

## THE GREAT

### C&NSPIRACY IN 5; AFRICA-11

Representative, Asian Mission

African National Congress

This is the second and final instalment of M. Moolla's paper read in a seminar at India International Centre, New Delhi recently. The first instalment appeared last week.

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The game (and it is a sinister one) played by the FRG and other powers in South and Southern Africa must not only be seen in its internal effect to strengthen the machinery of the racists and the collective exploitation of the working peoples for this reason. It must also be seen in its broader international aspect. Why should South Africa have troop carriers (supplied by West Germany) capable of flying 4,000 miles without refuelling? Why is she frantically increasing her fleet of supersonic fighter bombers? Why is she building up her navy? And why the aspiration for nuclear weapons? Surely, these lethal weapons are not stockpiled merely to suppress the liberation movement. South Africa's aggressive stance has been clearly demonstrated by her repeated acts in violating the sovereignty integrity of Zambia; the presence of her troops in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola and, to say nothing of her bellicose statements and comments against Africa as a whole.

Similarly, the Policy of Dialogue with South Africa must also be viewed in the same light. It has to be seen as part of the general global strategy of imperialism. The strengthening of South Africa as an imperialist state in her own right is aimed at turning her into a base and bulwark of world imperialism in Africa. This is why fascist South Africa is being gradually pulled and turned into an extension of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation). Clearly, a conflict that erupts in South Africa, will involve NATO and thus spark a major world conflict. South Africa is already being referred to in Western quarters as "the southernmost arm of Europe". International trusts (American, British, West German Italian, French, Dutch Japanese, etc.,) have helped South Africa to reach rates of economic growth and progress in technology and science far in advance of African independent states. This enables South Africa to exercise economic extortion and indeed political blackmail under the pretext of economic and technological assistance.

### MILITARY CO-OPERATION

Co-operation in the military field between South Africa and certain major Western powers (particularly France) is common knowledge. However, we would like to bring to your attention the role of West German participation in South Africa's military industry for, besides equipping and financing the building of conventional weapons, the FRG is currently engaged in building South Africa's nuclear potential.

Military co-operation between the two countries is based on a secret agreement concluded in 1961—a year after the Sharpeville Massacre. On the basis of the agreement, arranged by Nazi General von Mellenthin who was residing in South Africa, as an intermediary, the two countries have been co-operating in preparatory work for the production of nuclear weapons. (It is significant that the FRG Consul General in South Africa decorated SOCIALIST INDIA

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ex-General von Mellenthin with the Federal Cross of Merit when he retired).

The FRG provides for the uranium ore dressing techniques while the ore itself is supplied by South Africa. Early in April 1968, it became known that the West.

German trust of Kloeckner & Co. had started to build up its own raw material basis in South West Africa for developing nuclear weapons. It bought the absolute majority of shares of the South West African Lithium Mines (pty) Ltd. At the same time other West German companies, in particular the Rheinisch-Westfälische Elektrizitätswerke AG and Degussa of Frankfurt (Main) were contracting for long term uranium supplies from South Africa.

In Namibia, the latest targets of West German expansion are the newly discovered uranium deposits which are considered to be the largest in the Western world. Assisted by the West German Ministry of Science, which bears 75 per cent of the prospecting costs, West German monopolies intended to construct dressing plants there, to supply uranium concentrate from 1976 onwards.

Another field of West German military engagement is missile research and production. Since the Boelkow AG trust (whose programme includes missile research) firmly established itself in South Africa, there has been more information on South African projects in this field. In October 1968, the South African Minister of Defence said South Africa would construct a missile launching site near Cape Vidal situated in an area of high strategic importance some 90 miles from the Mozambique border.

He did not name the contracting overseas company though he again referred to it when he announced in Parliament that guided missiles (all-Weather ground-to-air) would be introduced in the South African armed forces.

A few months later South Africa launched its first missile which was reported to have been developed by a research institute near Pretoria. But characteristically, a short time before this launching, a West German newspaper had written that it was "obvious that Cape Vidal will not only become the centre for testing most sophisticated missile but also an important missile defence base to protect the country's coasts and to form a missile umbrella to the North!

In the aviation industry too South Africa receives all assistance and co-operation from the FRG for equipping the industrial base of this important service of South Africa's armed forces. The FRG supplies spare parts for the models F-84 and G-91 as well as infra-red systems. The Johannesburg Star in January 1970, reported that the South African Air Force was to receive nine Transall C-160 aircraft from the FRG. (The C-160 has an operational range of 1000 miles. It can carry troops, tanks and other equipment and is therefore of special interest to the South African racists).

On January 9, 1969, Industrie Kurier commented that the necessity of enlarging South Africa's air force with the assistance of West German specialists and trusts  
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was motivated by the "significance of South Africa. for the global strategy" of NATO,

#### CHEMICAL WEAPONS

A factor of grave importance not confined to the borders of South Africa and Africa but direct concern to the peoples of Asia and Latin America is that South Africa. has the capacity to produce suiicient quantities of an extremely toxic nerve gas called ttGJas-V'g an advanced and more dangerous varient of the Zyklon-B gas which was used by the Nazis for the extermination (if people in concentration camps. Nor is the technological advance in this field to be wondered at for it ,is on record that the Zyklon-B gas specialists of the IG Farben Thist of the Hitler era. took shelter at the Farbwarke Hoechst AG chemical plant in Sasollburg, South Atria, where they have developed combinations of the nerve gases Tabum Soman and Satin.

Professor L. J. le Roux, then Vice-President of the South African National Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, was quoted by Reuters on 7. 11. 63 and the New Herald Tribune on 8-11-63 as saying at a scientific conference in Pretoria, that these poisons could be dispersed like insecticides from aircraft or rockets and their effect would be similar to that of a 20 megaton atomic bomb and these would be much less expensive.

That the struggles of the peoples of South and Southern Africa are part of the world-wide anti- imperialist struggle for freedom, peace and national independence needs no elaboration. It is also clear that in these struggles the peoples of Asia and Africa are called upon to play a more active and positive role.

We would like to deal briieiiy with the struggle in South Africa and conclude this paper by making some suggestions as to the form international support could take in ensuring the successful prosecution of that struggle.

In South Africa, racism has assumed a concrete and specific form and it is necessary to identify it in simple and tangible terms. Here we would like to quote our Acting President-General, Mr. O. R. Tambo, who in a recent statement said: "The Black Man\_the African, Coloured (mixed race) and those of Indian origin-live and suffer in misery, humiliation, discrimination, exploi-tation and political oppression at the hands of other people; not as a class but as a people, not by a class but by a people. Their enemy as a people is, therefore. a people. In the South African context the enemy of the Black man is the White man. '

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"The struggle against racism and oppression is. whatever its many class ramincations, a, straight confron-tation between the Whites who have seized power and hold all Power and the Blacks who have been robbed of everything". .

It must be noted that the vast majority of the Black population are either workers, peasants or agricultural labourers. Let it also be noted that the White working class has been bought 01? by extremely high wages and reserved jobs, made possible through the extensive ex-ploitation of Black labour and are among the .most re-actionary sections of the White ruling class.

South Africa is situated in the extreme south of the continent of Africa. Her eastern and western borders are washed by the waters of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans respectively. To the north are the racist states and colonies of Mozambique, Rhodesia, Angola and the so-called trust territory of Namibia. We are, therefore, surrounded by enemy territory making our struggle which has reached the stage of armed guerilla warfare ex-tremely difficult. However, our armed men and women,

organised under the Military Wing of the African National Congress\_Umkhonto We Sizwe (The Spear of the Nation) have already confronted the enemy in Zimbabwe together with the liberation forces or the Zimbabwe SOCIALIST INDIA

African Peoples' Union (ZAPU), while on their way to South Africa. after military training in free Africa and the Socialist countries. Fierce battles had been fought there and severe blows delivered to the racist forces of Ian Smith and Vorster. (This has been conceded by both White Governments) Others have infiltrated into the country and are laying the groundwork for an armed confrontation with the enemy.

Meanwhile, whatever method of legal political activity that is still open is being used to organise people to resist the further onslaughts on their rights. Despite severe penalties and wholesale police repression several strikes have taken place amongst clandestinely organised workers in many industries.

ANC leaflets and other propaganda material preparing the people for the final confrontation continues to appear in various South African centres despite the highly organised police force and their informers.

In view of the special conditions obtaining in South and Southern Africa we appreciate the difficult nature of our struggle. We are fully aware of the strength (and weaknesses) of the enemy and we know it is going to be a bloody, long and arduous struggle which will pale into insignificance many freedom struggles of the world. Yet we are strengthened in our resolve to overthrow the enemy because we owe it to mankind and ourselves to put an end to the nightmare that our tortured land is undergoing. And we believe that as our struggle gains momentum the nations of the world particularly of Africa and Asia will render more concrete support to our cause than the hitherto purely moral, and in many cases hypocritical, one given. For in the final analysis, the South African struggle is the struggle for the liberation of man everywhere. So long as freedom is denied to a vast area in Africa so long will Africa not be truly free. Africa is bound to Asia in many respects which has a special stake in ensuring that the intrigues of vested interests there are thwarted. Africa and Asia constitutes together the overwhelming land mass of the world. It also has a preponderance of the world's population. Both continents have recently emerged from the shackles of exploitation and subjugation. It thus becomes even more necessary that on the question of the denial of human freedom they play and take the initiative, in a much more forceful way, to see that the vestiges of colonialism, racism and imperial domination are put to an end. i t

WHAT AFRO-ASIA CAN DO ?

Individually and collectively Africa and Asia could:

a. Exert pressure on the main sanction busters of the UN to carry out, General Assembly and UN Security Council Resolutions on South and Southern Africa ? -

b. Establish an Ad Hoc Committee of influential Afro-Asian countries on a governmental basis to keep under constant review the situation in Southern 'Africa. The function of the Ad Hoc Committee, inter alia, could be to make special visits to countries having large investments in South Africa. and prevailing upon them to withdraw these. Such a Committee could also, in consultation with the Organisation for African Unity and the liberation movements of Africa.

plan out the strategy and tactics to be adopted at international forums in relation to the White minority regimes;

0. Translate their moral support to practical expressions of solidarity with the fighting people of Southern Africa. by giving financial, material and other aid to the liberation movements there.

UN COMMITTEE'S APPEAL

The United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid in an appeal to Governments, organisations and individuals' has suggested" a nine-point programme of activities - a , Continued on Page 2

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ties for the current year. Afro-Asia could take a lead in seeing that the suggestions are implemented. These are:-

iublicise the facts on the situation in South Africa.

nd the legitimate struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa;

2. Establish, where they do not exist, national committees against apartheid; t

3. Demand the elimination of apartheid and the release of all persons persecuted in South Africa. for their opposition to apartheid;

4. Urge Governments and economic interests which continue diplomatic, military, economic and other collaboration with the South African regime and South African companies to cease such collaboration forthwith, in accordance with United Nations resolutions;

5. Support actively national liberation and other movements against apartheid;

6. Support the boycott of all South African sports teams selected on the basis of racial discrimination; '

7. Discourage emigration to South Africa,' especially of skilled labourers;

8. Contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa. and the United Nations Educational and Training Progr'amme for Southern Africa, as well as to the OAU and non-governmental funds  
Zr. assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa;

9. Adopt or make contributions in support of families of persons imprisoned in South Africa. for their opposition to apartheid.

In conclusion we would like to place on record our sincere appreciation and thanks to the Government and people of 'India. for the active moral and material support given us in the fight for human freedom and dignity in South Africa. It is necessary to mention here that India was amongst the first countries of the world to have championed the cause of oppressed South Africa at the United Nations Organisation as far back as 1946; and India was the first country to have severed economic, political and trade links with South Africa, over two decades ago. That India continues to support and uphold our cause at international forums is a matter of great satisfaction to our people. We trust, however, the expressions of solidarity will be intensified and India. will take the lead in the proposals made above.

Addressing the 25th session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva. on May 10, Union Minister for Health and Family Planning Shri Uma Shankar Dikshih said that India has a nation which shelters a seventh of humanity is fully conscious" of its obligation to its people to provide living conditions in which all the people can live free from want and worry". Referring to the progress India has made in the field of Health he said, "As a result of our endeavours during the last two and a half decades, the general death rate has come down from 27.4 per thousand population in 1946 to 17.0 in 1971. The infant mortality rate has also declined considerably. A child born today in the country can expect to live for 52.6 years as compared to 32 years during 1941-50".

uA fast expanding population", Shri Dikshit said, 2152 one of the most complex challenges that face

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HFamily Flaming has, therefore, been accepted as a national imperative and is an acknowledged objective of national policy. The programme has been integrated with the basic health services and maternal and child care . . . .We have succeeded in breaking through traditional and psycholo-  
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