

all the American answers . . . We hope that sterile ideological debates on economic topics of the type which have occurred at the North-South talks in Paris can be avoided here."

In Paris, meantime, Henry Kissinger had gone full-scale ahead with a case-by-case negotiation of debt and for those who turned this tactic down, straight out destabilization. Kissinger's weapon had been his International Resources Bank proposal — utilizing Third World resources to repay overwhelming debt burdens with no net technology transfer whatsoever.

Colombo in a nutshell had called for: a new monetary system, a deadline for its creation, nuclear technology transfer, debt moratorium and above all a replacement of the IMF. On the political side, Colombo promoted as an absolute necessity an end to the bloodshed in Africa and the establishment of viable national governments.

The Belgrade Summit

At Belgrade last month an assessment of these goals was due. Yugoslavia chaired the economic commission deliberations and India the political deliberations. Brzezinski, like his predecessor Kissinger, sought to mingle the two and at all costs keep from the Third World the full knowledge of the level of the progrowth commitment deliberated at the Bremen and Bonn summits under Schmidt's leadership.

The political commission discussions are testimony to weaknesses in the Third World. China and the U.S. Anglophiles had spent over six months attempting to wreck the Belgrade summit with the Cuba issue. When Tito and Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai visited the U.S., they were approached by Brzezinski, on the coy "genuine non-alignment" line. Castro's charges that the U.S. contacted 15 non-aligned countries to do its dirty work are borne out by other diplomatic sources who say that the official Chinese liaison office in the U.S. actively organized toward this goal in Washington.

In their statements to the summit, both Yugoslavia and India left the door open to ambiguity suggesting that "all foreign troops leave Africa," playing games with the subversion of the Non-Aligned Movement. The more outrageous Chinese-sponsored states such as Somalia and Cambodia went further to ask for the expulsion of Cuba or, as others did, a change of venue for the 1979 summit, scheduled for Havana.

The political sessions ended in stalemate. Cuba actively organized to keep next year's summit in Havana, and won. The ruling that bilateral conflicts such as Vietnam-Cambodia disputes or the African situation would not be discussed prevented the conference from degenerating into a series of bilateral polemics.

One incident demonstrates the tone. During the final hours, Cambodia pushed for the entry of the term "hegemonism" into the final communiqué, expecting

a confrontation with Vietnam. Surprising its peasant neighbors, Vietnam agreed and added the term "expansionism," a common reference to its troubles with China, the main architect at the conference of the splittist tendencies. Over two dozen Chinese "journalists" attended the conference to malign Cuba.

The Economic Battle

The economic deliberations clearly centered on where to take the demand for the replacement of the IMF. On the very first day, Peru, according to wire service reports, began the meeting with a denunciation of the IMF, charging that "international financial organizations are fomenting social disturbances through their loan conditions." "This is a new and more subtle form of violation of human rights of developing nations," charged Peru's Foreign Minister De La Puente. He was rapidly seconded by another IMF victim, Jamaica, and virtually all the states agreed that for their daily needs and reconstruction programs, the IMF remains the major policy problem. The final communiqué from the economic sessions reflects the consensus: "Foreign interference is carried out by means of state power through other national and international political and economic and financial organizations and institutions of an official or private nature, especially the transnational corporations and mass media used on a global scale."

Going further, addressing the current "human rights" orientation of many Western nations, the final communiqué asserted: "Human rights cannot be separated from the national, economic, and social context and in fact are an integral part of the struggle to change and democratize international relations as a whole . . . Therefore human rights should not be used as a political instrument of great powers in the confrontation of social systems or to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states."

— Leela Narayan

Fidel Castro: Nonaligned Does Not Mean Neutral

Cuban President Fidel Castro's July 26 address commemorating the launching of the Cuban Revolution 25 years ago was devoted heavily to the conference. In the address Castro focused heavy criticism against the policies of the International Monetary Fund and China, and efforts by western powers to derail the conference. The following is an unofficial translation of excerpts from the speech.

On IMF: The International Monetary Fund and other credit organizations — traditional instruments of U.S. policy — impose onerous conditions, weaken the popular foundations of governments not to their liking, and undermine their political stability. Such

circumstances are favorable to pressures and submissions which lead to temporary victories by reactionary forces in some nations of the world.

On China: How can those who support the demands of imperialism be described in political and moral terms? Anything can be expected from a country where a ridiculous mortal has been converted into a god, where they destroyed the party and its best cadres during the days of the mad adventure of the Cultural Revolution and allowed themselves to be dragged by petit bourgeois spirit and big power chauvenism into betraying internationalism and converting a socialist state into a satrapy of nepotism (a reference to the power of Mao Tse-tung's wife Chiang Ching—ed.) . . .

Anything can be expected from them. Why should it surprise us that the Chinese government today supports the bloody and fascist Pinochet regime? . . . Why should we be surprised that it cooperates with Mobutu and with NATO interventionist forces? . . . Or that it joins the reactionary forces of Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany or that it joins NATO in Europe or Yankee imperialism everywhere, or that it grossly and dangerously wagers on the inevitability of a third world war?

But of all the crimes committed by the Chinese leadership, the most odious is its hostility toward

Vietnam. Everyone knows that behind the artificially created so-called problem of the Hoa (ethnic Chinese in Vietnam — ed.) stand the Chinese.

A completely chauvinistic campaign is now being waged in China against the Vietnamese and all Chinese economic cooperation with Vietnam has been suspended. It is in this criminal and unscrupulous manner that the Vietnamese effort to rebuild the country, cruelly devastated by the imperialist war, is being sabotaged.

On Nonaligned Meeting: According to reports from the United States, this government has contacted 15 nonaligned countries to question Cuba's role in this movement. It would be interesting to know what 15 foreign ministries the U.S. has spoken to and what their reply has been.

Why does the U.S. worry so much about the sixth summit conference in Havana? Why does it try to sabotage it? Who is playing the game in this maneuver? What goals do they seek within our movement If some governments are for sale, Cuba cannot be bribed. The U.S. knows it. We will not betray our internationalist principles. We will never bow to imperialist pressures and blackmail.

There are two paths open in the world today — reaction and progress. One must choose: one cannot be neutral.

ASEAN Summit Backs New World Economic Order

An on-the-scene report from Washington D.C.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Carlos Romulo set the tone for the conference of five nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) convened in Washington Aug. 3-4, with an opening declaration that the conference was taking place at a "particularly appropriate time for the summit meeting at Bonn has taken full cognizance of the needs of the developing countries." Romulo attacked the "evil of rampant protectionism" and affirmed that the "establishment of a New World Economic Order" is the key issue "on this century's agenda."

Senior ministers from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore arrived in Washington as the first leaders of developing sector nations to hold formal talks with the Carter Administration since the historic Bremen-Bonn economic summits. In a red carpet reception, President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and other cabinet members held two days of talks with the delegations.

However, reflecting the state of embattled confusion and hesitancy that has gripped the Administration since Bremen and Bonn, the U.S. failed to take advantage of this golden opportunity to develop the Bonn commitments for a new monetary system and nuclear energy into concrete proposals.

The press conference closing the two-day economic conference between the U.S. and the ASEAN nations announced that ASEAN is seeking "friendly and good relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam." Philippines Foreign Minister Romulo told the press that there had been absolutely no discussion of military questions and that the U.S.-backed SEATO military alliance was "embalmed and buried." Romulo revealed that Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Vam Dong had informed his government that he would like to visit Manila.

ASEAN leaders were determined to impress upon the U.S. that as the world's foremost industrial power, the United States carries the burden of responsibility