

STRAIGHT TALK...

A Matter of Urgency for Africa

In our time, a crucial moment in history when, due to the war-mongering policies of the imperialist powers, our beautiful planet earth is being turned into a store-house of weapons capable of completely destroying mankind, the Neutron Bomb, peace has in a very real sense become identical with life itself. Similarly any threat to peace is a threat to the very existence of mankind and this is exactly what the combination of the forces of imperialism and racism, the Reagan-Botha unholy alliance, represent. Not only that; the threat is fast assuming monstrous dimensions.

The recent visit to Racist South Africa by four US nuclear experts therefore is an event which can only have dangerous consequences. The verbal assurances by the US Administration official, Allen Brandberg, that the United States will not lift the ban on sales of enriched uranium to the Pretoria fascist regime until the latter agrees to sign the Non-proliferation Treaty and to have its nuclear installations inspected by the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) for nuclear safeguard measures, is nothing more than a smoke-screen for hiding the evil intentions of the adventuristic Reagan Administration.

It will be remembered that under the Carter Administration and previous ones, the US together with FRG, etc., was secretly assisting the apartheid regime in the nuclear field in spite of the much-publicised ban and in defiance of UN Resolutions against any form of cooperation with Pretoria. As a result, on the 22nd September, 1979 the apartheid regime was able to explode a nuclear bomb off its coast. A few weeks later the British TV film showed that the rockets for this explosion were supplied by the US-Canadian firm, Space Research Cooperation. Yet the Carter Administration hastened to create doubts as to whether the racists in Pretoria did in fact explode a nuclear bomb.

NATO ALLIANCE

With the warlords of the aggressive NATO alliance represented in the US government by advocates of dangerous madness of 'limited' nuclear war in Europe led by Ronald Reagan, a man who unshamedly declared: "South Africa has for a long time been an ally of the United States", no sensible person

can be led to believe that the four US nuclear experts went to South Africa merely to "discuss technical details of international nuclear safeguards" as the US government propaganda media reported. The fact is that the Reagan Administration which is bent on deploying MX and Pershing-II Cruise missiles on the territory of Western Europe against the will of the peace-loving peoples of Europe who are taking to the streets in their thousands to express their opposition, is now dragging our continent into a nuclear disaster by assisting the aggressive racist regime with more nuclear know-how.

For this visit to have taken place shortly after appeals by the racist military leaders in Pretoria that the Simons-town and Durban naval bases be intergrated into NATO and against the background of visits by South Africa's top military officials to the US is no coincidence. The apartheid regime already boasts of being able to produce a nuclear bomb. But, as the Chairman of the South African Atomic Energy Board admitted, the enriched uranium produced by South Africa's uranium Enrichment Cooperation is of a lower grade than is used for advanced nuclear weapons. So, this visit by the four nuclear experts to Racist South Africa indicates that the racists are on the verge of acquiring high grade uranium or the required expertise for producing it.

Therefore, to waste time speculating whether the US Administration would actually supply the Pretoria regime with high grade enriched uranium or not; whether Racist South Africa would ever use nuclear weapons against Africa or not would be a dangerous exercise. The racists have stated on a number of occasions that they will use anything to defend racist domination. Right now the apartheid regime continues to launch large scale acts of aggression against Southern African states, especially the People's Republic of Angola in defiance of world public opinion.

SERIOUS THREAT

There can be no doubt that the Pretoria colonial regime intends to use its nuclear capacity as a deterrent to the liberation struggle of our people in South Africa and to instill the Southern African states with fear. But at the same time this growing alliance between Washington and Pretoria poses a serious threat to world peace and Africa especially. For this reason our continent is called upon by history to take effective measures to thwart the sinister moves of the Reagan Administration and world imperialism in general. Of particular urgency is the need to win the campaign to stop the training and recruitment of nuclear scientists so that

South Africa can be denied the personnel and know-how necessary for it to develop further its weapons capability. This is bound up with the need to give all-out support to our peoples' struggle for national liberation in South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of the ANC and SWAPO respectively to ensure the uprooting of the apartheid regime, the source of the war danger on our continent. The world forces of peace and progress are daily gaining more strength. Let us mobilise all the forces that stand for genuine peace and freedom on our heroic continent to make our contribution to world peace more meaningful for a common victory. For this noble ideal our people who, under the leadership of the African National Congress, are waging a determined struggle for national independence, freedom and peace right in the citadel of racist colonial domination are prepared for any sacrifice.

LONG LIVE AFRICAN UNITY FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM!

RACIST LIES

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cadres of Umkhonto we Sizwe and of the popular masses in our country is to take to the battlefield with all its bitterness and fight through to victory in the shortest possible time; to fight through to the brightness of a new day, a new South Africa; to a totally liberated Africa with Southern Africa totally and at last relieved of the terrorism of the racist white minority regime that rules over us today.

The task of the countries and peoples of Africa and the progressive international community is, first, to support our liberation struggle in every conceivable way, and secondly, recognising its implications for the countries of Southern Africa, to support, strengthen and reinforce these countries; join them politically, militarily, economically in the defence of their independence and territorial integrity. Given this support, our people cannot take long before they liquidate every vestige of colonialism in South Africa, and in the result, in this southern part of the African continent.
