

PRESS RELEASE - ON THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGANISTAN
(January 21, 1980)

On the 27th of december 1979 the Soviet armed forces invaded the sovereign state of Afganistan and imposed upon the people of this country a puppet government led by Mr. Babrak Karmal.

This brutal and arrogant invasion, which clearly exposes the hegemonistic designs of the soviet authorities, has been rightly and unanimously condemned by the International community and particularly by the vast majority of the non-aligned countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It has been denounced by all peace-loving forces as a naked violation of the sovereignty of an independant state and as an act contrary to all standards and rules of international relations.

Among the very few governments that approved this act of aggression we find the Ethiopian Derg which already has proved itself to be a puppet of the soviet bloc countries. This act of submission of the Ethiopian government, serious and dangerous as it is to the national independance of our country, proves beyond any shadow of doubt that today's Ethiopia is fast turning into a satellite of the Soviet Union.

One finds this situation all the more serious and dangerous for the Ethiopian people when one considers the fact that the Derg has signed in November 1978 a so-called Treaty of Friendship with the Soviet Union similar to that invoked by the Kremlin to justify its invasion of Afganistan.

This "Treaty of Friendship"; the thousands of Cuban and Soviet troops already stationed on Ethiopian soil; the existence of some traitors within and outside the Derg that are completely won over by the soviet authorities and now the isolation from the international community as a result of the stand taken by the military government all add up to put the Ethiopian people in a very dangerous situation and expose our country to an act similar to that perpetrated against the people of Afganistan.

That is why ME'ISONE is calling upon the Ethiopian people to redouble their vigilance and to intensify their struggle to defend the honour and sovereignty of the motherland. In these dark hours for the brotherly people of Afganistan ME'ISONE takes it upon itself to denounce the shameful and inimical stand taken by the military government and to express full solidarity of the Ethiopian people in their fight for democracy and national independance.

ME'ISONE categorically condemnes this act of aggression committed by the Soviet authorities and together with the non-aligned countries and all other peace loving forces demands the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afganistan.

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