

## **Pathfinder Press**

Titles appearing in Reference — Research Book News — June 2011

### **Dynamics of the Cuban Revolution**

First published in 1978, this volume contains the record of a debate within the communist movement over the character of the Cuban revolution, as well as polemics against outside criticism of the Cuban revolution (by the US State Department for example), written by Joseph Hansen, a prominent figure of the Socialist Workers Party (US) and a founding figure of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, between 1960 and 1970. The writings are predominately in defense of the Cuban revolution, as the reader might have guessed from the subtitle ("A Marxist appreciation"), and were written at a time when the revolutionary nature of Cuba and the Castro leadership had become a contested issue within the SWP itself. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **The First Ten Years of American Communism**

Originally written in letter form in response to inquiries from American historian Theodore Draper as he was researching his *The Roots of American Communism* (1957) and *American Communism and Soviet Russia* (1960), this work by Cannon, by then a leading figure in the Socialist Workers Party (US), recalls Cannon's involvement in the first ten years of the Communist Party of the United States, from its founding in 1919 until his expulsion in 1928 for his attempt to found a Left Opposition in the Party sympathetic to Leon Trotsky's critique of the direction of the Comintern. In addition to recounting and critiquing the activities of and debates within the Communist Party in detail for Draper, Cannon also included reflections on the Communist Party's approach to what was then known as the "Negro question," an assessment of Eugene V. Debs (and the socialist movement of his time) and the Industrial Workers of the World (of which Cannon was a former member) as precursors to the communist movement, and a critique of Draper's histories of American communism. This is a paperbound edition of a work first published in 1962. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **Playa Girón/Bay of Pigs**

In April of 1961, following a US-organized campaign of sabotage and bombings against Cuba, Cuban exile forces trained, organized, and equipped by the US Central Intelligence Agency invaded Cuba in an effort to overthrow the revolutionary Cuban government, only to be decisively routed within a matter of days by a combination of Cuban regular security and revolutionary militias. This work collects documents from the Cuban side of the conflict, including calls to arms from Fidel Castro, his brother Raúl, and Ernesto "Che" Guevara in the days immediately prior to the main invasion; war communiqués issued by the Cuban government during the invasion; an account of events by José Ramón Fernández, commander of the main column battling the CIA-backed forces during the invasion, provided as testimony during a 1999 Cuban court hearing seeking damages for the consequences of decades of US efforts to overthrow Castro; and post-invasion observations by Fidel Castro. Also included are appendixes providing information on the balance of forces, a chronology, a glossary, and maps. The volume is introduced with a foreword by Jack Barnes, who at the time of the Bay of Pigs invasion was early in his involvement with the Socialist Workers Party (US), describing his involvement with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee at Carleton College in Minnesota. This is a paperbound edition of a work first published in 2001 by Pathfinder Press. Also available in Spanish as *Playa Girón/Bahía de Cochinos: Primera derrota militar de Washington en América*. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **The Third International After Lenin**

This is a fifth printing of the 4th edition of Leon Trotsky's 1928 defense of the Communist International. Trotsky's focus in this classic work was on that of Marxist ideologies which fueled the Bolshevik Revolution. The original proletarian course of the Soviet Communist Party had

been reversed by a privileged, conservative bureaucracy, which led to Joseph Stalin's tyrannical reign. This edition contains the forward from the 1929 French edition as well as explanatory notes from the 1936 edition. This important document is relevant to anyone concerned with overly-empowered imperialism and serves as a reminder of how positive social change can be corrupted to the advantage of a ruling elite. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)