IMPERIALISM: THE 2-FACED MONSTER

Dean Royer

Local Global

* Graphic of ‘Imperialism: the 2-Faced Monster,’ by Dean Royer
IMPERIALISM

"We will simply say that imperialism can be defined as the worldwide expression of the search for profits...by monopoly finance capital, centered in Europe, and then in North America...imperialism is piracy transplanted from the seas to dry land, piracy reorganized, consolidated, and adapted to the aim of exploiting the natural and human resources of our peoples..."

Amilcar Cabral

* Definition of Imperialism by Amilcar Cabral, a revolutionary leader of the national liberation struggle in Guinea-Bissau in the 1970's.
“Manifest Destiny” or Imperialism?

* 'Manifest Destiny' or 'Imperialism?' from *500 Years of Chicano History in Pictures*, Edited by Elizabeth Martinez. New Mexico: (SW Organizing Project: 211 10th St. SW. Albuquerque, NM 87102.) 1991. p. 36.
PHILIPPINES, 1898–1910: seizes from Spain, 600,000 Filipinos killed
PUERTO RICO, 1898: seizes from Spain
PANAMA, 1901–14: separates country from Colombia and annexes canal zone
HONDURAS, 1903: US marines intervene against revolution
NICARAGUA, 1912–33: 20-year occupation and war against guerrillas
HAITI, 1914–34: occupation
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1916–24: occupation
CUBA, 1917–33: military occupation, made into economic protectorate
RUSSIA, 1917: five landing of troops to try to overthrow revolution
YUGOSLAVIA, 1919: marines intervene against Serbs
PANAMA, 1925: marines suppress general strike
CHINA, 1927–34: marines stationed throughout the country
EL SALVADOR, 1932: warships sent during revolt
JAPAN, 1945: firebombs Tokyo and other cities, drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki
PUERTO RICO, 1950: independence rebellion crushed
KOREA, 1950–53: US and South Korea fight China and North Korea to stalemate. US threatens to use nuclear bombs. At least two million Korean civilians killed or wounded
IRAN, 1953: CIA overthrows democracy
GUATEMALA, 1954: CIA directs invasion after government nationalized land belonging to US United Fruit company
LEBANON, 1958: US troops land
VIETNAM, 1960–75: two million Vietnamese killed in longest US war
INDONESIA, 1965: one million killed in CIA-assisted coup
GUATEMALA, 1966: troops intervene
CAMBODIA, 1969–75: US carpet-bombs. Two million killed by years of bombing and starvation
CHILE, 1973: CIA-backed coup overthrows democratically elected government
ANGOLA, 1976–92: CIA assists South African-backed rebels
LIBYA, 1981: two Libyan jets shot down
EL SALVADOR, 1981–92: troops and air power assist death squads, 75,000 people killed
NICARAGUA, 1981–90: CIA directs Contra invasions
LEBANON, 1982–84: US forces intervene, navy shells Beirut
HONDURAS, 1983–89: US troops build bases for death squads
GRENADA, 1983: US invasion
LIBYA, 1986: capital Tripoli bombed in effort to kill President Gadaffi
IRAN, 1987: Iranian passenger jet shot down over Persian Gulf
PANAMA, 1989–90: invasion, thousands of civilians killed
GULF WAR, 1990–91: US-led coalition kills 100,000 Iraqis
EX-YUGOSLAVIA, 1996: bombs Serbs and assists ethnic cleansing
SUDAN, 1998: bombs pharmaceutical factory
IRAQ, 1998: four days of air strikes, raids continue until present day
SERBIA, 1999: 78 days of NATO air strikes
AFGHANISTAN, 2001: US-led war kills thousands
COLONIALISM

Colonialism is a system of national oppression in which a colonizing state maintains total economic, military, political and cultural control over a colonized nation or people.

The purpose of colonialism is to extract maximum profits from the colonized nation for the colonizing state.

* Colonialism: A cws Definition
NEO–COLONIALISM

Neo–colonialism is a system of national oppression in which the colonized nation wins political independence from the colonial power.

But the colonial power actually retains control of the oppressed nation by:

(1) maintaining ownership and control of the oppressed nation's economy;
(2) financing and training the nation's military; and

(3) 'offering access' to the colonialist's education in order to colonize the minds of government officials and other leaders.

In the present era of imperialism, the IMF, World Bank and WTO function as the neo-colonizers of most Third World nations.

* Neo-Colonialism: A Definition (Thanks to Harmony Goldberg of SOUL, the School of Unity and Liberation, for this definition. SOUL's contact info is 1357A 5th Street, Oakland, Ca. 94607. Ph: 510-451-5466. www.youthec.org/soul.)
NEO–LIBERALISM

Neo–liberalism is a set of world wide economic policies which, over the last 25 years, have resulted in the rich getting richer and the poor growing poorer.

These policies include:

1. The rule of the market without restrictions imposed by governmental bodies, regardless of the human or environmental costs;
2. Drastically reducing the safety net for poor people by slashing governmental budgets for social services;
3. Deregulation: reducing government regulation of everything that could diminish corporate profits;
4. Privatization: selling off state–owned institutions to private investors -- railroads, postal services, schools, hospitals, fresh water -- so that corporations profit and people pay more for less;
5. Eliminating the concept of "the public good" or 'the community' and replacing it with 'individual responsibility.'

Neo–liberal economic policies are enforced by brutal police and military repression locally and globally. "Cutbacks, crack downs and corporate power" summarize these policies of global capitalism or imperialism in the era of Y2K.

(Definition adapted from "What is Neo–Liberalism? A Brief Definition for U.S. Activists" by Elizabeth Martínez with Arnoldo Garcia. The phrase "cut backs, crack downs and corporate power" was created by the Bay Area organization, STORM —Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement.)