

# DOWNLOAD PDF DESTROYING A SOCIAL REVOLUTION: THE CASE OF VIETNAM, BY R. MORROCK.

## Chapter 1 : Issue 6: Imperialism - Viewpoint Magazine

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Print August 2 marked the 50th anniversary of the Gulf of Tonkin incident, in which the U. The Last War the U. The Geneva Accords had stipulated that the country would quickly be reunited after national elections. As historian Marilyn Young notes, U. While this strategy was initially successful, by the early s it was in complete disarray, as the population of South Vietnam turned increasingly to open rebellion against the Diem regime. Lyndon Johnson making his midnight speech about the Gulf of Tonkin incident Cecil Staughton By the end of , the Kennedy administration decided that Diem had to go in order to forestall the collapse of the Saigon government. Diem and his brother Nhu, head of the secret police, were overthrown and assassinated in a military coup directed by the CIA and U. Despite the removal of the Diem family, who had become a political liability, the Saigon government continued to spiral downward and the revolutionary movement led by the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam NLF continued to move forward. Regime Change in Saigon "The emergence of an exceptional leader could improve the situation and no George Washington is in sight. Kennedy in November Johnson inherited two things from the Kennedy administration concerning Vietnam. One was a rapidly deteriorating situation in South Vietnam, with an NLF victory on the immediate horizon. These were the men who would eventually take the United States into total war in Vietnam, but in the meantime they struggled with finding the "right man" to lead the Saigon government. Despite the removal of Diem, the Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse. Minh infuriated the Americans by making a rapprochement with the Buddhist forces that had organized massive demonstrations against the Diem regime. He began talking about possibly opening talks with the NLF. Minh also began to describe his government as "noncommunist" as opposed to "anti-communist," and raised the possibility of his government adopting a diplomatic position of "neutrality" in world affairs. This was clearly not what the Americans wanted from a military coup. Soon after, the Americans spearheaded another military coup, this time organized by the Military Assistance Command--Vietnam, the main body that U. This coup, at the end of January , has gone down in the history books as the "Pentagon Coup," and it brought to power General Nguyen Khanh. Nguyen seemed to be what the Americans wanted. He was committed to fighting the war against the NLF, and seemed wholeheartedly to accept military and political strategies emanating from the U. However, he immediately ran into a renewed wave of antiwar activity from the Buddhists and radical students of South Vietnam. Nguyen was completely thrown off balance by this and began to talk about a negotiated end to the war. Clearly, he also had to go. The Americans, led by the new U. The leading figure was Ky, who became prime minister Thieu became chief of state. Ky first came to the attention of the United States by working for the CIA in covert operations against North Vietnam in the early s. He would later embarrass the United States by telling reporters that his only real hero was Hitler. Ky and Thieu were both trained by the French and had fought against their own people in the First Vietnam War. They also made it clear that they would follow the lead of Washington on all military, political, and diplomatic affairs. While military coups wracked Saigon throughout and , a much deeper crisis was brewing in South Vietnam. By mid, the various military and political strategies developed by the United States for combating the NLF were at a dead end. The strategic hamlet program, in which peasants were forcibly uprooted from their traditional villages and burial grounds and concentrated into walled camps, was a disaster. These villages were essentially concentration camps designed to separate the peasant population from the guerrillas. Where they were not torn apart by internal dissention, they were overrun by NLF fighters. Marine pacification expert Lieutenant Colonel William R. Corson admitted that the role of the U. Strategic hamlets had failed The South Vietnamese regime was incapable of winning the peasantry because of its class base among landlords. Indeed, there was no longer a "regime" in the sense of a

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relatively stable political alliance and functioning bureaucracy. Instead, civil government and military operations had virtually ceased. The National Liberation Front had made great progress and was close to declaring provisional revolutionary governments in large areas. Finding the "right man" would not do away with these fundamental issues that at the end of the day strengthened the NLF and weakened the already weak Saigon government--class inequality, the absence of basic democratic rights, and a strong desire for the reunification of Vietnam. The war was quickly moving beyond being a proxy war funded by the United States to becoming a full-fledged American war. By , the Kennedy administration had boosted the number of U. By this time, U. In the face of these mounting defeats, U. A fundamental shift in American policy was about to take place. Manufacturing an Excuse for War "A lie is a lie The election would ultimately pit the sitting Democratic President Lyndon Johnson, running as a "peace candidate," against the right-wing Republican Senator Barry Goldwater, who was considered by many people to be a dangerous right-wing extremist. But despite these promises, the Johnson administration was planning behind the scenes to introduce hundreds of thousands of U. This was the beginning of the famous "credibility gap" that developed between what the Johnson administration stated as its policy toward Vietnam and what it actually did. The large-scale introduction of U. Most Americans at this point were unaware of the deep involvement of their country in the war in Vietnam. Sending tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of U. A resolution had already been drafted in early by the State Department for that purpose, but was shelved because of election year considerations. What was required was an "incident" to arouse both public and congressional support for war, preferably an attack on U. The incident that they were looking for came in early August in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam, and it came about as a result of one of the many covert operations the United States was carrying out against North Vietnam. The purpose of these operations was to identify and destroy North Vietnamese coastal radar stations. To do this, U. Navy destroyers were ordered to patrol well within what the North Vietnamese regarded as their territorial waters to force the North Vietnamese to turn on their radar. These patrolling operations were called "DeSoto. The Maddox sank one North Vietnamese patrol boat, while fighter jets from the U. On August 3, , U. During the following night, the Maddox reported that it was under persistent attack from North Vietnamese patrol torpedo boats, but its radar could find no target except the USS Turner Joy, which it almost fired on. The Turner Joy did not hear any torpedoes, nor did its radar find any targets, but it fired anyway. Herrick, the commander of the two-destroyer flotilla in the Tonkin Gulf, reported it "doubtful" that U. Johnson immediately announced that American ships had been involved in an unprovoked attack in international waters and ordered U. Johnson also called for congressional approval of the Tonkin Gulf Resolution. On August 7, , the Senate voted 98 to 2 and the House of Representatives voted to 0 in favor of the resolution. Johnson then had the legal authority to wage the expanded war that he wanted in Vietnam. He waited until after the November election to invade South Vietnam. The marines landed in Danang on March 8, the beginning of a U. Seven years of war followed, as the strongest military machine on earth unleashed its savage fury on one of the poorest countries in the world. The Price of Empire "Surrender anywhere threatens defeat everywhere. Why did they believe they could win a war against a nationalist movement that defeated the French a decade earlier? Inside the Kennedy and Johnson administrations it was recognized that the client regime created by them was highly unstable and enormously unpopular. In sharp contrast, the popularity of the NLF was acknowledged and its military capabilities taken very seriously. The NLF itself was prepared to accept such a proposal. The Johnson administration chose war because anything less than a total victory of U. As Lyndon Johnson put it in , "Surrender anywhere threatens defeat everywhere. The United States emerged from the war as the dominant capitalist country, with a string of military bases circling the globe. Like the British Empire in the nineteenth century, it would find itself embroiled in conflicts and wars in remote parts of the globe in order to ensure that its "credibility" was not undermined. The failure of the United States to intervene could be taken as a sign of weakness by its chief rival, the USSR, or by indigenous national liberation movements. Vietnam was the weakest link in the chain of American imperialism during the Kennedy and Johnson years. Kennedy, turning to Rostow, said: Kennedy wanted to

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reestablish U. In his own words, "Now we have a problem in making our power credible, and Vietnam is the place. After the Cuban missile crisis in October, the Vietnam question became magnified even more through the lens of superpower rivalry. The stabilization of a pro-American regime in Saigon or a victory of the National Liberation Front would have a dramatic impact on the ability of the United States to influence Third World nations. The Kennedy administration set the course from which Johnson could not stray. McNaughton began by attacking any support for a political settlement in Vietnam that would lead to a U. This, he argued, would "be regarded in Asia, and particularly among our friends, as just as humiliating a defeat as any other form. Rostow exuded the arrogance of this way of thinking when he wrote in that victory in Vietnam "flows from the simple fact that at this stage in history we are the greatest power in the world--if we behave like it. They were both desperate and arrogant--but not about the same things: Success or failure there involved what American political leaders would call "credibility," "resolve," or "commitment" at different points in time. War in Vietnam was the price to be paid for having a global empire and an arrogant leadership who believed that they could bully anybody into line. Though it tried to justify its intervention in Vietnam by saying that it was fighting foreign "communist aggression" against South Vietnam directed by Moscow and Beijing, the only aggressors and foreigners in Vietnam were Americans.

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### Chapter 2 : Khmer Rouge History | Cambodia Tribunal Monitor

*Destroying a social democracy; the case of Guatemala, by J. Gerassi. The Dominican Republic: revolution and restoration, by J. Petras. Destroying a social revolution: the case of Vietnam, by R. Morrock.*

Is Technology Destroying the Labor Market? No—policies that hurt our industrial economy, not automation, are eliminating jobs. Manufacturing employment has fallen by nearly one-third since 1970, and millions of less educated Americans—especially men—have abandoned the labor force entirely. Wages have stagnated since at least 1970; only half of Americans in their thirties are better off financially than their parents were at the same age a generation ago. Most people expect the next generation to fare even worse. Economists often blame automation. Technology, they argue, allows us to produce more output with fewer people, displacing less skilled workers from high-paying factory jobs into the lower-paying service sector or sending them out of the workforce entirely. Breakthroughs in robotics and artificial intelligence will only accelerate the trend, threatening perhaps the majority of jobs in the decades ahead. Yet these claims find no support in either the data of recent economic performance or careful analyses of future labor-force trends. If automation were rendering workers obsolete, we would see evidence in rising productivity, major capital investments, and a shift in the ratio of production workers to managerial workers. None of these things has occurred. If technology could render workers obsolete, the radical advancements of past generations should have done it. If this time is different, we should find evidence that a large share of current workers are uniquely vulnerable to the particular set of technologies on the horizon. What we find, instead, is that the industrial economy has stalled. Technology-driven productivity gains have continued as in the past, if a bit slower. But whereas output used to grow at least as quickly, it now grows barely at all. The dynamic has shifted from one in which workers produce more each year, and total output rises, to one in which fewer workers are needed each year to deliver roughly the same output as the year before. What has changed, and what deserves our attention, is not the trend in automation but rather the dramatic slowdown in output growth. This has its own explanation, one that makes far more sense than the idea that the blessings of rising productivity have suddenly turned wicked: Only by acknowledging that reality, rather than scapegoating technological trends beyond our control, can we begin to make amends. Mathematically, automation does destroy jobs. If an activity that required ten workers can, with automation, be done by five, then the economy can maintain its prior level of output with five fewer jobs. Automation is just one specific case of a more general rule: This is not, generally, a problem. To the contrary, producing more stuff with less labor—whether through improved skills, more efficient processes, or better tools—is, by definition, how a society achieves economic progress. This means that any time we talk about rising productivity, wages, and standards of living, we are also talking about reducing the need for workers providing the current products and services. The crucial question is what happens to output as productivity rises. If we achieve the 2. And that would indeed be the result, if output remained at its initial level. But if output also doubles, then everyone remains working and material living standards can double, too. Economy-wide productivity increased by 99 percent; only 50 workers were needed by the end of the Vietnam War to do the work that could complete at the end of World War II. The result was not mass unemployment. Instead, America produced more stuff. Increasing output can take different forms. Between 1970 and 1990, workers produced greater quantities of the same goods and services, which were now more affordable for more consumers. Goods and services also improved in quality—vehicles were safer and lasted longer, and some came with power steering and an automatic transmission. Fatalities per mile flown, meanwhile, fell more than 95 percent. This is how growth works. We produced more and better food. Then we produced more of other things, too. For that matter, when we introduced hundreds of thousands of ATMs across the country, we did not design welfare programs for the armies of unemployed bank tellers—because bank-teller employment never even declined. In theory, modern automation could produce different effects from what it did in the past—if, for instance, the pace of change accelerated to the point that workers became unnecessary in

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existing roles much faster than they could find new ones. If we are to believe that the very process most responsible for economic progress and middle-class prosperity over the past century is now undermining those accomplishments, we should want to see some proof. In fact, the evidence is plentiful—and it points in the opposite direction. Automation has not spurred accelerating productivity. During the second half of the twentieth century, economy-wide productivity increased by an annual average of 2. From to , the increase was only 1. In , productivity declined for the first time since the early s. The manufacturing sector tells a parallel story: From to , productivity growth in manufacturing has averaged less than 1 percent—a period of unprecedented stagnancy. These data yield slightly different results depending on the particular metrics and time frames used: But no view alters the underlying reality that recent productivity growth is no better, and likely much worse, than in the past. Might the data be misleading? Certainly, measuring output and productivity is tricky. Debate rages, for instance, over how best to account for the rapid improvement in digital products. Some economists worry that taking such rapid productivity gains at face value overstates the real-world effects. Nor does a computer with twice the processing power offer fully double the value to the typical user. Meantime, other economists believe that accounting methods developed almost a century ago are understating gains by missing much of the value created by newer types of products and services. What is a smartphone worth, if buying separately its camera, map, encyclopedia, music player, and so forth would have cost thousands of dollars only a decade ago—and a memory chip of comparable capacity would have cost millions of dollars? Other indicators provide no better support for the claim that automation is spurring disruptive productivity increases. Larry Mishel and Josh Bivens of the Economic Policy Institute show that growth in capital investment generally, and in information technology particularly, has been slowing and stands well below pre levels. Nor, within the manufacturing sector, are blue-collar jobs under particular pressure. In the past, that happened. From to , the production-worker share of the workforce fell more than ten points, from 87 percent to 76 percent—or, put more dramatically, the ratio of line workers to managers fell by half, from 6. By , the share had reached 71 percent—a 2. Since then, for an entire generation, there has been virtually no change. In , the share stood at 70 percent. Econometric studies offer a final line of evidence that explores the statistical relationship between robot installation and employment. Further, while the effect of trade exposure was increasing over time, the effect of technology seemed to be dissipating. One prominent study does report a negative relationship between robots and jobs, but the magnitude of its finding is instructive. This amounts to a loss of only 15, manufacturing jobs per year, roughly 0. At that rate, robots might, over a century, eliminate as many manufacturing jobs as were, in fact, lost during From to , while productivity in the manufacturing sector rose by 3. During , productivity rose by a similar 3. But output growth was only 1. Even with all the technological advancement of the twenty-first century, had manufacturers continued to grow their businesses at the same rate as in the previous century, they would have needed more workers—a total of 18 million—by Faced with this reality, efforts to blame job losses on automation require the fatally flawed assumption that output is not supposed to increase. This is how, for instance, an oft-cited report from Ball State University reaches the conclusion that 88 percent of manufacturing job losses are attributable to automation: Instead, we employed only Using this reasoning, we could say: Instead we employed 18 million. By contrast, the output of the manufacturing sector in was only 3 percent higher than in Single years achieved higher growth than that 32 times during , at least five times during every decade before We want to know what has changed in our economic trends that has dislocated so many manufacturing workers and produced so much distress. The answer is not higher productivity growth; it is slower growth in output. Of Hair Dryers and Haircuts Does manufacturing even matter? First, it remains among the most productive economic activities for less educated workers. The manufacturing, construction, and resource-extraction industries combined to provide almost 40 percent of such good-paying, blue-collar jobs. Americans take for granted that they can buy what products they want from around the world. But how can someone whose work consists entirely of serving others in his community expect a firm halfway around the world to make something for him? Consider the local physician who provides care only to those in his

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town. He must trust instead that some of his patients produce goods or services that can be sent to those places and, in purchasing his medical services, give him the resources to acquire the goods that he needs. Or consider the plight of a local economy as a whole. It wishes to receive from elsewhere almost all of its food, medicine, vehicles, electronics, energy, and more. It must send tradables of equal value. What happens to a community whose economy does not produce anything that the world wants? It has one export that it can always fall back on: Every resident enrolled in a program of government benefits entitles the community to more goods and services from the outside world. For instance, a prominent criticism of recent proposals to cut food-stamp benefits has been that it would harm not just the individual recipients but also the local economies reliant on the outside income.

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### Chapter 3 : The Unwinnable Vietnam War – Consortiumnews

*Such as World War II was the major turning point in case of Vietnamese struggle for liberalism and social revolution, the Vietnam War had strong impact on America in the s. [tags: Vietnam War Essays].*

Charles Fourier , influential early French socialist thinker Socialist models and ideas espousing common or public ownership have existed since antiquity. It has been claimed – though controversially – that there were elements of socialist thought in the politics of classical Greek philosophers Plato [60] and Aristotle. Christian socialism was one of the founding threads of the UK Labour Party and is said to be a tradition going back years to the uprising of Wat Tyler and John Ball [69]. The Owenites , Saint-Simonians and Fourierists provided a series of coherent analyses and interpretations of society. They also, especially in the case of the Owenites, overlapped with a number of other working-class movements like the Chartists in the United Kingdom". Leaders in the movement also called for a more equitable distribution of income and better living conditions for the working classes. Count Henri de Saint-Simon is regarded as the first individual to coin the term "socialism". They reasoned that the equilibrium value of commodities approximated prices charged by the producer when those commodities were in elastic supply and that these producer prices corresponded to the embodied labour – the cost of the labour essentially the wages paid that was required to produce the commodities. The Ricardian socialists viewed profit, interest and rent as deductions from this exchange-value. They advocated reform, with some such as Robert Owen advocating the transformation of society to small communities without private property. Paris Commune The celebration of the election of the Commune on 28 March – the Paris Commune was a major early implementation of socialist ideas The Paris Commune was a government that briefly ruled Paris from 18 March more formally, from 28 March to 28 May The Commune elections held on 26 March elected a Commune council of 92 members, one member for each 20, residents. It also reached a consensus on certain policies that tended towards a progressive, secular and highly-democratic social democracy. Because the Commune was only able to meet on fewer than 60 days in all, only a few decrees were actually implemented. The IWA held a preliminary conference in and had its first congress at Geneva in Due to the wide variety of philosophies present in the First International, there was conflict from the start. The first objections to Marx came from the mutualists who opposed communism and statism. However, shortly after Mikhail Bakunin and his followers called collectivists while in the International joined in , the First International became polarised into two camps headed by Marx and Bakunin respectively. The First International became the first major international forum for the promulgation of socialist ideas. The followers of Bakunin were called collectivist anarchists and sought to collectivise ownership of the means of production while retaining payment proportional to the amount and kind of labour of each individual. Like Proudhonists, they asserted the right of each individual to the product of his labour and to be remunerated for their particular contribution to production. By contrast, anarcho-communists sought collective ownership of both the means and the products of labour. Errico Malatesta put it: In this way each will give to society all that his strength permits until enough is produced for every one; and each will take all that he needs, limiting his needs only in those things of which there is not yet plenty for every one". It was a significant force in Italy and Spain in the early 20th century until it was crushed by the fascist regimes in those countries. In the United States, syndicalism appeared in the guise of the Industrial Workers of the World , or "Wobblies", founded in An influential anarchist movement based on syndicalist ideas is anarcho-syndicalism. The Fabian Society is a British socialist organisation which was established with the purpose of advancing the principles of socialism via gradualist and reformist means. Originally, the Fabian Society was committed to the establishment of a socialist economy , alongside a commitment to British imperialism as a progressive and modernising force. Inspired by medieval guilds, theorists such as Samuel G. Cole advocated the public ownership of industries and their organisation into guilds, each of which would be under the democratic control of its trade union. Guild socialists were less inclined than Fabians to invest power in a state. In the centennial of the French

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Revolution of , the Second International was founded, with delegates from twenty countries representing about labour and socialist organisations. Anarchists were ejected and not allowed in, mainly due to pressure from Marxists. Not only did they effectively present themselves as champions of minority rights; they also provoked the German Marxists into demonstrating a dictatorial intolerance which was a factor in preventing the British labor movement from following the Marxist direction indicated by such leaders as H. Eduard Bernstein was a leading social democrat in Germany who proposed the concept of evolutionary socialism. Revolutionary socialists quickly targeted reformism: Revolutionary socialism encompasses multiple social and political movements that may define "revolution" differently from one another. The Social Democratic Party SPD in Germany became the largest and most powerful socialist party in Europe, despite working illegally until the anti-socialist laws were dropped in . In the elections, it gained 1,, votes, a quarter of the total votes cast, according to Engels. The party affiliated itself with the Second International. The Kibbutz Movement would then expand through the 20th century following a doctrine of Zionist socialism. Russian Revolution Main article: Russian Revolution In February , revolution exploded in Russia. Workers, soldiers and peasants established soviets councils , the monarchy fell and a provisional government convoked pending the election of a constituent assembly. In April of that year, Vladimir Lenin , leader of the Bolshevik faction of socialists in Russia and known for his profound and controversial expansions of Marxism , was allowed to cross Germany to return to his country from exile in Switzerland. Lenin had published essays on his analysis of imperialism , the monopoly and globalisation phase of capitalism as predicted by Marx, as well as analyses on the social conditions of his contemporary time. He observed that as capitalism had further developed in Europe and America, the workers remained unable to gain class consciousness so long as they were too busy working and concerning with how to make ends meet. He therefore proposed that the social revolution would require the leadership of a vanguard party of class-conscious revolutionaries from the educated and politically active part of the population. The Bolsheviks became the most influential force in the soviets and on 7 November the capitol of the provisional government was stormed by Bolshevik Red Guards in what afterwards known as the " Great October Socialist Revolution ". On 25 January at the Petrograd Soviet , Lenin declared "Long live the world socialist revolution! The next day, the Bolsheviks declared that the assembly was elected on outdated party lists [] and the All-Russian Central Executive Committee of the Soviets dissolved it.

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### Chapter 4 : illuminati - The Skeptic's Dictionary - racedaydvl.com

*Automation is just one specific case of a more general rule: every means of increasing the rate of output per worker—measured as "productivity"—can also be understood as reducing the number of workers required to achieve the existing level of output.*

Who really controls world events from behind-the-scene? Years of extensive research and investigation have gone into this massively documented work [Bloodlines of the Illuminati]. In almost pages, Fritz Springmeier discloses mind-boggling facts and never before revealed truths about the top Illuminati dynasties. Discover the amazing role these bloodlines have played--and are now wielding--in human history, with family names such as Astor, DuPont, Kennedy, Onassis, Rockefeller, Rothschild, Russell, Van Duyn, and Krupp. Kennedy and actress Grace Kelly were killed; who created the United Nations; who controls the two major U. A literal encyclopedia of rare, unbelievable information! Another PCT "sect" holds that it is the aliens who rule the Illuminati who rule the world, etc. David Icke David Icke, another pundit of the Illuminati, believes humans have been getting messages from alien "Illuminati-reptilians" for thousands of years. The reptiles explain such things as the Gregorian calendar. The whole senario [sic] was planned centuries ago because the reptilians, operating from the lower fourth dimension, and indeed whatever force controls them, have a very different version of "time" than we have, hence they can see and plan down the three-dimensional "time"-line in a way that those in three-dimensional form cannot. He knows this because he is sure we have been contacted regularly with messages from beyond by the alien lizards. He explains it all in several books, especially *The Biggest Secret*: Jim Keith Another expositor on these hidden agendas and worldwide conspiracies is Jim Keith , who died on September 7, , during surgery to repair a leg he injured at the Burning Man Festival. Was this because he was better at seeing or because his imagination ran wild? He watches a Coke ad and sees fellatio and anal penetration. Ken Adachi Ken Adachi has a fine conspiracy page. He leaves no event unaccounted for as part of the plot to take over the world and hasten the Apocalypse. The Illuminati, however, is only one aspect of the occult cabal. He has transmogrified the New World Order into a cabal itself. What is most amusing about Mr. What is not so amusing is his identification of the Freemasons as a subversive cabal. This idea is popular among PCTs, especially with those on the religious right like Pat Robertson , who are also prone to be anti-Semitic. Adachi may have a fine conspiracy WWW page but he seems to have borrowed everything from Mr. Fagan , who undertook to explain all of world history as a plot of the Illuminati to establish the New World Order. In , Fagan came to Hollywood and worked as a writer and director. In , he says he saw some secret documents which led him to write *Red Rainbow* and *Thieves Paradise*. The latter portrays the same group plotting to create the United Nations as a Communist front for one world government. Until his death, Fagan relentlessly uncovered plots for almost every historical event of any note. Fagan is the archetype for the PCT. Cooper opened fire on the deputy when he tried to issue a warrant for assaulting his neighbor. Cooper wrote *The Secret Government*: What Cooper lacked in hard evidence he oversupplied in detail and imagination. Robert Gaylon Ross, Sr. RIE is "a private company chartered to do anything that is legal, ethical and moral, anywhere in the world. To enter the world of the PCTs is to enter Bedlam. It would be pointless here to examine, much less attempt to refute, the delusions of people who think they have been turned into assassins by mind-control techniques so that they can carry out the will of inbred dynasties, that aliens are controlling the world, that none of the laws of science are actual, that the imagination and the thought of what is possible are better guides than the "physically manifested world," etc. A rational person might think many of the PCTs are joking. Could anyone actually believe his rambling paranoia regarding Jewish bankers, Freemasons, Muslims, homosexuals, foreigners, etc.? Still, one wonders why PCTs exist and their numbers seem to be growing. Of course, governments and some of the very rich have conspired to rule the world in one form or another. Those of us who have watched the U. It is of no use to point out to the PCTs that our government led coups of democratically elected governments, assassinated leaders of nations and

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provided military and financial aid to thugs and murderers around the world, in a misguided belief that they were saving the world from communism, as well as opening up new markets for capitalist expansion. Many of the leaders and top agents in our government are and were evil and incompetent, but, as inept as they tend to be, even they would recognize the limits of their ambitions. But, it is pointless to argue here because the PCTs are expert pseudohistorians: Hitler was a dupe, used to advance the sinister plot to rule the world by the Illuminati. It is easy to explain their proliferation: But why PCTs in the first place? I am not joking here. A relative had a "psychotic break" and severe paranoia. We a group of relatives were all targets of assassination by some unknown evil people. They could be partially identified by their license plate numbers. If the number started with a "5" then they were evil. No amount of logic or reasoning as to the preposterousness of the notion that anyone would want to kill a person of absolutely no political significance was of any use. No amount of reasoning as to how license plate numbers are assigned was of any use. Phone calls could only be made from "secure" lines, which involved either going to the fire department or talking your way up through a series of supervisors until you got a "good one. They did not lose their ability to reason--in fact, my relative seemed even more intelligent in some ways when manic--but their assumptions were taken from sources inaccessible to the ordinary mind. They put vast faith in their intuitions and thought their ideas were brilliant insights when they were little more than the fancies of diseased brains. These "facts" are considered evidence in the argument to prove the vast conspiracy of the Illuminati. It is useless to argue against these "facts" with PCTs. They consider us dupes who would note that the Latin is usually translated as New Order of the Ages and that the symbol of the eye in the pyramid relates to a poem in the Egyptian Book of the Dead. Providence and eschatology I think it is likely that many PCTs in the West are initiated into their peculiar way of thinking by their religious training, in particular by their study of the Bible. They have been taught or they assume that everything happens for a purpose and that some god ultimately has a reason for every event occurring just as it does. As it becomes more and more difficult to see this world as designed for anything, the theories get more and more preposterous to keep the teleological delusion alive. The war on evolution and homosexuality--encouraging the abandonment of science and stimulating murderous assaults--so obviously disproportionate by any rational standard, is difficult to explain without seeing the militant fundamentalists as beyond the last stages of desperation. The intense campaigns to expose possible alien abductions, UFOs, and mind-control is likewise preposterously disproportionate to any rational standard. It is becoming nearly impossible to account for the events on this planet with the assumption of a Divine Creator who has a plan and a rationale for everything. The systems of thought that must be created in order to maintain Divine Providence get more insane by the minute. Or, for that matter, explain Waco, Gulf War Syndrome, or any of a number of actual conspiracies engaged in by businessmen such as Bill Gates or political leaders such as Oliver North and his "neat" idea of a government within the government answerable to nobody, or Richard Nixon and the Watergate conspirators, or our formerly secret biological warfare programs. There is, in fact, a New World Order emerging: It is a very natural trait to try to make sense out of the world. The PCTs are trying desperately to make sense out of a world they can no longer relate to. The world is too complicated, too mean, too cold, too unsatisfying for them. In the real world, they are considered nothing and despair of ever being anything but on the outside looking in. They see science as telling them they are an accident and their lives are without meaning. In their alternative world, they rule and are hopeful. Everything is in its place or will be put in its place. There is order and meaning. As long as one is selective in which facts to focus on or invent, even the dimmest bulb in the panel can confirm his bias. The mentally ill people I came to know couched their paranoid fears in terms of the F. They had no communal reinforcement of their delusions, however. No talk show host or publisher invited them to share their delusions with the world. They are under treatment, have been hospitalized, arrested, etc. They know that those around them will not accept their delusions. This is not true of religious or UFO groups or anti-Obama groups. They encourage each other to accept possibility as equal to probability, material experience as inferior to dreams, hallucinations, and out-of-body experiences, etc. They have no watchdog equivalent to I. Stone , and the mass media is too busy chasing tabloid rumors and

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celebrities to serve as a watchdog of anything. Since the PCTs function almost completely outside of the normal arenas where they would be challenged and forced to produce evidence in place of speculation, they flourish relatively unscathed and await their next appearance on the Art Bell or George Noory or Pat Robertson show, seemingly oblivious to the absurdity of such behavior during the final days of planet Earth. When the PCTs do bring their conspiracy theories to the public in forums where they can be challenged, they are masters at evading contrary evidence and challenging opponents to explain this or that, which, when explained, is quickly ignored in favor of a new this or that that needs to be explained, ad nauseam. PCTs, like those who think the Apollo moon mission was staged in a movie studio, are unimpressed by the commonsense notion that the more government bureaucrats that must be involved in a conspiracy, the less likely it is true. It posed as pious while invading countries to make war on them. It allowed torture and spying on its own citizens in the name of patriotism and defense of liberty. It did little of positive value to stop a worldwide economic collapse. It practiced many human rights abuses that it condemned in its enemies. The appointment of Paul Wolfowitz as head of the World Bank seems too good to be true if one is looking for support of this hypothesis. Stop throwing the Constitution in my face! The more fear they could arouse the longer they could continue their aggression in the name of defense. Even so, there is little evidence that they were part of a global conspiracy. If we were truly a police state Mr.

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### Chapter 5 : Trends and tragedies in American foreign policy | Open Library

*The case arose from a dispute in New Hampshire over the state's attempt to take over Dartmouth College. By construing the Contract Clause as a means of protecting corporate charters from state interventions, Marshall derived a significant constitutional limitation on state authority.*

The Vietnam War was a historical turning point for the U. Vietnamese and other Indochinese troops, notably Cambodians, in the French colonial forces went to Europe and the Middle East in World War I to serve in both combat and support roles. Photos of victims of the My Lai massacre in Vietnam galvanized public awareness about the barbarity of the war. Photo taken by U. Army photographer Ronald L. Haeberle French estimates vary as to the numbers killed and wounded. Asia colonies after World War II. The Chinese would get the northern sector, the British the central, and the Americans the south approximating the three regional divisions of Tonkin, Annam, and Cochin China. The Chinese Nationalists promptly proceeded to loot the north fueling centuries of traditional Chinese-Vietnamese animosities while the British used surrendered Japanese troops to chase Viet Minh in the south before returning French forces arrived in late and early In the s the U. Predictably the Vietnamese simply took the U. Ho Chi Minh, Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, and other anti-colonialists were at the Versailles Treaty negotiations in seeking at least token recognition for colonial subjects. Spurned, they never gave up but after the independence stimuli of two World Wars future Vietnam independence was effectively unstoppable regardless of what France or the U. And second, an invasion of North Vietnam was an automatic war with China that would have violated Gen. This was simply wishful thinking that Vietnam resistance would weaken and the nightmare would disappear. The logical question is what other policy might have produced a different outcome. Could Charles DeGaulle have taken a different tack? Lieutenants as commanders were a rarity in the Air Force. Many bemoaned the fact that the U. In the atmosphere of Congress was not about to send money to North or South Vietnam. Unfortunately for 58, American families who later lost loved ones in Vietnam, only the latter event was newsworthy at the time. Asia intelligence analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency.

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### Chapter 6 : Massacre at Huế - Wikipedia

*Mark R Levin's "Men in Black" may be the most important book of the year. It exposes the past, present (and warns us of a future) and shows us all how our Supreme Court Judges, (who are unelected, serve for life and yet, need not answer to anyone for their actions) are power hungry, and out of control.*

Reasons[ edit ] Vietnam War protesters in Wichita, Kansas, The draft, a system of conscription that mainly drew from minorities and lower and middle class whites, drove much of the protest after Conscientious objectors played an active role despite their small numbers. The prevailing sentiment that the draft was unfairly administered inflamed blue-collar American, especially African-American, opposition to the military draft itself. Opposition to the war arose during a time of unprecedented student activism, which followed the free speech movement and the Civil Rights Movement. The military draft mobilized the baby boomers, who were most at risk, but it grew to include a varied cross-section of Americans. The growing opposition to the Vietnam War was partly attributed to greater access to uncensored information through extensive television coverage on the ground in Vietnam. Beyond opposition to the draft, anti-war protesters also made moral arguments against U. That moral imperative argument against the war was especially popular among American college students, who were more likely than the general public to accuse the United States of having imperialistic goals in Vietnam and to criticize the war as "immoral. Some Americans believed that the communist threat was used as a scapegoat to hide imperialistic intentions, and others argued that the American intervention in South Vietnam interfered with the self-determination of the country and felt that the war in Vietnam was a civil war that ought to have determined the fate of the country and that America was wrong to intervene. Graphic footage of casualties on the nightly news eliminated any myth of the glory of war. With no clear sign of victory in Vietnam, American military casualties helped stimulate opposition to the war by Americans. In their book *Manufacturing Consent*, Noam Chomsky and Edward Herman challenge that traditional view of how the media influenced the war and propose that the media instead censored the more brutal images of the fighting and the death of millions of innocent people. Many supporters of U. This theory was largely held due to the fall of eastern Europe to communism and the Soviet sphere of influence following World War II. However, military critics of the war pointed out that the Vietnam War was political and that the military mission lacked any clear idea of how to achieve its objectives. Civilian critics of the war argued that the government of South Vietnam lacked political legitimacy, or that support for the war was completely immoral. The media also played a substantial role in the polarization of American opinion regarding the Vietnam War. For example, In a majority of the media attention focused on military tactics with very little discussion about the necessity for a full scale intervention in Southeast Asia. The Dove was a liberal and a critic of the war. Doves claimed that the war was well-intentioned but a disastrously wrong mistake in an otherwise benign foreign policy. It is important to note the Doves did not question the U. Rather, they made pragmatic claims that the war was a mistake. Contrarily, the Hawks argued that the war was legitimate and winnable and a part of the benign U. The Hawks claimed that the one-sided criticism of the media contributed to the decline of public support for the war and ultimately helped the U. Antiwar movement[ edit ] As the Vietnam War continued to escalate, public disenchantment grew and a variety of different groups were formed or became involved in the movement. Students[ edit ] U. Marshals dragging away a Vietnam War protester in Washington, D. Doug McAdam explains the success of the mass mobilization of volunteers for Freedom Summer in terms of "Biographical Availability", where individuals must have a certain degree of social, economic, and psychological freedom to be able to participate in large scale social movements. David Meyers also explains how the concept of personal efficacy affects mass movement mobilization. At this time, America was a superpower and enjoyed great affluence after thirty years of depression, war, and sacrifice. Harrison argues that the post World War II affluence set the stage for the protest generation in the s. The Anti-war movement became part of a larger protest movement against the traditional American Values and attitudes.

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Meyers builds off this claim in his argument that the "relatively privileged enjoy the education and affirmation that afford them the belief that they might make a difference. College enrollment reached 9 million by the end of the s. Colleges and universities in America had more students than ever before, and these institutions often tried to restrict student behavior to maintain order on the campuses. To combat this, many college students became active in causes that promoted free speech, student input in the curriculum, and an end to archaic social restrictions. Students joined the antiwar movement because they did not want to fight in a foreign civil war that they believed did not concern them or because they were morally opposed to all war. Others disliked the war because it diverted funds and attention away from problems in the U. Intellectual growth and gaining a liberal perspective at college caused many students to become active in the antiwar movement. Another attractive feature of the opposition movement was the fact that it was a popular social event. As one student[ who? Common antiwar demonstrations for college students featured attempts to sever ties between the war machine and universities through burning draft cards , protesting universities furnishing grades to draft boards, and protesting military and Dow Chemical job fairs on campus. Protests grew after the Kent State shootings , radicalizing more and more students. Their pieces often incorporated imagery based on the tragic events of the war as well as the disparity between life in Vietnam and life in the United States. Visual artists Ronald Haeberle , Peter Saul , and Nancy Spero , among others, used war equipment, like guns and helicopters, in their works while incorporating important political and war figures, portraying to the nation exactly who was responsible for the violence. Filmmakers such as Lenny Lipton , Jerry Abrams, Peter Gessner, and David Ringo created documentary-style movies featuring actual footage from the antiwar marches to raise awareness about the war and the diverse opposition movement. Regardless of medium, antiwar artists ranged from pacifists to violent radicals and caused Americans to think more critically about the war. Art as war opposition was quite popular in the early years of the war, but soon faded as political activism became the more common and most visible way of opposing the war. Female soldiers serving in Vietnam joined the movement to battle the war and sexism, racism, and the established military bureaucracy by writing articles for antiwar and antimilitary newspapers. These women saw the draft as one of the most disliked parts of the war machine and sought to undermine the war itself through undermining the draft. Another Mother for Peace and WSP often held free draft counseling centers to give young men legal and illegal methods to oppose the draft. The government often saw middle-aged women involved in such organizations as the most dangerous members of the opposition movement because they were ordinary citizens who quickly and efficiently mobilized. They protested the use of napalm, a highly flammable jelly weapon created by the Dow Chemical Company and used as a weapon during the war, by boycotting Saran Wrap, another product made by the company. Some of frustrations of younger women became apparent during the antiwar movement: Paul on April 27, African-American leaders of earlier decades like W. Du Bois were often anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. Soon Martin Luther King, Jr. When SNCC-backed Georgia Representative Julian Bond acknowledged his agreement with the anti-war statement, he was refused his seat by the State of Georgia, an injustice which he successfully appealed up to the Supreme Court. Some participants in ghetto rebellions of the era had already associated their actions with opposition to the Vietnam War, and SNCC first disrupted an Atlanta draft board in August As a result, black enlisted men themselves protested and began the resistance movement among veterans. After taking measures to reduce the fatalities, apparently in response to widespread protest, the military brought the proportion of blacks down to Within these groups, however, many African American women were seen as subordinate members by black male leaders. They saw the war as being a bigger action of U. One of the major reasons leading to their significance was that the BAACAW was "highly organized, holding biweekly ninety-minute meetings of the Coordinating Committee at which each regional would submit detailed reports and action plans. They were referred to as gooks and had a racialized identity in comparison to their non-Asian counterparts. There was also the hypersexualization of Vietnamese women which in turn affected how Asian American women in the military were treated. Patsy Chan, a "Third World" activist, said at an antiwar rally in San Francisco, "We, as Third World women [express] our militant solidarity

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with our brothers and sisters from Indochina. We, as Third World people know of the struggle the Indochinese are waging against imperialism, because we share that common enemy in the United States. Both Boggs and Kochiyama were inspired by the civil rights movement of the 60s and "a growing number of Asian Americans began to push forward a new era in radical Asian American politics. Through this play, "Escueta establishes equivalencies between his protagonist, a Filipino American soldier named Andy, and the Vietnamese people. The clergy covered any of the religious leaders and members including individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr. In his speech "Beyond Vietnam" King stated, "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today: For the sake of those boys, for the sake of this government, for the sake of the hundreds of thousands trembling under our violence, I cannot be silent. The involvement of the clergy did not stop at King though. The analysis entitled "Social Movement Participation: The clergy were often forgotten though throughout this opposition. The analysis refers to that fact by saying, "The research concerning clergy anti-war participation is even more barren than the literature on student activism. Based on the results found, they most certainly did not believe in the war and wished to help end it. Michael Freidland is able to completely tell the story in his chapter entitled, "A Voice of Moderation: Clergy and the Anti-War Movement: In basic summary, each specific clergy from each religion had their own view of the war and how they dealt with it, but as a whole, the clergy was completely against the war. They attempted to increase public opinion in favor of their cause in an attempt to influence policy makers to halt atmospheric nuclear testing and reversing the arms race and the Cold War.

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## Chapter 7 : Case study: Andrew Bolt and defamation

*Two decisions which went far beyond the authority granted by the \_\_\_\_\_ were Roe versus Wade and the Dred Scott case. Constitution The aim of \_\_\_\_\_ was to establish and agreement between the U.S. and U.S.S.R. to limit the production of nuclear weapons and missiles.*

The Enemy at Home: How does the destruction in Syria fit into broader historical patterns? How do we situate the war on Syria into the histories of U. It is only by posing those questions that we can develop the theoretical grounding necessary to build the movements and establish the alliances required to defeat the U. The New Debt Colonies Jerome Roos In the wake of the global financial crisis, methods of financial subjugation have been applied on a massive scale in the capitalist heartland itself. Development Under the Threat of War in the Arab World Ali Kadri We must understand this crisis as an outcome of the ways this region is woven into the global economy. The oil and war economies, the destruction and waste side of capital accumulation, are the main channels by which the region is articulated with the global market. It offers a singular example of the cynical and cruel efficiency of global neoliberal capitalism. The rise of the call center industry in countries like Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador signals the reimagining of mass deportation as outsourcing, in which not only are jobs offshored, but so are the workers that fill them, whose years of living and working in the United States have made them uniquely qualified for the work. Forms of Unfree Labor: Primitive Accumulation, Prehistory, or History of Capitalism? Yann Moulier Boutang We propose to show two things: Rules for Destroying Countries: Karl At the same time that J. Hobson was writing Imperialism: As Liang makes clear, conceptualizing modern Chinese history as dialectically part of modern global history not only helps generate new questions of and in theories of imperialism and modernity, it also helps generate new questions about Chinese history and the history of global revolutions. The Postcolonial and the Politics of the Outside: It was also interested in allowing base enclosures to perform the constant ideological work of normalizing capitalist social relations in the islands. In other words, there was an articulation that complicates our understanding of how imperialist power operates; an articulation between military force and the restructuring of social life on a broad scale, namely through the redrawing of property relations. It was with this perspective that the Comintern was founded in , with the object of encouraging world revolution. And with the Baku Congress of September , the Bolsheviks made a symbolic declaration of their opposition to imperialism and attempted to lay the foundations for an organizational expression of this opposition. The Origins of Anti-Imperial Marxism: Rediscovering the Polish Socialist Party Eric Blanc From its birth in onwards, the Polish Socialist Party developed a strategy of merging working-class and anti-imperial struggle, presaging an orientation championed by the early Communist International and socialist activists across Asia, Africa, and Latin America throughout the 20th century. The dead-ends and contradictory ideological and political shifts that the LAI had to navigate also point to the insurmountable problems of the anti-imperialist practice of Comintern-linked organizations. Why We Appear League Against Imperialism In the last few years the struggle of the oppressed masses in the colonial and semi-colonial countries has gained enormously in extent and intensity. National oppression in Europe exerted by imperialism through the instrument of the Versailles Treaty is giving rise to acute political problems.

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### Chapter 8 : The Enemy at Home: U.S. Imperialism in Syria - Viewpoint Magazine

*Mass killings occurred under several twentieth-century communist regimes. Death estimates vary widely, depending on the definitions of deaths included. The higher estimates of mass killings account for crimes against civilians by governments, including executions, destruction of population through man-made hunger and deaths during forced deportations, imprisonment and through forced labor.*

While the Khmer Rouge was in power, they set up policies that disregarded human life and produced repression and massacres on a massive scale. They turned the country into a huge detention center, which later became a graveyard for nearly two million people, including their own members and even some senior leaders. Fueled by the first Indochina War in the s, and during the next 20 years, the movement took roots and began to grow. In March , Marshal Lon Nol, a Cambodian politician who had previously served as prime minister, and his pro-American associates staged a successful coup to depose Prince Sihanouk as head of state. At this time, the Khmer Rouge had gained members and was positioned to become a major player in the civil war due to its alliance with Sihanouk. By the end of , the Vietnamese withdrew from Cambodia and turned the major responsibilities for the war over to the CPK. From January to August , the Khmer Republic government, with assistance from the US, dropped about half a million tons of bombs on Cambodia, which may have killed as many as , people. By early , about 85 percent of Cambodian territory was in the hands of the Khmer Rouge, and the Lon Nol army was almost unable to go on the offensive. However, with US assistance, it was able to continue fighting the Khmer Rouge for two more years. April 17, ended five years of foreign interventions, bombardment, and civil war in Cambodia. On this date, Phnom Penh, a major city in Cambodia, fell to the communist forces. Life in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge Regime A few days after they took power in , the Khmer Rouge forced perhaps two million people in Phnom Penh and other cities into the countryside to undertake agricultural work. Thousands of people died during the evacuations. The Khmer Rouge also began to implement their radical Maoist and Marxist-Leninist transformation program at this time. They wanted to transform Cambodia into a rural, classless society in which there were no rich people, no poor people, and no exploitation. To accomplish this, they abolished money, free markets, normal schooling, private property, foreign clothing styles, religious practices, and traditional Khmer culture. Public schools, pagodas, mosques, churches, universities, shops and government buildings were shut or turned into prisons, stables, reeducation camps and granaries. There was no public or private transportation, no private property, and no non-revolutionary entertainment. Leisure activities were severely restricted. People throughout the country, including the leaders of the CPK, had to wear black costumes, which were their traditional revolutionary clothes. During this time, everyone was deprived of their basic rights. People were not allowed to go outside their cooperative. The regime would not allow anyone to gather and hold discussions. If three people gathered and talked, they could be accused of being enemies and arrested or executed. Family relationships were also heavily criticized. People were forbidden to show even the slightest affection, humor or pity. Many were held in prisons, where they were detained, interrogated, tortured and executed. The most important prison in Cambodia, known as S, held approximately 14, prisoners while in operation. Only about 12 survived. This meant that people had to grow and harvest rice all 12 months of the year. In most regions, the Khmer Rouge forced people to work more than 12 hours a day without rest or adequate food. Tens of thousands of people were sent to fight and thousands were killed. In December , Vietnamese troops fought their way into Cambodia. They captured Phnom Penh on January 7, The Khmer Rouge leaders then fled to the west and reestablished their forces in Thai territory, aided by China and Thailand. The United Nations voted to give the resistance movement against communists, which included the Khmer Rouge, a seat in its General Assembly. From to , it recognized them as the only legitimate representative of Cambodia. In Phnom Penh, on the other hand, Vietnam helped to create a new government "the People? The Khmer Rouge continued to exist until when all of its leaders had defected to the Royal Government of Cambodia, been arrested, or had died. But

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their legacy remains. Life in Cambodia Today Democratic Kampuchea was one of the worst human tragedies of the 20th century. Nearly two million Cambodians died from diseases due to a lack of medicines and medical services, starvation, execution, or exhaustion from overwork. Tens of thousands were made widows and orphans, and those who lived through the regime were severely traumatized by their experiences. Several hundred thousand Cambodians fled their country and became refugees. Millions of mines were laid by the Khmer Rouge and government forces, which have led to thousands of deaths and disabilities since the s. A large proportion of the Cambodian people have mental problems because their family members were lost and their spirits damaged. These factors are one of the major causes of the poverty that plagues Cambodia today.

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### Chapter 9 : Students of History

*Opposition to United States involvement in the Vietnam War began with demonstrations in against the escalating role of the U.S. military in the Vietnam War and grew into a broad social movement over the ensuing several years.*

The title says a lot in just a few words, a brief statement pregnant with a range of possible meanings. Indeed, Palestinian revolutionaries of the period were paying close attention to Vietnam, studying both the brutal military tactics used by U. What could be learned? In , as the Vietnamese anti-colonial revolution was proclaiming victory against the militarily superior United States, a group of revolutionary Palestinian and Arab intellectuals convened a roundtable discussion moderated by Haytham Ayyoubi, the head of the Military Studies division of the Palestine Liberation Organization PLO , to find out. And here, in Vietnam, was also a society that had expelled the forces of imperialist destruction. It is fitting that there exists no surviving print of Palestine, Another Vietnam on film “ it has been forgotten, like so much else from the era of anti-imperialist solidarity during which it was made. After the global counter-revolution of the s, it had appeared, especially to left-wing or formerly leftist intellectuals, that the anti-imperialist internationalism of the late s and early s had become a relic. Moreover, consensus emerged about the U. Palestine, the central historic cause of the Arab world, remains occupied. There have been suggestions to the effect that each of these countries “ all of them sites of large-scale U. It is probably Syria that has most flabbergasted and divided the Western left. It is also the most recent site of direct U. On October 31, , it was reported that Army Maj. Jarrard accidentally revealed that the number of U. This divisiveness around Syria only makes it all the more important to comprehend. We cannot meaningfully oppose U. How does the destruction in Syria fit into broader historical patterns? How do we situate the war on Syria into the histories of U. It is only by posing those questions that we can develop the theoretical grounding necessary to build the movements and establish the alliances required to defeat the U. Our current understanding of U. This means that it is necessary to consider both the political imperatives as well as the capital accumulation circuits of the war, which remain deeply intertwined. Nor should we forget his additional imperative: Eisenhower, as president of a U. As the Eisenhower policy became operationalized as a matter of U. The second entity, or set of entities, were Arab monarchies contemptuous of Arab nationalist movements for, among other reasons, their tendency towards radical republicanism. By , during a war in Yemen between republican and monarchist forces, Israel and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia collaborated with the aim of defeating the former. By , during a period in Palestinian and Jordanian history popularly known as Black September, the United States and Israel intervened on behalf of Jordanian King Hussein to crush a revolution led by the Palestine Liberation Organization. In the aftermath of the war in Jordan, during which the Jordanian military destroyed civic and popular institutions that the Palestinian Revolution had built in the wreckage of refugee camps, the CIA went as far as to place King Hussein directly on its payroll. The episode additionally presaged another boost in U. And onwards these relationships extended. The political goal of the United States when obtaining these regional relationships was in at least one sense consistent with those of the French-British powers when they erected borders between Arab societies in , on the basis of the Sykes-Picot Agreement. In the words of Ali Kadri, U. That is, if we observe the history of the Arab world across the 20th and into the 21st century, it becomes clear that as the United States and Israel achieved military victories over Arab states in several wars and earlier on, in Lebanon and and in Iraq more recently , the ability of Arab states to pull their own economic levers control of capital and trade and interest and exchange rates, to give a few examples rapidly shrunk. The Pan-Arab idea that the United States sought to undermine cannot simply be reduced to its ideal of a single Arab often articulated as socialist state extending from the North Africa, across the Levant, and to the Gulf. It also prevailed as a living reality in the practical realm of grassroots political organizing. The Pan-Arab idea has also been historically important to the military capacities of the Palestinian revolutionary movement against imperialism and Zionism. So where does Syria, an Arab nationalist state that professes anti-Zionism in its constitution, figure into this picture? The relationship between the Syrian Arab

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Republic and the Palestine liberation movement has certainly been fraught with debates, political rivalries, and even outright violence, most notoriously when Syrian President Hafez al-Assad ordered a military intervention against the PLO in Lebanon in 1982. Palestinian critics of the Syrian government have argued that the latter will only support Palestinian organizations as long as they control them. It is an accusation that comes out of a history of heavy overlap between Syrian and Palestinian politics. Be all that as it may, none of these tensions within Arab nationalist politics hold major bearing over the view held by U. For an empire seeking to safeguard its Zionist military asset, material resistance to Israeli colonialism in any form becomes unacceptable. In Syria, leadership met some of its promises to both Syrians and Palestinians by offering military and political support to the Arab guerrilla resistance of Hezbollah against Israel. To quote just one U. And those organizations were not limited to Hezbollah. The fact, for example, that left-wing Palestinian organizations were able to hold open strategy conferences in Damascus before the outbreak of war, is not in the slightest way insignificant, for either U. Capital and the War on Syria To turn again, for purposes of contextualization, to the U. It is a worthy question. The more resources the United States poured into the war, the more U. By the same token, the longer it remained and continued to sustain military losses, the larger its investment became, only prolonging and thus deepening the shame of inevitable withdrawal. The expenditures from the war on Vietnam became so colossal that President Lyndon Johnson sought, in the words of Atif A. But pointing to these problems for U. That question must now be approached with the knowledge that the United States, albeit through much different means and in a much different global context, has again made turning nations into seas of fire a matter of policy in several Arab states. In Syria, and indeed in all of the Arab nations targeted by the United States, it is not only societies being ripped to shreds, but the state infrastructures inextricably intertwined with the fabric of those societies. With such a frequency of policy, it becomes necessary also to consider the extent to which this destruction is intrinsic to the entire U. To ask a more concrete question then: Any answer requires a close inspection of the means by which the United States has executed the war. The empire has resorted to scorched-earth and chemical weapon air attacks in parts of Syria. This tactic of war has precedent in the arsenal of U. In Syria, a similar campaign took shape. As reported in the mainstream U. The destinations of those weapons were neither a mystery to the branches of the U. One intelligence brief from the U. To carry out such a campaign successfully, the United States and allied states need two things: Meeting the first necessity boosts the arms industry; meeting the second provides for a range of private contractors that render a range of services, from outfitting and training armed militia fighters, to building military bases. Both attest to the fact that, since 1945, the U. The same reliance of weapons manufacturers on state purchases ballooned during the U. The war on Syria exploded alongside “indeed, was a crucial component of “a massive expansion of global arms exports over since 1945, when the United States and its regional partners launched the war. Israeli warplanes, we should remember, continue to bomb Syrian Army and government sites, including an aerial assault in January of the Mezza military airport on the outskirts of Damascus. The imperialist proxy attacks were launched amid diverse protests in a domestic context of increased poverty and inequality. After Syria lost an important trading partner with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the International Monetary Fund and other powerful financial institutions sought to preside over the creation of new financial markets in the country. It must not be forgotten that, as poverty increased in Syria, the IMF marveled with great satisfaction at the process of privatization. Benefitting from and complicit with this process were elements of the Syrian state. One target of some of the protests, the billionaire Rami Makhlouf, in many ways personifies this turn. Makhlouf amassed a personal fortune in several markets, including U. For those of us living inside imperial states, our relationship to that struggle will chiefly be determined by our relationship to our own governments. There is perhaps no clearer illustration of this reality than the fact that Makhlouf was sanctioned by the U. In an earlier case like Vietnam, the United States largely dropped bombs and chemical defoliants on peasant communities and enveloped villages in flames of napalm. This means that the U. Meanwhile, alongside the expansion of arms markets, U. The significance of these details cannot be understated, for they indicate that sections of U. This avaricious aspect of U. In 1975, when

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seeking to develop a theory to explain the U. This is theory borne from practice and applied to practice, consecrated within and tested by reality, the tribulations any useful theory must endure. In doing so, we must recognize that we face an enemy with which partial compromises amount to total compromises. For an example of what this means, we can look to the issue of private contractors. In , a company called Six3 Intelligence Solutions Inc. According to a U. Conversely, the successes of U. In a rare moment, the U. But however true it may be that the United States has failed to achieve maximal aims, up to 4, U. It was evident then that Trump had plans to continue the war “ and, as it turns out, to widen its scope. Both states would be recruited for an effort to redirect regional attention towards a war on their mutual enemy, the Islamic Republic of Iran. Trump, the brute reactionary, has with this single move shed the mask of respectability that his predecessor Barack Obama had so skillfully worn. As demonstrations gain momentum in the Arab world, with the United States being the source of their ire, it remains for us in North America to figure out how we will seize the moment and do our part to contribute to the defeat of U. To find and then strengthen the necessary alliances against the U. Only 36 percent of those asked were in favor. We can extend this sentiment directly to Trump himself. Kriner of Boston University and Francis X.