ALI SABRI

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Speech by Ali Sabri, Member of the Supreme Executive Committee of the Arab Socialist Union of the UAR, at the Joint Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Marking the Centenary of V. I. Lenin's Birth

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Brothers, friends. While the esteemed delegations here, representing the peoples of the countries of the world meet today in the country of the great Lenin to celebrate together with the peoples of the Soviet Union Lenin's glorious centenary, the masses of people the world over are also observing this great historic date. This shows that Lenin's revolution has ceased to be the cause of the Soviet Union and its friendly peoples alone, that it does not merely concern individual states but belongs to the peoples of the entire world, that from it the winds of freedom blow to all parts of the earth.

The delegation of the United Arab Republic has arrived here from the Arab world ablaze with the fire of sacred struggle and believing in the good. They bring you, the children and grandchildren of Lenin, sincere greetings and friendly feelings from the people of the United Arab Republic, the members of the Arab Socialist Union and President Gamal Abdel Nasser, who directs

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the struggle of the Arab masses against the forces encroaching upon the rights and land of the Arab people, having banded together to extinguish the flame of Arab liberation revolution.

Eighty years ago, Vladimir Lenin foresaw that the oppressed peoples, shackled by the monopolies and suffering the ills of exploitation, would inevitably rise and fight a long and fierce battle for their economic, social and political freedom. Today, on the centenary of Lenin's birth, we turn our eyes here, to Moscow, where Lenin rests, and say: "What you, the great revolutionary fighter, foresaw yesterday, your words and hopes, have become facts of contemporary history, have become a reality in all parts of the world. Today they are expressed in the all-sweeping will of the man free in his land. The morrow of which you spoke is the present of the awakened peoples, who will continue to struggle until full freedom is theirs."

Moreover, the events we are living through today, on a scope that is evident to all, are the real confirmation of Lenin's conclusions that the imperialists and oppressors will be even crueller and more savage when the peoples rise to struggle for their lawful rights to freedom and progress. Seeking to continue their domination and exploitation, the imperialist forces are fiercely resisting the fighting peoples, at times openly, at times hiding behind their myrmidons and agents.

That was indicated by Lenin more than half a century ago, when he said that suppression and terror cruelly used by the forces of colonial domination against the fighting peoples could not impede their forward advance. This makes the peoples stronger, more decisive and determined. No matter how violent and savage the forces opposing the peoples' rights become it will lead only to greater resistance. Decades back Lenin discerned the events that are now taking place in the East when he stressed that the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed peoples of the East was practically invincible, regardless of how strong the oppressors and aggressors might be and the miracles they might possess in the technical, military and scientific respects.

Brothers and friends, we in the United Arab Republic, in the Arab world, believe in the correctness of these words, for we feel it in real life, in struggle. The malicious forces of imperialist domination resort to every means in the Eastern countries. They act openly against some Eastern peoples and use their myrmidons and puppets in others. They mobilize all the means of destruction, violence and terror at their disposal. But this only further stirs up the liberation revolution and increases the determination of the fighting peoples of the East.

In the Far East American imperialism directly employs the latest means of violence and terror against the heroic Vietnamese people's revolution. Weapons of terror, violence and aggression flow into Israel from the US and other imperialists in the hope that Israel will be able to break the will of the fighting Arab nation or to impede the growing liberation revolution in the Near East.

But the achievements of the socialist revolution under the leadership of the great Lenin and the experience of the peoples of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries firmly convince us that the forces of oppression, monopolies and terror will be defeated both in the Far and Near East.

Each popular revolution against the forces of oppression and world imperialism, each blow at the citadel of reaction, exploitation and monopolies, each drop of blood shed in the battles for national liberation is the greatest contribution to the efforts to strengthen the world liberation movement in the struggle to establish a just peace on earth.

All this the great Lenin understood thanks to his keen perception when he emphasized the close connection between the socialist revolution and the national liberation movements of the peoples of the world, when he demanded that all Socialists should support the forces of national liberation, should help their struggle against the forces of oppression, monopolies and exploitation.

The Arab people heroically resisting the forces which have conspired to seize their lands, have conspired against their right to freedom and life, are profoundly grateful and appreciative of the firm and noble position of the great peoples of the Soviet Union and the friendly peoples of the socialist countries that sided with the Arab people in the decisive battle they are fighting today. This position, no doubt, follows from the very nature of these peoples and their friendly feelings. It also follows from Lenin's teaching, from his policy which the Arab people firmly and unswervingly follow.

Lenin considered such a position to be an integral part of the struggle for socialism, against the forces of capitalist monopolies and the forces of oppression, which plunder the wealth of the peoples and sacrilegiously trifle with their destinies.

Hailing your noble and friendly position in support of the rights of the Arabs, the Vietnamese and all fighting peoples on behalf of the people of the United Arab Republic, its leaders and masses, its armed forces and political organization, I once again thank you, brothers and friends, for your position is a practical confirmation of the teaching of the great Lenin, in which the national liberation movement finds aid and support in its struggle to enable all peoples to live in a humane society where a just peace will prevail.

Brothers and friends, I want to thank you for the opportunity afforded the delegation of the United Arab Republic to speak here on the occasion of this historic anniversary.

From this rostrum today I greet the glorious leaders of the Soviet Union, the Supreme Soviet, the members of the Central Committee and the representatives of the people in the Soviets. I convey to all the dear guests-members of the delegations of the socialist countries and representatives of the fighting peoples-sincere greetings from our leader, President Gamal Abdel Nasser, from the leading organs of the Arab Socialist Union, the working masses of our people, from all the sons of the United Arab Republic who are fighting the noblest battle for freedom and independence with complete confidence in the righteousness of their cause, against the forces of oppression, Zionist racialism and imperialist aggression.

May victory attend the struggle of the peoples for freedom and a just peace!

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Long live friendship between the fighting peoples!

May the citadels of freedom grow stronger! May the horizons of socialism be extended!

Pravda, April 23, 1970.

АЛИ САБРИ **Ленин с нами в нашей борьбе** на английском языке Цена 3 коп.