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EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Press and Information Section

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Answers Vietnam News Agency's Correspondent
in New Delhi

Question 1 : How do you appreciate the result of the non-aligned countries ministerial conference just held in New Delhi ?

Answer : Since the great success of the Non-Aligned Movement at its 6th Summit Conference in Havana, the imperialists and reactionari forces have feverishly counter attacked in an attempt to reverse the trend of the movement, to turn the struggle of the non-aligned countries against imperialism and colonialism and for peace and national independence into a struggle among themselves. They have frenziedly attacked the resolutions of the Havana conference, trying to play down the role of Cuba, chairman of the movement. By clamouring for a return to the initial objective 'neutrality between the two blocks ,opposition to the two super powers' and taking advantage of the Afghanistan and Kampuchea questions, they want to steer the movement away from its objective, spearhead the struggle against the Soviet Union, Cuba and other forces resolutely struggling against imperialism in defence of peace and national independence, and to divide and sabotage the movement .

In execution of this scheme, they have stopped at nothing in sabotaging the New Delhi conference and dividing the movement. Singapore and Pakistan which supported or collaborated with the US imperialists within the SEATO and CENTO aggressive military block and were accomplices of the United States in its war against the Indochinese countries, now assumed the role of saboteurs of the conference .

But the firm struggle of many non-aligned countries loyal to the noble objective of the movement have foiled these dark schemes, and the conference has obtained fine success .

The trend of the movement charted out at the Havana Summit remains the basic trend . The movement has succeeded in preserving its solidarity and

has strongly raised its common voice in supporting the struggle of the Arab , African and Latin American peoples against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and zionism, and all forms of expansion and hegemony, for peace, detente, independence, sovereignty and security of nations .

Question 2 : How was the Southeast Asian question at the conference ?

Answer : The present absence of peace and stability in Southeast Asia is caused by Chinese aggression and threat of aggression against the three Indochinese countries , not by the pretended threat of the three Indochinese countries against the ASEAN countries.

Faced with the Beijing hegemonists' policy of aggression and intervention, the Indochinese people must help one another to defend their independence and sovereignty. In collaboration with the US imperialists, the revengeful Beijing reactionaries are retaliating against the Indochinese people in most brutal and perfidious ways. The same people who supported and collaborated with the US imperialists in their aggressive war against the three Indochinese countries are now conspiring with Beijing in its hostile policy toward these countries. They scheme to use international forums to slander the three Indochinese countries and turn the victims of aggression into aggressors.

At this Conference, they did their best to raise the "Kampuchean problem" in order to oppose Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries. They attempted to impose the resolution of the United Nations concerning Kampuchea on the conference of non-aligned countries, demanded the representation of the odious genocidal regime of the Pol Pot clique, henchmen of Beijing, which had already been overthrown by the Kampuchean people. They demanded the ... holding of an international conference on Kampuchea in order to make Vietnamese armed forces withdraw from that country and impose a political solution in Kampuchea. There is no denying that the US imperialists, the reactionaries and their accomplices have failed in their dark designs. The conference left vacant the seat of Kampuchea as was decided at the Havana Summit Conference. The conference approved our view that all foreign troops must be withdrawn from the Southeast Asian countries. Everybody knows that Chinese troops are still occupying part of Vietnamese territory, that the US still has a major military base in the Philippines that Indonesian troops are still occupying East Timor, and Australian and New Zealand troops are still stationed in Singapore and Malaysia.

The final declaration of the conference approves of package political solution. This conforms to the Statement of the Foreign Ministers Conference of the

three Indochinese countries on January 28, 1981 to the effect that to achieve peace and stability in Southeast Asia, it is necessary first of all to settle the problems between China and the Indochinese countries and the problems between the Indochinese countries and the Asean countries.

The Conference's declaration calls on the countries in the region to enter into dialogues in conformity with the proposal of the three Indochinese countries for a conference between the two groups of countries in the region to solve the Southeast Asian question on the basis of equality and mutual agreement without imposition of the will of one group of countries on the other group. This is diametrically opposed to Beijing's scheme to sabotage the countries in the region and cause antagonism among them.

Question 3 : Would you comment on the New Delhi conference's final declaration concerning Southwest Asia ?

Answer : The scheme of the hostile forces is to abolish the legal Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which, however, continues to be recognized by the non-aligned countries. The conference's discussion on Afghanistan and its mentioning the Afghanistan question in its final declaration in defiance of the protest, of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is a deplorable act which created a bad precedent and violated the sovereignty of a member country of the movement.

To request foreign troops to come to Afghanistan to help its people defend their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity is an act of legitimate self-defence of the Afghan people. To demand that these forces withdraw from Afghanistan without touching upon the other forces now threatening peace, security and sovereignty of the peoples in Southwest Asia is to deny the Afghan Government and people their legitimate right to accept aid from their friends in order to counter the acts of aggression and interference of imperialism and international reaction. Such an act will encourage the imperialists and reactionaries in their schemes in this region.

Such an act is completely inconsistent with the objectives and principles of the movement.

The Vietnamese delegation resolutely rejected the paragraph on Southwest Asia in the final declaration of the conference.

Question 4 : Would you comment on the contributions of India as chairman of the conference and of Cuba as incumbent president of the Non-Aligned Movement ?

Answer : The scheme of the imperialist and the reactionaries to play down the role of Cuba and India thereby to oppose the anti-imperialist forces in the Non-Aligned Movement which stand for peace and independence was quite manifest at the conference. Singapore was the most zealous country to carry out this scheme . The Singaporean delegate devoted most of his speech to attacking Cuba and India in vindictive terms while saying not a word about the towering crimes of US imperialist and the Beijing hegemonists .

On the contrary, many countries voiced support for Cuba and India and praised the big contributions of these two countries to the Non-Aligned Movement. For several years now as well as at this conference Cuba has made outstanding contributions in her capacity as president of the movement . India in her capacity as the host country and chairman of the conference has made positive contributions to the success of the conference . Clearly, nobody can play down the role of Cuba and India in the Non-Aligned Movement .
