LET US STRENGTHEN FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE NEWLY-EMERGENT COUNTRIES

A Talk to the Officials in Charge of Foreign Affairs
May 9. 1965

During my recent visit to Indonesia, in the great leader’s company, I gave deep thought to the importance of implementing our Party’s foreign policy in keeping with his rising international prestige.

At the invitation of the Indonesian President, who visited our country last year, the leader paid an official friendship visit to Indonesia recently.

Indonesia is a newly-independent country which is working hard to build a new society under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence. She has influence on other newly-emergent countries. Attaching great importance to the development of relations between Korea and Indonesia, the leader paid a visit to that country on the occasion of the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Bandung Conference held in Indonesia.

On his visit to Indonesia, the leader was accorded a warm welcome and cordial hospitality by the people of that country. The Indonesian Government and her people held an unprecedented, grand welcome in his honour and arranged for him to visit various places with all sincerity. The welcome on both sides of the 100-mile road from Djakarta, the capital, to Bogor was especially spectacular. Seeing the people of that country, singing the Song of General Kim Il Sung, and bidding a hearty welcome to the leader wherever he went, we learned clearly how highly they respected our leader.

During his visit to Indonesia, the great leader conducted energetic diplomatic activities. He had talks with the Indonesian President on many occasions, exchanging opinions with him about the present international situation and various other questions and deepening friendly relations with him. He also met many leaders from the newly-independent countries in Asia and Africa who were participating in the tenth anniversary of the Bandung Conference. At the Ali Archam Academy of Social Sciences of Indonesia, he gave an important lecture on the experience of building socialism in our country. His lecture evoked a great response among the Indonesian communists and other people and also among the leaders of many countries who were attending the tenth anniversary of the Bandung Conference.

The leader’s recent visit to Indonesia is a great event of historic significance because it is helping to create a favourable international climate for the reunification of our country and to strengthen the unity and anti-imperialist solidarity of the newly-emergent countries. Through his energetic diplomatic activities on this occasion, the leader has developed the friendly relations between the Korean and Indonesian peoples onto a new stage and raised the international
position of our country even higher, and also through the meetings with the influential leaders of the newly-emergent countries paved a broad avenue for the further expansion and development of our foreign relations.

I am of the opinion that, from now on, the officials dealing with foreign affairs must make every effort to consolidate the diplomatic achievements made by the leader and in particular to strengthen the friendship and solidarity with the newly-emergent countries. Improving work with the newly-emergent nations is an important foreign policy of our Party at the present moment. Our country has not advanced much so far beyond the range of socialist countries in its foreign relations. From now on it must direct lots of effort to the development of its relations with the newly-emergent countries. Only by improving our relations with these countries can we increase the ranks of supporters for and sympathizers with our revolution and press ahead with the cause of anti-imperialism and independence on an international scale.

Today, the national liberation struggle in colonies in Asia, Africa and Latin America is developing strongly and, in the course of this, many countries have cast off the yoke of imperialism and achieved national independence. There are more than 100 newly-independent states in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and the population of these countries accounts for more than 70 per cent of the world population. The peoples of these countries are struggling to defend their national independence and sovereignty and build new societies. The non-aligned movement which embraces many newly-emergent countries is a progressive movement which represents the common aspirations and desires of their peoples to defend their national independence in opposition to imperialist domination and subjugation. The non-aligned movement is young but is quickly expanding and developing. The first summit conference of non-aligned nations held in 1961 was attended by representatives of 28 countries, but their second summit conference held in Cairo, the capital of Egypt, last year was attended by representatives of 57 countries. The final document adopted at this meeting expresses an unshakable determination to oppose colonialism, defend national independence and world peace and strengthen solidarity and cooperation among the peoples of the newly-emergent countries. The non-aligned movement has now emerged as an independent political force on the international scene. There is no doubt that this movement, that represents a major trend of the times towards independence, will become a powerful driving force of historical development in the near future.

Today, as the anti-imperialist revolutionary forces are growing stronger and as the imperialist colonial system is crumbling on a global scale, the US and other imperialists are making desperate efforts to maintain their position of dominators of the crumbling colonies and to subjugate newly-independent countries again. While overtly putting down the national liberation struggle of the peoples in their colonies and subordinated countries the imperialists are trying to
enslave the newly-independent countries politically by intimidation and blackmailing, appeasement and deception, subversive and destructive activities and by various other cunning and wicked methods, in order to seize the economic lifelines of these countries by means of so-called "aid." With an eye to paralyzing the spirit of national independence of the peoples of newly-emergent countries, the imperialists are also infiltrating a corrupt bourgeois culture and way of life into these countries. Due to the imperialists' manoeuvres, the sovereignty of newly-independent countries is now being seriously threatened and the building of new societies in these countries is undergoing many difficulties and trials.

The imperialists are making frantic efforts to destroy the newly-emergent countries, one by one, by dividing them up and making bad blood among them. The newly-independent countries must counter the imperialists' strategy of destroying them piecemeal with a strategy of unity and develop a powerful, joint struggle against imperialism. This is the most important task of contemporary times. The peoples of the newly-emergent countries can conduct a powerful, joint struggle, in solid unity, against imperialism because they had the same lots, and now have common aims and desires. The officials in charge of foreign affairs must correctly understand the importance of their work with the newly-emergent nations and work energetically with them.

Faithfully observing the principles of mutual relations between nations is important in strengthening the friendship and solidarity with the newly-emergent countries. The respect of sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit, noninterference in each other's affairs, and territorial integrity are the major principles that must be observed in the mutual relations between nations. Only when these principles are maintained can the relations of friendship and cooperation between nations develop on a sound basis.

We must develop friendly and cooperative relations with the newly-emergent countries on a full scale in all fields, including politics, economics and culture, on the principles of respecting each other's sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit, noninterference in each other's affairs and territorial integrity. The basic idea that underlies the mutual relations between nations is independence. There are many countries in the world, and they are different from one another in one way or the other, but they are all equal and independent. Only on the basis of independence and equality can there be durable and genuine friendship and solidarity among nations. In order to establish friendship and solidarity with other nations we must first of all respect their sovereignty. In foreign relations we must not only firmly defend the sovereignty of our country, but also respect and actively champion the sovereignty of the newly-emergent nations. In their work with the newly-emergent countries the officials who are in charge of foreign relations must on no account interfere in their affairs or infringe upon their national dignity and interests.

We must give active political support and encouragement to the
struggle of the peoples of the newly-emergent countries. Those countries which have been freed from the colonial yoke or from the semi-colonial domination of imperialism are struggling to uphold their national independence under trying conditions. If we support and encourage their struggle with a sense of international solidarity, the peoples of the newly-emergent countries will be inspired with greater strength and courage in building new societies. We must give active support and encouragement to the newly-emergent nations in their struggle against imperialism and for independence and the construction of new societies. In particular, we must expose and vehemently condemn the imperialists’ manoeuvres of aggression, intervention, destructive moves and subversion so that the peoples of newly-emergent countries struggle more courageously against imperialism.

We must give the newly-emergent nations not only political support but also material aid. Of course, we do not have enough of everything to aid others because we are building socialism ourselves under difficult conditions in which our country is divided and we are in direct confrontation with the US imperialists. Nevertheless, we, who have carried out a revolution earlier, cannot remain obsessed with our own difficulties and indifferent to other peoples. We must help the newly-emergent nations as much as we can, although we may find it difficult to do so. Aiding them is our internationalist duty.

In order to help the newly-emergent countries we must work harder and build our economy successfully. For the present, it is important for us to work hard to carry out the Seven-Year Plan, ahead of schedule, by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, to the highest degree in all fields of the national economy.

It is also necessary to develop extensively economic and cultural cooperation and exchange with the newly-emergent nations. People establish friendship and deepen mutual trust in the course of helping each other and developing exchange with each other. Likewise, countries can become friendly towards each other and deepen mutual understanding through the development of cooperation and exchange. The development of economic and cultural cooperation and exchange between nations will enable them to develop rapidly by making up for each other’s shortages and through joint efforts and to consolidate their political unity.

The newly-emergent nations are now stepping up their efforts to develop economic and cultural cooperation and exchange among themselves. This has been eloquently proved by the fact that the Asia Economic Seminar was held in Pyongyang in June of last year and that the Asia-Africa Economic Seminar was convened in Algeria in February this year. The newly-emergent countries have ample conditions and possibilities for economic and cultural cooperation and for exchange. Take natural resources for example. They have tremendous amounts of oil resources and their fuel and raw material resources account for most of those of the whole world. If they exchange and cooperate efficiently with one another, they can thwart the manoeuvres of the imperialists and achieve economic
independence. We must develop economic exchange with the newly-emergent countries on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and meeting each other's needs, and thus strengthen friendly and cooperative relations with them and help them actively to construct their independent national economies and consolidate their political independence.

We must deal properly with the work of giving publicity to our experience in revolutionary struggle and construction work for the peoples of the newly-emergent countries.

Our Party has advanced the revolution and construction victoriously under the wise leadership of the great leader and, in the course of this, accumulated a lot of valuable experience. This experience can help the peoples of newly-emergent countries a great deal in their struggle to consolidate their national independence and build new societies. These peoples who are struggling to build new independent societies are now eager to learn from our experience. Foreign visitors to our country admire our people's success in building socialism and ask us why we do not give wide publicity to our valuable experience in building a new society.

At present, our overseas propaganda is not efficient. Radical improvement must be made in this work. The most important task in overseas propaganda is to translate and publish the great leader's works efficiently. His works contain not only the principles and message of the Juche idea but also a wealth of experience our Party has gained in the revolution and construction by implementing the Juche idea. Through the study of his works one can acquire the theoretical and practical knowledge of all the questions regarding the national liberation revolution, the democratic revolution, the socialist revolution and the building of socialism. Therefore, the workers in the field of overseas propaganda must, first of all, translate and publish the leader's works well.

A lot of material on our experience should be compiled. There is not much material that amplifies theoretically the experience of our Party, material needed for overseas propaganda. We have a lot of valuable experience gained in the building of the Party, state and armed forces, in the construction of an independent national economy, in the cooperativization of agriculture and the socialist transformation of private businessmen and entrepreneurs, in the training of national cadres, in the mobilization of the masses for the revolutionary struggle and construction, and so on. This experience should be well sorted out and used for the education of our own people and for overseas propaganda.

At present, our publications for overseas propaganda lack variety and their quality is low. These publications are to be circulated in foreign countries, so they should be printed on good paper and the books well bound. Documentary films should also be widely used for overseas propaganda. They are a visual means that can show our people's revolutionary struggle and their successes in the building of socialism, so they are a very influential and convincing propaganda
Showing a documentary film that reflects our realities vividly can have more effect on foreigners than dozens of oral explanations about our country. We need to produce now many more documentary films and extensively use them for overseas propaganda.

In conclusion, I would like to say a few words about practical matters relating to foreign affairs.

The reception of foreign heads of state and delegations visiting our country and protocol work should be improved.

Many heads of state, party and government delegations and other high-ranking delegations from newly-independent countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America now come to visit our country. In future the number of foreign visitors to our country will continue to increase. Proper reception and protocol work will give these visitors good impressions of us and create favourable conditions for the activities of our delegations visiting other countries in the future. Some comrades seem to think that our country accords the best kind of hospitality to foreign delegations. They are mistaken. Our road-side welcome and welcome rallies can be considered relatively good, but other receptions are not. Inspection visits, for instance, are not arranged in a varied manner to suit the characteristics of visitors, but carried out in a routine manner. Always the same factories, the same cooperative farms and the same schools are shown to foreign visitors. If these visits are kept on being arranged in such a stereotyped manner, our country may be disgraced.

The reception of foreign delegations and protocol work should be arranged to suit them after a careful study of their continent and from which country they come and what are their characteristics. Of course, we should not ignore the established rules and principles of reception and protocol. But we must not deal with this work mechanically and in a stiff manner without any creative attitude under the pretext of observing rules and principles. Officials in charge of foreign relations must always treat foreign visitors to our country courteously and kindly and take good care of them as our guests. In particular we should be modest towards the visitors from newly-emergent countries. If they wish to learn from us, we should behave even more modestly. Even when we inform them of our experiences, we must not tell them that ours is the best in a manner of dictating it to them, but with an attitude of introducing our experiences in every case. Since we have a lot to learn from other countries, we must not only try to teach others, but learn modestly from others whatever we need to learn.

Officials working in the field of foreign relations must study foreign languages harder.

The knowledge of foreign languages is indispensable for those who work in the field of foreign relations. The most serious drawback for the workers in this field is the lack of their knowledge of foreign languages. Because they do not have a good command of foreign languages, they are not efficient in their work with foreigners. If we are to expand the range of our foreign activities and improve our
work with the newly-emergent nations, we need many people who know English, French, Spanish and other foreign languages. We should give diplomats training courses in foreign languages and hold examinations of foreign languages frequently for them so as to raise the level of their knowledge of these languages. In the future we must establish a principle of not qualifying people who are ignorant of foreign languages as diplomats. The workers in the field of foreign relations must quickly improve their political and practical qualifications and work efficiently with foreigners and thus implement our Party’s foreign policy with honour.

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