

# Statements Of Third World Leaders At Colombo

*Aug. 20 (NSIPS) — This section includes excerpts from some of the major speeches at the Non-Aligned summit meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka Aug. 16-19.*

**Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Sri Lankan Prime Minister, in the keynote summit address Aug. 16.**

The role of mercenaries in Angola, and of multinational corporations in subverting lawfully constituted governments, techniques of destabilization, ... the use of systematic corruption and bribery on a massive scale to influence and interfere with the internal affairs of independent nations are some of the weapons to which we have to find answers.

In this new phase of our endeavors for a system of world economic relations based on an equal partnership of nations, the most indispensable element would be greater solidarity among the non-aligned and other Third World nations. We do stand united in our search for more equitable relationship between the developed and developing countries. That search is global and its emphasis on cooperation, not confrontation. Confrontation is a negative concept. It is not in keeping with the fundamental principle of nonalignment which is the pursuit of peace and the peaceful coexistence of all nations and states and the cooperation of all human beings.

The developing countries are consistently denied the true value of their output by the vagaries of the international market and the manipulations of international finance. Our terms of trade are declining. We have little influence over the world's financial and monetary systems. We are denied the benefits of new international liquidity. With every new proposals for reform, whether it be SDR's or the revaluation of gold, the larger benefits have always accrued to the richer and not to the poorer. The developed countries have shaped the international financial system to suit their interests. Through reserve currencies they have built up a capacity to export their inflation to the developing countries.

Should we in the developing world sustain such a system? Should we not, instead, attempt to develop a system all our own?

Today, as we meet at Colombo for this Fifth Summit, we have to deal with the subtler forms of imperialism... I would... like to draw attention to the serious problems of economic domination through the ever-widening gap between prices of manufactures and of raw materials. The principle weapon used against us today is the strength of the currencies of the developed world, and in particular, the reserve currencies. It seems to me, that these reserve currencies themselves heavily depend not only upon the strength of the developed world in economic terms, but also upon the support which we in the developing countries give them through our own acceptance of these currencies as reserve currencies.

If we really and truly want to blunt the weapons of imperialism and colonialism, we must surely fashion countervailing weapons, in the form of a currency backed by the immense economic potential of the non-aligned and other developing countries. The strength of that currency will grow as we proceed to form new producer associations of strategic raw materials such as oil, copper, bauxite, uranium... If we have the solidarity and the will to succeed, there is no force strong enough to frustrate us.

I can see limitless possibilities for a countervailing currency with Third World backing. The financial centers of the world will no longer be limited to New York, London, Zurich, and Paris. New centers of economic power would rise in the non-aligned and the Third World. The developing world would be strong enough to think in terms of a merchant shipping fleet, to carry its import and export cargo...

One area of great promise, if we accept the general principle of a countervailing currency, would be the establishment of a commercial bank — a bank for the Third World — the bank of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This would not be another non-aligned solidarity fund. It will be a genuine commercial bank and a truly multinational enterprise. It will undertake functions like merchant banking.

I would like to take this opportunity to address a brief message to the developed nations. At non-aligned gatherings we have often tended to concentrate our attention on our own problems. This is only natural as the strands that bind us together are our common problems and our common search for solutions to them — shared aspirations and the recognition of the value of cooperation in the realization of those aspirations.

The non-aligned movement does not constitute a new bloc. It is an atmosphere of fear and distrust that the system of power blocs took root, and the distinguishing feature of nonalignment is its rejection of such concepts. The determination that the non-aligned will not become a new bloc was reiterated by practically every leader at the very first (Non-Aligned) summit in Belgrade... Perhaps the sole reason for the existence of the movement and its growing vitality is that it answers some compelling needs of peoples all over the world for a new outlook on life, for a new set of values based on mutual understanding and social awareness, equity and justice, in place of the old values which enthroned a ruthless and competitive individualism. If anything, nonalignment is a creative, constructive philosophy and the world is all the better for it.

I declare most emphatically that the non-aligned do not consider any nation or any people as their enemy. Their fight has always been, and always will be against injustice, intolerance, inequity, and old concepts of empire, intervention, and dominance, all theories which would attribute to any nation, however powerful it may be, exclusive authority or responsibility for peace and stability in the world. Such concepts are irrelevant as we approach the 21st century and therefore we shall continue to oppose them. Peace is a universal right, and the responsibility for it, too, must be universal.

If the non-aligned have shown great cohesion and unity in their search for this new world order, it was not a unity forged for the purpose of confrontation, but to reach across oceans and national and ideological barriers in a spirit of international understanding, cooperation, and mutual help.

**Algerian Premier Houari Boumediene, Aug. 17.**

Nonalignment offers to humanity today a renovated and coherent vision of its reality and its future and proposes the means for a global debate in view of a constructive alternative which must necessarily put into question the old structures...

Other than armed aggression and total disdain for the rules of conduct between states, imperialism mobilizes all means to throw suspicion and distrust in our ranks. To mask the loss of its supremacy and its hegemony, it attempts to undermine our movement from the inside by trying to provoke at all costs ideological splits and thus pit the members our movement one against the other to the detriment of the superior interests of our community... They are hell-bent on pitting Arabs against other Arabs, Africans against other Africans...

The most tragic episode has for its theater Lebanon. The present evolution of the situation in this region confirms the urgency of making a global solution prevail in the Middle East...

The domain of international economic relations has become the principle terrain for the confrontation between the tenants of the out-of-date order, heir of colonial domination and the peoples

who aspire to build their own path for progress and prosperity through dignity and liberty. This anachronistic situation calls for changes not only because it constitutes an intolerable injustice towards the developing countries, but also because it is the very source of the crisis of the present world economic system whose present jolts threaten to compromise the future of the developed economies themselves... It is thus at the level of this system whose bankruptcy threatens the stability and growth of the industrialized countries themselves that the center of the crisis is located... The institution of the new international economic order... constitutes the sole way to reconcile the legitimate interests of the one with the other by mobilizing the potentialities of the planet and the immense capital of scientific and technological knowledge accumulated over centuries for the well-being of all...

The reservations with which certain industrial countries continue to oppose the effective implementation of this program manifests their reluctance to go beyond the status quo. The Paris conference (the North-South conference) confirms this attitude on the part of the same powers. The constructive proposals of the developing countries on the rescheduling of debt and the protection of the buying power of export receipts from raw materials have not received their expected echo... Thus, while proclaiming their will for dialogue, certain developed countries act as though their real intentions were limited to gaining time to try to recoup the ground conceded at the moment when the crisis of their economies was at its peak...

**Cuban Foreign Minister Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Aug. 18**

Membership in the nonaligned movement is not accomplished through a simple absence of commitment to military blocs. It implies an adhesion to a program of change that permits populations to leave behind colonial and neocolonial slavery... (They cannot be members) who impose upon their populations neofascist violence and crime... Neither is the nonaligned movement for those who hide their service to imperialism in the fierce repression of their own people behind the cloak of nonalignment... It is the quality and not the quantity which is important to the movement...

It becomes more and more clear to understand the concept of the movement as a unity of progressive principles that make the denomination 'non-aligned' something very different from the pretended neutrality between imperialism and socialism.

... History does not offer an immediate alternative to cutting the bonds with capitalist economics in order to entrust development to cooperation with the socialist countries. The socialist countries cannot assume by themselves the obligation to draw the people out of their backwardness (despite the fact that... the basis of cooperation offered by them, particularly by the USSR, is in just norms and everything else antagonistic to colonial exploitation.

Some, like Kissinger, pretend that detente implies a freeze of the status quo, but today the idea becomes more and more prevalent of a universal peace... This peace is equally directed toward preventing nuclear catastrophe as it is toward preventing local wars of aggression... Cuba is beginning to hear again the brutal threats it knew before the Bay of Pigs and the October (Missile) Crisis.

**Pham Van Dong, Premier of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Aug. 17**

On the international plane, it is necessary to establish, maintain and diversify out relations with all countries, primarily intensifying those among developing countries... The big capitalist countries have shifted on our backs the disastrous consequence of the economic crisis inherent to their nature...

Old colonialism with its brutal methods has been replaced by neocolonialism which is more subtle, less conspicuous, but more enterprising, more destructive of our material and spiritual riches, and therefore more dangerous and more difficult to expose, combat, and defeat...

In the world as it is we should develop economic relations with developed capitalist countries provided that these relations conform to our independence, sovereignty, and needs for development...

(The United States must) honor its commitment under the Paris agreement regarding U.S. contributions to healing the wounds of war and postwar reconstruction in Vietnam. For the United States, with whom we are prepared, however, to normalize relations, this is a question of conscience, responsibility, and honor, that it can by no means elude.

**Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Aug. 17**

We must not accept that differences on specific subjects affect our unity with so many leaders. The conference is too important to waste time on bilateral affairs. There are risks when national goals are victorious over collective objectives. India has always abstained from raising the bilateral problems at the tribune of the Non-Aligned or at any other international tribune... Internal problems must be dealt with through bilateral negotiations, without external complications.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the rallying cry of oppressed people was independence. It must be self-sufficiency today... We are not a bloc, nor are we the Third World. We are part of the entire world, a world where confrontation must be replaced by productive dialogue.

# IDB

## HOW THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK WILL WORK

\$1.25  
(postage included)

Mail Check or Money Order to:  
NSIPS Circulation Manager  
GPO Box 1972  
New York, NY 10001

### **Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, Aug. 16**

The Non-Aligned countries have always attached exceptional importance to economic problems which have come to the forefront of overall international relations. The constant widening of the gap in world economic development and the steady deterioration of the position of the developing countries constitutes today one of the most dangerous sources of tension and conflicts in the world. Even more serious is the fact that the consequences of the deep economic crisis that has spread over many areas of the world economy are being transferred to the developing countries, thereby rendering their position even more difficult.

The struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order has today become a component of almost all activities, regardless of the opposition of individual developed countries. Changes in this sphere are a historical imperative, because they are in accord with present-day needs and reflect the interests not only of the developing but also of the developed countries — in other words, the entire world economy.

### **Anwar Sadat, Egyptian President (as reported in *Le Monde*, Aug. 18)**

... Mr. Sadat did not mince words ... in regards to his main rival in the Arab world: "Lebanon has suffered for over one year from a foreign intervention which has suppressed any

vestige of stability and security and now plunges the country into limitless chaos. Those who meddled with the internal affairs of Lebanon should cease this interference against a brother country, so the Lebanese can solve their problems by themselves."

If Mr. Sadat made no allusion to the Western Sahara problem, on the other hand he proposed "collective political, military or economic sanction" by the Non-Aligned, so "no one takes their resolution lightly" on the question of Israel and the occupied territories on the one hand, the struggle of southern African people on the other. After recalling that the 1973 war was started one month after the fourth summit conference of Non-Aligned countries in Algiers stated its support for him, Sadat deemed that Israel needed a new lesson to dissipate its last illusions of superiority or domination. He also denounced what he calls the Tel Aviv-Pretoria axis. Enough slogans, we need concrete action, he repeated, otherwise our inaction "would be taken by the aggressors to mean that they are allowed to continue their occupation without paying the price."

Finally, the Egyptian head of state, visibly disappointed by the Americans as well as the Soviets, deemed that relations between the superpowers are based on peaceful coexistence and detente, and on compromise solutions to the problems which divide them. "Each side makes concessions. Everything is settled between the two of them, alone, on the basis of their own greatest profit."

## **World Press Comments On Non-Aligned Meeting**

*Aug. 20 (NSIPS) — The following is a partial grid of significant responses and coverage of the Colombo, Sri Lanka meeting of the non-aligned countries and related developments.*

### **Paolo Bonaiuti in the Italian daily *Il Giorno* Aug. 19 on the Colombo Summit**

The political commission (of the Non-Aligned Group) has a difficult life...Perhaps the economic commission sails on calmer waters. The projects which the experts are studying (at the Non-Aligned conference) are three:

- 1) The large Third World bank of which (Sri Lanka Prime Minister) Mrs. Bandaranaike spoke...: 'Let's put our resources in motion to make room for investments, the programs of development and the technical aid without having to knock on the rich's door.' Some 30 countries are said to have already committed themselves for one half million Special Drawing Rights (about \$500,000) each.
- 2) A general council for the raw materials....
- 3) A general postponement for the Third World debts which have reached the incredible level of \$150 billion....

### **The Italian daily *La Repubblica* Aug. 19 on the Colombo Conference**

...Carlos Rodriguez (the Cuban representative) also made a reference to Italy: 'We see with great preoccupation the economic threats announced by the U.S. and the other capitalist countries against the democratic results of the Italian people during the last election.' Meanwhile, rumors are circulating around the conference on the manner in which the grave problem of the foreign indebtedness of the Third World is being faced.

After the failure of the International Monetary Fund Nairobi meeting last year, many countries attempted to make counterproposals at the UNCTAD (Nairobi) conference this year.

But still without success. Thus, today, for most of these countries the payment of even the matured interest is already a commitment which goes above their actual capacity.

This is the reason for the demand at the conference to approve a plan that includes a moratorium on foreign debts. Such a moratorium would consist substantially in the abolition of the maturing of interests for a certain number of years.

### **Emilio Sarzi Amade in the Aug. 15 *L'Unita*, newspaper of the Italian Communist Party on the "summit of the Non-Aligned at Colombo"**

...the problems on the table, in their details and in their mere general context, are still under discussion at the conference of foreign ministers...and which confronts in two commissions — the political commission and the economic commission — the task of the editing of the texts which will come under discussion and then be approved by the summit. The general principle — said a diplomat from a non-aligned socialist country — is to work while keeping in mind the unity of principles and to set aside what divides us.

...The ongoing discussion on questions (admission of new member countries — ed.) is perhaps the most sticky, while the discussion of economic questions is perhaps the most complex. The first involves the examination of, beside the principles (of nonalignment) that is, bilateral or regional questions which bring the non-aligned countries to the edge of armed conflict. The closed-door discussion (on the military) nevertheless reached a consensus on the reaffirmation of the denial of the unavoidability of a general conflict and of the conception according to which the peace in the world can only be safeguarded by an equilibrium of forces and security is only attainable through adherence to the military blocs. Instead, they state the need to widen that co-existence which today is still seen as too limited in its solidity and its geographical extension...