

undone @frmyvm Mon Jan 17 07:30:32 +0000 2022

61 years ago today Patrice Lumumba was assassinated. In Singapore, people almost rioted in outrage over one of the more egregious examples of western imperialism rearing its ugly head ■ (1/21). <https://t.co/T3sz1NI6R5>

News of Lumumba's assassination sent shockwaves across the globe. This was the era of Afro-Asian solidarity and a recognition of linked struggles among peoples of the Third World (2/21). <https://t.co/YuHjJmQ0fv>



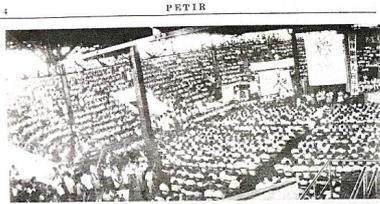
For Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, Toh Chin Chye, the fact that this happened in a newly independent and 'post-colonial' country like Congo showed that though independence could arrive, it may be "only in name and not in fact." Colonialism could live on as neo-colonialism. <https://t.co/rXVhZBqjd9>



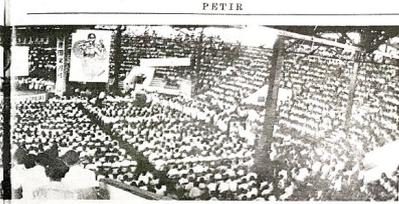
Singapore was a few years away from achieving independence and these fears were palpable. In both outrage and solidarity, mass protests and rallies were staged across Singapore (4/21). <https://t.co/cUzXeAwUgQ>



At Happy World Stadium, 15,000 people squeezed together, shoulder-to-shoulder, holding posters with slogans like “send the colonialists to hell.” At the rally, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew urged the people of Singapore to “Show your disgust!” (5/21). <https://t.co/BXHoxAQCA6>



15 thousand people attended the P.A.P. rally to condemn the murder of Mr. Patrice Lumumba at the Happy World Stadium on February 26, 1961.



(From Page 1)

Truth and Falsehood

Did he do it? He did it. It was necessary that Mr. King should not be allowed to be elected. We don't think that the people of this country should be misled by the news that Mr. King did it. We don't think that the people of this country should be misled by the news that Mr. King did it. We don't think that the people of this country should be misled by the news that Mr. King did it.

After the rally, about 1,000 people from rural and hawkers' associations marched to Kallang Park and burnt an effigy representing American imperialism (6/21). <https://t.co/Ww2mwLWREO>



Less than a week later at Victoria Memorial Hall, more than a thousand workers, students and farmers showed up wearing black arm bands to mourn and protest Lumumba's slaughter (7/21). <https://t.co/LBjekaXkAa>



Upon the stage, behind a wreath of white flowers, stood a giant painted portrait of Lumumba. On the left of this portrait read "learn from the great democratic hero Lumumba" and on the right "work hard towards completely wiping out colonialism" (8/21). <https://t.co/XXlxc2lgOD>



Poems were recited by Wong Choo Yin, a member of the Singapore General Employees' Union. Trade Union Congress President, Encik Mahmud Awang called for Singapore to boycott all Belgian goods (9/21). <https://t.co/17EgMaX0HM>



When Lim Chin Siong spoke, he stressed that the people of Singapore and Malaya more broadly must ensure “that our stand is with the Afro-Asians — for democracy and freedom.” After a minute of silence, all attendees stood up, thrust their fists in the air and yelled “MERDEKA!” <https://t.co/oaxDxJSdws>



The energy of the room then spilled out onto the streets, where 4,000 people marched towards the US embassy. Spotted in the procession was "a skeleton representing the remains of Dag Hammerskjold [Secretary-General of UN] and 2 effigies representing Mobutu and Tshombe" (11/21). <https://t.co/i3rXNzRHUZ>



Protestors chanted "Long Live Lumumba!" and "I Love Malaya!" Emotions ran so high that a riot almost erupted. As Lim Chin Siong recalled in a 1995 interview, if it weren't for his efforts with Fong Swee Suan to calm the crowd down, things may have taken a violent turn (12/21). <https://t.co/YgSMcit4Bh>



As a reminder for future Singaporeans to remember Lumumba and the dangers of neo-colonialism, Sandrasegaran Woodhull, a prominent PAP Political Secretary, had appealed to Lee Kuan Yew to move a resolution in Parliament for a road or highway to be named after Lumumba (13/21). <https://t.co/g15iFcl4IO>



Following news of Lumumba's death, Fajar, a publication of the University of Malaya Socialist Club, printed a "special Lumumba issue" condemning every western nation who "plundered all of Asia in the past and continue to plunder Africa today" (14/21). <https://t.co/JKCJLXUjZT>

FAJAR

ORGAN OF THE UNIVERSITY SOCIALIST CLUB

SPECIAL LUMUMBA ISSUE

21 FEBRUARY, 1961

10 cents

LUMUMBA IS DEAD—MURDERED!

WHO SAID COLONIALISM IS DEAD?

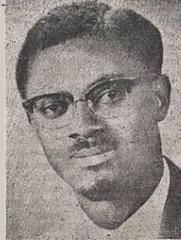
ONE more martyr has died in the struggle against Colonialism. In the Republic of Congo, the Belgians have invaded the country, set up a puppet government and conspired in the murder of the country's elected Prime Minister, Patrice Lumumba.

WHAT WAS THE UNITED NATIONS DOING?

IT was Patrice Lumumba, the Prime Minister, who invited the United Nations to help defend the country against Belgian aggression. Instead they came to connive at the overthrow of the lawful government. They withheld the use of the airport and the radio stations from the Congolese government, allowed Belgian mercenaries to flood the country and finally, stood by while the Prime Minister was captured, tortured and put to death by Belgian stooges.

WHO ARE THE ACCOMPLICES?

THEY are the Western powers who in the NATO finance and arm the Belgian military forces. They are the same nations who invaded Suez, made a mockery of Democracy in British Guiana,



LUMUMBA

overthrew the elected government of Guatemala, threatened the independence of Cuba and intrigued in Laos; they are the nations that plundered all of Asia in the past and continue to plunder Africa today.

WHO HAS PREVENTED US KNOWING THE TRUTH OF THESE CRIMINAL ACTS?

IT is the Colonial press monopoly that dominates the news channels and owns all the English newspapers in the country. The struggle for Congolese independence has been painted as a civil war. The names of stooges have been flourished about whilst evidence of Belgian aggression has been suppressed.

WHAT ARE THE LEADERS OF AFRO-ASIA GOING TO DO?

NEHRU, Nkrumah and Nasser have expressed alarm and called for instant remedial actions. The Soviet Union has gone further — withdrawn recognition of Dag Hammerskjöld, even pressing for his dismissal.

THE INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BECOME PATENT. FOR LONG THE UNO HAS BEEN MADE AN INSTRUMENT OF WESTERN POLICY. CONGO MARKS THE DESPERATE EFFORTS OF COLONIALISM TO HOLD ON TO A NO LONGER TENABLE SITUATION. AFRICA AND ASIA ARE CRYING ALOUD AND THE COLONIALISTS MUST NOW, EVERYWHERE, BE TOTALLY ANNIHILATED.

LET THE CONGO BE A LASTING OBJECT LESSON FOR US STILL LIVING UNDER COLONIALISM. IN ITS DYING GASP COLONIALISM MAKES A FINAL DESPERATE AND BRUTAL CLUTCH. IT IS ONLY THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE THAT WILL THROTTLE COLONIALISM OUT OF EXISTENCE.

60 years later, little has changed. While the DRC today is often cited as “the poorest country in the world”, it also ranks among the world’s richest countries in terms of raw materials – like cobalt and coltan that sit within the very device from which you are reading this post <https://t.co/PWf1FnqHcN>

How today's crisis in the Congo began

The DRC sits in 176th place out of 189 countries in the UN's Human Development Index

By **VIJAY PRASHAD - KAMBALE MUSAVULI**

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 3, 2019 11:29AM (EST)



The Congolese army and mercenary column advancing towards Stanleyville, Nov. 28, 1964. (AP/Mannock)

In Singapore two years after Lumumba's death, over a hundred left wing politicians and trade unionists were locked up without trial under colonial emergency laws – these laws are still in place today (16/21).

Many of those imprisoned helped bring the PAP to power and were convinced of the need for Afro-Asian solidarity, like Lim Chin Siong and S. Woodhull. Later, Fajar was shut down, universities 'depoliticised' and strikes and protests outlawed. Afro-Asian solidarity has disappeared.

We would do well to remember what Lumumba wrote in his final letter to his wife: "We are not alone. Africa, Asia, and the free and liberated peoples in every corner of the globe will ever remain at the side of the millions of Congolese who will not abandon the struggle." <https://t.co/MmpDGWjgql>

charitable compassion, sometimes with glee and delight. But my faith will remain unshakeable. I know and feel in my heart of hearts that sooner or later my people will rid themselves of all their enemies, foreign and domestic, that they will rise up as one to say no to the shame and degradation of colonialism and regain their dignity in the pure light of day.

We are not alone. Africa, Asia, and the free and liberated peoples in every corner of the globe will ever remain at the side of the millions of Congolese who will not abandon the struggle until the day when there will be no more colonizers and no more of their mercenaries in our country. I want my children, whom I leave behind and perhaps will never see again, to be told that the future of the Congo is beautiful and that their country expects them, as it expects every Congolese, to fulfil the sacred task of rebuilding our independence, our sovereignty; for without justice there is no dignity and without independence there are no free men.

Neither brutal assaults, nor cruel mistreatment, nor torture have ever led me to beg for mercy, for I prefer to die with my head held high, unshakeable faith and the greatest confidence in the destiny of my country rather than live in slavery and contempt for sacred principles. History will one day have its say; it will not be the history taught in the United Nations, Washington, Paris, or Brussels, however, but the history taught in the countries that have rid themselves of colonialism and its puppets. Africa will write its own history, and both north and south of the Sahara it will be a history full of glory and dignity.

Do not weep for me, my companion, I know that my country, now suffering so much, will be able to defend its independence and its freedom. Long live the Congo! Long live Africa!

Patrice¹

Merdeka. <https://t.co/C2XkwiR0d3>

“Lumumba was a hero.”

GOH KENG SWEE
Singapore's first Minister for Finance

“The greatest justice that we can do to Lumumba is to intensify our anti-colonial struggle and destroy all evidence of colonialism in this part of the world.”

S. THENDAYATHA BANI
Singapore MP (Thomson)

“Patrice Lumumba is a symbol to hundreds of millions of people in this world.”

KARAM SINGH VERIAH
Malaysia MP (Damansara)

Patrice Émery Lumumba (1925–1961). <https://t.co/E86QwXvAYY>

