KIM IL SUNG

ANSWERS
TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED
BY FOREIGN JOURNALISTS

PYONGYANG, KOREA 1970

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PROGRESSIVE JOURNALISTS OF THE FIVE CONTINENTS, WIELD YOUR POWERFUL REVOLUTIONARY PEN AND STERNLY CONDEMN U.S. IMPERIALISM

CONGRATULATORY SPEECH MADE AT THE INTER-NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE TASKS OF JOURN-ALISTS OF THE WHOLE WORLD IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST THE AGGRESSION OF U.S. IMPERIALISM

September 18, 1969

Dear Delegates!

Comrades and Friends!

Expressing the lofty idea and unanimous desire of the journalists of the five continents, who oppose imperialism and colonialism and strive for national independence and social progress, this International Conference of Journalists has been convened amid the great concern of the revolutionary peoples of the whole world. It gives us a great pleasure that in Pyongyang, the capital of our country, a meeting of true representatives of the progressive press of the world has been convened under the revolutionary banner of the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle.

On behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I warmly welcome the representatives of the progressive journalists who have come to attend this Conference from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania and Europe.

Comrades and Friends!

Today we are living in a glorious age of revolutionary change when the colonial system of imperialism is crumbling beyond retrieve, in a grandiose historic age when the national-liberation revolution of the oppressed peoples is gaining great victories.

A fierce struggle is going on in the international arena today between socialism and imperialism, between revolutionary forces and counterrevolutionary forces.

In this struggle the socialist and peace-loving forces are winning victory after victory, and the imperialist forces of aggression are falling into decay and ruin.

The times are past when a handful of imperialist billionaires swaggered about and lorded it over the earth, exploiting and plundering mankind at will; and the face of the world has radically changed.

In the world arena, along with the revolutionary struggle of the people of the socialist countries, the liberation struggle of the people in the colonial and dependent countries is forging ahead vigorously. Today, in the vast areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America mighty floodtides of national-liberation revolutionary movement are surging with an irresistible force, and great revolutionary storms are sweeping

across those continents, wiping out imperialism and colonialism. Hundreds of millions of people in those areas, oppressed and plundered by imperialism for centuries, have thrown off the cursed yoke of colonialism and imposingly risen to emerge on the new arena of history as heroes; they are achieving brilliant victories in their great cause of tearing down the old system of imperialism and colonialism and carving out a new life. The peoples of the countries still groaning under the colonial yoke of imperialism are heroically fighting in arms against the aggressive forces of foreign imperialism. Under the powerful impact of the national-liberation ment the chains of colonial slavery are falling apart everywhere, and the colonial system of imperialism which has spelled so many miseries and sufferings for humanity is crumbling to dust. There no longer exists any "safe rear" or "quiet backyard" for the imperialists, and imperialism is breathing its last.

Also, gaining further in strength is the revolutionary struggle of the working class and working people in the capitalist countries for their vital rights and democratic freedom against oppression and exploitation by capital. This struggle sends the blood-thirsty imperialists atremble with apprehension and horror.

In the imperialist world the political and economic crises are getting ever more serious day after day, and the contradictions between the imperialist powers in their struggle for markets and spheres of influence are growing more acute.

The imperialists are hard hit from within and without, and driven further into a blind alley.

In spite of the turns and twists and temporary failures and setbacks in the course of the advance of the revolution, the general trend of developments still remains favorable to socialism and the forces of revolution and unfavorable to imperialism and the forces of reaction.

However, the imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists will never quit the arena of history of their own accord. Dreaming of its old positions, imperialism is making desperate efforts to recover its lost footholds and is trying to find a way out in aggression and war to save itself from the doom.

Resorting to open violence, the U.S. imperialists are perpetrating aggressive acts against the socialist countries and independent national states, brutally suppressing the national-liberation movement of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples and viciously disturbing peace in all parts of the world. While continuing a barbarous war of holocaust against the South Vietnamese people for a number of years, the U.S. imperialists are perpetrating brigandish acts of aggression against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They are making frenzied attempts to strangle the Republic of Cuba, the first country to win the socialist revolution in the Western Hemisphere and the beacon of hope for the Latin American peoples. The U.S. imperialists are stepping up their armed intervention in Laos and are ceaselessly egging the Zionists on to acts of aggression and war against the Arab peoples in the Middle and Near

East. The U.S. imperialists are again creating dangerous hotbeds of a new war in Asia and Europe by rearming Japanese militarism and West German militarism.

The imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists put up the show of advocating "independence" and "freedom" for the peoples, but, in reality, they are making frantic efforts to maintain their colonial rule in a more crafty and underhand way, and are plotting absurdly to catch again the peoples of the newly-independent countries in a noose of neo-colonialism.

They are pursuing the colonial subjugation policy in many of the Asian, African and Latin American countries by bribing and whipping up the Rightwing circles comprising such as the military top brass and representatives of the tribal upper crust who have turned reactionary. When the puppets they have put in power get in the way of carrying out their colonial policy even in the slightest degree, the imperialists engineer a reactionary military coup and establish a military fascist dictatorship, and even perpetrate open armed intervention without hesitation. Such heinous plots and manoeuvrings on the part of the imperialists constitute a standing menace and blackmail to the new-born independent countries, and have caused not a few governments to degrade into colonial ruling machines of rialism, thereby diverting those countries to the Right and tying them down virtually to the status of colony or semi-colony.

The economic subordination policy of the im-

perialists towards the developing countries is one of the most salient features of neo-colonialism. Today U.S. imperialism is using the "aid" policy as a major tool of overseas expansion under the ostentatious signboard of "joint development underdeveloped countries" and, through the socalled "aid," it is paving the way for overseas infiltration of monopoly capital. By means of exporting huge amounts of capital and obtaining various colonial concessions, the imperialists have hold of the levers of control of the economy in many countries of the world. Thus, the monopoly capital of imperialism continues to ruthlessly rob those countries of their rich natural resources and their industrious people of the fruits of their labour Through "economic aid" the imperialists are not only holding back the development of an independent national economy in the backward countries, but also are flagrantly interfering in their internal affairs and reducing their political independence to nothing but a mere name.

Together with economic infiltration, ideological and cultural infiltration is also an important means of neo-colonialism. By intensifying their reactionary ideological and cultural offensive against a number of countries under the spurious names of "peace corps," "African crossroad programme," etc., the U.S. imperialists are paralyzing the consciousness of national independence and revolutionary consciousness of the peoples of those countries, instilling in them U.S. worship and anti-communist ideas, imbuing them with national nihilism, disseminating

among them corrupt immorality and depravity of the Yankee brand and continuing with wrecking and subversive activities behind the screen of "peace."

Under the signboard of "anti-communism" and "mutual security," the imperialists led by the U.S. imperialists have enmeshed a number of countries in aggressive military blocs, bilateral military alliances and military treaties, subordinating those countries militarily and turning them into their colonial military bases.

By means of this neo-colonialist manipulation, U.S. imperialism has seized the hegemony of the capitalist world in place of the old colonialists and emerged as the colonial "emperor" after the second world war, and has stretched out its black claws of aggression to all parts of the world.

There is not a country on this earth today, whether Asian, African or Latin American, big or small, that is free from U.S. imperialism's tentacles of aggression and from the menace of its aggression.

All this proves ever more clearly that U.S. imperialism is the most barbarous and shameless aggressor of modern times, the main force of aggression and war, the chieftain of world reaction, the bulwark of modern colonialism, the strangler of the national liberation and independence, and the disturber of world peace.

The present situation demands that the revolutionary peoples of the five continents fight more resolutely against imperialism, against new and old colonialism, and concentrate their attack on U.S. im-

perialism in particular. Without the struggle against U.S. imperialism, neither peace nor national independence, nor the victory of democracy and socialism is conceivable today.

The revolutionary peoples of the whole world should put strong pressure on the imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists from all sides and tie them hand and foot so that they cannot cut up rough.

In this the peoples of the socialist countries, before anyone else, should play a big role. The peoples of the socialist countries should not only expedite the building of socialism and communism vigorously in their own countries, exercising vigilance to smash the subversive activities and sabotages of the imperialists and the remnants of the overthrown exploiting classes, but also regard it as an internationalist duty to render active support to the national-liberation movement, proceeding from the Marxist-Leninist sense of revolutionary ethics. The socialist countries, as bases of the world revolution, should resolutely oppose the war policy of the imperialists and their colonial predatory policy, and assist the oppressed nations energetically in all their revolutionary struggles. This will strengthen the allied forces of the socialist countries and the international working class, and is the way to hastening the common victory in the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle.

Together with the peoples of the socialist countries, the working class in the capitalist countries, too, should fight more vigorously against imperial-

ism and thereby render powerful support and encouragement to the liberation movement of the oppressed nations. The working class of the suzerain states and the oppressed nations in the colonies are in the same positions. The imperialists make every effort to estrange the working class of the metropolitan countries from the peoples in the colonies in order to strengthen their plunder and exploitation of the peoples in colonial and dependent countries. They manoeuvre to poison the working class by the stinking ideas of racialism and national chauvinism and to disorganize the militant ranks of the working class from within by bribing the labour aristocrats with a portion of the superprofits they have raked up in the colonies. The working class of the suzerain countries must thoroughly smash this underhand trick of the imperialists and fight stoutly against their aggression and plunder of colonial and dependent countries. Besides, they must fully support the right of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries to complete independence and wage the revolutionary struggle more energetically for the overthrow of the old system. This is the way for the working class of the capitalist countries to achieve their class emancipation and contribute to the national-liberation movement in colonies.

Colonies are the life line of the imperialists and their last strongpoints. The imperialists will not give away their colonies of their own accord, nor will they make a gift of independence. The peoples of colonial countries must unite their strength and wage a resolute and do-or-die struggle to drive out the imperialists and win complete freedom and independence.

newly-independent countries that have thrown off the yoke of imperialism are confronted with the weighty task of safeguarding their national independence, carrying forward the revolution, and assisting the liberation struggle of the peoples of the countries still in imperialist fetters. The peoples who have won independence must abrogate all the shackling treaties and agreements and military alliances concluded with the imperialists; liquidate the political and economic footholds which foreign imperialists and their accomplices—domestic reactionary forces—can rely on in their underhand manoeuvres; rally the revolutionary forces to effect the revolutionary reform of society. Especially, they must clearly see through the true nature of the neo-colonialist policy pursued by the imperialists in all political, economic, military and cultural domains and thoroughly expose and frustrate it, and should not be caught again in their trap. Only by so doing can they reliably defend their revolutionary gains, achieve national prosperity and contribute to the common cause of the peoples of the whole world to entomb imperialism.

Today, the international democratic movement and the peace movement hold a very important place in the common anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. front. These movements unite under them hundreds of millions of working people and progressive personalities of the world. The peace-loving people of the whole world must fight more stubbornly for a lasting peace and a bright future of mankind and for checking and frustrating the imperialist policy of aggression and war.

When all the revolutionary forces of the world vigorously wage the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle on every front they hold, imperialism will be wiped out once for good and the peoples of all countries will come to achieve genuine national independence and social progress.

Esteemed Delegates!

As you see, the current International Conference of Journalists is opened at a grave moment when the U.S. imperialists have become more rabid in their aggressive manoeuvrings and the revolutionary peoples of the world are confronted with the weighty historic task of combating U.S. imperialism more resolutely than ever before. It is very timely and fully conforms to the aspirations of the revolutionary peoples of the world that the delegates of the progressive journalists of the five continents, who regard it as a sacred duty to fight for the just revolutionary cause of the people, have met together today to discuss the ways of struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression.

This Conference will further enhance the militant role of the progressive journalists throughout the world in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists, and will thus arouse the masses of the people vigorously to the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle and contribute greatly to their common cause of socialism and national independence, peace and democracy.

The progressive journalists and progressive publications—the advocate and propagator of advanced ideas and the mouthpiece and organizer of public opinion—play a very great inspiring role in the social revolution and construction.

As is known to all, it is the masses of the people who create history and develop it. This does not mean in any way, however, that the masses of the people can be drawn into the revolutionary struggle spontaneously. Only when they are armed with revolutionary consciousness and devote themselves to the sanguinary struggle for blowing up the upper crust of the old society, can the masses of the people truly become the main force of revolution. powerful motive force of social development and worthy creator of new history. It is the rule in any revolutionary movement that as the level of the consciousness of the popular masses who take part in it rises higher, they grow into a greater force and perform the decisive role in the revolutionary struggle. It is the progressive personages representing the interests of the popular masses, who should infuse the latter with revolutionary consciousness and enlighten them with progressive ideas. The progressive personalities fighting for the masses of the people arm them with the revolutionary idea of overthrowing the old system and building a new society, put up correct fighting slogans, encourage and rally the popular masses, and arouse them vigorously to the revolutionary struggle.

The progressive journalists—masters of advanced ideas and fighters who love justice and

truth and clear away all manner of injustices and social evil—have severely condemned the decaying old system and sternly doomed the moribund reactionary ruling classes to fall, always correctly grasping the objective requirements of social development and gripping their revolutionary pen firmly in defence of the interests of the progressive classes.

In the arena of this sacred struggle, the progressive journalists shed much blood and fought heroically in defiance of all the harsh suppression by the reactionaries, and even in prison and on the gallows they fought bravely to the last moment of their lives without abandoning their revolutionary constancy. Thus, the journalists have performed really immortal feats that will go down in the history of struggle for the liberation of mankind. The people pay high tribute to the revolutionary journalists who shed their precious blood in the sacred battle for the liberation of mankind, and will long remember their feats.

It is none other than you progressive journalists who are entrusted with the heavy and honorable tasks of inheriting those splendid traditions of the forerunners and, on this basis, scathingly condemning the crimes of U.S. imperialism that is blocking the way to the freedom and liberation of mankind, and of arousing the peoples of the whole world to turn out valiantly in the decisive battle against U.S. imperialism, the most heinous common enemy of humanity.

The progressive journalists the world over should