

The Nonaligned meet in Havana

The challenge of guaranteeing Third World development

The Sixth Conference of Heads of State of the Non-aligned Countries will be held in Havana, Cuba during the first week of September 1979. Already it promises to be one of the most dramatic and polemical of Non-aligned Summits—the strategically significant gatherings of nonaligned leaders that occur once every three years. This is the first summit to be held in a socialist nation; the first in Latin America; and the first since the critical 1976 summit which adopted the famous Colombo Resolutions.

At Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Nonaligned movement called for a global debt moratorium, the replacement of the International Monetary Fund with a new world credit institution, and for the transfer of advanced technology for the rapid industrialization of the Third World.

But in the intervening three years, the Colombo Resolutions have lain dormant, as the IMF and such enforcers as Henry Kissinger have delivered a series of major defeats to those Third World nations behind the New World Economic Order. What facilitated this was, on the one hand, Third World blindness to the need to intervene in advanced sector politics in favor of those factions which support Third World development and, on the other hand, reluctance of those same prodevelopment factions to stick their necks out and take on the IMF frontally.

Only now, in the course of 1979, has the Third World movement begun to recuperate from its setbacks, and regain some of the anti-IMF momentum generated during the mid-1970s. The overthrow of IMF regimes and their regressive "Dark Ages" economic policies in Nicaragua and Kampuchea has been particularly important in remoralizing developing sector nations. The creation of the European Monetary System has provided them with crucial political leverage. And the emergence of the powerful, third party presidential campaign of Lyndon LaRouche in the United States—whose central policy proposal is the replacement of the IMF with a new International Development Bank—is beginning to give the Nonaligned a new handle on advanced sector politics.

This is the context in which the Nonaligned movement convenes its Havana Summit—a point not lost on Kissinger and his City of London backers.

Virtually from the moment that Havana was announced as the conference site three years ago, England and the United States have led a massive campaign to split the Nonaligned movement, by trying to make Cuba and "Soviet expansionism" central factional issues. Especially around the June 1978 preparatory meeting of Nonaligned Foreign Ministers in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, the United States went out of its way to talk to 15 separate delegations, in an attempt to win them over to a policy of a "change of venue"—i.e., switching the site from Havana—on the grounds that Cuba "is not really a Nonaligned nation." Kissinger and company managed to line up a number of Nonaligned countries behind this approach on the basis of pure anti-Sovietism, with Yugoslavia playing a particularly reprehensible role in organizing attacks on Cuba within the Nonaligned. Egypt has also joined in, as has China, Somalia, and others.

In the final analysis, Kissinger's divisive ploy failed, as the majority of the Nonaligned nations recognized that censuring Cuba or a change in venue would have created an unacceptable precedent of ideological "alignment." The Anglo-American strategists, however, have not abandoned their attempt to turn the Nonaligned into a battleground between East and West. Reliable reports reaching this magazine indicate that Washington is putting out the line that Cuba, as the host country, will excessively influence the conference's conclusions, and that the entire summit should be subtly undermined by downgrading the level of delegations, from head of state to Foreign Minister.

Although there are a number of specific issues of great political importance that will be debated at the Havana summit, some of which we review below, the success or failure of that conference will be defined by whether or not the Nonaligned movement gets back on the track of Colombo, relaunching its programmatic campaign to replace the IMF with a more equitable New World Economic Order.

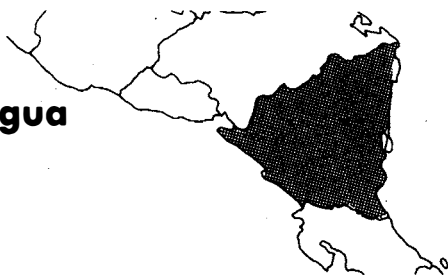
Kampuchea



The first, and possibly the most bitterly debated, issue that will confront the Havana summit will be a credentials fight over who represents Kampuchea (Cambodia). Although the bloody, Dark Ages regime of Pol Pot was overthrown and replaced by the People's Republic of Kampuchea in January of this year, almost no country outside of the socialist bloc has so far recognized the new government. At issue is the role of the Vietnamese army in aiding Kampuchea in freeing itself from the China-backed Pol Pot genocidal nightmare (under which one-third to one-half of the entire population was liquidated). The Chinese Maoists have led a campaign to deny Nonaligned recognition to the new government, and have so far managed to tie the matter up in a legalistic "compromise" through which Pol Pot's representatives are officially seated as the Kampuchean delegates at Nonaligned functions, but are denied both speaking and voting rights.

It is expected that a sizeable number of representations, led by those of the socialist bloc, will demand the ouster of the Pol Pot delegation, on the dual grounds that it does not represent the Kampuchean people, and that it has engaged in crimes irreconcilable with the principles of nonalignment. The position adopted by the vacillating Indian government on this sensitive point may well determine the direction in which the majority moves.

Nicaragua vs. Iran

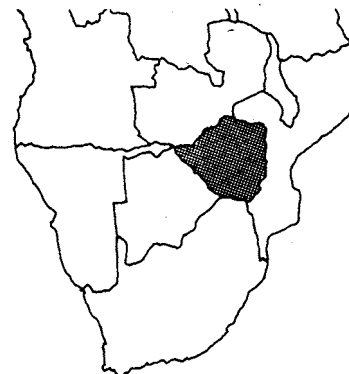


Nicaragua and Iran, nations which have recently undergone revolutionary changes of government, will both be applying for membership to the Nonaligned at Havana. Although all indications are that their applications—and those of the other new applicants (Pakistan, Surinam, Zimbabwe (Patriotic Front-Rhodesia), Grenada, and Bolivia)—will all be approved with no overt favoritism shown, the fact of the matter is that an

underlying question of the conference will be: Which is the best "model" for Third World revolution, Iran or Nicaragua?

The British and Zionist intelligence controllers of Ayatollah Khomeini and his antidevelopment policies, have gotten a tremendous amount of political mileage in the developing sector by presenting the Pol Pot-modeled ruralization policies being carried out by Khomeini's Jacobin hordes as *the* model to be followed in the overthrow of dictators. Nicaragua, however, has demonstrated to the world that a Mexican-style prodevelopment revolution can in fact be carried out, and Anglo-American forces can be expected to do everything in their power to curtail Nicaragua's influence while building up the Iranian image.

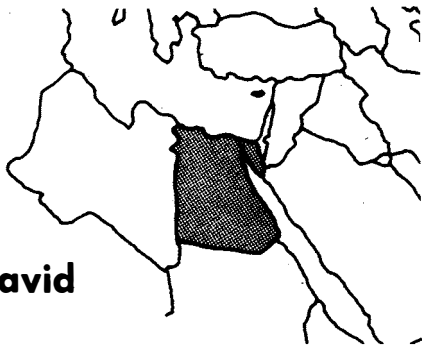
Southern Africa



The Havana Summit will certainly reiterate its condemnation of apartheid and Zionism as forms of racism, but it is still an open question just what stance will be taken on the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia issue. Strenuous Patriotic Front and other African opposition recently forced Great Britain to abandon its policy of attempting to forcibly impose the puppet Smith-Muzorewa regime in Rhodesia, and the British have now invited the Patriotic Front and the Smith-Muzorewa government to an all-party conference in London in mid-September. Britain will concede to certain cosmetic changes in the Smith-Muzorewa regime at that meeting, in an attempt to undercut the Patriotic Front's supporters.

It is likely that on this issue the Nonaligned summit will follow the lead of the Commonwealth Nations and of the front-line African states in particular, who have yet to issue a full political response. Diplomats expect the Commonwealth participants to report to the Havana summit, after which a decision will be taken on the matter.

Egypt and Camp David



Virtually the entire Nonaligned movement is known to be virulently opposed to the Camp David pact among Egypt, Israel, and the United States. A group of radical Arab states will probably present a resolution to the conference calling for the suspension of Egypt—on the grounds that they have violated the nonaligned principle of non-participation in military blocs by signing the Camp David accords. Although a bitter political battle is expected over this issue, most observers agree that Nonaligned founding member Egypt will *not* be formally suspended from the movement, but that a sharp condemnation of Camp David will be forthcoming.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which is a full-fledged member of the Nonaligned, will be an important factor in this debate.

The LaRouche candidacy



Despite the blackout of his presidential campaign in the major American press, the U.S. Labor Party's Lyndon LaRouche is well-known in the Third World as an outstanding economist whose International development Bank proposal was instrumental in shaping the Colombo Resolutions, as well as the related European Monetary System. The emergence over the last few months of the LaRouche campaign as a major contending political force in the United States is being closely monitored by savvy leaders of the developing sector. Although cynicism combined with fear still dominates the Third World's perception of the United States, the LaRouche campaign is sparking growing numbers of Third World diplomats to weigh the positive

impact of a LaRouche White House on the question of Third World development.

Although you won't read it in the *New York Times*, insiders admit that LaRouche will be an important topic of discussion in the corridors and backrooms of the Havana summit.

Lopez Portillo's energy proposal



One of the effects of Kissinger's 1976-78 offensive against the Third World is that, since the Colombo Action Program, there have been virtually *no* concrete proposals on how to establish a New World Economic Order. In fact, the only proposal of such global scope that will be on the table at Havana is Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's call to make "energy the common responsibility of humanity."

Lopez Portillo has specified that this means drastically curtailing the powers of the speculation-addicted oil majors, and developing instead new energy sources and technologies, including nuclear, that must be fully transferred to the Third World. The Mexican proposal goes on to specify that to guarantee such a transfer of advanced technology, adequate funding and credit must be made available to the developing sector—a concept which Lopez Portillo has called "the content of the New World Economic Order."

In this way, the Lopez Portillo energy proposal addresses the central, related issues of the energy crisis, the IMF and excessive indebtedness, and the creation of new credit facilities to guarantee development.

Mexico is an observer—not a member—of the Non-aligned, but this will not be an obstacle to the presentation of the energy proposal. Cuban President Fidel Castro recently told Lopez Portillo that he fully endorsed the proposal, and that he thought it should be taken up at the Havana Summit of the Nonaligned.

—Dennis Small