

London Takes Lee's

By Robert G. Kaiser
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LONDON, Sept. 1—Official London is accepting the provocative remarks of Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, on the future of Britain's military base in Singapore with studied coolness.

Lee said in an interview on Monday that he could ask the British to leave his tiny country on 24 hours' notice, and if Britain declined it would be "committing an act of aggression with serious consequences."

Government officials here are convinced that Lee's interview—which included vehement anti-American comments—was directed more toward the Afro-Asian bloc than toward Britain and the West.

The British feel that Lee's paramount desire is to be invited to the Afro-Asian summit, now scheduled to begin Nov. 5 in Algiers. Officials say that Lee's outspoken remarks Monday were designed primarily to enhance his position with the Afro-Asians by im-

proving his neutralist credentials.

To Placate Radicals

It is also said that Lee is trying to placate radical elements in Singapore who want to take a more militantly neutralist line in foreign affairs.

"Frankly, Singapore's future lies more with the Afro-Asians than in a close alliance with Britain," a Foreign Office spokesman said today. It is accepted here that in the long run, Singapore, and eventually Malaysia, too, will align

Blast Over Base Coolly

themselves with the neutral bloc.

But for the moment, Britain

A-Parley Opens Soon

VIENNA, Sept. 1 (AP)—The ninth regular session of the general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency will open in Tokyo Sept. 21. It is the first time since the atoms-for-peace agency was set up in 1957 that its 93-nation general conference will meet away from its home base here.

feels its \$170 million-a-year base in Singapore is safe. The government released the text of Singapore's secession agreement with Malaysia last night to emphasize this point.

The agreement says Britain can use its Singapore base for "the defense of Singapore and Malaysia and for Commonwealth defense and for the preservation of peace in Southeast Asia."

Accepted as Position

Officials here accept this as Lee's position. A group of cabinet ministers meeting yesterday discussed a new treaty

including these principles which the government hopes to offer to Singapore soon.

Britain flatly denies any intention to seek American cooperation in running its Malaysian bases. Lee is reported in some quarters as thinking that Britain is about to turn its Asian bases over to the United States in whole or in part.

While recognizing that difficulties with Lee may develop, the British are convinced they will be welcome in Singapore as long as Indonesia continues its policy of confrontation.