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THE SUMMIT TALKS & PEACE

The Barisan Sosialis has always advocated that the dispute among the three countries should be settled at the conference table and by means of peaceful negotiation.

The existing conflict among Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia and the necessity to hold such Summit Talk are the direct results of the enforced formation of Malaysia, by the British colonial rulers and its lackey, the Alliance Govt. The formation of Malaysia allows British colonial rulers to successfully prolong its suppression and exploitation in this part of the world in the form of neo-colonialism on the one hand, and totally to neglect the people's rights for national self-determination on the other. If the Tokyo Summit Talk is to successfully resolve the existing dispute resulting from the formation of Malaysia, it is necessary therefore (i) to be free from neo-colonialist influence in this region, and to end their oppression and exploitation over the people of this region; (ii) to satisfy the will and aspiration for national self-determination.

The restoration of peace in N.Borneo is seemingly the major problem to be solved in the Summit Talk. But how to restore peace? We had advocated and are still advocating that all foreign troops should be withdrawn from North Borneo. But contrary to this, Australian troops recently were sent to North Borneo according to news report. This will only serve to deteriorate the situation more rapidly. "Asians Affairs should only be settled by Asians". Any imperialist interference will only be detrimental to the people's interest and obstruct all possible solution.

In N.Borneo political parties which are against the imposition of Malaysia and local guerillas who are forced to take up arms are significant facts which should not be ignored.

It will be most unrealistic therefore, if their opinions are neglected by the Heads of State in the Summit Talk.

We suggest that an Afro-Asian Committee at the request of the 3 Heads of State should be set up to re-ascertain the will and aspiration of the North Borneo peoples. And participating countries of the Committee should seek the views of all representative political parties. Before Afro-Asian Committee begins to work, all political detainees who were detained for anti-Malaysia reasons should be unconditionally released. There must be normalisation of political activities and restoration of the people's rights to freedom of speech and publication, travel and association and assembly. Under conditions free of foreign intervention, the N.Borneo people should be allowed to decide their own future, according to their own wishes and determination.

We must also point out at the same time that the people of Singapore still do not enjoy equal rights in Malaysia and any solution which ignores the just demands of the people of Singapore, will not diminish their discontent against Malaysia and its ruling clique.

What we are worrying about the future of the Summit Meeting is that the U.S.A. was trying their best to intrude into the affairs of this meeting. U.S.A. is a faraway country in N.American Continent. But it had sent a so-called S.E.Asia official to Tokyo to follow the conference of the 3 govts. This is dangerous because wherever U.S.imperialism goes there is nothing but wars and disasters. They have given the peoples of S.Vietnam and Laos nothing but suffering and hardships and we must be on our guard against this. Because of this we hope that the 3 Heads of State will not allow any interference from the imperialist especially the U.S.imperialist to influence our affairs.

*Malaysia Dispute***Malayan Socialists****Urge Peaceful Solution**

The following is the full statement issued by the Malayan People's Socialist Front on 23rd June, 1964 on the Tokyo Summit Talk

The Socialist Front stands for the peaceful solution of problems among nations.

Despite the failure of the Summit Conference in Tokyo to achieve a solution to the Malaysia dispute, we note that in the joint statement the three governments have agreed to study the Philippine's proposal for the formation of a four-nation Afro-Asian conciliation commission.

We appeal to the three governments to continue to seek every means to resolve peacefully the Malaysia dispute, and to do so in the Asian spirit so as to be able to distinguish Asian from imperialists' interests. Such a solution of the dispute is possible on the basis of self-determination for the peoples concerned.

One aspect of the Summit Meeting that invites special attention is the allegation by Indonesia that Britain had planned to attack Medan and Palembang. Recalling how Malaysia was rushed through and the denial of the right of self-determination to the people of Kalimantan Utara, both were opposed by the Socialist Front, we believe that the people are now convinced of the sinister British motive behind its formation. The British, with the connivance of American imperialism, had planned to attack and subvert a neighbouring country while provoking Asians to fight Asians.

Any Asian wants a peaceful solution to the dispute. But unfortunately there are still some Asian leaders who believe that their salvation lies with the imperialists and not with their own people. As such they tend to ignore the peoples aspirations to be really free from colonial domination in whatever form.

This attitude of dependence and thereby of subservience to Britain must change in the interest of our people and peace in S.E. Asia. We must not allow ourselves to be pushed into the abyss of war in which Asians kill Asians. We must strive on to fight neo-colonialism and free our country from foreign political, economic and military domination.

(From page 4 - Malaysia's credential as a participating nation was actively questioned. The foregoing grim facts obviously tell us how badly our country has lost the favour of the Afro-Asian nations.

It is essential to intimately associate with the Afro-Asian nations. But it is possible only if Malaysia is prepared to stamp out imperialist influence, adhere to the policy of non-alignment and non-involvement in the cold-war, vigorously supporting national independence movement and uncompromisingly opposing the presence of military bases, and forces. Unless and until Malaysia resolutely discards the pursuit of foreign policy similar to that of the Western bloc, it would be taken for granted that she would not be able to detach herself from the existing isolated position.

though Britain cannot "wash her hands" should point out to Malaysia that she lacks resources to take part in a large-scale Asian conflict.

"The Breakdown of the negotiations between President Sukarno of Indonesia and the Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia, before they had hardly started, is very serious," the Observer commented.

"The defence treaty is not something to be waved as a red flag in front of Indonesia. And the Tunku would do well to remember that one day he will have to live in the same Asian world as Indonesia - in which Britain's support will probably be, in the eyes of nationalists a source of weakness rather than strength," the Observer concluded.

Tass on**Malaysia Conflict**

A Soviet commentator said that Britain wanted to establish military bases in Malaysia and persisted in "efforts to keep Malaysia as a pistol-held point blank at Indonesia's head," the Soviet newsagency Tass reported.

E. Beaskakov added that Britain is "anything but interested in preserving peace in S.E. Asia", Tass said.

Beaskakov said that the sources of the Indonesia-Malaysia dispute lay in the policy of Britain which "put together the puppet Federation of Malaysia."

Observer says

The Observer today argued that although the dispute over Malaysia, she lacks resources to take part in a

Malaya Should Pursue A Non-Alignment Policy

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong in his speech at the opening of Parliament referred to Malaysian foreign policy and revealed that the country intended to 'associate with the Afro-Asian group of countries'.

Like many other Afro-Asian countries, our country suffer from the domination and suppression of colonialism and we share with them the same experience in the struggle against the evils of colonialism. To associate with the Afro-Asian countries and to unite together in a common cause is therefore as natural as it is essential.

NON-ALIGNMENT POLICY OF AFRO-ASIAN COUNTRIES

Not to get involved in the two cold-war blocs, to actively support national self-determination and independence movement and to oppose resolutely the establishment of foreign military bases - all these are becoming gradually but surely the context of the common foreign policy of the Afro-Asian countries.

In order to maintain closer and better relations with the Afro-Asian bloc and to become identified as one of the members of the 'Large Afro-Asian Family' it is of paramount importance that our country also pursue an external policy of absolute non-alignment. Unfortunately since independence Malaya (now Malaysia) instead of pursuing a foreign policy identical to that of the Afro-Asian group, has all the time following suit the Western Bloc in external affairs.

Whilst the Afro-Asian countries were trying all possible means of bringing about a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian border dispute, the Alliance Govt. on the other hand in collaboration with the United States, Britain and other Western countries, was encouraging the Indian Govt. to resist rigidly the so-called 'invasion by China'. And whereas the Afro-Asian countries deem it wise to have no connection with S.Vietnam and S.Korea and to establish and strengthen external ties with China, the Alliance Govt. despatched arms to S.Vietnam, sent ambassador to S.Korea and at the same time aped the United States to strum the old tune of 'Two Chinas'.

Where the Afro-Asian countries sympathise and support actively Algeria, Angola and Mozambique and other oppressed African states in their fight for national independence, the Alliance Govt. either took no interest in it or, being urged by the people, acted in a pretentious manner (for instance, it lacked the courage just to merely recognise the provisional governments of these countries.

Whilst the 40000 Egyptian troops are fighting hand in hand with the Yemeni forces against the aggression of the British troops and at the same time rendering assistance to the people of S.Arabian Federation in their arm struggle against the British, the Alliance Govt., however, arrogated the power of the British Colonial Master and relied on the British forces to crush the youth of Sarawak who have been compelled to take up arms in the jungle.

While Egypt, Tunisia, Ceylon and other Afro-Asian countries are agitating for the complete withdrawal of British and French forces and military bases, the Alliance Govt., to the detriment of national pride and morale, openly declared that without the British forces 'Malaya would be vulnerable to invasion and that the absence of foreign military bases means no employment for the people.

No one can ever imagine how Malaysia could bring itself to associate with the Afro-Asian countries if she persistently continues to adopt a foreign policy in utter contradiction to that advocated by the Afro-Asian countries.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong touching upon the dispute between Indonesia and Malaysia, said: "Many friendly countries have already sufficiently proved their sympathy and support for Malaysia. Which nations condemn the aggression of Indonesia? Very unfortunately, only the everywhere condemned and everywhere hated United States and the United Kingdom and the backbenchers New Zealand and Australia come out with bitter condemnation of Indonesia.

In the course and at the close of the visit to Africa the Malaysian Goodwill delegation to African countries led by Singapore's Prime Minister ventured desperately to create a favourable atmosphere of 'sympathy, understanding and support' supposedly accorded by the host countries of Africa. However the joint statements the Delegation made in conjunction with the African nations did not in any way reveal the desire to support Malaysia nor did the statements purport to condemn the alledged aggression of Indonesia. /4.

Rocket Bases in Malaysia

On June 18, Malayan Times reliably learnt that 36 rocket bases are to be constructed soon at the air base in Butterworth.

These 36 rocket bases will cost about \$3,500,000 it is learnt. The actual construction is expected to about one year. If the work is given out say in a month or two, the rocket bases will be ready by August next year, at the latest.

Malayan Times also reliably learnt today that the Royal Australian Air Force airbases in Butterworth is to be improved by extending the overrun area of the airstrip.

When the proposed rocket bases in Butterworth are ready, it will enable the British and other Commonwealth Forces in this region to be fully equipped with all conventional atomic missiles.

The object of this construction is believed to further strengthen the Commonwealth's defensive and offensive potential in this part of the world.

Political observers felt that Britain as a member of the SEATO will be able to contribute her due share to the defence of this region, only if she is equipped for long-range operations.

Hence the hastening of the rocket bases construction in Butterworth is a step to cope with the situation in S. Vietnam and Laos deteriorating rapidly. To Malaysia, of course, it will be a blessing in disguise.

Tun Razak who has approached by newsmen told them that he had not heard of the news. But defense spokesman, Enche Ismail had refused to confirm or deny that there are rocket bases in Malaysia.

Plebeian feels that if these bases are allowed to be built on our soil, Malaya will never and can never gain the friendship of the Afro-Asian countries.

Besides, these bases will ultimately irritate the neighbouring countries which as the result will take considerable similar preventive measures to avoid any attempt to endanger their security.

It is also unbelievable that Malaysia on the one hand openly calls to foster closer relationship with Afro-Asian countries and on the other hand allows its soil to be used by Western powers to build such dangerous rocket bases.

If the Central Govt. allows the Western powers to satisfy their aggressive ambition by strengthening their military position in S.E. Asia at the expense of the people's life, it should be responsible for all consequences arises from such a move.

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These statements merely indicated the desire and hope of the African countries to see the dispute between Malaysia and Indonesia resolved by peaceful means.

On the contrary, special reporters accompanying the Delegation and the P. M. in his article entitled 'Africa and Us' revealed that the African countries at large were strongly opposed to the continual retention and operation of military bases in Malaysia. For instance the President of Tunisia pointed out to the Delegation remove the British forces. The Minister for Health in Northern Rhodesia after listening to the Delegation referring to the existence of military bases in the Philippines as justification for the British bases in Malaysia bluntly remarked 'Get rid of the British forces from Singapore before you talk of the Philippines'.

The foregoing instances evidently and adequately demonstrate the profound anti-British sentiments of the African nations as well as their detestation for foreign military bases.

ERADICATE EXTERNAL INFLUENCE AND ASSOCIATE WITH AFRO-ASIAN NATIONS

The Alliance Govt.'s reluctance & fear to submit the dispute with Indonesia for settlement to the United Nations is a naked exhibition of isolated position of Malaysia among the Afro-Asian countries. The Singapore's P.M. in the article 'Africa & Us' overtly declared that to refer the dispute with Indonesia to the United Nations 'would be expositing ourselves to grave dangers'. Because the Afro-Asian nations would in all probability support a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign military bases including those of the British from Malaysia.

Recently at the Afro-Asian Conference Preparatory Committee Meeting only India & Ceylon were in favour of proposing Malaysia as one of the participants. Other countries which have diplomatic relations with Malaysia would not indicate their viewpoint. Even the provisional govt. of Angola was unanimously invited to attend the 2nd Afro-Asian Conference. However, ...

P.A.P. MAKES "DEMOCRACY" A FARCE IN SINGAPORE

The Singapore Legislative Assembly had been cold stored by the PAP since the last sitting in December. During the last sitting a series of unreasonable Amendment Bills had been passed to provide the PAP with an opportunity to monopolise the whole state machinery for its selfish purpose. The fact that the Assembly sits very rarely nowadays, reveals the irresponsible attitude of the Govt. towards the affairs of the state. Parliamentary democracy in Singapore had become a laughing stock following the undemocratic measures taken by the party in power to restrict the opposition members from exercising their rights. During the latest sitting in June the PAP even went a step further to exploit their majority position and passed an amendment of the Standing Order.

These are some of the unjust amendments:

- 1) MEMBER MAKING SPEECH IS LIMITED TO ONE HOUR,
- 2) IN COMMITTEE, THE TIME ALLOWED IS 15 MINUTES,
- 3) DEBATE ON YANG DI-PERTUAN NEGARA'S SPEECH - 7 DAYS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO 2 DAYS,
- 4) DEBATE ON MAIN ESTIMATES - 5 DAYS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO 3 DAYS,
- 5) TIME ALLOTTED FOR DEVELOPMENT ESTIMATE DEBATE IS ONLY ONE DAY.

Following is the summary of the speeches delivered by our Assemblymen on the motion.

Mr. Lim Huan Boon (Bukit Merah):

We have made a careful study of the amendments and we can understand the reasons advanced by them. They are meant to destroy parliamentary democracy here, and these reasons are to cover up their intentions. Their main purpose is to curb the opportunity for Opposition members of making speeches and to prevent us from preparing our speeches. On the other hand, they try to give more time and opportunity to Ministers and Backbenchers to make speeches in order to attack Opposition members. Those are the main reasons for making these amendments.

For instance, Standing Order 43 (8) (a) and (b) - it stipulates that any Member making a speech is limited to one hour, and in Committee the time allowed is 15 minutes for each Member. This undoubtedly threatens our opportunity to make speeches and curbs the content of our speeches. Of course, the Party in power will say that the same clause is applicable to Govt. Benchers so that there will not be any injustice to the Opposition. But we would point out that this kind of stipulation is contrary to parliamentary democracy, because Parliament is the highest institution where the wishes of the people can be expressed. It is a place where State affairs and important public matters can be discussed. Therefore, the Standing Orders of this House should not be amended without any good reasons. Members should be given ample time to represent the people in their speeches. Opposition Members so be given the opportunity to check the Government.

Mr. Speaker, sir, we can see that under certain circumstances the Ministers can make speeches without any restriction. For instance, under Standing

Order 83, para (2), the Minister for Finance is not bound by the provisions of Standing Order 43. And also the mover of the motion to debate the Yang di-Pertuan Negara's speech and the Member making a reply are given ample time to make their speeches. From these amendments we can see that the Party in power are limiting the time of the Opposition. Under Standing Order 43 the time for debate of 1 week has been reduced to 2 days. This means that 3 days after the Yang di-Pertuan Negara has delivered his speech, the Party in power can convene a sitting to debate the speech. Mr. Speaker, sir, the policy speech is a very important statement of the Govt. for the whole year. We would like to ask whether Opposition Members can gather the necessary material in such a short period of 2 days for a debate in this House. The Opposition thus cannot have sufficient time to study deeply the policy statement and therefore they will not be able to make effective criticisms of the policy speech.

There is another undemocratic amendment. It relates to the reduction of time for debate on the Budget statement. Formerly the time allotted was 5 days, but now the time is limited to 3 days' debate on the Main Estimates and 1 day's debate on the Development Estimates.

Mr. Speaker, sir, the various items of revenue for the Govt. departments come from the people. Of course, the people have a right to know and to discuss the use of these monies. Therefore, the time limit of the debate on the Estimates will mean that Opposition Members will be prevented from making full use of the time to criticise the Govt. and to study how the
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Govt. is making use of public funds. The people will then suffer. Thus the reduction of time amounts to a reduction of the right of the Opposition Members to make their speeches here. Today we represent the people in this House, and if we cannot have sufficient time to make speeches as their representatives, then it is not only a loss to us Opposition Members, but also a loss of the democratic rights of the people. As Opposition Members we have the right and the responsibility to safeguard the rights of the people and to prevent these rights from being abused by the Party in power."

Mr. Kow Kee Seng (Paya Lebar):-

"The amendments to the Standing Orders are disadvantageous to the Opposition Parties in that they will not allow the Opposition Parties sufficient time to criticise the wrong policies or measures of the Govt. They criticise the Govt. because they want it to adopt correct policies and to pursue the correct line. Why should the Govt. curb the Opposition Parties from exercising their duties? Why should they stop the Opposition Parties from pointing out their faults and shortcomings?"

In old Standing Order 63, para (2) any Member who wishes to introduce a Bill should give 2 clear days' notice. But in the new Standing Order, a private Member should give 4 clear days' notice. That means he has to give two more clear days' notice. This only shows that the PAP is trying to lengthen the time of notice of a motion. The Govt. want to deprive the Opposition of the opportunity to raise question.

In old Standing Order 86 (2), the debate on the Main Estimates should have 5 days' notice. But now the number of days has been reduced to three. The Main Estimates are very important. They need our careful study. Thus the time provided by the new Standing Order is not sufficient.

In the amended Standing Order 87 (2), there is only one day for debate on the Development Estimates. Mr. Speaker, sir, the Development Estimates involve the economic livelihood of the people and all other constructive measures. Therefore, one day allotted to the Development Estimates will not be sufficient. If it is devoted to jesting and talking nonsense, of course, it is sufficient. But if we were really to study the Development Estimates then one day is not sufficient.

I do not intend to talk on the details of the amendments. But from the amendment of this major Standing Order viewed generally, we can only come to the conclusion that the Govt. want to control the Legislature. Freedom of speech has already been limited. But by this amendment the Govt. can have

a hand in further curbing parliamentary democracy and freedom of speech. The real intention of this amendment is to preserve the Govt's monopolistic rights, to allow themselves all the conveniences but to deny to others their rights in this House. This is a great departure from parliamentary democracy. It is an insult to the principle of democracy. These dictatorial and monopolistic tactics and intrigues of the PAP should be strongly condemned. Any line taken, any policy and actions of the PAP which are contrary to the interest and welfare of the people and which curb their freedom and their democratic rights, should be strongly condemned by all the people concerned. They are a detriment to democracy in Singapore."

Mr. Koo Young (Thomson):-

Mr. Speaker, sir, in the debate on the amendments to the Standing Orders, the Govt. Members have given many reasons to defend their proposed amendments to the Standing Orders, especially on the curbing of the time allotted to Members. We know that the Assembly sits very rarely. The last sitting was in December. There are many Govt. policies and measure which merit the criticism of the Opposition Parties, but we are not given the opportunity to do so. If the Standing Orders limit the speaking time of Opposition Members, then they will find difficulty in having ample opportunity and time to deal with all the various aspects of gov't's policies and measures.

The blame for insulting parliamentary democracy should not lie with the opposition but with Govt. Members. For example, last year there was a time when there was no sitting at all because the Govt. was afraid that the Opposition Parties might attack them or criticise their wrong policies. This is a real insult to parliamentary democracy. When one of their Ministers died they dared not hold a by-election in Sembawang. That was a real irony of democracy. When the Govt. arrested Opposition Members without giving reasons, that was a real affront to the democratic principle and spirit. What we want is to have an open debate. But past experience has shown that there has been no opportunity for an open debate in Singapore. Whenever we applied for a permit to hold a mass rally or any other meeting, our application was invariably turned down. The Govt. controls the radio. We were deprived of the opportunity to speak over it. Freedom of speech outside this House has become a relic in the museum, and they want to turn freedom of speech in this Assembly into another relic in the museum. That is why they are introducing these amendments to the Standing Orders."

NEWS OF THE DETAINEES

IN SINGAPORE TRANSFER OF DETAINEES:- Plebeian understands that Sdr.S.T. Bani, Barisan C.E.C.member, President of SATU and Assemblyman for Crawford was secretly taken away from R.B.Block in Changi Prison and transferred to Central Police Station lock-up. For 3 months, Sdr.Bani had been kept in solitary confinement undergoing rigorous interrogation. Few days ago, he was transferred back to R.B.Block where Sdr.Lim Chin Siang is kept.

The other detainees who were newly transferred from Changi Prison to the Central Police Station were Sdr.Teow Chang Chuan (Middle School Teacher), Sdr.Loo Peng (Trade Unionist), Sdr.Ho Piao (Paid Sec.of S'pore Seamen Union) 2 other female detainees, Miss Chan Wee Ling (ex-officer of Balai Rakyat) & Miss Tan Mong Sing (Nanyang Graduate) were also transferred from Outram Prison to the Central Police Station.

It is generally known that detainees in the Central Police Station lock-up receive the worst treatment from the Special Branch men.

VISITS BY MPs NOT ALLOWED:- Our Barisan MPs and Assemblymen have still not been allowed by the Central Govt. to visit our comrades in the prison. Many applications for such visits have been turned down.

PARENTS WANT TO SEE THEIR SONS & DAUGHTERS IMMEDIATELY:- Parents who had gone to see their sons and daughters detained lately by the Central Govt. at Nanyang University were barred out. Since the Saturday big purge at Nantah, several attempts were made by parents to find out where their sons & daughters were locked up were being mercilessly turned down by Special Branch men. These parents looked severely mentally strain and worries when they approached the Police Officers in Central Police Station and Officers in the Outram Prison. Where are their dearest children? Are they kept in solitary confinement? Do they take their meal regularly? How are their living conditions? The detainees' parents are eager to know all about them. They can no longer afford to wait without avail for the answer.

We urge the Govt. to let the parents see their detained sons & daughters immediately.

SARAWAR POLITICAL DETAINEES WENT ON HUNGER STRIKE

About 200 anti-colonial patriots detained in the detention camp in Kuching went on hunger strike on 1.6.64 for 24 hours in protest at their being deprived by the authority of the camps of the right to be visited by their relatives. Among the detainees, 73 were Chinese and the rest, detained separately in two camps were Malays and Ibans.

This was disclosed by relatives of the detainees at a press conference held at the H.Q. of the S.U.P.P. after they had been barred from visiting the detainees on that same day.

These relatives told reporters that previously they were allowed to visit the detainees once a week. On that morning, they went as usual, but were barred out. They saw protest banners and posters put up by the detainees.

At the press conference, these relatives also disprove the Govt. allegation that the detainees used 6 typewriters (which had been brought in with the approval of the authority concerned) type out subversive documents for circulation among themselves. It was pointed out that it could not have been alone for the simple reason that few detainees knew English.

They also told the reporters that apart from being denied the use of the typewriters, they were not allowed to read any newspapers, listen to radio for the next 3 months. These books in English, Malay, Iban & Chinese which had been allowed were now taken away from them. Furthermore, their vegetable plots and self made tools were destroyed.

The relatives said that the authority need not be too fussy and so ill-treat the detainees. They also demand that these rights to use the typewriters, to read newspapers, and to be visited by relatives be restored to the detainees.

It is understand that these relatives had written to the Central Govt. asking the latter to be concerned conditions in the camps, and that they will seek to lodge a protest.

