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AAPSO

A.A.P.S.O.

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BI-MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

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THE AAPSO STATEMENT

ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEMOCRATIC POPULAR
UPRISING IN SOUTH KOREA
(MARCH 16, 1980, EXTRACTS)

- It is 20 years since the South Korean students and people rose in a popular uprising which culminated in the overthrow of the hated Syngman Rhee puppet regime. On this anniversary (April 19, 1960) the Afro Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, on behalf of the peace loving peoples of Asia and Africa, extends its militant salutation and solidarity to the patriots and progressive personages in South Korea in their courageous struggle against fascism and for social democracy and national reunification.
- Spring in South Korea is known as the season of student movement. With the arrival of Spring, this movement has started and is gaining in scope and strength with each passing day.
- This year's first student action flared up at the Theological Seminary of Seoul in mid-March when its students boycotted lessons in demand of campus freedom and freedom of speech. Now the waves of student movement is sweeping the Seoul university and all other universities and colleges in South Korea.
- What does this mounting movement for democracy against fascism signify? This clearly proves that nothing has changed in South Korea since the fascist dictator Pak Jung Hi was assassinated against the background of violent anti-government movement last Autumn. At the same time, this reveals the hypocrisy of the vicious Western mass media which tries very hard to advertize that some sort of a "democratic process" is on in South Korea.
- The A.A.P.S.O. strongly demands that the South Korean authorities immediately lift the "martial law" and all other repressive measures and set at liberty all the detained students and political personages.
- The A.A.P.S.O. appeals to all its national committees and affiliated organizations to launch a campaign of supporting South Korean students and patriotic people in their struggle for democracy against fascism.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE LIQUIDATION OF APARTHEID

On March 21 the A.A.P.S.O. has issued a statement devoted to the Twentieth Anniversary of the massacre of Sharpville in which tens of anti-apartheid militants were killed.

The statement noted "the honest and logical support of the socialist countries and progressive forces of the world" and cited a few examples of the victories achieved in the result of the upsurge of the national liberation movements:

1. The complete liberation of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea Bissau.
2. The overthrow of the fascist regime in Portugal, itself a liberation of the Portuguese people.
3. The issuing by the U.N. of a resolution condemning Zionism as a form of racism.
4. The military victories of the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe that have brought about the peaceful solution of the problem on the basis of majority rule.

The statement paid special attention to the affiliation of the South Africa racist regime to the imperialist economic structure.

- The enormous investments of American and West European capitalism explain without disguise the interest of imperialism in the survival of the racist fascist rule in S.A. For without this regime the large profits of these investments will lose the cheap labour exploited in subhuman conditions. South Africa is the profit paradise of these investments.

1. The government of South Africa in collaboration with Israel and with the support of imperialism is escalating its efforts to become a nuclear power.
2. Barbaric means of suppressing the militant South Africans struggling against apartheid under the leadership of the ANC are being stepped up day after day.

3. Aggressive attacks in all fields, economic, cultural, political and military against African Front Line States are systematically carried out by the racist regime in South Africa.

4. In defiance of the rising public opinion and all UN resolutions, South Africa is strengthening its hold in Namibia every day.

- In the face of all these facts the UN General Assembly has declared the commencement of a world decade (1973 - 1983) to rid the world of Apartheid for good.

- Without complete and strong sanctions against the Pretoria regime the genuine emancipation of the people of Southern Africa will suffer very harmful delay. Sanctions against South Africa must be suffocatingly comprehensive.

- The seige round the oil rich Gulf area by American marine forces, the attempts to deceive the Middle East into a false western stand in support of the Palestinian people, many other efforts are all meant to combat the march towards the full liberation of Africa.

- The A.A.P.S.O. calls upon all people to unite in solidarity with the people of South Africa under their legitimate leadership the ANC to overthrow the racist regime for good and to establish a free democratic state in the area.

THE AAPSO STATEMENT

ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTH WEST ASIA

(Full Text)

AAPSO Permanent Secretariat which met in Nicosia on the 2nd April 1980 has examined the situation in South West Asia in connection with the threat to peace in this region and the tension between Pakistan and Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The U.S. imperialism is conducting in this region the policy of destabilization, it arms reactionary feudal elements under the false pretext of defending Islam and encourages the criminal activities against the peaceful population.

AAPSO stands firmly for the normalization of relations between two countries and notes with deep concern the existence of the outside danger to the sovereignty of Afghanistan and attempts to prevent the consolidation of the gains of the April Revolution. The Secretariat heard with attention the information of the special representative of the public opinion of Afghanistan about the situation in the country and confirmed its solidarity with the course of Afghanistan leadership to have normal relations of good neighbourhood with the people of Pakistan. It noted as well that the imperialist machinations and intrigues damage greatly the social economic life of the millions of the people in the borders' regions.

ABDEL RAHMAN EL SHARKAWI
SECRETARY GENERAL
A.A.P.S.O.

SWAPO TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

(Extracts from the AAPSO statement, April 1 , 1980)

- Today SWAPO of Namibia celebrates the 20th anniversary of its founding. The past 20 years have witnessed great achievements by SWAPO both on the International forum and the battle field, the result of which earned the organization world wide recognition as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people.
- AAPSO wishes to seize this opportunity to reaffirm its unreserved support and solidarity with the heroic people of Namibia under the dynamic leadership of SWAPO. We call upon the International Community, progressive organizations and all the peace-loving forces of the world to intensify their support for an immediate end of the illegal racist South African occupation of Namibia.
- AAPSO - while supporting SWAPO stand - demands that all resolutions adopted by the UN, especially the 435 resolution, concerning the Namibian problem should be scorepuously implemented. AAPSO denounces the scheme nurtured by the Western Powers (USA, Great Britain, France, Canada and FRG) with a view to impose on Namibian people a neo-colonialist solution and deprive the Namibian people of the results gained from a long hard struggle full of sacrifices.
- AAPSO finally congratulates SWAPO for this great day and the great achievements the organization scored in the past 20 years of fighting. The Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO pledges unreserved support to SWAPO until freedom and independence in Namibia is finally achieved.

The AAPSO Statement

ON THE U.S. MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST IRAN

(April 30, 1980, extracts)

- The Afro Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization strongly condemns the American military operations against Iran carried out on Friday 25 April 1980 on the orders of President Carter.
- These operations which came as a culmination to the long process of illegal seizure of Iranian assets, naval blockade, military buildup around Iran, and economic pressure and blackmail by the U.S.A., constituted a gross violation of Iranian sovereignty and attack against Iranian people and their Revolution.
- The AAPSO which has consistently supported the Iranian Revolution from the beginning reiterates its complete support for the Iranian people's strongly expressed demand that the crimes committed by the Shah's regime against the people be fully investigated and the long involvement of US imperialism against Iran be fully exposed. The AAPSO also supports the Iranian people's struggle for the restitution of Iranian national wealth spirited away by the Shah over so many years.
- The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization declares its total support and solidarity with the Iranian Revolution and calls upon all patriotic, anti-imperialist and democratic forces in all countries to rally in support of the Iranian people and bring about the broadest international mobilisation against the aggressive actions by the U.S. government.

(7)

HOMAGE TO REV. CANON COLLINS
THE PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE
AND AID FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICAN

Mr. Abdel Rahman El Sharkawi, on behalf of the Permanent Secretariat of the AAPSO, sent the following letter.

Dear Rev. Collins,

AAPSO views with highest admiration your outstanding contribution to the eradication of Apartheid in Southern Africa for the restoration of human value and integrity. By means of sermons, writing and public meetings you successfully brought to the British public notice, and to the world, the atrocities of racism being committed against mankind in the southern sphere of Africa.

It remains on record that you personally organised Defence and Aid Fund which came to be internationally recognised and hence reconstituted as the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa had ensured the triumphant acquittal of all the accused of the 1956 Treason Trial in South Africa. It is equally true that it was the dedication and commitment of your Organisation that secured the lives of the accused of the notorious Rivonia trial in 1963. Your whole life was dedicated to the struggle for peace and transformation of the whole Sub-continent of Southern Africa into a glorious living place for mankind. Your struggle against apartheid was thus not confined to South Africa only but was extended to Namibia which is on the verge of independence and Rhodesia which is now rising up in the dawn of a free and independent Zimbabwe. Your energetic commitment to the struggle for peace and human value opened an intensive world front against apartheid, racial discrimination and exploitation of man by man the world over.

With great admiration and support in your day to day endeavour for the service of mankind, AAPSO joins the peace-loving world to wish you a happy and revolutionary inspired birthday. Your past had set a record that AAPSO fully hope your future will break.

For peace and solidarity.

Yours sincerely,

ABDEL RAHMAN EL SHARKAWI
Secretary General.

(8)

10th April 1980

Dear Mr. Sharkawi,

I am most grateful for your letter of greeting and good wishes, sent on the occasion of my 75th birthday.

I greatly appreciate all that you say about my work as Founder and President of the International Defence and Aid Fund: all that we have been able to do has, of course, depended upon the help and support of many friends and helpers, and I have been wonderfully supported by a dedicated and energetic staff.

Please convey to the Afro Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization my thanks for their good wishes.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

L. John Collins
President

THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE CONFERENCE OF NGOs

The meeting was held in Geneva on March 6.7.1980. It was attended by approximately 80 delegates representing 25 international non governmental organizations.

The AAPSO was represented by

Mr. Nouri (Iraq) - AAPSO Acting Secretary General,
headed the delegation,
Mr. Bangoura (Guinea) - AAPSO Deputy Secretary General
Mr. M. Moolla (ANC-South Africa) - AAPSO Secretary
Mr. O. Benani (Morocco) - AAPSO representative in Paris
Dr. M. Hafedh (Iraq) - AAPSO representative in Geneva.

The Meeting discussed a wide spectrum of questions, among them "The World Conference of the UN Decade for Women" which will be held in Copenhagen, July 1980 as well as providing representative participation of the NGO's in this forum, the NGO activities connected with various UN initiatives like holding the General Assembly Special Session on the strategy of development, "The International Year of Youth", the General Assembly meeting on the Elderly People and so on.

TWO WPC CONFERENCES IN NEW DELHI

- The two international conferences held in New Delhi during the second half of March 1980 organised jointly by the World Peace Council and the All India Peace and Solidarity Organization (AIPSO) were both great successes and of exceptional significance at this time. The AIPSO was represented by the two Deputy Secretaries General Mr. Facina Bangoura (Guinea) and Mr. Baren Ray (India).
- The government of India was represented by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting Mr. Vasant Sathe who formally inaugurated the first cultural conference and also spoke at the concluding session of the second conference, fully endorsing the decisions of the Conference of Peace and Security in Asia.
- The International Conference for Defence of National Cultures and Education for Peace and Disarmament was held from 20 to 22 March and also marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of the great Indian Writer Prem Chand who epitomised the people's struggle for national independence as well as against feudal exploitation. This conference was held also in cooperation with the UNESCO which was formally represented. Mr. Facine Bangoura addressed the conference on behalf of AIPSO on the theme of defence of national cultures against imperialist attacks and for national liberation.
- The International Conference for Peace and Security in Asia which was held from 23 to 25 March 1980 was of exceptional political significance due to its timing, venue and very broad participation. That it was held so soon after the latest escalation of tension and military buildup by imperialism particularly in South West Asia and in the Indian Ocean was of very great importance.

- The participation by delegations composed of Senior representatives from such countries as Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, USSR, Bahrein, Vietnam, Kampuchea, Turkey, P.L.O., Democratic Yemen, etc., helped to bring out the new dangers threatening the peoples of the region emanating from the new, USA-China axis.
- The Conference contributed very largely towards bringing out a broad consensus of anti-imperialist opinion in this very strategically important area.
- The AAPSO speech at this conference was delivered by Mr. Baren Ray. The background paper on the latest escalation prepared by the AAPSO Secretariat was distributed widely specially among the delegations from Afro-Asian Countries.

THE AAPSO DELEGATION TO COLOMBO

(Preparation for the International Conference for Independence, Solidarity and Security - Bandung Commemoration).

The second AAPSO delegation for preparation of the Bandung Commemoration Conference has visited Sri Lanka on April 7 - 11, 1980.

The delegation of the AAPSO Permanent Secretariat composed of Mr. Abdel Galil Gilan (YDPR), Dr. S. Kalandarov (USSR), Miss E. Ranaweera (Sri Lanka) and Mrs. S. Sabri (Egypt) - technical, made contacts and consultations with the Afro Asian Solidarity Association of Sri Lanka and in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Conference was scheduled to be held on May 23 - 25, 1980.

INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION'S
MEETING IN CYPRUS

Communique (extracts).

A consultative meeting of the International Democratic Organizations - AAPSO, IUS, WITU, WIDF, WPC - attended by their leadership and high level representatives, was held in Nicosia, Cyprus, on April 26 - 27, 1980, under the auspices of the AAPSO.

- The meeting recorded that inspite of the current escalation by imperialism of its aggressive designs and actions, leading to an unprecedented complication and tension in the international situation, since world war II, yet the peoples of the world are determined to safeguard the achievements of their tenacious struggle during the last three and half decades, to make detente an irreversible process, to secure favourable conditions for development and socio-economic progress, to ensure the dearly won national independence and to effectively control their national resources and political and cultural structures.

- The meeting condemned the U.S. recent military aggression against the sovereignty of the Iranian people and took note of its grave consequences and possible dangers as a link in the imperialist global strategy designed against world peace and security, particularly in the Gulf area.

- The meeting expressed the position of the International Democratic Organizations towards the situation in the Southern Africa, the Middle East, Cyprus, Latin America, South West Asia and some countries like Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia and Madagascar.

- The meeting stressed the necessity of immediate and full implementation of the Helsinki acts and welcomed the persistent efforts of the socialist community and the non aligned countries to uphold and enact the principles of Bandung, peacefull co-existence and international detente and cooperation.

- The meeting took note and condemned the U.S. efforts to impose on the European Countries the deployment of new nuclear missiles and denounced the NATO meeting in Ankara, as part of the imperialist global aggressive strategy and other peoples of the world, which is against the interest of the European and world peoples and which can only bring the world to the brink of a destructive nuclear war.