

Some notes on An Introduction to Neo-Colonialism, Jack Woodis

COLONIALISM: (1919, 70% of world's population in colonies, dominions, etc)

AIMS: to meet the following needs of the imperialist power:

- p.13 1. raw materials for expanding industry  
 2. additional outlets for manufactured goods (incl. capital equip't)  
 3. higher rate of profit, via cheap land and cheap labour

MEANS:

1. of gaining control:  
 a. war, forcible seizure  
 b. deceptive 'treaties' imposed on local leaders
2. of maintaining control in order to meet needs stated above:  
 political control  
 aim: to control people to prevent interference with economic exploitation  
 to prevent competition from other imperialist countries and their industries  
 to make the colonized people pay for the military and political forces of the imperialist nation deployed in the colony
- means: 1) keep state power in hands of foreign power, law-making  
 2) control judicial system  
 3) control administration; impose taxes  
 4) foster divisions among the people (tribal, religious)

military control:

- 1) deploy foreign armies  
 2) use indigenous troops under foreign officers  
 3) establish bases to safeguard interests in nearby, perhaps more economically valuable, territories

ideological control:

- 1) education based on foreign culture and history  
 2) foreign control of press and other mass media  
 3) missionaries; the church

economic control:

- 1) land confiscation; mines and other resources  
 2. force development of single, cash crop production and dependence on foreigners even for subsistence p. 19  
 3) impose poll tax, forcing peasants into wage labor  
 4) ridiculous wages; ridiculous prices for peasant produce  
 5) fluctuating world market prices for produce and high prices for manufactured goods from the metropole  
 6) monopoly import market  
 7) prevent industrialization, so foreign industry can be free of competition

major tactic: ally with groups of indigenous people who have interests in the continuation of colonialism

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NEO - COLONIALISM: (post-1945; by 1966, direct colonialism almost gone)

WHY NEO-COLONIALISM?

1. changed world situation brought new hope and new ideas to oppressed (e.g. rise of socialism; Bolshevik Rev.; China; African unity; etc)
2. national liberation movements ended foreign political control, but did not end economic domination, nor the development of domestic, anti-revolutionary classes: allies of colonialism
3. United States, West Germany, etc - not previously known as colonizers - need new guise in order to get a cut in on the profits in those areas where direct rule had been overthrown

AIMS:

1. to preserve the old imperialist economic interests
  - a) to squeeze maximum profits by robbery
  - b) to encourage the growth of indigenous capitalism
2. to preserve strategic interests
3. to amass allies for the world struggle between capitalism and socialism; and, thus
4. to keep the masses in the metropolitan countries believing that capitalism (and the political system that supports it) is the only viable economic system; to keep them anti-socialist

GENERAL TACTICS:

1. counter-revolution: political assassination; terror
2. partially satisfy the national aspirations of the people, while protecting imperialist economic interests
3. allow limited technological development to expand trade, to develop a wider market, and to allow for the growth of capitalism within the limits needed for continued exploitation
4. to support a local ruling class which copes with the expectations of the people
  - a) these indigenous capitalist forces are often the products of the national liberation movements: technicians, military leaders, administrators, intelligentsia, petty bourgeoisie
  - b) foreign ambassadors, under the guise of 'advice', direct political decisions
  - c) military advisers maintain ideological control over military
5. to maintain a state of instability within the countries so that intervention by foreign power is facilitated; competition among imperialist powers causes additional conflict within the colonies (e.g. Nigeria??)

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## NEO-COLONIALISM AT WORK: (mainly Britain, France, U.S., West Germany)

### Some political aspects:

1. metropole does not 'grant' political independence until the Constitution is set up, and a puppet government is ensured *eg. B.G. Japan*
2. selected 'natives' and foreigners are placed in key personnel positions in the new, 'independent' states; esp. in education (e.g. "1/2 the faculty in every Ethiopian secondary school is a Peace Corps member" p. 74) *India, Pakistan, Kashmir*
3. partition regions into separate states to guarantee internal strife
4. CIA (and parallel organs of other imperialist nations) in all aspects of neo-colony: e.g. Trade Unions (US gov't gives massive financial support to trade union leaders in colonies through AFL-CIO; International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, AIFLD)
5. alliances among rival imperialists with local stooges for greater influence: SEATO, CENTO, ASPAC, Inter-American Force (IAF). *p. 69*

### Some economic aspects:

1. international economic alliances for greater profits (*International Monetary Fund, Internat'l Bank for Reconstr. & Dev.*;  
*p. 62* Alliance for Progress; Colombo Plan - Britain in Asia; *p. 69* Common Market & associated states - Fr. & W. Germ in Africa) *only manufactured goods in no capital generating creating needs*
2. support new elite, "false bourgeoisie" at expense of masses
3. keep colonies producing raw materials, minerals, industrial crops, foodstuffs for Western industry; little or no manufacturing
4. foreign loans
  - a) these go earmarked for improving infrastructure (roads, services) for Western industry
  - b) stipulations against use for heavy industry or for State enterprises (i.e. businesses NOT entirely in the private sector)
  - c) high interest rates yield heavy debts and increased dependence *p. 92 hi-piles now j. 78 of Can't buy road products from themselves*

### Some military-technical aspects

1. secret military pacts and alliances
2. political assassinations and engineering of coups

### Some ideological aspects

1. to destroy spiritual values of the people
2. organizations for propagation of culture of the metropole  
*e.g. Peace Corps; Goethe Institute for the Propagation of the German Language and Culture Abroad - 20 million marks annual budget*
3. control of information services (UPI, Television, etc.). *USA*

### Some contradictions which leave hope for us:

1. increasing misery, growing differentiation between wage laborers and national bourgeoisie - provides greater revolutionary force
2. weakness of puppet governments: internal conflict, rivalry
3. competition among imperialist powers weakens total attack
4. others

From: Peter Palmer  
Towards a New Moral Theory  
Based Upon a Philosophy of Liberation  
Rather than Aldo Leopold

## BLACK AMERICA AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

### Dual role of Black America

#### I. The oppressed-

For two hundred years Black America has been oppressed, victimized and maltreated; it has been miseducated, manipulated for the economic gain of its oppressors, propagandized and undergone a systematic process of physical and spiritual genocide. The Black experience in America is parallel to that of non-whites all over the world. As oppressed people within the confines of the United States, The Black Colony can be the eye for the Third World; as victims we are experts on oppression.

#### II. The Liberators-

Historically, it is the oppressed who liberate the oppressed and the oppressor (early Christian martyrs liberated their oppressed brothers and ... the oppressive Roman empire, spiritually and physically, producing an uncontrollable "band-wagon" effect that caused slave rebellions (Demetrius and the gladiators) and middle and upper class rebellions, until even kings became Christians.)

The non-white world (SE Asia, Africa, and South America) in the twentieth century are at a pre-boiling point, ready to throw off the yoke of oppression. The potential "band-wagon" effect is inestimatable.

There is a direct relationship between world-liberation and our liberation in the colony within the U.S. 2/3 of the world is non-white wherein rests mammoth U.S. economic holdings. The functioning of the United States is dependent on the oppression and /or cooperation of those non-white countries and its Black colony here; a world-revolution could free us all.

TRADITIONAL COLONIALISM  
NON WHITES(world-wide)

OPPRESSION

break-up of natural communities

Division-impotence

propagandizing American way Technological advancements perpetuated by pro-paganda(see Illusions)  
etc., mis-education, converting to "White man's religion"

investment of foreign capital to manipulate economic policies

keep the "natives" down maintains the colony

Military Force

infiltration of "just" law run by unjust men to benefit the oppressor (contributors to spiritual dependence for judgement by the oppressor)

puppet governments, rigged elections, pacification programs for community participation under delusion of self-determination

NEO COLONIALISM  
BLACK AMERICA

break-up of Black families; division of communities by competition for funds

no Black capital, no economic self--determination

mis-education and no-education, systematizing of illusions about democracy. White is right, etc., role of religion to produce accommodating and adjustment

keeps the natives down; maintains the colony, police intimidation, oppression, brutality belief in just law gives power to those who control the law; sanctions punishment of the oppressed---spiritual dependence

TOKEN PARTICIPATION

voting rights (for limited options) rigged elections, and political patronage, pacification programs called "community-control programs", no self-determination