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زبانهای اروپایی

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30.12.2021

Twenty years is a lot for a chueca Argentina

Those days the repression became flesh in the comrades of the Federal Capital and other spaces of the country.



In that December of 2001 I went to the Plaza de Mayo like many.

The De La Rúa government did not give for more, we learned while we were marching that the State of Siege was going to be installed, everything was prepared for us to move forward without losing our minds.

At night we arrived with my family to Congress, and late we retreated to the neighborhood, there was talk at dawn of massive repressions and some injured or dead, I do not remember well ...

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The protests for the corralito

The next day it was proposed, in an improvised assembly of the neighborhood, to march towards Plaza de Mayo, I did not agree ... my position, thrown to the shouts, was the following: in Plaza de Mayo there was nothing but pigeons and public buildings, if it was intended to dispute the power in the context of the government that was crepaba- and not to play the cards for another equal or worse, in the framework of weighing the economy, to play the game to the 'carapintadas' who were already prepared to advance (the corralito began on December 3, eleventh anniversary of the carapintada uprising of 1990) and put the dead – we had to coordinate immediate actions with other neighborhood Assemblies, retreat in the neighborhoods and therefore disperse the repressive forces instead of concentrating them in the central radius. In the neighborhood, argüí, there was everything necessary to resist the repression, from neighbors in a situation of support base, shops of all kinds, including corralones of materials, service stations, warehouses, hardware stores, etc., etc., indispensable to start the popular resistance and pass over those who already, having begun that day, speculated with a future gatopardista. My position was not taken into account and he went to the Plaza, where the federal repressive forces– who were playing their inmates – were waiting for the arrival of the columns to repress them, with wounded and dead.



An image of the protests in Buenos Aires against President De la Rúa, on December 20, 2001. (Credit: ALI BURAFI/AFP via Getty Images)

Those days the repression became flesh in the comrades of the Federal Capital and other spaces of the country.

In subsequent days, taking into account the apparent 'power vacuum' – although it was intuited who stoked and took advantage of the popular anger to make their band interests prevail, which was seen a little later – they self-convened neighborhood assemblies. I included myself in the one in the Plaza Martín Fierro, where most of the militancy - I do not count the neighbors who joined because of the anger they had - was of Trotskyist origin or 'apolitical' to the violet, including some anarchists and members of the PC camouflaged as neighbors, who came to pee to see what happened. The Trotskyists struggled to unite these struggles in the Capital with the piquetero movement, although the interests of both did not coincide. Those of Capital fought mostly for their savings confiscated by the banks, via corralito of the transfuge, imperial agent and agent of the military dictatorship Domingo F. Cavallo; the piqueteros, mainly in the Province, for getting out of their miserable life of unemployed and underemployed created by Menemism, architect of the commandments of the so-called Document of Santa Fe II, prepared by ultraconservatives of the United States for the Western Hemisphere, in order that George Bush (father) put it into practice in the 90s with the clear slogans of: anti-statism in all its dimension, and neoclassical economics (called neoliberal), with all that it implies until today.

I tried in every possible way to unify the Trotskyists of different groups with a clear slogan: to confiscate the money appropriated by the banks of the poor and middle savers and to make it available to reopen factories and other sources of work in order to reactivate the economy and form at the same time an economy parallel to the 'official' one. I drafted a document that I presented to the corresponding Assembly, which proposed, fundamentally: – to relieve the banks where the money had been confiscated from savers; – relieve the amount of money (dollars, it is understood) at stake;- relieve the addresses of the CEOs and other thugs who managed the banks;- reach the vicinity of those homes, urge the relatives (wives, children, elderly, domestic, etc.) to leave the detected homes; – cut off water, electricity, gas and all other services until those responsible for the confiscations to the savers returned the stolen, and other items that I do not remember.

Only one of the Trotskyist groups agreed to carry out these operations to rescue savers. The others suggested that this was a violent activity, and therefore should not be carried out (it seemed to be for these groups that the class and anti-capitalist struggle should be peaceful, especially when the money is confiscated from the people, whether middle or lower class).

The 'apolitical' – who were not so much, but reformists to the violet – did not support the motion either. The 'undergrounds' of the 'traditional left' continued to observe and whisper epithets such as 'provocation', 'services', 'adventurism', etc.

Over time, all the Assemblies, which converged in a large plenary on Saturdays in the Centennial Park of Capital, were declining by their own weight, in an anarchoid journey that did not recognize organization of any kind and worshiped spontaneity and the slogan 'let them all go'.



Thus culminated that experience, which I lived from my own experience.

What was going to happen was seen coming, just as the storm is coming when black clouds appear in the distance. We lacked, and in that I take charge, the ability to prevent, to take into account the contradictions between enemy groups and to take advantage of them, and political decision - in that I do not take charge - to act accordingly. There was no vocation for power, and empty spaces are filled, almost always, and for lack of revolutionary and popular power, with shit. Twenty years after these events, it is necessary to build an organization for combat and, fundamentally, a Revolutionary Leadership, which knows how to weather all storms and does not fall into the siren songs of opportunism, 'cretinist' electoralism, reformism, quietism, guilt, defeatism and all the scourges that fear, that integral fear that floods everything, lead her, along with the whole flock to the corral, first, and to death, later.



Jorge Luis Ubertalli Ombrelli for La Pluma, December 22, 2021

Eidtado by María Piedad Ossaba

La Pluma. Net 22.12.2021