

ASIA

Broad Liberation Front In South Viet-nam

ANTI-U.S. FORCES HAVE GUNS THANKS TO YANKS!

FOR three weeks early this year in a large village, which must remain nameless as long as U.S. bombers patrol South-Vietnamese skies, the historic First Congress of the National Liberation Front was held with over a hundred elected delegates from all over the country taking part.

By coincidence, the Congress started work just eight days after a U.S. Military Command was set up in Saigon and direct U.S. military intervention started in South Vietnam.

Plenary sessions were held in a solid, brick building with electric light and loudspeaker system which broadcast the proceedings not only to the delegates in the hall, but to the local residents as well—a tribute to the security which reigns in the liberated areas.

Hard Core Of Front

The three main political parties forming the hard core of the Front are:

The **Democratic Party**, formed in 1944, a party of intellectuals and small business people, which supported the resistance war against the French from the beginning;

The **Radical Socialist Party**, formed in 1961, representing intellectuals in Saigon and other urban centres and reflecting the strong trend towards neutralism, even among those in the Diem administration and army;

The **People's Revolutionary Party**, formed in January 1962 and representing the worker-peasant movement and militant intellectuals.

All three took part in the Congress. It was also attended by delegates from social and religious organisations, the Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, the peace committees, associations of writers and journalists.

Delegates represented every province and major town in South Vietnam. There were small business people, doctors and lawyers, Catholic priests and Buddhist priests, peasants and fishermen and members of the Front's armed forces—including former officers from Diem's army.

After 15 days of hard work, a Programme and Declaration of policy were adopted and 31 members of a 52-member Central Committee elected. The remaining places were left open to represent other organisations which it was expected would later join the Front.

A 10-point policy statement issued a month before the Congress by the provisional Central Committee had among other aims called for

- an end to Diem's war against the people;
- the withdrawal of U.S. interventionist forces;
- the election of a New National Assembly and President through "free, non-fraudulent" balloting;
- the dissolution of concentration camps and freeing of political prisoners;
- an end to press-gang conscription methods;
- the application of various measures to end the economic monopoly of the Diem family, and
- a foreign policy of peace and neutrality.

This was endorsed by the Congress.

By Wilfred Burchett

In conclusion, the Front's Programme called for "the establishment of a neutral area in Indo-China, comprising South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, which would enjoy full sovereignty and independence."

The other document adopted by the Congress—the Declaration—contains some points of special interest.

Land reform policy, for instance, is "to recognise the right to land ownership for all landlords who do not work as agents for the

THE DIEM FAMILY DICTATORSHIP

Ngo Dinh Diem: President with dictatorial powers. Head of one of the only two parties permitted to exist.

Ngo Dinh Nhu: Brother of the President. Head of the other political party. Controls "security" services.

Tran Le Xuan: The wife of Ngo Dinh Nhu. Runs most of the country's economic life. All U.S. aid passes through her hands (her father, **Tran Van Chuong**, is Ambassador in Washington). She allots military contracts. Her currency operations are said to make those of French officials before they had to leave look small beer. Believed to have large sums salted away in France, Switzerland, Brazil and Tunis.

Ngo Dinh Can: Brother of the President. "Viceroy" of Central Vietnam.

Ngo Dinh Luyen: Brother of the President. Ambassador in London.

Ngo Dinh Thuc: Brother of the President. Bishop and Apostolic Vicar of Vinh Long. Diem wanted the Vatican to appoint him Archbishop of Saigon. Has the monopoly for exploiting the timber reserves of South-West Vietnam, of French rubber plantations seized by Diem and of the import and distribution of sacramental wine. His investments also include Saigon's largest department store.

imperialists. "But they must carry out the present agrarian policy of the Front which is to reduce land rents and guarantee peasants' tenant rights.

"In the future, the national coalition administration, by negotiation and at fair prices, will

purchase part of the land from the landlords for distribution to the peasantry.

"Help will be extended to landlords to enter trade and industry. Membership of the Front is open to patriotic landlords."

Question Of Neutrality

Diemist troops who do not take part in attacks, or who come over voluntarily, or who do not offer resistance "will be released immediately after the battle and helped according to their wishes."

There is a provision that reads: "To army units and officials who rise up in mutiny or attempt coups directed against the U.S. imperialists and their agents, the National-Liberation Front will give active support and immediate aid to help them continue the struggle."

The Declaration went into some detail on the question of neutrality.

"The Congress had deep discussions on the foreign policy of peace and neutrality. . . The Congress solemnly asserts that South Vietnam will establish diplomatic relations with all countries, without distinction of political systems, in conformity with the principles of the Bandung Conference . . .

"It will not enter into military alliance with any country whatsoever and will accept aid, economic and otherwise, from any country willing to provide such assistance without restrictive conditions . . ."

There was this note of warning in the Declaration:

"The Congress affirms that if the imperative and legitimate aspirations of the South Vietnamese people go unheeded, and if the U.S. imperialists and their agents plunge deeper into their bloodthirsty aggression . . . the people of South Vietnam and the National-Liberation Front will use all forms of struggle . . . to liberate South Vietnam; to defend independence and democracy and completely overthrow the treacherous dictators."

Some people sincerely devoted to peace may be disturbed by the militant note of this pronouncement.

One can only recall that if the German and Italian people had risen in revolt against fascism and smashed it, the world would have been spared the horror of the Second World War.

Arms In Hand

The people of South Vietnam are fighting with arms in their hands against an Asiatic neofascism which endangers world peace.

Their leaders are quite conscious of this. They are also conscious of their responsibilities to take every step possible to secure a peaceful settlement.

"We will not miss any chance at all," the Declaration says, "to improve the disastrous situation that has now overtaken South Vietnam, to end the bloodshed there, to promote a settlement which will help relax international tensions."

Later I was able to interview one of the Central Committee members who had taken part in the Congress. He stressed the complete security in which the 15-day proceedings had taken place.

"Thanks to the good-quality radio transmitters with which the Americans have supplied us," he

said with a smile, "we were also able to keep in contact with our bureaux all over the country throughout the Congress. Communications worked excellently."

Suppliers

I asked about supplies for the Front's armed forces.

"In all major actions now," he replied, "we use captured U.S. arms. A great quantity have been brought over to us by deserting troops, often whole units. Others we capture in raids.

"For instance, in September 1961, we attacked Phuoc Thanh—a provincial capital about 60 miles north of Saigon. In an action that lasted precisely three minutes we were masters of the situation. We bagged 400 arms of all categories, especially recoilless cannon and Garand rifles that we like very much.

"I know the Americans like to claim we get our arms from North Vietnam. But that would be stupid even if we could. Think of the transport problem. The Americans on the other hand," he said with a laugh, "deliver them right there where we need them. Not only arms but other essential equipment we need."

As to the extent of territory actually administered by the National-Liberation Front, he said:

"It's difficult to ink that in on a map for various reasons. There are large zones, comprising hundreds of villages completely liberated without a Diem official or military post. There are others completely under our control but where there are islands of military posts and vestiges of Diem's administration who are in effect our prisoners.

"There are other areas of disputed territory, which we control by night and where they patrol by day. There are smaller areas where the Diem administration has ceased to function; the people have chased them out, but Front committees have not yet been established.

"Don't forget we have not been functioning long and in some places the liberation movement goes faster than we can organise administration. By and large, you can say that Diem controls the towns and strategic routes—but not all the latter. We hold the countryside."



U.S. Bases

The United States has stationed more than 1 million troops in over 70 countries and areas in all parts of the world and established more than 900 military bases in 35 foreign countries.

It has 15 bases for launching inter-continental guided missiles.

It has more than 200 military bases in Japan, and in Okinawa it has set up the biggest nuclear base in Asia.



JAGAN: Tieless in Guiana

MORE WORLD TIT-BITS

One of the indirect consequences of the anti-colonial upsurge has been the breaking away by many leading politicians from the bondage of the one-time symbol of respectability—the collar and tie. One premier who has decided to doff his tie for something more suitable for the tropics, is British Guiana's **Dr. Cheddi Jagan**, who is leading a stiff fight for the independence of his country.

Not all his followers, however, are able simply to accept the idea of a tieless premier. Said one of his admirers recently: "Poor doc, he got so many worries, he na got time fo' buy tie."

The wide publicity given to his Nazi past forced the top West German public prosecutor, **Wolfgang Fraenkel**, to retire recently (on a handsome pension). One

West German paper pointed out that it was ironical, to say the least, that Fraenkel's first job as prosecutor after the war was to prosecute Nazi war criminals!

A leading West Berlin paper, the *Tagesspiegel*, indignantly commented on the Fraenkel affair: "The whole case is typical of the dangerous laxity with which the brown stains on white waistcoats are disregarded, even when there is a question of selecting a candidate for a high office." Well spoken. What makes these comments particularly droll is the fact that the *Tagesspiegel* is edited by a man with a great big brown stain on his own white waistcoat. His name is Karl Heinrich Silex, and during the Hitler period he edited the nazi daily *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* for ten years. Amongst his writings then were several outpourings of praise for Adolf Hitler as Germany's saviour.

THE INSIDE STORY ABOUT SASA

WHAT is happening to the South African Sports Association?
There is a lot of confusion at present, caused largely by false press reports that SASA disbanded after the July Executive meeting. These are the facts:

- SASA is being asked to consider disbanding: the request comes from the Executive.
 - The final decision will depend on the affiliated bodies and the officials—all of whom have been asked to give their decision IN WRITING.
 - While president Rangasamy has asked affiliated bodies to agree to dissolve—and he is supported by some vice-presidents like REGGIE FELDMAN and M. N. PATHER (of Johannesburg and Durban respectively)—some of the other vice-presidents—including strong men like GEORGE SINGH (Durban) and FATHER SIGAMONEY (Jhb.)—have strongly opposed the move.
- WHATEVER HAPPENS WILL BE DECIDED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING IN OCTOBER.

Why has SASA Exec. Moved to Disband?

The reason is clearly set out in the Executive resolutions calling for disbandment:

- It is necessary to take the fight against racial sport to its next stage.
- The time is ripe to set up a SOUTH AFRICAN NON-RACIAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE which can apply for membership of the world body.
- Only an Olympic Committee can seek membership—SASA has served its purpose and cannot take the Olympic fight any further.
- Chancellor Meyer of the International Olympic Committee has stated to a top White sports administrator (also a top Government official) that he expects the non-racial bodies to make their challenge at the next Olympic Congress.
- He is sending SASA the Olympic Rules so that a Constitution can be drafted.

Sports bodies must get ready to move into the next round of the sports-fight: the ROUND THAT SHOULD SEE THE KNOCK-OUT BLOW—if we stand together and don't flinch.

WHATEVER HAPPENS, WE CAN BE SURE THAT THE FIGHT FOR TRUE SPORTSMANSHIP WILL BE FOUGHT OUT TO THE VICTORIOUS END.

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Brutus Nominated For Wits SRC

JOHANNESBURG
Mr. Dennis Brutus, the well known sports administrator and live-wire campaigner who has contributed largely to apartheid being condemned by various international sporting bodies, is one of the candidates up for election to the S.R.C. at Wits University.
Mr. Brutus is eligible for election as a part-time student at the University.
His name appeared amongst the 102 on the banned list published recently by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster.

R30 Fine For Slogan Painter



Ebrahim Ismail, a member of the Natal Indian Youth Congress, was last week found guilty of painting slogans on a wall of a Durban bakery on May 21 and was fined R30 (or 30 days). He was sentenced to a further 60 days suspended for three years. Ebrahim Ismail was arrested at his home at 2 a.m. on May 21 when several slogans "Unite Fight Nazi Bill" appeared in prominent places throughout Durban.

MORE POLICE RAIDS

JOHANNESBURG

The Special Branch have kept up their round the clock raids and interrogations of members of the liberatory movement in Johannesburg.

Several raids were made on the houses of members of the Rand Youth Club following on the appearance of "Free Mandela" slogans in the townships. In one house, the police said they were looking for ink. Among those raided were Mr. Roy Letlalo, who was visited twice; Miss Vera Gule, Mr. Henry Nkosi, Rev. Mento, Mr. Gerald Lockman and Mr. Wellington Sikiti—all of the Youth Club. The police arrived at Mr. Duma Nokwe's house looking for Mr. Thabo Mbeki. He was out visiting friends at the time.

Mr. Gerald Ludi, a member of the Congress of Democrats, also came under their scrutiny. When the Special Branch arrived at Mrs. Eve Hall's flat, she had left and they did not search.

Several people have been visited by the Special Branch and questioned about their addresses, time of going to work, number of children, distances of their homes from their places of work and other questions which seem to point to the possibility of house arrest. Amongst the latest batch of people questioned along these lines have been Mrs. Ruth Matseane and Mrs. Phillipa Levy and Messrs. Vic Goldberg and Wolfie Kodesh.

BOYCOTT ALL-WHITE SPORTS

DURBAN.

A CALL to all students not to attend all-White sporting events is made in a leaflet issued at all universities and high schools by the President of the Students' Representative Council of the University of Natal, Mr. Thumba Pillay.

Giving some facts for the students "to think about" the leaflet states:

- The all-White S.A. Football Association has been suspended for the second consecutive year from International Football by the world football body—FIFA.
- The prospect of White S.A. athletes participating in International Olympics is in the balance.
- The Non-European Football Associations have ceased to play matches organised on racial lines.
- The White athletic body refused to take Non-Whites in its team to Lourenco Marques although some African athletes clocked better times than their White counterparts.
- The fate of cricket is in the balance too. Why? S.A. refuses to play the West Indians, the Pakistanis and the Indians.
- And Rugby, S.A.'s national game, is due for a rude shock. New Zealand students have as-

sured us of their support in the campaign to boycott S.A.

Whilst all this is taking place, thousands of people continue to patronise all-White sporting events. The leaflet adds: "Our leaders in sports as well as in other spheres are engaged in a bitter fight against apartheid in sports as well as in other spheres of life."

Under the heading "what does attendance at these events mean?", the leaflet sets out the following:

- It helps to strengthen the apartheid ideology.
- Portion of the money paid at the gates is used to engage professional coaches. To train whom? Whites only. They then turn around and say that Non-Whites can't make the grade for S.A. national teams.
- It means that we in this country are not pulling our weight whereas people overseas are fighting against apartheid not only in sport but in other spheres as well.
- It means that we are not supporting wholeheartedly our own sporting bodies run on non-racial lines and which need our moral and financial assistance.

The leaflet ends with a call to students not to support all-white fixtures and to assist in the propagation of this idea amongst all sections of the people.

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MARITZBURG CITY

1.45 P.M.

VS

VS

Transvaal Utd vs Moroka Swallows

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ACES UNITED

3.30 P.M.

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