

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

KIM IL SUNG

**TALK TO A DELEGATION
FROM THE SOCIALIST PARTY
OF PORTUGAL**

November 4, 1977

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I warmly welcome you to my country.

I am grateful to you for visiting my country and calling on me. I believe that your current visit will make a great contribution to strengthening the friendship and unity between our two parties and the peoples of our two countries. We set great store by your visit to our country.

I have been informed of the comments you made during your talks with a secretary of the Central Committee of our Workers' Party of Korea. I am delighted by them.

It is good to hear that the general secretary of your party is working hard and is in good health. Although I am yet to meet him, I am fully aware that he maintains the line of independence. We are very pleased that your party is maintaining this line. I hope that on your return home you will convey to your general secretary our praise for his party's independent policy and our active support for it.

In view of the fact that your party is maintaining the line of independence, I believe that the policies it is pursuing must be sound, and that the people of your country will follow the road of independence,

true to your party's policy.

It is very important for all parties to champion independence. They should do so, as this is good for the people of their country, the country itself, and their own right to self-determination. As a matter of course, you may face manifold difficulties and have to do many things to maintain your independence. This notwithstanding, victory will always be on your side, as long as you are advancing independently.

For man, independence is his lifeblood. He is born with the right to independence. He has no desire to live, subordinated to others. I think that your party's policy of maintaining independence will be supported by the people of your country, particularly those who do not want to live, subordinated to others, not to mention the patriotic and progressive forces.

Only reactionaries and those backed by the forces of domination want to live in a state of subordination, and they are only a handful in number. Anyone who follows them must have been deceived by them. But their desire to do so will end, if they are awakened to their ideological consciousness. This is evidenced by our own experience.

Immediately after the liberation of my country there was a considerable number of people who

worshipped the major countries. Since their own country is sandwiched between major countries, they were steeped in this idea. So, we continuously educated our people to be resolute in maintaining their independence, and waged a ceaseless struggle against the ideological malady among them. As a result, the level of their consciousness of independence is now high.

Immediately after liberation some people in south Korea accused us communists of being “puppets” of other countries. But as time passed, they gradually came to realize that they were mistaken and ours was really a policy of independence, and the ranks of students, youth and intellectuals there who supported us, increased. Today, the students, youth and intellectuals in south Korea are becoming awakened ideologically.

We are opposed to both dominationism and imperialism.

Imperialism and dominationism may differ slightly in their approach, in that the former attempts to conquer other countries while the latter attempts to dominate them, but they are identical in nature, in that they attempt to violate the independence of other countries. Both imperialists and dominationists bring

pressure to bear, in one way or another, on those countries and parties that are following the road of independence. To overcome this pressure, there is a great deal we must do.

Those countries and parties which maintain independence, if they are to overcome this pressure, should unite, and the parties in every country should step up the education of their people so that they firmly adhere to the spirit of independence. If all countries and parties achieve unity among themselves and maintain independence in this way, the imperialists and dominationists will be frustrated, the world will be free from exploitation and oppression by the imperialists and from domination by the dominationists, and the genuine peace which people all over the world are so desirous of, will be safeguarded.

I am happy, that, during your stay in my country, you have experienced the warmth and friendliness felt by my people for the Portuguese people. You have spoken highly of the fact that we have achieved so much in such a short time on the debris after the war, and said that on your return home you will give wide publicity to what you have seen and experienced here. I am very pleased about this. I feel happy that you will

be returning home with a favourable impression of my country. I am grateful for your generous praise for my people and for me.

I hope that our two parties and the peoples of our two countries will continue to work to strengthen their mutual friendship and unity. We are pleased that we have established a good relationship with your party, which is maintaining independence, and we will strive to develop this relationship.

I believe that our two parties and two countries should conduct more personal, economic and cultural exchanges. Then we can demonstrate to the imperialists and dominationists how united are the parties and countries that are following the line of independence.

You have said that the general secretary of your party intends to visit Korea. If he comes to my country, he will receive a warm welcome; he and I can have a friendly talk and discuss how countries and parties can maintain the principle of independence.

I hope that on your return, you will convey my regards to the general secretary of your party, and to the president of your country.

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Published by Foreign Languages Publishing House
DPR Korea

Issued in March Juche 112 (2023)
