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# **MOZAMBIQUE**

**SPEECH OF COREMO DELEGATION AT THE  
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR  
THE LIQUIDATION OF FOREIGN MILITARY  
BASES BY VALENTINO SITHOLE.**



Mr. Chairman and Fellow Delegates.

Allow me to convey the greetings and gratitude of the COREMO delegation and the people of Mozambique to the heroic Indonesian people under the militant Leadership of President Sukarno. Further allow me to thank the Indonesian people and their leaders for having taken the initiative to call this First International Conference for the Liquidation of Foreign Military Bases. We hail the leader of Indonesia, President Sukarno and all the Indonesian people.

We thank the Committee which organised and made all arrangements for Conference for having extended an invitation to us to attend this Conference. We meet here, representing different countries and peoples, some from free countries and some from countries which are still struggling against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism led by the United States. We meet in this beautiful city of Djakarta, the capital of the Republic of Indonesia, where twenty years ago our Indonesian brothers and sisters liberated their country from imperialist domination and suppression. We are brought together by a common cause and a common struggle.

The COREMO delegation of Mozambique wishes this Conference a great success and great achievements.

Mr. Chairman and Friends.

Imperialism to-day is trying in vain to tighten its grip in the continents of Africa, Asia and Latin America and many other parts of the world in various forms. The progressive and militant forces throughout the entire world, more particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America are doubly redoubling their efforts to liquidate imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism headed by the United States once and for all.

Undoubtedly it is our common struggle against imperialism that even to-day the militant Indonesian people among many other efforts in the struggle against imperialism have initiated this First Conference for the Liquidation of Foreign Military Bases. This time, we meet here to rededicate ourselves to the anti-imperialist struggle. We meet here to find means and ways of liquidating foreign military Bases in or around our countries and from our territorial waters and air space. We meet here, share experiences of common struggles in all our countries, so that we leave here fully armed to struggle harder to remove all foreign military Bases from our countries or around them.

Imperialists have planted military Bases in South Africa, Mozambique, Angola, British-sponsored Malayasia, Singapore, Taiwan, Guantanamo in Cuba and in many other Parts of the world. It is of paramount importance that we should destroy the root cause of foreign military Bases, which is imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism led by the United States. Imperialism to-day regards its military bases in foreign countries as its life blood and soul. Therefore, we must liquidate imperialism totally from the world together with its Military Bases.

The imperialists have set up military bases in and around some of our countries in order to aggressively suppress the peoples' will to self-determination and also to sabotage and subvert peoples' freedom, national independence and world peace. Neo-colonised States in Africa, Asia and Latin America serve as military bases for the imperialists' aggression against the peoples of those countries and neighbouring countries.

The imperialists to-day have organisations or agencies of aggression such as NATO, ANZUS, SEATO and many other related bodies. Almost all these aggressive bodies are headed by the U.S. imperialists. These bodies or organisations are formed by imperialist administrations for warmongering purposes against and for exploiting the peace loving people and progressive peoples of the world.

Mr. Chairman, whilst speaking on this subject, I would like briefly to stress the importance of supporting the South Vietnamese people against U. S. imperialists gangsters. Their struggle is our struggle, their struggle is directed against the U.S. imperialists who are the root cause of Foreign Military Bases to-day. The Johnson Administration is using its military bases in Asia more particularly those illegal set up in Japan and her Islands for continuing their dirty war in Vietnam. The United States imperialists are using floating bases in Asian, African and Latin American waters for their aggressive policies. These bases, whether they be on land, or floating must be liquidated.



We cannot separate the struggle against Foreign Military Bases from that against imperialists A and H Bombs used for aggressive purposes. Both struggles cannot be separated from the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. Imperialism led by U.S. Johnson Administration is the cause of foreign military bases, which are used for military aggression against the innocent people of Vietnam, Congo (Leopoldville) the Dominica Republic and other parts of the world.

In spite of the escalation of war in Vietnam by the Johnson Administration, the heroic Vietnamese men and women are fighting resolutely against the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys. No doubt, we feel that as long as the Vietnamese people hold high the banner of revolution against the U.S. imperialism, the victory is on their side.

We support our Vietnamese brothers fully and we also support the Dominican people and our Congolese brothers and all the fighting forces against world imperialism led by the United States.

We in Mozambique are facing the Portuguese imperialists and fascists led by Salazar and his clique, who are in fact backed or are part and parcel of U.S. imperialism. However the struggle in Mozambique continues unabated and no doubt with your mutual support and relying on ourselves we shall surely defeat the Portuguese imperialists.

The Portuguese in Mozambique and other Portuguese colonies are backed and supported by the aggressive organisations such as NATO and others. The U.S. imperialists, West German imperialists and a bunch of all other imperialist countries. These imperialist forces are found in almost all the bases in our country at places like Beira, Lourenço Marques the Açores islands etc.

The COREMO delegation wishes to draw your attention to the fact that the Salazar Regime has installed Military Bases all over Mozambique and her islands, and have further exchanged diplomatic relations with the Smith fascist regime of South Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), this is in order to strengthen their secret military fact.

Presently there are 40,000 or more foreign troops in Mozambique, most of them come from Portugal including some from Spain, West Germany and other imperialist countries. The soldiers are equipped with American, Israeli and Belgian weapons and other war materials.

One might ask a question: Why is Portugal in NATO at all?

Portugal is an impoverished country without military forces of any value and the only possible strategic argument why it is necessary to include here in NATO alliance is that she possesses some military bases of doubtful value in the ACORES. Portugal cannot wage a colonial war without the backing of the NATO, she would collapse the day after.

Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates,

I wish to thank the Indonesian people and their Leaders for the hospitality they shown to us during our stay in their country. We wish them all the success in our common struggle with them against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

Forward ever, Backward never

Down with imperialism.

Long Live Afro-Asian and Latin American solidarity.

