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NEGRO DELEGATION SUPPORTS THE
FIVE-YEARS' PLAN.

After the report of Comrade Schwernik, on "The tasks of the Trade Unions in the Reconstruction Period", Comrade Padmore on behalf of the Negro Delegates to the Congress delivered the following speech:

Comrades, on behalf of the Negro delegations from the United States of America, Latin America and Africa, I have been instructed to say a few words on the report that we heard this morning in connection with the industrialization of the Soviet Union and the building up of socialism.

First of all, we would like to take this opportunity of expressing our revolutionary solidarity with the Russian workers and peasants in the building of socialism, and in the carrying out of their Five-Year Plan. We, the Negro delegates to this Congress, have followed with profound interest and proletarian enthusiasm the remarkable achievements of the Russian workers and the Soviet power in the fields of industry and agriculture, and feel confident that our Russian comrades under the Bolshevik leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, will complete their plan in five years, or even in four years. We have heard and seen very much during our stay in the Soviet Union, and this confirms our opinion that the Russian workers will be successful in their undertaking. This further refutes the lies and slanders of the bourgeoisie that the Soviet Union is going to the dogs.

Now comrades, what does the building up of socialism in the Soviet Union mean to the international working class? At this time when world capitalism is faced with a deep going crisis, the building up of socialism in the Soviet Union means the accentuation of this crisis. For every factory constructed, every mill opened, every mill created, every mile of railway track laid, every trestle built, every ship constructed, every foot of earth brought within the sector of collectivization, means a fatal blow to world capitalism.

More than this, comrades; the building up of socialism further means the solving of the racial problem. This is of tremendous importance, especially to the Negroes in the United States of America and in Brazil, where the national minority questions are burning and acute problems. The building up of socialism in the Soviet Union shows us how to solve racial conflicts. We will be able to put an end to this so-called race problem because these minorities that now live in the United States and in countries like Brazil, will be given autonomy, will be given the right to govern themselves. Also, we see how this question of chauvinism is dealt with by the Soviet power. Just a few days ago we had a glaring illustration of a chauvinistic manifestation by a white American worker in Stalingrad. The Russian workers, led by their trade unions, did not pamper this white chauvinist, but they rallied their forces not only in Stalingrad but throughout the length and breadth of the Soviet Union and demonstrated their strength against this bourgeois ideology, white chauvinism.

This is of significance to the white comrades, and shows them the correct way in which to combat white chauvinism, not only by expelling members from the trade unions and parties, but we must demonstrate before the broad toiling masses of the Negro workers in the United States and the world that the only correct way to fight white chauvinism is by carrying on a broad campaign among the masses.

Comrades, let me say that the Negro workers understand all this; we see in the Soviet Union and the Five Year Plan a hope and inspiration, a weapon on our behalf against the bourgeoisie that will break the chains of imperialism that today enslave us. Therefore, we will do our best to defend the Soviet Union in case it is attacked by the imperialists.

Now a few words about the war danger. Comrades, the Right and "Lefts" might pretend not to know what the building of socialism means,

but the international bourgeoisie realises quite well that the building of socialism means an end to their robbery and exploitation and, because they realise that their days are numbered, they are feverishly making preparations for war. At no time has the attack upon the Soviet Union been so imminent as it is today.... We see glaring illustrations of this; we see how the international imperialists, especially the British, French and Americans are instigating the Chinese war lords to attack the Soviet Union. We see the role of the MacDonald social-fascist Government in brutally putting down every manifestation of colonial revolt; we see today the manoeuvres of the American bourgeoisie with all their insinuations to the effect that the Soviet Union Trading Company in New York is responsible for communist propaganda. This is for the purpose of depriving the Soviet Union of an export market. All of these, comrades, are tendencies leading towards war.

Therefore, the question is, how can we Negro workers best prepare ourselves to defend the Soviet Union, our Fatherland. We must adopt more energetically methods to strengthen our working class organisations; we must continue to develop and foster the spirit of internationalism among ourselves; we must take greater interest in the movement of the working class not only of the metropolitan countries, but also of the colonial countries. We must realise that the struggles in China and in India are our struggles against the common enemy. We Negro workers must also conduct a more relentless fight against all forms of reformism, against Gerveyism, which is nothing less than black reformism.

If we assign ourselves, comrades, to these tasks we will be better able to turn the imperialist war into a Civil War against the bosses and for the emancipation and freedom, not only of the Negro toilers, but of the entire workingclass. I pledge to this Congress in the name of the Negro delegates from the United States, Brazil, Latin America and Africa, that we will go back to our respective countries and continue to spread the achievements of Socialism in the Soviet Union among our comrades. We will continue to build up our ranks. We will continue to march forward, and we feel confident that when the opportunity presents itself for the final struggle against imperialism, we will take our places in the vanguard, of the international revolutionary movement for the establishment of the world Socialism.

Long live the Soviet Union!

Long live the achievements of the revolutionary workers of the Soviet Union and the Five Year Plan!

Long live the international revolutionary movement!

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