

East, and to confer upon the Third World a degree of cohesion at the UN that it had never known before. It was based essentially on the determination of the newly-independent developing countries to secure a more equitable share of the wealth of the world, on the support that the Arab countries, as financial leaders of the non-aligned group, would be able to muster in favour of the Palestinians, and on the strong commitment of African states to ending the denial of human rights in southern Africa.

#### Assembly dominated

As had been foreseen following Algiers, non-aligned group initiatives began to predominate at the UN General Assembly. The enhanced cohesion and organizational efficiency of the non-aligned, which had been a significant feature of previous UN General Assembly sessions, came to be reflected in the confident management by Third World delegations of most major issues that interested them. The dramatically-increased economic power of the Arab oil-producing states assured the Arab element of a much-strengthened leader-

ship capacity among the non-aligned from and of a respectful, or at least wary attention from the delegates of industrialized countries. The Arabs have been to proceed methodically with the advancement of Palestinian claims on Middle issues. Virtually universal Third World support on this front was assured by enabling the Africans to achieve their sought goal of excluding South Africa participation in UN Assembly proceedings. The non-aligned split as usual on political issues like Cambodia and Korea, but the acute national sensitivities of participating members far outweighed consideration of group solidarity. However, such fissures in non-aligned unanimity were eclipsed by the unqualified community of purpose with which the group pursued its overriding universal object of bringing about a "new world economic order" dramatically favouring the interests of developing countries.

There was a measure of validity in the argument of several non-aligned spokesmen that Third World delegates were merely using to their advantage the majority position long enjoyed and used ag-

*Increase  
in oil prices  
assured  
Arab leadership*

## A non-aligned chronology

1955 *April*. Bandung Afro-Asian Conference.

1956 President Nasser of Egypt, Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia and Mr. Nehru of India reaffirm Bandung principles.

1961 *September*. First conference of heads of state or government of non-aligned countries, Belgrade. Attended by 25 countries (mainly African and Asian, but including Cyprus and Yugoslavia) and three Latin American observers.

1962 *July*. Conference on problems of economic development, Cairo. Attended by 31 non-aligned and other developing countries and five observers.

1964 *October*. Second conference of heads of state or government, Cairo. Attended by 47 countries, including Cuba, and ten observers (nine Latin American and Caribbean states and Finland).

1970 *April*. Foreign ministers' meeting, Dar-es-Salaam.

*September*. Third conference heads of state or government Lusaka. Attended by 51 countries (including Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago) and nine observers from Latin America and South Vietnam.

1971 *September*. Ministerial meeting non-aligned countries, New York. Attended by 54 states and 5 observers for consultations before the Twenty-Sixth UN General Assembly.

1972 *August*. Foreign ministers' conference, Georgetown, Guyana. Issues the "Georgetown Declaration", an action program for economic co-operation, a statement on international security and disarmament, and seven political resolutions.

1973 *September*. Fourth conference heads of state or government Algiers. Attended by 75 full members (56 represented by heads of state or government), nine countries and 14 liberation movements.