

7. The support of Arab rights in Palestine by the Socialist camp, and the support of the Palestinian resistance movement by the leftist forces in the West was greatly appreciated by the Arab nationalists.

For the above factors the emerging groups have openly committed themselves to the thesis that a Marxist revolution within the Arab world is a precondition of victory over Zionism, imperialism and Arab conservatism. It is not necessary to elaborate on the deeper, unconscious or semi-conscious motivation of the young Arab revolutionaries, except to emphasize that they contain an element of frustration. They believe that the petty bourgeois parties and regimes have been hopelessly compromised by the West and hence nothing is to be gained by allying their fortunes to the fortune of those forces. Moreover, they point out that the present national regimes have proved themselves unable to inspire and organize the masses for a confrontation with the enemy. Thus they aspire to mobilize the masses, i.e., the workers and peasants, by upholding their ideology: Marxism-Leninism.

So far, the above groups have met little success. For one thing it is necessary to have a "political class" in the Gramscian sense of the term to provide it with the vehicle that would attain its ends. Owing to the nature of agricultural production in the Arab World, the peasants remain, in their majority, an illiterate, inert mass. The