

ROUND THE WORLD

KOREA

U.S.-Seoul War Provocation Condemned

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on August 5 issued a statement on the current situation in Korea.

The statement said: "The long-standing tension in Korea has now reached an acute stage as never before and the Korean people are faced with the critical situation in which war may break out at any moment."

After exposing the war crimes committed by the U.S. troops and south Korean puppet army in proclaiming a "wartime system" throughout south Korea, the conducting of large-scale military exercises, and the supplying of all kinds of ammunition for the frontline units, and the shipping of nuclear arms and large quantities of other up-to-date weapons into south Korea by the United States, it pointed out: "All facts show that after such long preparations for war, the United States is, at last, going over to the stage of direct war provocations from the stage of war preparations."

It noted: "Of course, the Korean people do not want war. But the Korean people are never afraid of war. If the enemy provokes an aggressive war at last in spite of the repeated warnings of the Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world, the Korean people will resolutely answer it with a just war and annihilate the aggressors to the last man."

The statement said: "In order to ease the extremely aggravated tensions in Korea today and remove the danger of new war and maintain peace and accelerate the peaceful reunification of the country, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea states as follows, proceeding from its consistent, peace-loving policy:

"The United States should stop at once all its acts of new war provoca-

tion and aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and immediately withdraw mass-destruction weapons and military equipment including nuclear weapons introduced into south Korea.

"The United States should give up its "two Koreas" plot and implement the resolution of the 30th Session of the U.N. General Assembly on dissolving the "U.N. command," withdrawing all the foreign troops stationed in south Korea under the United Nations flag and replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.

"And Korea's reunification must be realized by the Korean people themselves without the interference of any outside forces, through a great national congress extensively reflecting the will of the whole nation, in accordance with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity clarified in the North-South Joint Statement."

The statement said: "The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people are convinced that the governments and peoples of all the peace-loving countries of the world will pay due attention to the critical situation created in Korea and render active support to our fair and reasonable stand for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country."

FIFTH SESSION OF U.N. SEA
LAW CONFERENCE

Struggle for a New Code

The Fifth Session of the Third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea opened in New York on August 2 in the circumstances of the struggle of the third world countries against maritime hegemonism and for a new law of the sea. The session, scheduled to last for seven weeks, will continue the negotiations and consultations on the draft provisions of the proposed new law of the sea.

Taking part in the session are delegations of over 150 countries and areas.

At the previous four sessions, the third world countries strongly demanded a new law of the sea which reflects the historical trend of the present era and safeguards their state sovereignty and economic rights and interests. They resolutely opposed the old law of the sea favourable to colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism.

At the fourth session, held in New York from March to May this year, the third world countries waged an acute struggle against maritime hegemonism of the two superpowers.

Firmly safeguarding their sovereignty and jurisdiction over the 200-mile exclusive economic zone, many third world countries urged that no foreign activities in the economic zone should be detrimental to the independence and security of a coastal country and that no foreign military activities and installations should be permitted in the economic zone of a coastal country or on its continental shelf without the approval of the given country. They insisted that an exclusive economic zone must not be part of the high seas. They opposed the so-called "freedom of scientific research" in any exclusive economic zone, the entry of any foreign warship into the territorial waters of a country at will without notifying that country or obtaining its permission, and the "free passage" through or the "free flight" over a strait within the territorial sea of a country, made by any foreign military vessel or plane. The just demands and reasonable propositions raised by the third world countries were supported by a number of second world countries. But the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, have stubbornly clung to their position of maritime hegemonism, trying their utmost to keep intact the old sea law system. The Soviet social-imperialists, in particular, have adopted a very arrogant and obstinate attitude, openly opposing the just demands of the developing countries on a number of important questions. This has further laid bare their hegemonistic features and landed them in an extremely isolated position.

As a result of superpower disruption and obstruction, the fourth session failed to reach agreement on some important questions of substance. The fifth session will inevitably see a continued bitter struggle between the developing countries and the superpowers.

Leader of the Chinese Delegation Ling Ching said at the fifth session: "It is the consistent position of the Chinese Delegation that all countries, big and small, should participate in the discussions of all issues on the basis of equality. At present, the Conference on the Law of the Sea has entered the stage of deep-going discussions on the key issues. It is all the more imperative to enable all countries, the small-sized delegations of the developing countries in particular, to have full opportunities to take part in the whole process of consultations.

Ling Ching said in conclusion: "It is our common demand to combat superpower maritime hegemonism and draw up a new convention of the law of the sea that accords with the interests of the numerous third world and small and medium-sized countries. The developing countries, in order to safeguard their fundamental interests and oppose any attempt of the superpowers to impose their will on others, must strengthen unity, adhere to principle and persevere in struggle. The Chinese Delegation will, as always, resolutely stand together with the other third world countries and all countries that cherish their independence and sovereignty and work together with them for positive results at this session."

ZAMBIA

South African Racist Regime's Armed Aggression Denounced

On July 11, the troops of the South African racist regime flagrantly attacked Sialola Village in Zambia's Western Province. Heavy casualties resulted. In a letter to the Security Council, the Zambian representative to the United Nations requested an urgent meeting of the Council to discuss this armed encroachment. The letter said that since the beginning

of this year, the reactionary South African authorities had committed 13 other wanton acts of aggression against Zambia. The Security Council on July 30 adopted a resolution strongly condemning the South African racist regime's latest crime:

Such repeated acts of armed aggression against Zambia are not fortuitous. Vorster, the reactionary South African regime's chief, is scared to death and bitterly hates the vigorously growing armed struggle and people's movement against racist rule by the people of southern Africa who have the powerful support of the Organization of African Unity and its member states. He is vainly trying to stamp out the flames of the national-liberation struggle of the people of southern Africa by embarking on an armed aggression against Zambia and block the independent African countries' support to the people's just struggle in southern Africa.

It is well-known that the "peace talks" hoax Vorster cooked up with the reactionary Rhodesian regime's chief Smith has met with dismal defeat after African countries and people had exposed and fought it. With nothing more up their sleeves, they are once again resorting to baring their vicious features. They are jackals of the same lair and are out to kill. The reactionary South African regime promulgated a "defence amendment bill" which blatantly stipulates that South Africa could send troops to any place south of the equator to prevent or suppress the South African people's struggle. It is precisely under these pretexts that South Africa flagrantly engaged in armed provocations against Zambia. The reactionary South African authorities vainly hope that by armed aggression and violent suppression, they could attain what they failed to get through the "peace talks" hoax—and so end Zambia's and other independent African countries' support for the people's struggle in southern Africa and obstruct the national-liberation struggles in southern Africa. But this is sheer wishful thinking.

President Kaunda of Zambia recently solemnly declared that no enemy

plots can shake the Zambian people's firm resolve to resolutely support the national-liberation movements in southern Africa until the people there win final victory. This is a forceful answer and a heavy blow to the plots and schemes of Vorster, Smith and their likes.

OPPOSING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

30 Countries Boycott Olympic Games

Nearly 700 sportsmen from 30 African, Arab and Latin American countries refused to take part in or withdrew from the 21st Olympic Games, their aim being to oppose racial discrimination. Such a move has never happened before in the history of Olympiad. It demonstrates the firm will of the third world countries and people to uphold justice and close their ranks in struggle. It deals a blow to the imperialists who have long been acting unscrupulously in the Olympic Games as well as in international sports.

Last June a New Zealand rugby team toured South Africa. On July 9, Tanzania took the lead to announce that it would not take part in the Olympic Games in accordance with the proposals of the Organization of African Unity that African nations should not compete with countries with sporting links with South Africa. Then on July 17, a large group of countries announced their withdrawal from the Games. Afterwards, more and more countries including Arab and Latin American countries boycotted the Games.

In this struggle the African countries demonstrated their clear-cut principled stand in uniting as one to resolutely oppose apartheid in South Africa. Despite the fact that they possess a large number of the world's finest athletes and potential medallists, the African countries pointed out that it is more important to uphold the principled stand of combating racial discrimination than to win medals. Nigerian Head of State Lieutenant General O. Obasanjo reaffirmed that Nigeria "would not compromise its stand on the principle"

of opposing racial discrimination. He made this clear when he received the Nigerian Olympic contingent on their return home.

James Osogo, Acting Foreign Minister of Kenya, said that his country's decision "was taken on principle and in accordance with the majority views and agreement of African nations." "The Government and people of Kenya," he noted, "hold the view that principles are more precious than medals." "We shall use all means available to put pressure on South Africa until apartheid is wiped out and freedom is achieved in the whole of South Africa," he declared.

O.A.U. Secretary-General William Eteki Mboumova on July 21 praised the decision of African countries to walk out of the recent Olympic Games as a political posture against exploitation and insults in various forms.

In their just struggle against racial discrimination the African nations also enjoy the support of the people of Iraq, an Arab country, Guyana, a Latin American country, and other countries.

BANGLADESH

Strengthening Friendly Ties With Other Third World Countries

Over the last year the People's Republic of Bangladesh has made gratifying progress in actively devel-

oping its friendly ties with other third world countries.

Breaking through many obstacles and after friendly consultations, the Governments of Bangladesh and Pakistan have established diplomatic relations and exchanged ambassadors. This was followed by the signing of a trade agreement under which the two sides accord each other the most favoured nation treatment in trade, memorandums on shipping and banking arrangements, the establishment of postal and telecommunications and air links and the exchange of delegations visiting each other. Although the imperialists, especially the social-imperialists, have tried hard to undermine Bangladesh-Pakistan relations, friendship between the two countries are being enhanced continuously.

Last April Bangladesh signed four accords with Nepal on trade, transit, technical co-operation and aviation. The former has allowed the latter to use its sea ports to facilitate Nepal's import and export transit. This is a fine example of mutual support between a coastal country and a landlocked country in developing their national economies. Bangladesh also concluded with Afghanistan agreements on trade and technical co-operation. The representatives of the two countries recently met in Dacca and agreed on further development of trade and friendly co-operation between them. With Iran Bangladesh signed agreements on economic and technical co-operation and expansion

of trade. Its ties with Sri Lanka are becoming ever closer.

The development of relations between Bangladesh and other South Asian countries reflects the increasing unity among the third world countries which is conducive to the South Asian countries' efforts to safeguard their own national independence and develop their national economies.

China and Bangladesh have been friendly to each other. Their friendly good-neighbourly relations have been growing continuously since the establishment of diplomatic ties. China resolutely supports the Bangladesh people's struggle to safeguard its national independence and develop its national economy. Bangladesh supports the Chinese people in their struggle against imperialism and hegemonism.

While actively developing its friendly relations and co-operation with other Asian countries, Bangladesh attaches importance to the development of its friendly relations and co-operation with Arab and African countries. It has established trade relations and signed agreements on trade and technical co-operation with a number of countries including Egypt. Bangladesh supports the Arab countries in their just struggle against Zionism, and the Arab countries also support Bangladesh in its just struggle to defend national independence and territorial integrity and against foreign intervention.