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INTERVIEW GRANTED BY PRESIDENT NICOLAE
CEAUSESCU TO CHIEF EDITOR ABDELJALIL FENJIRO
OF THE "MAGHREB ARABE PRESSE" NEWS AGENCY

SPEECH BY PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUSESCU
IN THE MOROCCAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOINT ROMANIAN-MOROCCAN COMMUNIQUE

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INTERVIEW GRANTED BY PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUȘESCU
TO CHIEF EDITOR ABDELJALIL FENJIRO OF THE
"MAGHREB ARABE PRESSE" NEWS AGENCY

Nicolae Ceaușescu, President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, received Abdeljalil Fenjiro, Chief Editor of the Moroccan News Agency "Maghreb Arabe Presse", and granted him an interview, on November 26, 1970. The text of the interview was distributed by that news agency, broadcast over the Moroccan radio and television, and published in Moroccan and Romanian newspapers.

QUESTION: Mr. President, you will pay an official visit to Morocco, early in December. Would you be kind to tell us something about the context of this visit and about its political-economic prospects?

ANSWER: The visit I am to pay soon to Morocco at the kind invitation of His Majesty Hassan II, is an expression of the good relations between our countries and peoples and will also mark an important moment in their future development.

The visit is a natural consequence of the expansion in recent years of the economic, technical, scientific, cultural and political relations between our countries. I might say, that it is part of the context of the general policy of coexistence of the states with different social systems, of their cooperation and collaboration for ensuring a world of peace. I consider that the visit will open up new prospects to our fruitful cooperation in the economic, scientific and cultural domains as well as in the realm of building a climate of cooperation and peace among peoples.

QUESTION: Immediately after the Second World War, Romania started a new experience on multiple planes: social-political, economic and cultural-scientific. We would ask you, Mr. President, to tell us about the results of this experience in the present stage.

ANSWER: Indeed, after the Second World War, Romania went over to the organisation of her entire social-economic life on new bases. In order to better understand the results of socialist construction in our country, account must be taken of the fact that Romania of the past was among the less-developed countries of Europe. In the 26 years that have elapsed since liberation, Romania has turned into a country with a developed industry, with a fully flourishing agriculture. At the same time, illiteracy has been abolished completely, which accounted for 60 per cent of the country's population. Today, the whole population is literate. The young people attend 10-year education and the number of students and of pupils in lyceums is 4-5 times bigger than in 1938, being at the level of the developed countries of the world.

Following economic development, the living standard of our entire people has grown, a fact that can be seen throughout the country.

We can thus say that the socialist system has opened up to the Romanian people the path for a free, dignified and independent life, for a life of plenty. This tellingly illustrates the possibilities offered to each people which, by shaking off foreign domination and becoming master of its destiny, builds its life according to its will.

QUESTION: Would you, Mr. President, define for us Romanian reality on an international plane? In this context, we would ask you to speak especially on Romania's relations with the other socialist countries; with the western world, particularly with Bonn, Washington and the countries of European Economic Community; about your country's relations

with the Arab world, on the one hand and with Israel on the other. In this connection, what do you think, Mr. President, about the "Palestine problem"?

ANSWER: In the world of today, the development of each country is more or less determined by its participation in the international division of labour, by its cooperation and collaboration with the other states. In this context, Romania conducts a broad policy of international cooperation with all the states of the world, regardless of social system. Naturally, as a socialist state, she places first the development of her relations with all the socialist countries considering that this represents not only a cause of Romania or of the socialist countries, but also a cause of all the progressive forces throughout the world.

As I have said, we also consider it necessary to develop relations of collaboration and cooperation with all the states of the world, and it is in this context that our relations with the Federal Republic of Germany and with the United States of America are proceeding. Setting out from these realities, Romania has diplomatic, economic, scientific and cultural relations with the Federal Republic of Germany and develops similar relations with the United States of America, considering that these relations, based on fully equal rights, on the observance of national independence and sovereignty and on non-interference in internal affairs, correspond to the interests of our countries and to the cause of world collaboration.

As to the relations with the Arab world, I must say that Romania expressed and continues to express her sympathy for the fight waged by the Arab countries for shaking off foreign domination, for national independence, for independent

development, as well as for the Arab peoples's fight for welfare.

In this context, we have considered and continue to consider that the path towards the Arab peoples' flourishing welfare is the path of cooperation with all the states, the path of peace. In our opinion, war is not the path that can lead to the solving of the problems existing in the Near East, cannot contribute to the independent development of the Arab countries. That is why we consider it necessary that a political settlement be reached in the present conflict between the Arab states and Israel, that the Israeli troops be withdrawn from the occupied Arab territories, that an independent development be ensured to all states in that region and, in this context, that the Palestine question be solved in keeping with the national wish of that population. I am thinking about the Palestine population's right to self-determination inclusive of the right to form an independent national state.

QUESTION: What significance ought one to give, Mr. President, in 1970 to the notion of "imperialism"?

ANSWER: Imperialism of the '70s, the same as imperialism of all years, is characterized by the policy of domination over other peoples, by the policy of dictate, of force, of brutal interference in the affairs of other states. As a matter of fact, present-day realities offer us enough such examples. I could refer to the latest events in Guinea which illustrate precisely this policy of imperialism.

I consider that the peoples of the world are in duty bound to join their efforts in order to put an end for good and all to the imperialist, colonialist and neo-colonialist policy, to the policy of force and dictate, of interference in the affairs of other states, in order to ensure to each

people the right to develop according to its will, without any outside interference. It is only in the conditions when the peoples will act united and will put an end to imperialist policy, that a world of cooperation and peace could be ensured, as well as the general progress of mankind.

QUESTION: Morocco, just as the neighbour countries Algeria and Mauritania, is concerned with the problem of decolonizing the Sahara from Spanish domination. Mr. President, what is Romania's attitude on this problem?

ANSWER: Romania firmly speaks out against any policy of domination, for the abolition, for good and all, of colonialism and neo-colonialism. In this context, she nurtures feelings of sympathy for all the peoples fighting for their liberation or for the defence of their national sovereignty. In fact, as you know Romania has voted at the United Nations Organization for the resolution concerning a referendum giving the population in Spanish Sahara the right to have its say on its future, the right to self-determination.

We consider that it is high time for colonialism and neo-colonialism to be abolished for good and all.

I would like to take this opportunity of addressing the Moroccan people, before doing so in person, the best wishes for a fruitful activity, for prosperity and welfare.

SPEECH BY PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUȘESCU
IN THE
MOROCCAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

On December 9, 1970, when the proceedings of the Moroccan House of Representatives were resumed in the evening, State Council President Nicolae Ceaușescu of the Socialist Republic of Romania delivered the following address to the Moroccan deputies:

Mr. President,
Gentlemen Deputies,

It is a special pleasure for me and my associates to be the guests this evening of the House of Representatives and to be able to convey from this high rostrum, to you, distinguished representatives of the Moroccan nation and to the friendly Moroccan people cordial greetings in behalf of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, of the entire Romanian people and on my own behalf.

I would like thank Mr. President of the House of Representatives for his salute addressed to me and the words said about the Romanian people.

As I have the pleasure of taking part in the opening proceedings of your session, I would like to wish you much success in the activity you will carry on.

Please allow me to express, once again, sincerest thanks to His Majesty Hassan II and the Moroccan people for the welcome we have been honoured with. I consider that all the feelings of friendship and esteem expressed to me are addressed to my people, which in its turn, nurtures the same feelings for the brother Moroccan people.

These expressions represent at the same time the wish of the Romanian and Moroccan peoples to collaborate and cooperate in the economic, technical-scientific and cultural domains, to help each other in their economic-social advancement and to live in peace and friendship.

I would like to say on this occasion too, that the talks we had these days with His Majesty have led to the materialization of the wish of both peoples, have laid lasting foundations for a fruitful and many-sided cooperation and collaboration to the advantage of the two countries, and will contribute to strengthening the friendship between our nations, desirous of fully enjoying the blessings of civilization.

At the same time, the exchange of views on problems of the international situation spotlighted the wish of Romania and of Morocco to make their contribution to the liquidation of the hotbeds of war and tension which endanger peace and to act for the triumph of the policy of cooperation among peoples, irrespective of social system.

Mr. President,
Gentlemen Deputies,

The Romanian people is engaged with all its might in the vast work for its country's economic and social advancement, in the building up of a new social system - the socialist system. The progress made on this road in a historically short period, is tremendous.

The successes registered by Romania in the building up of a modern industry, in the development of agriculture, in the flourishing of science and culture, as well as in raising the material welfare and the cultural level of the entire people most tellingly demonstrate the creative capacity of a free and independent people master of its destiny and which is building the life in keeping with its wish and will.

The Romanian people, which itself had suffered for a long time the yoke of foreign domination and imperialist oppression, most resolutely speaks up against colonialism and

neo-colonialism, against the imperialist policy of immixture in the internal affairs of other states.

We know that the Moroccan people too, had to wage a long struggle for winning its national independence; our peoples have won their true independence after the Second World War. It is perhaps therefore that the friendship and cooperation between our peoples is so fruitful and lasting. Precisely because you and we know what the yoke of foreign oppression meant, are we determined to fight for defending the independence of our countries. My visit to Morocco, the talks with His Majesty Hassan II proceeded in a spirit of the principles of our countries' independence and sovereignty.

In the epoch of the great gains of science and technique, of man's penetration into outer space, the policy of oppressing other peoples, wars between states appear as a shameful anachronism, overshadowing human civilization. It is high time for the peoples to rally their efforts as to put an end to colonialism and neo-colonialism, to the imperialist policy of force and dictate in international life.

We must do everything, so that international law should triumph in inter-state relations, that cooperation among nations should develop on the basis of the principles of fully equal rights, of the observance of national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage, for the observance of each people's right to decide its own path of economic and social development. The Romanian people's sympathy and solidarity is directed towards all the peoples fighting for winning and defending their national independence.

We nurture feelings of sincere friendship for the Arab peoples. I wish to reaffirm also from this high rostrum Romania's stand towards the conflict in the Near East. We consider that the Security Council Resolution of November 1967,

as well as the recent United Nations Organization resolution, provide a basis for the political settlement of the conflict and for strengthening peace in the Near East. In this respect, we consider it necessary that Israel should withdraw its troops from the occupied Arab territories, that political settlements be reached which should ensure national sovereignty and territorial integrity to all the states in that area, both of the Arab countries and of Israel. At the same time, a solution guaranteeing a lasting peace must take into account also the settlement of the status of the Palestine population in conformity with its national interests, with its right to self-determination, the setting up of an independent national state included.

We consider that in the present situation, it is necessary to resume as soon as possible the talks through the agency of Ambassador Jarring.

Honoured Assembly,

As a European country, Romania consistently militates for the development of cooperation relations with all the states of the continent, for the normalization of the relations among them and the attainment of European security. In this context, we assess that the holding of an All-European Conference with the participation of all the states concerned is of great importance not only for Europe but for all the continents on our planet.

In international activity we set out from the fact that peace is indivisible, that the settlement of international issues in keeping with the interests of all the states is possible only with the active participation of all the peoples, regardless of their size or their economic and military strength.

We are fully convinced that the united force of the peoples can make reason triumph and can achieve on our planet a world of cooperation among equal nations, a world of peace and justice. The Romanian people will do everything that depends on it to contribute to the triumph of this righteous cause.

Mr. President,

I have had the happy opportunity to know these days some aspects of the work and life of the people of your country. I saw round today two enterprises and your big port of Casablanca, the biggest port in Africa and must tell you that I was pleasantly impressed by the results you have recorded on the path of developing a modern industry. We know from our own experience that the road of industrialization is a long road, but it is the only one for progress, welfare and independence. We take with us the finest feelings of the talent and industry of the Moroccan people. We are sincerely glad of the successes obtained in the economic and social development of Morocco and the great future prospects.

I am fully convinced that my visit to your country, the talks with His Majesty Hassan II open up a new stage in the relations between our peoples and countries.

In conclusion, I would like to convey to the friendly Moroccan people best wishes for welfare, prosperity and peace.

May the friendship and cooperation between our peoples flourish constantly!

Long live peace among the peoples!

Long live Morocco!

JOINT ROMANIAN-MOROCCAN COMMUNIQUE

At the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II, of Morocco, Nicolae Ceaușescu, President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania paid an official visit to Morocco, between December 7 and 11, 1970.

In Morocco, the distinguished Romanian guests saw round economic enterprises, historical monuments and cultural establishments in Rabat, Casablanca and Marrakech, getting acquainted with the achievements recorded by Morocco on the road of economic, social and cultural progress.

President Nicolae Ceaușescu was a guest to the House of Representatives where he made a speech.

During the visit, the State Council President and the officials accompanying him were extended everywhere a warm reception, an expression of the feelings of friendship between the two countries and peoples.

Nicolae Ceaușescu, President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and His Majesty, King Hassan II of Morocco had official talks which proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality, in the spirit of mutual esteem and regard.

Participating in the talks on the Romanian side were Ion Pășan, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Corneliu Mănescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bujor Almășan, Minister of Mining and Geology, and Vasile Mircea, the Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania to Morocco.

Taking part in the talks on the Moroccan side were Driss Slaoui Director-General of the Royal Cabinet, Dr. Ahmed Laraki, Prime Minister, Dr. Youssef Bel Abbes, Minister for Foreign Affairs, M'hamed Bahnini, Minister of Defence and Secretary General of the Government, and Hassan Kaghad, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The two heads of state, had a broad exchange of views on the relations between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Kingdom of Morocco, and on the major international issues.

The two sides pointed on the occasion to the successful course of the relations between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Kingdom of Morocco, and stressed that this was in harmony with the interests of the two countries, of the cause of international peace and understanding. They also emphasized the positive role played by the contacts established in recent years between government officials of the two countries and assessed that the bilateral agreements concluded, favoured the expansion and diversification of the Romanian-Moroccan relations.

President Nicolae Ceaușescu of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco declared in favour of intensifying the trade exchanges and economic and technical cooperation on the basis of mutual advantage. It was also settled that the necessary measures be taken for the relevant institutions of the two countries to materialize cooperation actions in industry, public works and especially in the domain of agricultural advancement, of mine prospection and exploitation and oil prospection. In this context, an inter-exchange of delegations will take place soon between the two countries. The two sides also appreciated the role and importance of the activity of the joint Romanian-Moroccan government commission.

During the visit, Ion Pățan, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, signed in behalf of the Romanian Government and Dr. Ahmed Laraki, Prime Minister, in behalf of the Moroccan Government an Aide-Memoire. This document envisages measures that will be taken for the translation into life of what had been established by the two heads of state following their talks, in the sphere of economic collaboration and cooperation.

Stressing the importance of the cultural exchanges for a better acquaintance and rapprochement among peoples, the two heads of state spotlighted the mutual wishes to intensify and expand cooperation in the sphere of education youth and sport, the training of cadres and public health.

For the broadening of the juridical framework of the relations between the two states, the sides agreed to conclude a juridical assistance convention, an agreement on air transport, a cooperation agreement, in the domain of tourism and of convention on the mutual relaxation of travel formalities for the citizens of the two countries.

The two heads of state pointed out with satisfaction that the foreign policy of their countries is based on the unanimously recognised principles of international law. They reasserted their conviction that the development of bilateral relations among all the states, regardless of social system, contributes to ensuring the continuous progress of each state and of the whole of mankind, to the establishment of a climate of international peace and security. They stated that for the attainment of these major objectives it is necessary that the relations among all the states be based on the observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs, of the observance of the sacred right of each people to freely decide its destiny.

In the spirit of the declarations of the United Nations Organisation, endorsed during the recent commemorative session the two heads of state spoke up for the exclusion of the use of force or threat with force and of the policy of dictate from international life, for the peaceful settlement of the divergencies.

On examining the international situation, the two sides stressed their full devotedness to the defence and consolidation of international peace and security.

The two heads of state pointed to the growing role of the small and medium-sized countries in international life and stated that all the states can and must make their contribution to the settlement of the present-day problems.

On examining the situation in the Near East, the two sides spoke up for the solution of all the problems in that region in keeping with the principles of the Charter and with the corresponding resolutions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation, in the interest of safeguarding peace in the world. They spotlighted also the fact that for the realisation of a lasting peace in the Near East, it was necessary to solve the problem of the Palestine **people** in keeping with its national interests and aspirations, ensuring it the right to self-determination, the right to set up its own national state included.

The two heads of state spoke up for the cessation of every kind of foreign intervention in Indochina, for the peaceful settlement of the conflict, in accordance with the Geneva agreements, so that the Vietnamese, Laotian and Cambodian peoples could freely exercise the right to decide their own destinies, without any outside interference.

Assesing highly the profoundly renewing changes come about on the African continent, the two sides re-affirmed their sympathy with and support for the struggle of the young states for defending and consolidating their national independence, against colonialism and neo-colonialism, for economic, social and cultural advancement. The two sides particularly condemned the recent aggression against the Republic of Guinea and re-affirmed the solidarity of the Romanian and Moroccan governments and peoples with the struggle waged by the Guinean people for the defence of its independence and territorial integrity.

They expressed their peoples' solidarity with and

support for the just struggle waged by the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Namibia and other colonial territories, against foreign oppression, for winning national independence and the attainment of their legitimate aspirations for liberty and progress.

They condemned the policy of racial discrimination and of apartheid promoted by the minority racist regimes of the South-African Republic and Rhodesia, as also the flagrant transgression of human rights in those territories.

Denouncing colonialism and ne colonialism the two sides considered that concrete and immediate actions must be taken for the application of the U.N. declaration on the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples and of the U.N. resolution concerning de-colonization.

Appreciating the favourable course of preparations for the convening of an all-European Conference and the efforts of the European states for the implementation of security on this continent, the two sides stated that the implementation of this major objective of the European peoples would greatly contribute to the creation of a climate of peace and security in the whole world. They stressed that international security has to be conceived as a system of firm commitments on the part of all states and of concrete measures that should offer each guarantees for peaceful development, in a climate of detente, understanding and cooperation.

Emphasizing the interest and importance they attach to good neighbour relations and relations of economic, cultural and technical cooperation on a regional level among sovereign states, the two sides stated that they will further act for the expansion of the relations of friendship among the Balkan countries and of Maghreb respectively in the interest of international peace, security and understanding.

The two heads of state underlined the need for intensifying negotiations for disarmament and for undertaking concrete actions for an agreement to be reached on general

disarmament and, in the first place, on nuclear disarmament, under international control. They consider that the halting of the arms race, the reduction of the military budgets, the banning of the use of atomic weapons, the cessation of their production and the liquidation of the accumulated stockpiles, the creation of de-nuclearized zones, the abolishment of military blocs as well as other disarmament measures would contribute to the establishment of a climate of trust and security among nations, to the achievement of peace in the world, of the economic and social progress of mankind, particularly of the developing countries. To this end, the two sides have decided to concert their efforts within the Disarmament Committee, on whose membership they are.

The two sides stressed that for enhancing the role of the United Nations Organisation it is necessary for that organisation to intensify its activity along the line of ensuring peace, guaranteeing security and expanding cooperation, the precise observance of the principles of the Charter. In this context, the two sides consider that for the world Organisation to be more efficient it has to become universal and spoke up especially for the restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the U.N. and in its agencies.

State Council President Nicolae Ceaușescu and His Majesty King Hassan II consider that the liquidation of under-development and of the gap between the developing and developed countries is of great importance for the progress of humanity and the establishment of a lasting peace in the world.

The sides assessed that the official visit of President Nicolae Ceaușescu to Morocco and the exchanges of views held on the occasion are an important stage in the development of the Romanian-Moroccan relations of friendship, a contribution to the realisation of a climate of international peace and cooperation.

The State Council President and the officials on his party expressed their whole gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, to the Moroccan Government, to the authorities and inhabitants of the visited regions, for the warm reception and hospitality extended.

Nicolae Ceaușescu, President of the State Council invited His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco to pay an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of this visit is to be established subsequently by diplomatic channels.

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