

### III. FREE LUIS CARLOS PRESTES

ALL true anti-imperialists throughout the Americas will today greet Luis Carlos Prestes on his forty-third birthday as the outstanding symbol of the struggle of the colonial and semi-colonial peoples of this hemisphere for national liberation from imperialist oppression.

Today when our own American ruling class is desperately trying to drag our country into the present imperialist war and is carrying through a policy of economic and political aggrandizement aimed at the further subjugation of the peoples and nations of this hemisphere, the struggle to liberate Luis Carlos Prestes becomes an integral part of the fight for freedom, peace and against imperialist war.

For leading the struggle to liberate his people, Luis Carlos Prestes was sentenced in 1935 to sixteen years' imprisonment. The Vargas dictatorship acting under pressure of the imperialist war-makers and of our own Government, unable to suppress the deep ferment prevailing within the country, and enormous sympathy that the Brazilian people manifest towards Prestes, brought him to trial again in an attempt, through this attack against his life, to further terrorize and enslave the people of Brazil.

The conduct of Prestes before the Vargas "justice," where his life was at stake, is an admirable example of his greatness as a leader of the people. Facing his enemies and the enemies of his country—after being held in jail for more than five years—Prestes used this only opportunity to appeal to his people, encouraging them to unite and to follow the example of the great October Revolution as the only path that can lead to their final liberation.

We Americans can truly be proud of such a great leader and liberator. We must continue the fight for Prestes' freedom and for amnesty to all political prisoners in Brazil. By so doing we will be cementing the bonds that will unite the people of Brazil and America into a solid front against imperialism.

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