contacts, the imperialist bourgeoisie has used every available means to install hench-men and governments to their liking, who deny the workers and toilers of these lands political rights. This is an attempt to put the brakes on the revolutionary movements for national liberation and socialism, to ensure that the imperialists continue to reap their super-profits. There are many grim and bloody examples, among them Chile, Iran, Afghanistan, South Africa, and so on, to show the role of imperialism, whether it calls itself "democratic" or "socialist."

In sum, imperialism is capitalism at that stage of development at which the dominance of monopolies and finance capital is established; in which the export of capital has acquired pronounced importance; in which the division of all territories of the globe among the biggest capitalists has been completed.

We encourage strongly all class-conscious workers and revolutionary-thinking intellectuals, who sincerely want to understand the world we live in, who want to fight for real social change, for the working class socialist revolution, to study the principles and features of this system that oppresses and exploits working people the world over. We issue this call to all the advanced, to study the works of Marx, Engels and Lenin (especially articles like Imperialism: the Highest Stage of Capitalism), and to do so in the Marxist-Leninist study circles we have organized. The study of Marxist-Leninist principles and their application to the world today is necessary in order to build the revolutionary leadership embodied in the communist party that we need, our working-class party that will lead the struggle for socialist revolution.

The Present Crisis of International Imperialism: Imperialist War (the Middle East), National Liberation (El Salvador), Socialist Revolution (Poland)

Imperialism is in the grip of a deep decline and economic crisis. The symptoms of this crisis are glaring and are getting more profound by the day: out of control inflation and enormous interest rates; rapidly growing unemployment lines affecting workers in all sectors and in every country (and due mainly to the crisis of overproduction); decreasing markets, the result of lower real wages and imperialist competition, resulting in lower rates of profit for the imperialists; outmoded productive forces, billions in unpaid loans, etc., etc.

These symptoms represent more than just aches and pains that can be remedied, but a cancer that eats at the essence of the imperialist system and brings about its downfall through the working class socialist revolution. Imperialism, as capitalism, is based on the rule of the bourgeoisie (monopoly imperialist in the present stage) whose aim is to control every corner and cubby-hole on this earth. This same imperialist bourgeoisie subjects the majority of the population of all the imperialist countries and colonies to its domination. What this has and will mean to the masses then, is a rapidly decreasing standard of living, impoverishment and deprivation. It is these developing conditions and crisis that will force the masses to rise up in revolutionary struggle, against imperialism and bourgeois rule.

It is also in these conditions of crisis that the bourgeoisie begins making its moves and preparations for imperialist war. The imperialists and "socialist"-imperialists world-wide are preparing for the next showdown. Increasing attention is being given to the military in all the imperialist countries: billions of dollars budgeted, war maneuvers and positioning of forces, registration and drafting of workers and others to be imperialist cannon fodder, new developments in war technology (nuclear arms, weapontry, space programs, etc.), imperialist blocs being strengthened (NATO, Warsaw Pact), etc. All of these developments and more are signaling one thing: that the struggle to redivide and repartition the world among the different imperialisms is intensifying. And the bourgeoisie sees war as a way out of the crisis, if only temporarily. This can only result in another imperialist world war unless prevented by working class socialist revolution in the imperialist countries. These struggles over markets, cheap labor, raw materials, and the boost to production that war brings, are the reasons for imperialist wars, with the "winner" reaping the "fruits." Imperialists need them to stay ahead of their competitors. That is why imperialist wars are inevitable under this system, and that is what they are fought for, as opposed to "defense of democracy,"