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INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY WITH THE KANAK PEOPLE

JOINT COMMUNIQUE CNT*U (SPAIN) UTCL (FRANCE) OSL (SWITZERLAND)

The Confederacion Nacional De Trabajo -unificado, The Union des Travailleurs Communistes Libertaires, and the Organisation Socialiste Libertaire, support the international day of solidarity for the Kanak people on 20 April 1985.

Colonised for 138 years, the Kanak people struggle against the French occupation of New Caledonia, for independence and for the sovereignty of the people in a liberated and socialist Kanakie.

The situation, the struggle and the hopes of the oppressed and exploited Kanak people should not leave union militants and libertarians indifferent throughout the world.

On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity on 20 April we will contribute to making known in our respective countries the struggle of the Kanak people against colonisation by the French state.

We denounce the incredible accumulation of police and military forces in New Caledonia (one armed man for 9 Kanaks) loaded with heavy armaments. We do not forget the recent assassination of 2 officials of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FNLKS) Eloi Machoro and Marcel Nonaro, carried out by the gendarmerie.

We demand the lifting of a State of Urgency which is in fact a State of Siege principally effecting the liberation of the hundred FNLKS militants in prison.

We demand the halt of police violence against the Kanak people and denounce complacency towards the forces of the extreme right.

We call for the decolonisation of New Caledonia, for the sovereignty of the Kanak people over its lands, for a new and free society in a Kanakie independent of all the imperialisms.

We call on the working women and working men of all lands to express their concrete solidarity with the struggle of the Kanak people.

Against colonialism, against all the imperialisms, for the respect and

sovereignty of the oppressed people.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

Lausanne 2 March 1985.

International meeting CNT/UTCL/OSL at Lausanne

This meeting enabled the 3 organisations to develop their links, and to prepare for the international meeting on immigration organised in Madrid by the CNT. At this meeting, the CNT would like to deal with several points - the entry of Spain into the EEC, the experiences of struggle around immigration in Europe, Spanish immigration in Europe. (see next Struggle!)

The dynamic created by the congress of unification continues. The central paper of the CNT Solidaridad Obrera comes out again in March. There are quite a number of independent class struggle union structures in Spain, and a process of unity is made possible by the open attitude of the CNT. In November at Aragon a congress of unification will take place between the CNT and the CSUT. In Valencia, the independent union in the shipyards has joined the CNT. The CNT has about 20,000 paid up members.

In Switzerland, the OSL has members in Lausanne, Geneva and the Jura. Organised tour of fifteen towns in December with British miners speaking. Took active part in mobilisation against meeting of LePen at Geneva. Meeting banned.

MORE ON THE KANAKS Public declaration of Daniel Guerin.

Now over 80, and incapable of getting around, but an old anti-colonialist, I again express my entire solidarity with the Kanak people in its struggle for independence. A people who I got to know in Paris and Noumea. I denounce the obvious collusion between the extreme right at home and the most extreme Caldoches (white settlers in N.C.) I question a neo-colonialist plan which seeks to maintain the French Army on a territory promised its independence. Finally I underline the recent ambiguity or duplicity of Paris and its representative in New Caledonia, who under the cover of re-establishing order, allows, in the Bolivian manner, the coldblooded murder of one of the most popular officials of the FNLKS, and then tolerates and fraternises with the extreme right rioters.

APPEAL by Daniel Guerrier, longtime member of the Association Information et Soutien aux Droits du Peuple Kanak, member of national committee of Convergence (which organised series of anti-racist marches), libertarian communist militant.

The solidarity of all revolutionaries, including all libertarians and anti-authoritarians, must not be lacking in support of the Kanak people and its struggle organisation, the FNLKS. I would like to recall how, at the time of the great insurrection of 1878, most of the Communard deportees, through Eurocentrism, demanded arms from their guards to smash the rebellion of those they considered as cannibals and savages, and that only a small group of Communards around the anarchist militant Louise Michel and de Rochefort firmly took the side of the Kanak insurrection. Following this, Louise Michel carried out a literacy campaign among the tribes. At her departure from N.C., 20,000 Kanaks saluted her on the quay at Noumea. Even to today Louise Michel is a heroine of Kanak history and of the struggle of our Kanak friends - who have participated in the creation of the Louise Michel museum at Noumea.

The Kanak society is from the beginning a classless society, the relations of production and those between people are linked to a philosophy which excludes all form of domination and oppression.

If semi-feudal aspects exist today, it is because they have been introduced by colonialism, the market economy and the missionaries. If our Kanak friends call themselves socialist, it is not imported socialism or social democracy. The traditional Kanak society contains in itself the values of socialism, and I would dare to add, of libertarian socialism, as regards direct democracy, ideas of self-management, communal ownership of the land, the mode of sharing the riches according to needs.

Jimmy Ounei (Bulletin 1 of Association Information et Soutien au Droit du Peuple Kanak) The Kanak society is classless and profoundly democratic and it will know how to respond to all bureaucratic, neo-colonial or feudal

temptation.

Lutter!monthly of the UTCL,February '85:A new socialism is possible,in a liberated Kanakie. The specificity of the independentists combat is to build on an authentically communal civilisation and on an existing Kanak counter-society founded on the collectivisation of the land.

These living roots could inspire the constitution of a socialism of a specific type,radically different from statist and centralist deviations which have marred most of the movements for decolonialisation.

Are we saying that it is desirable that the customary laws,structures and traditional ways of living should become those of all of an independent New Caledonia? That is neither possible nor desirable. We think that a collision can take place between Kanak values based on rural production, and modern technology and ways of living. This could be fatal to the traditional civilisation. But it could also fertilise a new socialist society,self-managed or libertarian,to use known descriptions,but which would transcend all categories in use.

The real chance for the Kanak people rests on that:maintain and develop a collective rural society,and inspired by this communal model,egalitarian and decentralised,create new social forms and self-manage the mines,the factories,publiic services,the cities and all of society. The USTKE(United Unions of Kanak and Exploited Workers):calls for independence,and self-managed socialism. Members in teaching,post offices, health,power workers,transport,docks,shopworkers. Led many strikes in '84,(19 in private and public sector)45 days of occupations on the building sites. Saw mills. In air transport,2 strikes,one of 6 days have completely blocked the economy(at Tontouta airport,80%of runway personnel in USTKE) From '84 strikes,70% of membership are in fact non-Kanak(mostly Wallis Islanders,but also Caldoches,Tahitians,Javanese,Metropolitan French)

Repression in the Basque Country Since the 27-29 Nov.'84,militants of the CNT-Euzkadi(Basque country)have undergone ferocious attack by the police. Under cover of the 'anti-terrorist'law,9 militants and officials have been arrested,and some have undergone torture(beatings,electodes to the genitals)3 are still in prison.Known as workplace militants,they deny all charges(membership of terrorist groups,etc)In Vitria,4,000 struck and demonstrated with the CNT against the arrests.The 3 militants are now in the Carabanchel prison in Madrid.All the union centals in the Basque country, have mobilised against the arrests,with the exception of the socialist-led UGT,which backs the 'Socialist'govenment,tells the workers to ignore strike calls and go to work as usual,and equates the CNT with terrorism in a workplace campaign. Send letters,telegrams to Gobierno Civil de Alava, Calle Olaguibil No/1 01004 VITORIA and/or Presidente del Audencia Nacional, Calle Garcia Gutierrez,No 1 28 004 Madrid demanding the release of Andres Sanchez,Vicente Alvarado,Jose Manuel Collado.Inform the CNT-E that you have done so c/ Manuel Iradier 72 01 000 VITORIA.As well as solidarity campaign in Spain,meetings in Paris,Longwy,Toulouse,Orleans at end of April planned.

Publications we are getting a good sale of Platforms,Libertarian Communist ~~Platforms~~ in bookshops. Within next 2 months,a booklet containing revised ^{supplements} versions of the supplements on revolutions(Russia,Germany,Spain,France, Hungary)should be out. Help by taking orders for it,giving donations, or advancing loans. Note new address 36 Queens Road,Broadstairs,kent. Phone Thanet 604466. All cheques,p.o.s payable to N.Heath.