent by the Japanese High Command intercepted by U.S. intelligence said, "The battle situation has become acute. There are only a few days left in which to make arrangements to end the war...Since the loss of one day relative to this matter may result in a thousand years of regret..." Clearly Japan had known its defeat and was willing to surrender on U.S. terms.

So why then would the U.S. want to drop the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki? In order for us to understand the reasons, we need to understand the international situations that motivated the U.S. to drop the bomb.

Following the defeat of Germany, the U.S. stood as the strongest capitalist nation in the world. Unlike most other capitalist powers as Great Britain and France, the U.S. suffered very little destruction from bomb attacks and ground warfare. Instead, business and industry actually grew and expanded greatly in America. With this growth and expansion of industries the need for more foreign markets and supply of natural resources became more acute. To serve these interests of the capitalist ruling class in America, the U.S. government embarked in a massive campaign for domination in both Europe and Asia.

Confronting the U.S. in Europe was the Soviet Union. Contributing the greatest amount of men and material to defeat Germany, the Soviet Union was in a position of world respect. Although it had been devastated by the war with losses of 20 million men and women, and thousands of miles of destroyed territory, the Soviet Union at that time represented the strongest socialist force in the world. Since it was weakened so greatly by her sacrifices in the war, the Soviet Union sought to rebuild and strengthen socialism. The inevitable conflict of socialism and capitalism led to the confrontation between the Soviet Union and the U.S. in Europe. What America sought to do was minimize Soviet influence in Europe, for they wanted to stop any activity which would encourage the emergence of socialist nations in Europe.

During the war enormous anti-colonial movements had developed

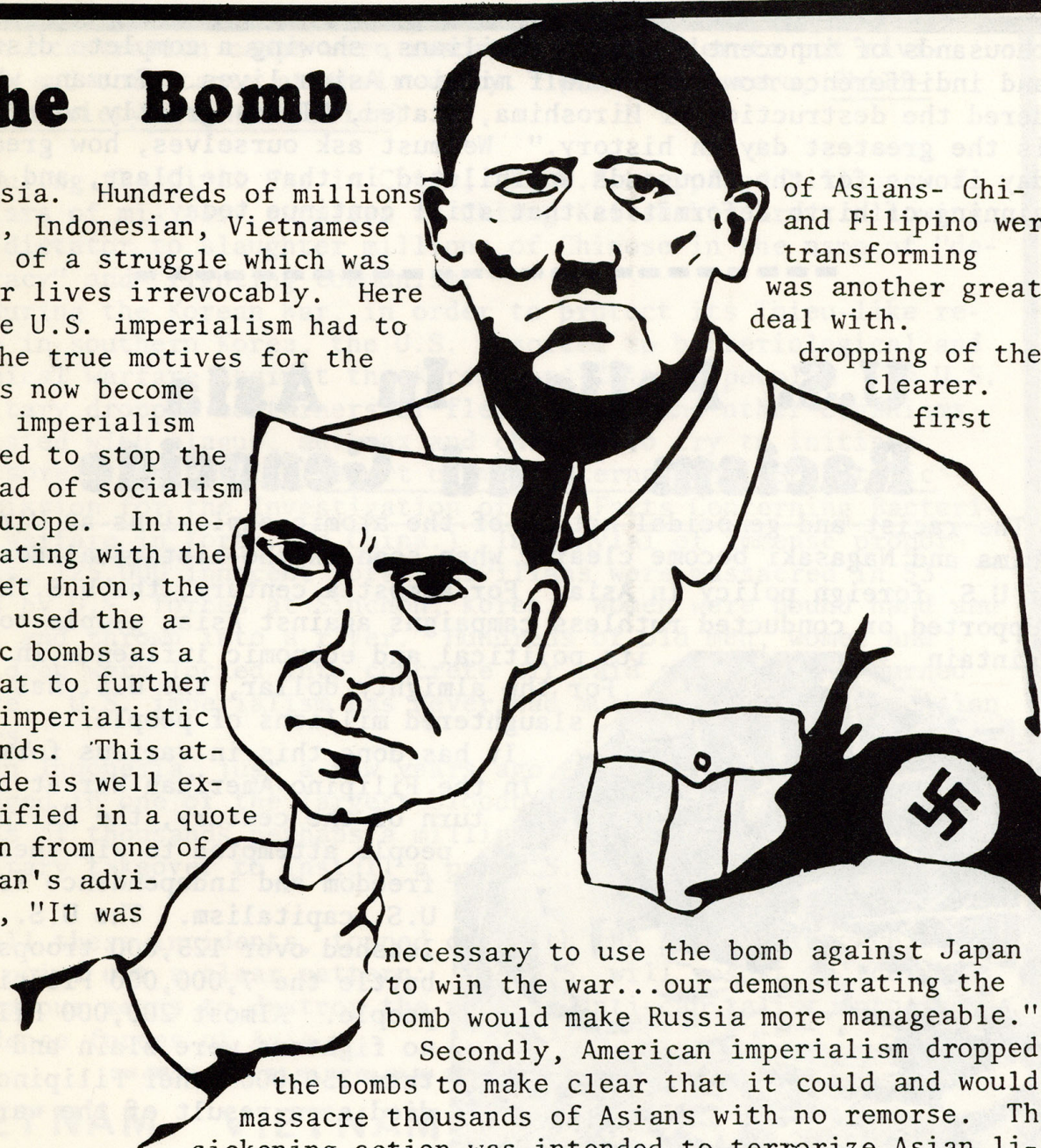
The Bomb

in Asia. Hundreds of millions of Chinese, Indonesian, Vietnamese part of a struggle which was their lives irrevocably. Here force U.S. imperialism had to

The true motives for the bombs now become U.S. imperialism wanted to stop the spread of socialism in Europe. In negotiating with the Soviet Union, the U.S. used the atomic bombs as a threat to further its imperialistic demands. This attitude is well exemplified in a quote taken from one of Truman's advisers, "It was not

of Asians- Chinese and Filipino were transforming was another great deal with.

dropping of the clearer. first



necessary to use the bomb against Japan to win the war...our demonstrating the bomb would make Russia more manageable."

Secondly, American imperialism dropped the bombs to make clear that it could and would massacre thousands of Asians with no remorse. This sickening action was intended to terrorize Asian liberation forces.

Why were the bombs dropped on two heavily populated and non-military targets? The answer to this question reveals the racist policies of the U.S. government. For the first time, atomic power would be used on human beings. The U.S. knew of the tremendous power of the bomb but did not realize its horror on people until Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Both cities were used as testing grounds for the atomic bomb in warfare.

Using the bomb to both intimidate Soviet leadership and terrorize national liberation movements in Asia, U.S. imperialism annihilated

thousands of innocent Japanese civilians, showing a complete disregard and indifference toward one half million Asian lives. Truman, who ordered the destruction of Hiroshima, stated, "I was greatly moved. This is the greatest day in history." We must ask ourselves, how great a day it was for the thousands annihilated in that one blast, and the beginning of birth deformities that still continue today.

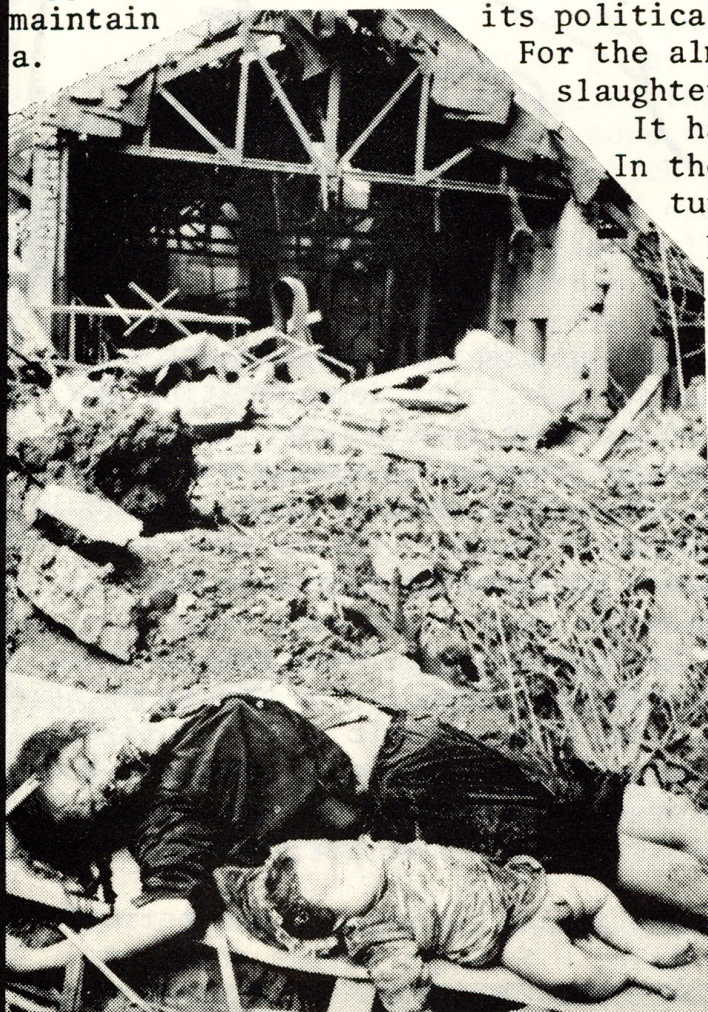
U.S. Policy In Asia Racism And Genocide

The racist and genocidal nature of the atomic explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki become clearer when seen in the historical context of U.S. foreign policy in Asia. For almost a century, the U.S. has supported or conducted ruthless campaigns against Asian people to maintain its political and economic influence in Asia.

For the almighty dollar, the U.S. has slaughtered millions of people.

It has done this in various forms. In the Filipino-American War at the turn of the century, the Filipino people attempted to win their freedom and independence from U.S. capitalism. The U.S. unleashed over 125,000 troops to battle the 7,000,000 Filipino people. Almost 200,000 Filipino fighters were slain and more than 250,000 other Filipinos died as a result of the war.

"The U.S. imperialist aggressors practiced genocide of monstrous proportions. They committed various forms of atrocities such as the massacres of captured troops and innocent citizens; pillage on women, homes and property; and ruthless employment of torture such as dismemberment, the 'water cure' and the 'rope torture.' Zoning



and concentration camps were resorted to in order to put civilians and combatants at their mercy. (Amado Guerrero, Philippine Society and Revolution)

During the Civil War in China, the U.S. supplied billions of dollars of military supplies to Chiang Kai-shek's army, allowing the dictator to slaughter millions of Chinese in the name of "democracy" and "fighting communism."

During the Korean War, in order to protect its Thieu-like regime in southern Korea, the U.S. resorted to bacteriological and chemical warfare against the Korean and Chinese people. The U.S. military dropped containers of fleas, rats, and other organisms infested with plague, anthrax and cholera to try to initiate widespread epidemic. (Report of the International Scientific Commission for the Investigation of the Facts Concerning Bacterial Warfare in Korea and China.) In a Mylai of immense proportions, 125,000 innocent Korean civilians were massacred in 53 days by U.S. forces at Sinchon, Korea. Women were bound hand and foot and thrown into a river. Hundreds of old men, women and children were locked into concrete air raid shelters and burned alive. U.S. imperialism has never had much mercy regarding Asian lives.

In Indonesia, just a few years ago, the C.I.A. supported coup engaged in one of the largest bloodbaths in modern history. Hundreds of thousands perhaps a million people were killed in the military takeover to install a pro-U.S. government in that country.

All these incidents, topped off with the present Indo-china war point out a clear pattern: the U.S. will resort to the most barbarous means to destroy the popular anti-capitalist, pro-independence forces of Asia.

VIETNAM VIETNAM

Today in Vietnam, the people are being subjected to the most barbaric war in history. In desperate attempts to stop their national liberation struggle, the U.S. is waging a virtual extermination campaign to terrorize and intimidate the Vietnamese people. The types of weapons used in this war include anti-personal bombs, bombs that upon explosion release hundreds of small pellets or pieces of shrapnel aimed at causing permanent injuries to civilians. The insane logic behind these weapons is that an injured person requires more manpower to care for that person, adding a burden on the state, while if the person is dead he just has to be buried. Recently, plastic shrapnel has been devised so

that it cannot be detected by x-rays. Other weapons of extermination include:

1) Massive bombing

"In about 6 weeks, U.S. aircraft dropped 100,000 tons of bombs (some 5 times the equivalent of the device dropped on Hiroshima) and fired 700,000 rounds of machine gun fire into a circular area roughly of 5 miles in diameter... the area looked like the rest of Vietnam, mountainous, and heavily jungled with very little visibility through the canopy. Five weeks later, the jungle had become literally a desert - vast stretches of scarred, bare earth with hardly a tree standing, a landscape of splinters and bomb craters." (Peter D. Scott, "Cambodia - Why the Generals Won" New York Review of Books, June 18, 1970)

2) Chemical Warfare - napalm, defoliants and other poisonous gases

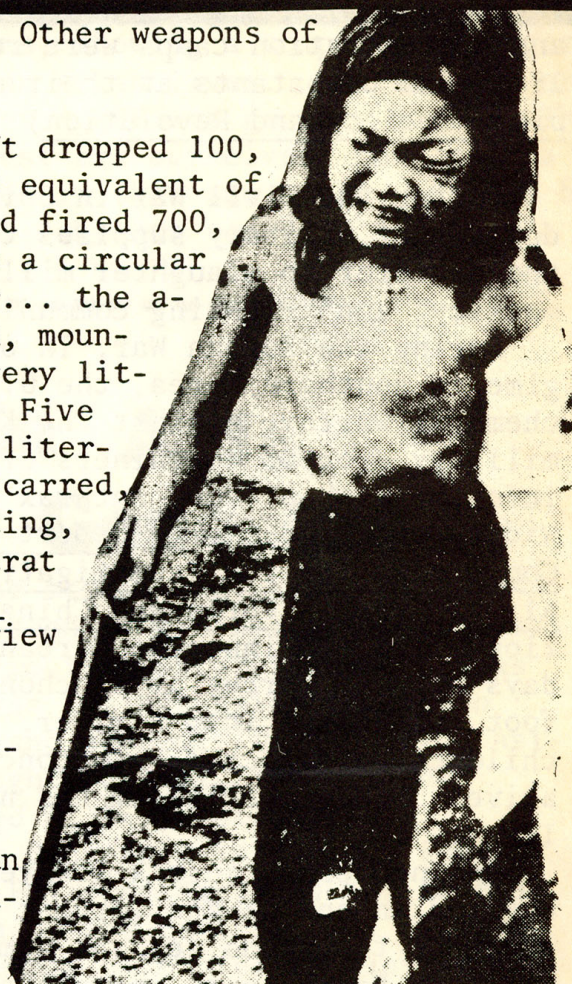
"Present estimates suggest that between 1965 and 1970 that more than 50,000 tons of herbicides (which exterminate forest and crops and disrupt the whole balance of nature) were dripped on South Vietnam alone." (New York, Dec. 6, 1969)

"Besides defoliants, more than 7,000 tons of other poisonous gases have been used between 1964 and 1969." (Associated Press, Jan. 3, 1970)

It is estimated by Vietnamese scientists that the genetic damage to Vietnamese children caused by the chemicals is more than 6 times of that caused to the children of Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

All this has had devastating effect on the Vietnamese people, uprooting them from their land and murdering millions. Yet, the Vietnamese people are defeating the U.S. aggressors by waging a peoples war mobilizing the broadest sections of the population and its resources.

The common atrocities the people are faced with makes them stronger and clearer as to what they have to do - "unite all forces to defeat U.S. imperialism."

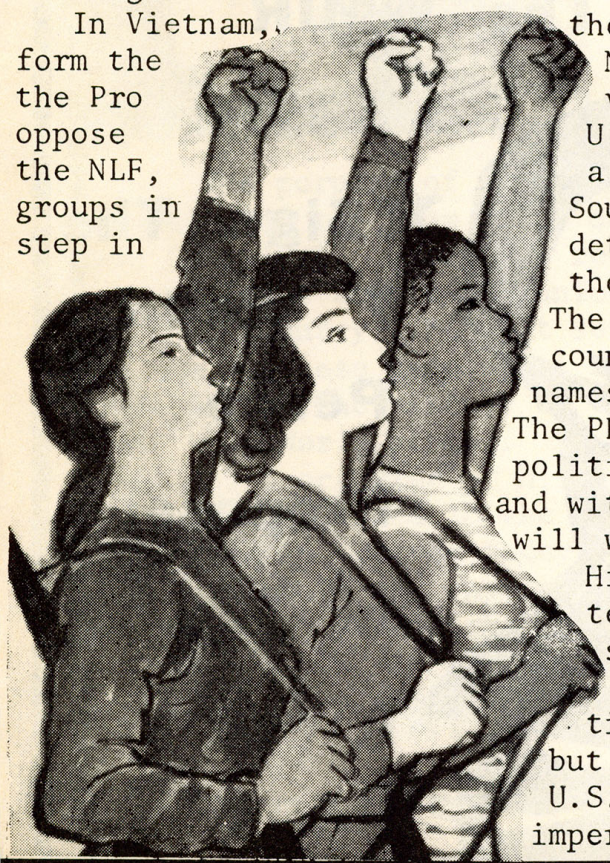


WE WILL WIN

Throughout the world, U.S. imperialism has shown its face by gaining economic possessions for their own profit. In Asia, Africa and Latin America, people freed themselves from subjugation and undevelopment through national liberation movements.

In the U.S., there is a need for unity among people to oppose racist and genocidal acts against Third World people. Native Americans have been systematically murdered through the program of "Indian Reservation" in the United States. Japanese were put in Concentration Camps for no other reason but the racist attitudes of American political leaders. Just recently, it was revealed that Black people in the U.S. were used as "guinea pigs" in a program that studied the effects of syphilis on the human body. And Chicana women were experimented upon in Texas to develop the birth control pill. These acts against Third World people in the U.S. as well as abroad will continue to go unchecked until people recognize that unity is our only weapon to combat injustices. This is why Third World people must continue to unite to defeat U.S. imperialism and fight for their fundamental rights as people.

In Vietnam, the Pro oppose the NLF, groups in step in



the South Vietnamese people united to form the National Liberation Front, and later the Provisional Revolutionary Government to oppose U.S. imperialism. The formation of a coalition of over 20 different groups in South Vietnam, was the first logical step in determining the kind of government the Vietnamese desire for themselves. The PRG, now recognized by over 30 countries, is the government the Vietnamese have fought so long and hard for. The PRG has given form to the unity and political power of the Vietnamese people, and with the PRG, the Vietnamese people will win.

Hiroshima and Vietnam are not isolated events, but the result of the system of imperialism. Indian Reservations and Japanese Concentration Camps are not isolated events, but part of the system of racism in the U.S. - the same racism that is part of imperialism abroad. People in America

are recognizing that the war in Vietnam is a struggle against U.S. imperialism, the same force we face here at home.

In the spirit of unity, let us join the struggle to free Asians and other Third World people from imperialism.

THE US GOVERNMENT MUST:

★ **Stop The Genocide of Asian People**

★ **Dismantle
The WMIR**

★ **Sign The
7 Point
Peace
Proposal**

