

VICE-PREMIER

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CHEN YI

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ANSWERS

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QUESTIONS

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PUT BY

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CORRESPONDENTS

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FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS

PEKING

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## **C O N T E N T S**

**VICE-PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHEN YI'S  
IMPORTANT REMARKS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE  
ATTENDED BY CHINESE AND FOREIGN COR-  
RESPONDENTS (September 29, 1965)**

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**VICE-PREMIER CHEN YI'S ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS  
PUT BY TAKANO YOSHIHISA, PEKING CORRE-  
SPONDENT OF THE JAPANESE PAPER "AKAHATA"  
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(September 29, 1965)

**ON THE SINO-INDIAN BOUNDARY QUESTION**

Answering a question about the Sino-Indian border issue raised by the editor of the *Voice of Revolution* of the Congo (Brazzaville), Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: In its note of September 16, the Chinese Government demanded that India dismantle the 56 aggressive military works she had built within Chinese territory on the China-Sikkim border and withdraw the intruding Indian troops. The China-Sikkim boundary is the boundary between China and Sikkim and does not fall within the scope of the Sino-Indian boundary. It has long been delimited. India not only regards Sikkim as her protectorate, but has gone to the length of intruding into Chinese territory across the China-Sikkim boundary. It was her right as a sovereign state and entirely reasonable for China to lodge the protest and raise the demands in her note to the Indian Government. We had shown forbearance for several years. Knowing that it was in the wrong, the Indian Government withdrew all the in-

truding Indian troops and demolished a part of the aggressive military works upon receiving our notification. That was a good thing, and it was wise of them to do so. If India had failed to do so, the Chinese Government would have been entitled to act in self-defence, drive out the intruders and destroy the aggressive military works.

Along the Sino-Indian boundary of several thousand kilometres, Indian troops have crossed the line of actual control at many other places and carried out harassing raids. India is still occupying over 92,000 square kilometres of Chinese territory in the eastern, western and middle sectors of the Sino-Indian border. The Indian Government should understand that there is a limit to our forbearance, that it must cease its intrusions and harassments and that the question of Chinese territory occupied by it will have to be thoroughly settled.

### ON THE INDIAN-PAKISTAN CONFLICT

A correspondent of the London *Daily Express* asked what assistance the Chinese Government would give Pakistan with the resumption of the conflict between India and Pakistan. Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: The fact is that Pakistan is the victim of aggression and India the aggressor. Recently Indian troops have continued to launch attacks in the Lahore area. We do not wish to see the aggravation of the situation, and we hope that the Indian side knows how to restrain itself. If the situation is aggravated, it is certain that the Chinese Government and people will give moral and material support to Pakistan. Relying on the support of the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain, the Indian Government

wants to do whatever it pleases, but that can frighten nobody. We hope that it will come to its senses.

India's aggression against Pakistan is not in the interest of the Indian people. I believe that the great Indian people of more than 400 million wish to live in peace with the other Afro-Asian peoples and unite with them in opposing imperialism and old and new colonialism. It is regrettable that the Indian leaders have failed to reflect this wish, but instead have perpetrated aggression by relying on foreign forces, and particularly on U.S. imperialism. Such an adventurist policy is bound to fail, and indeed it has already failed. If it is not altered, it will continue to meet with failure.

#### **ON TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND WEST GERMANY**

A West German D.P.A. correspondent asked on what conditions China would enter into official trade relations with West Germany. Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: At present, China already has trade relations with West Germany. But conditions are not ripe for the establishment of official trade relations. In close collaboration with the United States, West Germany is restoring militarism and posing a threat to the security of Europe. West Germany has not given up her plan of annexing the German Democratic Republic. In these circumstances, China cannot enter into any official trade relations with West Germany.

There exists a traditional friendship between the people, the workers, peasants, scientists and intellectuals, of West Germany and the Chinese people. We hope that this friendship will develop.

## ON SHARING NUCLEAR KNOWLEDGE

A London *Times* correspondent asked whether China was prepared to share her nuclear knowledge with any of the developing countries.

In reply, Vice-Premier Chen Yi first commented on the Western countries' practice of dividing nations into the "developed" and the "under-developed". He said: The Western countries have shown a superiority complex by claiming themselves to be "developed" while degrading some other countries by calling them "under-developed". I do not agree with these terms. Now they promote the so-called under-developed countries by describing them as developing countries. So far as China is concerned, we are not grateful for that. The facts over the past three centuries show that the so-called developed countries have developed by exploiting the colonies, while the so-called under-developed countries remain undeveloped as a result of imperialist and colonialist exploitation. No rigid line should be drawn by classifying certain countries as developed and some others as under-developed. We hold that, politically, the Asian, African and Latin American countries which persist in opposing imperialism and colonialism are advanced, while the West European and North American imperialist countries are backward. Economically, we do not believe that the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America will for ever remain backward and that Western Europe and North America will for ever be in the van technically. The people of Asia, Africa and Latin America will overtake the industrially advanced countries within a few decades, once they shake off the control of imperialism and old and new colonialism and start to build their

countries by relying on their own efforts. The history of New China over the past 16 years provides a most vivid evidence. China has achieved great successes in national construction mainly through the united efforts of the government and the people, through self-reliance, hard work and the exploitation of her own resources. So far there has not been any country in the world which can change its state of backwardness by merely relying on foreign aid.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: There are two aspects to the question of nuclear co-operation. As for the peaceful use of atomic energy and the building of atomic reactors, China has already been approached by several countries, and China is ready to render them assistance; as for the request for China's help in the manufacture of atom bombs, this question is not realistic.

In my opinion, the most important task for the Afro-Asian countries today is to shake off imperialist control politically, economically and culturally and develop their own independent economy. This task is an acute struggle and its accomplishment will take quite a few years. Any country with a fair basis in industry and agriculture and in science and technology will be able to manufacture atom bombs, with or without China's assistance. China hopes that Afro-Asian countries will be able to make atom bombs themselves, and it would be better for a greater number of countries to come into possession of atom bombs.

In our view, the role of atom bombs should not be overstressed. The United States has been brandishing the atom bomb for atomic blackmail over the past twenty years, but it has failed. The just struggle of Afro-Asian



countries against imperialism and colonialism is the best atom bomb.

### **ON U.S. WAR OF AGGRESSION IN VIET NAM**

A correspondent of the Viet Nam News Agency raised two questions:

(1) Since the beginning of 1965, while repeatedly proposing peace talks on the Viet Nam question, the United States has been launching military attacks and has increased the number of its troops in south Viet Nam to 130,000. It has employed various types of modern weapons on the battlefield and kept on escalating the war. What is your comment on these actions of the United States? And what is your comment on the stand taken by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam?

(2) The United States attempts to bring about peace talks through the United Nations. U.S. aggression in Viet Nam is a matter which concerns the Geneva Conference nations only and has nothing to do with the United Nations. What comment would you make on this?

In reply, Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: The comrade correspondent from Viet Nam has asked me to comment on the actions of the U.S. Government. I think the best comment has already been made by the Vietnamese people on the south Viet Nam battlefield and in their fight against air attacks in north Viet Nam. By defeating the special war launched by U.S. imperialism, the Vietnamese people have given the best answer and the best comment.

U.S. imperialism has attempted, by bombing the north, to force the people of south Viet Nam to stop fighting and the whole of Viet Nam to give in. The Vietnamese

people have not given in, and this is the best answer. The Vietnamese people's heroic struggle has won them the respect of the people of the world. The Chinese people have boundless admiration for the struggle of the Vietnamese people.

Some people believe that the Vietnamese people can defeat U.S. imperialism, while others do not. The fact is that the United States is the aggressor; although its military forces are not small, they are scattered all over the world in all those places it has occupied. Therefore, the forces it can use in Viet Nam are after all limited, and it is in an inferior position there. Viet Nam is a small country with a population slightly over 30 million, but she is waging a just war against aggression, the people of the whole country are united as one in resolute resistance to U.S. imperialism, and so she is in a superior position. This war will definitely end in victory for Viet Nam and defeat for U.S. imperialism.

The so-called unconditional discussions proposed by Johnson are a fraud. Its aim is to carve up Viet Nam, perpetuate U.S. occupation of south Viet Nam and turn it into a permanent puppet country of the United States. These are the terms set by Johnson for peace talks. All those who work for peace talks without knowing the truth about Viet Nam should give the matter serious thought. Johnson's scheme of peace talks is absolutely unacceptable to the Vietnamese people. How can the Vietnamese people tolerate the continued division of their motherland? The Viet Nam question can only be settled on the basis of the five-part statement of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the four-point proposition of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. In short, the U.S. troops must with-

draw from Viet Nam completely and the Vietnamese people should be free to settle their own problems.

If anybody tries to mediate on the Viet Nam question without making any distinction between right and wrong, between the aggressor and the victim of aggression, his effort will objectively help U.S. imperialism, whatever his subjective wishes may be. The only way to attain peace in Viet Nam and the whole of Indo-China is to stand on the side of the Vietnamese people and oppose U.S. aggression until the U.S. aggressors get out of Viet Nam.

Some people say that the United States has not yet exhausted its strength. I say that the strength of the Vietnamese people has not been exhausted either, nor has that of the people of the world who support the Vietnamese people. Why should one only see the strength of the United States?

As for the United Nations, there is almost no difference between it and the United States. The United Nations is a tool of the United States, while the United States is the overlord of the United Nations. This is an objective and irrefutable fact.

True, there has been some change in the United Nations. The United Nations used to be the exclusive tool of the United States, and now it has become the tool of a few big powers, primarily the United States. The U.N. headquarters in New York has become the political bargaining place for a few big powers.

The United Nations has been discredited under the exclusive control of the United States; it can fare no better under the control of several big powers, primarily the United States.

It will only be advantageous to the United States if the United Nations should meddle in the Viet Nam question. As I know, the Vietnamese Government and people are firmly against this. The United Nations has no right to interfere in the Viet Nam question.

The future of Viet Nam must be decided by the Vietnamese people themselves, by President Ho Chi Minh, Premier Pham Van Dong and President Nguyen Huu Tho, and it admits of no foreign interference. The Chinese people unreservedly stand on the side of the Vietnamese people until U.S. imperialism is defeated.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi answered six questions raised by the Japanese correspondents stationed in Peking from various newspapers, news agencies and broadcasting stations.

#### **ON THE SECOND AFRICAN-ASIAN CONFERENCE**

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: The African-Asian Conference is a meeting of the heads of state or government of the more than sixty African and Asian countries which have won independence. If this conference can develop the Bandung spirit and discuss the questions of fighting imperialism and colonialism and of the national-liberation movement of the world, I believe it will be of great significance in international life. The conference should support the people of Viet Nam, Laos, the Congo (Leopoldville), the Dominican Republic, Angola, Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea, South Africa, the Arab people of Palestine, and the people of South Yemen, Malaya, Singapore and North Kalimantan in their struggles against the aggression of the imperialists, colonialists and

neo-colonialists headed by the United States. The Chinese Government has always stood for holding the conference along these lines and making it a success.

U.S. imperialism dislikes this conference very much and is trying to sabotage it by every means. It is anticipated that the first item on the agenda after the opening session will be the condemnation of U.S. imperialism for its aggressions throughout the world. If this is done, the Bandung spirit will be raised to a new level. If it fails to make an open denunciation of U.S. imperialism but only opposes imperialism and colonialism in general terms, then it will not have much significance.

Recently, a cabinet minister of a certain country told me that some newly independent countries could not openly denounce U.S. imperialism at the African-Asian Conference because of their need for U.S. aid to solve the bread question. On the other hand, some other Afro-Asian countries hold that the first and foremost task of the African-Asian Conference is to denounce U.S. imperialism, otherwise there will be no sense in convening the conference. These two tendencies are now engaged in a struggle. China firmly sides with those that stand for condemnation of U.S. imperialism. This position of China's will never change. For without adopting resolutions condemning U.S. imperialism, the African-Asian Conference will disappoint the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America. To hold such a conference would be a waste. As for the bread question, it is my view that if one relies on U.S. aid, one will get less and less bread, while by relying on one's own efforts one will get more and more. So far as certain countries are concerned, the more they denounce U.S. imperialism, the more bread they will probably get from it, otherwise they will not

get any. Such is the character of U.S. imperialism — bullying the weak-kneed and fearing the strong.

I have told the leaders of some Afro-Asian countries: since many Afro-Asian countries are receiving aid and loans from the United States and other countries, thus incurring ever-increasing burdens, it may be advisable to adopt a resolution at the African-Asian Conference declaring the cancellation of all debts which Afro-Asian countries owe to the United States. If this can be done, the debts owed to China may also be cancelled. They said this was a very good idea and could be considered.

In order to sabotage the African-Asian Conference, the imperialists are trying to hook it up with the United Nations. The Bandung Conference has enjoyed high prestige among the people of the world precisely because, having nothing to do with the United Nations, it was free from U.N. influence and contributed to the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist cause of the people of the world independently and outside the United Nations. If the conference is to be linked with the United Nations, it will be tantamount to discarding the Bandung spirit. The Chinese Government is firmly against this.

To invite a representative of the United Nations or anyone from it to the African-Asian Conference would mean, in effect, to bring the United States into the conference. Is it not ludicrous to invite agents of U.S. imperialism to an anti-imperialist conference?

The Chinese Government is resolutely against the participation of U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, in the African-Asian Conference. Everybody is clear about the role U Thant is playing. He is not the head of the United Nations; the head of the United Nations is the United States. Not being the head of any

Afro-Asian state, what qualifications has he to participate in the African-Asian Conference?

The United Nations has excluded China for 16 years. China cannot sit together with its representative. The Chinese Government does not force other countries to boycott U.N. meetings, nor should others force us to sit together with a representative of the United Nations. Otherwise, it would be running counter to the Bandung spirit. Joint struggle against imperialism is possible only when no one imposes his will on others. The invitation for U Thant to attend the African-Asian Conference was issued before Ben Bella's fall. I am thankful to President Houari Boumedienne because he showed sympathy with China's stand and said he would try to find a solution to this problem.

The Chinese Government categorically states that no representative of the United Nations should be admitted to the African-Asian Conference.

As for inviting the Soviet Union to the African-Asian Conference, the Chinese Government is firmly opposed to it. Whether historically or politically, the Soviet Union is by tradition a European country, and there is no reason for its participation in the African-Asian Conference. The Soviet Union did not ask for participation in the First Asian-African Conference. At that time, Prime Minister Nehru openly declared that the Soviet Union, a European country, was not to be invited. Last year, India demanded Soviet participation, but the 22 countries failed to reach agreement, which means in effect the rejection of the demand for Soviet participation in the African-Asian Conference. Khrushchov stated last year that the Soviet Union would not put

forward its request, if its participation would not conduce to Afro-Asian solidarity.

This question was already closed and should no longer exist. It was only recently, after the new leaders of the Soviet Union received the support and encouragement of the United States, India, Tito and some other countries that they raised this question anew.

The question now is whether we should uphold the Bandung spirit and have the heads of the independent Afro-Asian countries meet and proclaim independent political views to promote the further progress of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle in Asia and Africa, or whether we should submit to the unreasonable demand of a big power to gatecrash into the African-Asian Conference. The Chinese Government is firmly opposed to Soviet participation in the African-Asian Conference.

Some U.S. and other Western newspapers declare outright that injection of the Soviet Union into the African-Asian Conference is the only way to offset the influence of China. The real implication of these words is that injection of the Soviet Union is the only way to water down the influence of the African-Asian Conference in opposing U.S. imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. This is a major issue of principle, on which there can be no compromise or concession.

China is not afraid of an all-round debate with the Soviet Union. The injection of the Soviet Union into the African-Asian Conference will mean nothing more than the opening of a new battlefield in the struggle against modern revisionism.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: Algeria is the host country of the Second African-Asian Conference. Some peo-



ple hesitate to go to Algiers for the conference because they have reservations about the new Algerian Government. We hold that the change of leadership in Algeria is her internal affair in which no foreign state should interfere. One should not link the convening of the African-Asian Conference in Algeria with her internal affairs. To do so would be running counter to the Bandung spirit.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi said: Another important question which the African-Asian Conference should discuss is how the Afro-Asian countries are to free themselves from imperialist control and develop their national economy independently.

The more foreign aid with conditions attached a country receives, the more difficult will it be for her to stand up. This is like drinking poison to quench one's thirst.

Before liberation, China was wholly controlled by the United States, and it was with political, economic and military aid from the United States that Chiang Kai-shek collapsed. And the situation in New China has become still better after she thoroughly embarked on a path of self-reliance upon the stoppage of all aid by Khrushchov. A country's economy will gain vigour in a few years' time, if she makes up her mind to stop relying on foreign aid, carries on construction with her own efforts and resources and turns out the products she needs. So long as this path is followed with determination, all Afro-Asian countries can solve their own economic problems, because they have all got a certain foundation for economic development.

Of course, on the above basis, Afro-Asian countries need to help supply each other's wants and aid each other on the principle of equality and mutual benefit.