

Don't count on us!

They told us: "We must continue war until the end so that our peace tomorrow will be stable. Well, we consider their words as if they had been ours. We will carry on with class war until the end, so that the final peace will be permanent, the merging of the classes, the real form of peace among people".

Inaugurating speech at the International Conference of Veterans and Army Victims
Geneva, April the third-, and first and second of May 1920

They have been coming at our homes seeking for us. They also brought us an official paper with orders listed on it. With stamps, army badges, coded nominations, full of war lords' signatures. They announced us that we have a duty towards the country, the nation and the race; a duty, to defend all what is sacred and holy about this place. Without further delays, to dress us up in khaki, to become men at last, to become soldiers at last.

At the times of the ancient city-state war was not a pursuit for slaves. Nobody would conceive of placing the tasks of the protection and expansion of the city- state interests in the hands of slaves. It was common-sense that slaves did not have any reason to fight in defense of their dynasts' interests. On the contrary, they had every reason on earth to rise up against them. Therefore wisely at those times, nobody would entrust the spear in their hands. You have turned this entire thing upside down though! You have transferred to us the obligation to fight on your behalf; to kill each other, us contemporary slaves world-wide, while withholding for yourselves the enjoyment of reaping the fruits of our bleeding . A marvelous inversion! You deserve to be congratulated! But an end must be put to all of that.

We, the ones signing this declaration underneath, have since long ago become aware of our position in this world, which you insist on calling "civilized" and which we insist on struggling to subvert. We are perfectly knowledgeable of the fact that the values of law-abidance and orderliness that the military mechanism protects are nothing else but the safeguarding of the flawless function of a nexus of power- dominance relations, which reproduces exploitation, repression, death, and pain for us the "down under"-ones and wealth, privileges and enjoyment for all those "on top". We also know sufficiently well, that for the distribution of wealth, which we are producing you keep on competing among you, similarly to hyenas over a dead corpse; and that for throwing your competitors out of the distribution game you reach the point of devouring each other by drawing up your armies to fight against each other. The most outraging thing about the entire matter is that you require us to kill ourselves, becoming your armies, so that you can ensure the unlimited right to the distribution of the wealth that we have produced. In any case, you require our lives in order to consolidate your wealth, while deluding us with brindled, phony consumerist pearls.

You, the masters of this world together with your social allies have got fortunes and property- rights to defend, interest and influence domains to expand, entrepreneurial opportunities to scrounge, wealth resources to conquest, national, peripheral and/or hyper-national dominance to preserve, business projects and banks to proliferate, human labor to exploit and human life to reap. We, as the exploited ones of this world what among these entire things do we have in common? What among all of those objectives do unite us under your camp? Which interests are going to place us side by side in their defense? And which ones among those interests are going to bring us closer to the aims of complete equality, freedom and the cessation of human exploitation?

Now, what did you expect? Us to believe that we are allies, simply because we have coincidentally been born on the same piece of territory as you? That we perceive of everything beyond your field of dominance as hostile? That we start throwing up hate for everything you foist as alien? That we will protect you from your enemies within the fields of your capitalism-internal concurrence? Did you expect that we will view you as "our own folk", "co-Greeks with a common fate", "co-warriors" who will in common defend our "brother-less nation", because you have forcefully baptized us into your religion, you have castrated us in your schools, you have hypnotized us through your TVs, you have hacked us within your nuclear greek-orthodox families, you have molded us in the frames of your gendered and racial segregations, you have nationally animated us at your parades, you have stuffed us with the supposedly superiority of your civilization, and you have hazed us with your ballot-boxes? If you had expected that we will turn into your lot, that we will go around shedding blood on every corner of the earth, you should know you've failed. You have failed because we have managed to gain social intuition and class consciousness. We have got nothing in common with the skimmers of our lives and dreams within and beyond the border; nothing in common with you.

On the contrary we share tons of similarities with the exploited ones of this world, the ones you have set out to indoctrinate us to hate, because they have a different origin, language, religion etc. Against your nationalistic poison we counterpose internationalist solidarity, the common struggle of all exploited persons against the lords of this world. The sabotaging of the local war-machine constitutes our own contribution to this internationalist struggle.

We object to staffing your killing machine that caters for the preservation of your interests within and beyond the terrain called greek state.

We object to becoming food for bombshells.

We object to becoming numeric figures in the geo-strategic partitions during the signing of "peace" / "war" treaties.

We object to staffing one of the most fundamental mechanisms of the state set up for the establishment and reproduction of existing dominance and exploitation relations.

We object to serving the barbarism and the further becoming bestial of this world, either through the increasing militarization of daily life during times of "peace", or through our participation in all sorts of, national cleansing-, genocide-, rape-, annihilation- and assassination expeditions in times of "war".

We object to contribute to a tenebrous future for any of our class brothers and sisters that have coincidentally been born outside the field dominated by our peer nationality class enemies.

We object to guarding borders and homelands, which the only thing they serve for is to divide people.

We are uniting our voices with the voices of thousands of other total army objector comrades within and beyond greece, who have fought and/or keep on fighting against militarist barbarity, even under much harder circumstances than the ones we're faced with at present.

Therefore, don't count on us!

Or better explained, if there is something you should count us for, this is solely the following:

Count us as your own social and class enemies.

Alexis Kosmas / Vangelis Zikos / Michalis Tolis / Chrisanthos Stathas
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