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The Triumph

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has observed that barely three weeks after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union, the United States has also been afflicted by its own home-brewed nuclear disaster in Nevada desert. Pray, will the super powers ever give peace a chance?

America/Libya: Attack on Africa

By AMUSU KWAGGREY

"CONCERN for one another, that is, to make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and to solve them together" constitutes one of the principal features of our African cultural heritage and ideological integrity — the philosophical basis upon which the Pan-African concept is based. To abandon this cardinal principal or value-system is to surrender the African personality to the forces of imperialism for a mess of pottage.

To say that "because Libya, in her own free will as a sovereign state, has adopted a policy that has led to crisis and should not assume African states to be automatically dragged into that crisis" makes such an irresponsible logic, highly antithetical to the spirit of Pan-Africanism, that cannot be condoned in the present Africa.

Libya is part of Africa. And Africa is one and indivisible. This means, an attack on any part is an attack on the

whole continent. It is viewed and countered.

It is always the characteristics of imperialism to find alibi or invent one to justifying its aggression wherever and whenever it desire to do so. The accusation levelled against Libya of practising terrorism is a blatant hogwash. America is not qualified to accuse or label Libya or any nation of terrorism by the virtue of her own terrorist activities all over the world. The traces of American diabolical acts in Vietnam and Grenada are still crystal clear.

In South Africa, Angola, Namibia, Nicaragua and elsewhere, American terrorist adventurism is obvious and all-pervasive. The CIA, one of the most deadly terrorist machines of the 20th century owned by America, is, in fact, leading in the terrorist business by methods of assassinations, overthrow of governments, destabilisation of nations, subversive opera-

tions and espionage.

When Colonel Gaddafi came to power in 1969, he fearlessly closed down the American military base in Libya. This action did not go down well with the United States and her authorities. They saw Gaddafi as a threat to American interests and swore not to forgive him. Since then the American hatred for Gaddafi has been simmering. But the whole thing took a dramatic turn when President Ronald Reagan came to power in 1980.

Full-scale aggression was immediately embarked upon against Libya through various and subtle stratagems, including the use of some African states against Libya as manifested during the 1982 abortive OAU summit conference, with aim to get rid of Gaddafi and his government and replace it with a puppet regime.

By inciting African states against Libya

through her propaganda machines and diplomatic mesmerism, the United States of America succeeded, to a very large extent, in coaxing African states to remain indifferent to her harassment of Libya. This ultra-passive attitude on the part of African states has been very much noticeable all along since America began to mount its aggression against Libya.

It was only when Libya was finally raided by America in the small hours of 15th April 1986, that African states began to chant some token condemnations tantamount to the proverbial "crocodile tears".

The hypocritical and unbrotherly demeanour of African governments towards one another is, in fact, doing a grave harm to our continent and its people whom they swore to protect and defend.

The outrageous bombing of Libya, killing children and innocent

civilian populace, without African countries taking any concerted action against America and her allies, has shown once again the depth of disunity we have sunk under the sway of neocolonial forces whose interests African governments are serving instead of Africa's.

The first step which African heads of state should have taken, on hearing that their sister African state had been attacked by an external power, was to summon an emergency meeting and stringent measures against America and her allies, — including diplomatic severance with them. But African leaders, in their usual insouciance of nonchalant attitude, influenced by their neocolonial masters, failed to react to the American challenge except those scanty and uncoordinated condemnations we heard here and there.

The OAU which is supposed to act as a con-

tinental sentinel in defending the territorial integrity of Africa in totality, is no better than the governments that form it. Handicapped by article three, subsection two of its charter, the OAU as it is today, is no more than a ceremonial organisation that lacks power and other essential ingredients to take the problems affecting Africa by their horns.

Right from its birth, the OAU developed an in-built inertia which, all along, has been rendering it non-active, hence the name "toothless barking bull-dog". Even on these days, the barking has not been forthcoming. For instance, the notorious bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis by Israel on the Africa soil, the illegal cart away of so-called black Jews from Ethiopia and many other serious crimes committed in and against Africa came and went without attracting the barking of our toothless bull-dog.

TO BE CONTD

* It is upon this basis that the on-going American aggression against Libya must be viewed and countered.

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THE EYE

has observed that even though Farlane baby foods have been banned by the Health authorities, some chemists in Kano still display them on their counters. Will someone in the Ministry of Health take a short trip to a major chemist along Zaria road in Gyadi-Gyadi for proof?

America/Libya: Attack on Africa

By AMUSU KWAGGREY

Continued from yesterday.

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In the past we saw how the OAU failed to deal effectively with the Rhodesia, Zaire and Nigeria crises; with

border disputes between Ethiopia and Somalia, Morocco and Algeria, and between Somalia and Kenya; and with refugee problem in Africa as well as mutinies in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya.

Today, we see how South Africa, Namibia and Chad are burning; we can see the conflict between Morocco and Saharawi Republic; we can see the dirty game which the Western countries and the racist regime in South Africa are playing against the people of Africa; we see how America is openly supporting UNITA against Angolan sovereignty; we see how France, Britain, America, Soviet Union and their allies are stationing troops and building military bases in

Africa; we see how African countries are being bullied, destabilised and tormented by the forces of imperialism and neocolonialism; we see how Africans are being chased out from one country to another as aliens; we see how senseless coups d'etat are mutilating the political well-being of the African continent; we can see how poverty, hunger, and diseases are causing devastation in Africa; we can see how the African masses are being suppressed and deprived of basics for decent life; we can also see how human rights are being violated all over Africa. All these are crimes of high magnitude against the people of Africa, but what does the OAU say?

It remains silent, conservative and ineffective as ever.

The Organisation as it stands today is a derelict body which is awaiting a radical re-organisation or total disbandment. "Because in light of all that had taken place since the foundation of the OAU, I was more than ever convinced that the creation of a Union Government for Africa provided the only solution for Africa's continued political instability and underdevelopment."

"The OAU as established in Addis Ababa in 1963 had been shown to be unable to deal effectively with the problems facing it, and was by its very ineffectiveness blocking the advance of the African Revolution, and thereby aiding the forces of reaction" — Kwame Nkrumah asserted in his Revolu-

tionary Path.

The growing disunity among African states and within the OAU is raising much concern for those of us who see the continent of Africa as a single entity and are working towards its political unification.

However, for the meantime, let it be understood that the on-going attack on Libya is also an attack on Africa, therefore it would be heights of folly for any African state to regard the Libyan episode as separate and unrelated. The precedent had already been set.

What is happening to Libya today, can tomorrow take place in any African state. Hence, the urgency for us, in this hour of distress, to get organised and throw our collective lot behind Libya against American imperialism and all forms of aggression that are threatening our continent.

There is victory for us. AMUSU KWAGGREY resides in Kano

The Triumph

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THE recent visit made by Mr. Yassar Arafat, the Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO), to ten African nations including Nigeria was a significant political factor for the Palestinian cause.

But how more effective, it should have been if the struggle of the Palestine people has the backing of a United Africa in tune with what Nkrumah said many years ago that "only a Union Government of Africa can assist effectively in the solution of the problems of the Middle East including the Palestinian question".

Nationalism in all its manifestations, involves a struggle for a homeland. And any denial of the right to that nationalism for self-determination, constitutes a gross violation of fundamental human rights - the root cause of all tribulations, revolutions and violence, recorded by history.

The catastrophes

Reflections on the Palestinian question

By AMUSU KWAGGREY

which the 20th century has brought upon mankind are incalculable, but at the same time, has imparted into him the knowledge and urged to seek freedom from foreign bondage.

Since the first World War through the second world war to date, the world has witnessed a tremendous revolutionary upheaval.

Empires had collapsed and new nations had been born or created.

Through a revolutionary upsurge, the enslaved lands in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa had all gained independent nationhood. But some stubborn facts yet remain. Among them is the Palestinian question which is pinching the world with all its horrors.

The barbaric Sabra and Shatila Massacres in 1982 and the bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis killing seventy souls in 1984 are still bleeding wounds of poignant memories.

The Palestinian problem, like apartheid in South Africa, strikes the conscience of the world community.

But those whose policies are still based on colonial and neo-colonial enslavement, and have chosen to sit on the neck of others, denigrate it and are pursuing unscrupulous goals in the Middle East that are quite inimical to a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue and the entire Middle East crisis.

It forms a paradoxical perception, to know that after about four decades of the creation of the state of Israel, the Palestinian State remains uncreated.

It was on 29th November 1947, that the General Assembly of the United Nations took the decision to terminate the mandate of the United

Kingdom, and to partition Palestine into two independent states; an Arab State and a Jewish State. The State of Israel was founded but the Arab State provided for, by the General Assembly still does not exist.

The programme fell victim to the imperialist policy of "divide and rule", and particularly to the ambitions of the imperialist circles of the United States of America to create in the Middle East, their own imperialist bastion in the form of Israel, on the basis of their common interests of domination.

Since then the Palestinians are being treated as refugees rather than as a people seeking to effect their legitimate rights.

Their long years of staunch and resolute struggle is being portrayed as an act of terrorism in defiance of the

"right to self-determination" as enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

The policy of non-recognition of the inalienable right of the people of Palestine to self-determination adopted by America and her cohorts in the Middle East, led to conflicts, wars and bloodshed and the continuation of this policy cannot bring peace to the region.

That is why the influx into Israel with political, economic and military support from the NATO powers is fraught with danger.

Because it enables Israel to carry on, without restriction, a policy of disregarding the rights of the Palestinian people.

Anybody who follows roads in the Middle East, by-passing the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people is bound to fail as exemplified by the political course pursued at Camp David.

But the irony is that

upto date we hear from the ruling circle of Israel and their imperial protectors and puppets refusing the Arab people of Palestine the right to create their own State - a right that they consider natural for their people but unfit for others.

It is alleged that the security of the people of Israel will be threatened if the Palestinian people come to exercise their right to self-determination.

This means, Tel Aviv, it is believed that the security of Israel can be guaranteed only if another people is oppressed to eke out an existence in conditions of military occupation. But history shows that the reverse is true.

The people of Israel will also be deprived of lasting peace if there is no solution to the Palestinian question because "PIKIN WEY SAY YIN MAMA NO GO SLEEP, YIN TOO NO GO SLEEP". This is an axiomatic logic that cannot be denied.

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