

Nationalists Gather for

2nd Congress of African People



IMAMU BARAKA, NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESS OF African People, shown here chairing a session of the National Black Political Convention in Gary last March.

YOBU NEWS ANALYSIS

The last edition of THE AFRICAN WORLD reported that the second Biennial Assembly of the Congress of African Peoples, held earlier this month in California, successfully brought together Pan-Africanists and Nationalists to spotlight the "Kazi" (work) of such organizations. The events, speeches, and discussions at the assembly represent in some measure the realistic "state" of nationalism among African people in this country.

The first CAP conference, held in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1970 under the theme of "Nation-Time," brought together Black people representing the full spectrum of ideologies operating in the Black community—progressive and reactionary. This second congress, however, attempted only to bring together a closer knit, more progressive group who were close ideologically.

The assembly was held at San Diego High School and San Diego City College from August 31 to September 4. The gathering was broken down into several types of workshops with presentations from attending organizations in each workshops. Workshop subjects included education, communications, law and justice, economic, politics with most having various subsection topics. Several major addresses were made to the entire group including one by the renowned Pan-Africanist C. L. R. James.

The hub of activities of the conference centered around its theme "Kazi is the Blackest of all." Participating organizations presented various kazi prototypes and models as examples of Pan-Africanism in practice. The prototypes and models as examples of Pan-Africanism in practice. The prototypes were to be presented in such a way that other groups could be able to reproduce or alter them to fit their particular local situations.

But obviously the dynamics of the gathering went beyond the presentation of kazi prototypes. There were structured meetings in which representatives of various nationalists organizations met to try to hammer out ways to form tighter relationships around the collective work. And there were significant discussions concerning the nature of such an emerging unity.

The gathering generally took on a very serious atmosphere although the usual conference goers were in attendance—the fashion models, the endless "rappers," and the constant floor walkers. But there was a welcomed absence of the "star" types with entourages of newsmen and "star gazers" trailing behind.

The kazi prototype presentations were significant even though it was apparent that we all have a lot more work to do. Bro. Ed Vaughan of the Pan-African Congress in Detroit presented an economic prototypes of the development of a nationalist bookstore. Bro. Vaughan pointed out that the bookstore was started and developed through the efforts and support of Black people only. His presentation was particularly important because it countered those presentations which stressed the fact that funds for economic projects had been secured from white foundations.

Brother Ron Daniels of Freedom Inc. in Youngstown, Ohio, presented a prototype of the development of a series of economic and educational institutions. He dealt with the fact that in order for our efforts to survive it is necessary to develop economic structures capable of supporting other institutions and organizations working in the interests of the Black community.

Imamu Baraka presented a prototype of local political organization from the Committee for Unified New Ark. His model spotlighted an approach to putting political power in the hands of Black people when they represent a majority of any local political unit.

Osusse Sadaukai, one of the featured speakers at the assembly (the text of his speech is carried in this issue), presented prototype concerning the development of an African peoples' ideological and technical institute—Malcolm X Liberation University in Greensboro, N. C. The university is now entering its fourth year of operation and has recently announced plans to send technically trained group of graduates to work in rural areas of Tanzania.

Nelson Johnson, the YOBU National Chairman presented a prototype concerning the development of the AFRICAN WORLD which will soon enter its third year of operation.

Bro. Johnson also delivered a major address to the conference. In his speech he dealt with the dialectical process which is at work throughout the ranks of nationalists—a process which was also at work in the conference itself. First of all, he said, nationalism is at a crossroad—a crisis point in its development. It is undeniable that nationalist have been battered during recent years. Capitalists have intensified their attacks upon our ranks and agents of capitalism—the Black bourgeoisie—have struck telling blows.

Despite the points of ideological differences in our ranks, the fact that we are being assailed by the same forces has created a condition in which greater unity is the logical step for us to take to solidify our ranks.

But though the signs of an emerging unity are up, it is now crucially important that the ideological struggle among us be waged. The moves for unity cannot be taken as a rationale for us-nationalists to accept all types of eccentric, non-scientific, non-power building analysis and modes of operation. We must now, more than ever before, adopt a clear international perspective while at the same time, work to establish ourselves as a force in the United States.

We can no longer afford to waste time languishing in self-delusions of grandeur. Black is beautiful and it is good to be Black—yes, but let us move beyond that and work to move our people. A dialectical struggle is taking place in our

ranks and from this struggle we should move to a position of greater stability. That struggle, if waged correctly, will draw out the incorrect tendencies in all camps and merge the correct tendencies.

The presentations of both Johnson and Sadaukai were reflected in the keynote address by new CAP chairman Imamu Baraka. Baraka lashed out at many incorrect tendencies to be found in the national movement, emphasizing that he adhered to the goals of Osagyefo Kwame Nkrumah: "Nationalism, Pan-Africanism, Socialism." While stressing that the ideology of our struggle must grow from the experience of our people, he also spoke of the "Africa dialectical process and "Africa dialectical materialism."

It was significant that CAP adopted a document dealing with scientific socialism and another speaking of African dialectical materialism referring to the peculiarities of the African situation.

The adoption of the two papers, the increased attention to the international aspects of the African struggle, and the ascension of Imamu Baraka to the chairmanship of CAP promises to open a new dimension in CAP's direction. Over the last two years it was unclear as to what CAP was about. And the CAP structure was equally as unclear to the majority of our people. CAP has received considerable projection but that projection did little to clear up the hazy view most of our people had of its

direction. CAP is being developed as a mass-based congress and as such has an obligation to restructure and redefine itself so that African people can clearly discern what it's about.

CAP has moved to clarify its structural point, if not its program. The elevation of Baraka as chairman to replace Heyward Henry, confirms his status as the moving force within the organization, a fact that has been apparent since the Atlanta gathering.

The congress has already come under criticism from a few sources. One of the criticisms was concerning the selection of California as the site for the gathering when most of the Pan-Africanists organizations are based on or nearer the East Coast—where the majority of Black people are located. In response to that criticism we are reminded that we can ill afford the development of regional chauvinism and that is important for nationalists to gather on the West Coast in order to counter the new—productive influence of the radical integrationists on the West Coast.

As with anything else, the best evaluations can be made after a period of practice. There are hopes that many of the best "kazi" prototypes will be reproduced among other nationalists around the country. It is yet to be seen whether the verbal commitment of unity made at the conference must materialize in concrete working relationships.

SWAPO's Sixth Anniversary

Statement given by Babatunde Polyemani, Tanzania Representative of the African Liberation Support Committee on August 6, 1972 the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the launching of armed struggle by SWAPO at a rally sponsored by T. Y. L.

Your Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters of SWAPO, Comrades and Friends,

I am extremely honored to address SWAPO and the friends of SWAPO on behalf of the 35 million Africans in America on the sixth anniversary of the launching of armed struggle in Namibia on August 26, 1966.

This date will live in the minds of the people of Namibia, Africa and Progressive people around the world, because it can only end in victory for the people and the defeat of the racist American supported South African regime.

The thirty-five million Africans living in America, the heartland of imperialism also began to move in 1966 with cries for Black Power and self determination. Just as the struggle in Namibia led by SWAPO has qualitatively and quantitatively moved forward in the six years since August 26, 1966, the struggle of Africans in America has moved forward on all fronts. In the political sphere, this is reflected in the massive demonstrations on May 27, 1972 of Africans in the West in support of our brothers who with gun in hand are fighting to regain control of the lives and land of the over 30 million brothers and sisters living in Southern Africa. Africans in the West have also

picked up the gun and the gun shots of the urban guerillas of the Afro-American Liberation Army are being heard and applauded by progressive people around the world.

The enemies of Namibia, Africa, the 100 million African people in the West and indeed of humanity are the multi-national corporations which exploit and oppress the struggling people of the world.

Africans struggling in America and throughout the Western hemisphere are an integral part of the struggle being waged to free the continent from the ravages of imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism. For this reason, the African Liberation Support Committee has been formed in America with branches throughout the Western Hemisphere and in Africa to support the heroic struggle of our brothers and sisters in the motherland, both morally and materially and to do battle with Gulf Oil, Climax Metals, General Motors, and the other capitalist firms supporting reaction in Africa and throughout the world.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with SWAPO, the liberation movements in Southern Africa, the valiant Vietnamese people and all those who have taken up the gun to lift the burdens of reaction from the backs of people around the world. The monstrous system of capitalism began with the enslavement of Africans and it will end with their total liberation.

The people will win! Imperialism will certainly be defeated! Africa will be liberated and united!

ESSIAH ZHUWARARA, FROLIZE representative, was one of the speakers at the second Congress of African People; his presence was reflective of CAP's increased international emphasis. (YOBU Photo)

ANC Leaders Restricted

Salisbury (AWA) — Rhodesia has cancelled the travel rights of a leader of the African National Council (ANC). The Rhodesian Minister of Immigration ordered Canaan Bonana to give up his passport. The order was levelled the same day that legislation was passed empowering the Minister to declare any Rhodesian's travel papers invalid.

No notice was given by the government for the ANC cancellation.

A senior ANC spokesman responded to the action saying, "We have no doubt that the government introduced these measures in order to prevent ANC leaders from leaving Rhodesia to put out case before the people of the world."

"The government will only succeed in convincing the world that it is totalitarian and frightened of criticism."