

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

*For a Lasting Peace, for a  
Peoples Democracy!*

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**LONG LIVE MAY DAY—REVIEW OF  
MILITANT FORCES OF WORKING  
PEOPLE OF WORLD, DAY OF  
FRATERNITY FOR WORKERS OF ALL  
LANDS!**

**ONWARD TO NEW VICTORIES!**

The working people of the world are celebrating their traditional holiday, May Day—the day of international proletarian solidarity, the day of consolidating the fraternity of the workers of all countries. On the day the broad masses of the people' review their militant forces united in the democratic camp, beneath the banner of struggle for democracy and Socialism; for immediate common aims—to consolidate and extend their democratic gains, to uphold freedom and national independence, to achieve a stable and lasting peace.

Through years of tradition the outstanding features of this holiday have grown. The working people review the results of the year's battles and put forward the principal tasks they will have to solve. Today these tasks are the struggle against the warmongers, against the American imperialists who threaten the peoples with enslavement and fascist dictatorship, a dictatorship more brutal and barbaric than the Hitler dictatorship crushed during World War Two.

At the head of the fighters for peace stands the great land of Socialism—the Soviet Union. Thanks to the superiority of the Socialist system and the heroism displayed by its people during the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet Union smashed Hitler Germany, saved the world from the threat of fascist



slavery, helped the countries of Central and South-eastern Europe to throw off the yoke of the imperialists, and to restore their freedom and independence. The name of J. V. Stalin, the man who led the way to this great victory, the brilliant leader and teacher, is pronounced with love and esteem by the working people of the world. The hearts of progressive mankind are filled with joy at the Soviet people's successes in the political and economic development of the land of Socialism, the flowering of its socialist culture, the growth of the material wellbeing of its people. The increased might of the Soviet Union reinforces the powerful democratic camp and constitutes another major contribution to the cause of peace and world security.

Millions of Soviet people will demonstrate on this day in the U.S.S.R. In the tread of the marching columns will be heard confidence in the morrow and firm determination to spare no efforts in building Communism. In this the Soviet people under the leadership of the Party of Lenin-Stalin have already remarkable achievements to their credit. In 1948 Soviet industry surpassed the pre-war level of production by 18 per cent, in agriculture the overall grain crop reached the 1940 level, while the harvest, as a whole, was above the 1940 figure. This rapid progress is being maintained during 1949. The increased plan for the first quarter of 1949 was fulfilled by 100.2 per cent. Compared with the first quarter of 1948, industry increased its ranks by another 1,400,000 workers. The standard of living of the Soviet people has gone up considerably.

The working people of the New Democracies also celebrate May Day with big achievements in economic, political and cultural life. The fusion of the workers' parties and the formation of a united party of the working class based on Marxism-Leninism has further consolidated the peoples of

these countries. It has furnished the necessary conditions for successfully laying the foundations of Socialism and rapidly eliminating the bitter legacies left by the fascist and reactionary regimes. The masses of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania, freely and joyously bearing their May Day banners through the streets of towns and villages, will demonstrate their determination to advance along their chosen path, to build Socialism, to crush ruthlessly any attempts by the imperialist robbers to destroy their hard-won freedom and independence.

In the capitalist countries the working people will celebrate their traditional holiday under the slogans of intensifying the struggle against the governments of national betrayal, for bread and democratic liberties. On this day in Italy and France, in the United States and Britain, in Australia and India, in all the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries, the voice of the supporters of peace will ring out still more clearly. At the Paris Peace Congress they resolutely voiced the people's will to curb the instigators of a new war.

The traitors to the working class, the Right Socialists who have become the hirelings of the bourgeoisie, have once again shown themselves in their true colours. The "Socialist" Labour Government's ban on the May Day demonstration in London shows that Bevin and Attlee have relinquished this more than fifty-year old tradition of the working-class movement. They fear the people, they are against the masses. Now the working people see for themselves that the Right Socialists are serving the imperialist bourgeoisie heart and soul.

The Labour Government may ban the May Day demonstration but it cannot conceal the fact that in 1948 the British people only received half the fats, a quarter of the sugar and three and a half times less meat than in 1938. Truman and Acheson can throw Communists into prison, persecute

supporters of peace, proclaim the “superiority” of the “American Way of Life” but they cannot hide the 3,700,000 unemployed and 9,500,000 short-time workers. They cannot conceal from the American people the fact that, between 1935 and 1948, workers’ real wages dropped by 20 per cent.

The rulers of the Marshall countries in company with their American patrons can juggle with statistics and boast that industrial production in Britain and France has reached the pre-war level; but they cannot make people forget that the 1938 level in these countries hardly exceeded the 1913 level. No matter how much they manipulate their figures, the imperialists cannot conceal the stagnation and decay of industry, the unemployment and poverty of the working class, the growing pauperisation of the people in the countryside, the ruin of artisans and small traders, the degeneration of culture and the disintegration of capitalist society.

On May Day the working people of the world salute the historic victories of the national-liberation armies of China which, advancing to shatter the rotten, corrupt feudal-bureaucratic regime of Chiang Kaishek, despite the extensive aid given him by the Anglo-American imperialists, are, at the same time inflicting crushing blows on the imperialist system. The armed struggle of the peoples of Greece, Malaya, Indonesia, Viet Nam for freedom and national independence merges with the struggle of the peoples of all countries against imperialist slavery and the warmongers. The strength of the movement of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries today lies in the fact that the working class heads this struggle of the peoples.

What have the rulers of the imperialist camp to offer in opposition to this? Like every dying class, the imperialists, desperately striving to prolong their rule, are resorting to terror and police persecution, to torture chambers and concentration

camps, to trials and the gallows. In propaganda all that is left to the imperialists is lying provocation, in art only fanaticism and appeal to the basest human instincts, in science they turn to charlatanry, perverted theology and racialism, exalting the darkest ideas of the Middle Ages. Truth is not on the side of the imperialists. They are trying to kill it with lies, to ban it with laws. But the history of human society shows that no one can murder truth. In the Middle Ages the “Holy Inquisition” could not destroy the idea of a new era, neither can the Truman inquisition hold up the triumphal march of the idea of Socialism.

The future belongs to the class. Communism is the youth of the world. We are living in an age when all roads lead to Communism. Ever broader sections of the people are recognising that only Communism can save them from capitalist slavery and they are taking the Communist path. Despite all their armaments the imperialists are powerless to block these roads, to bar the working people from Socialism with an iron curtain of lies and provocation. Their very impotence is the cause of the nervousness and rage exhibited by the Truman’s and Churchill’s who are forming military blocs and speeding up a frantic armaments drive.

On May Day the working people of all countries, reviewing the results of their struggle for peace, and taking note of their successes, feel confident of their strength. At the same time they are conscious that the struggle calls for redoubled efforts in the matter of rallying and consolidating the forces of peace. The camp of imperialism has declined in strength [???] wounded beast is becoming more dangerous. Because of this all honest people must rally still closer round the working class—the only class capable of leading the struggle for their country’s freedom and independence.

On May Day the militant call of the Communists,

“Workers of all lands, unite!” rings out with greater force throughout the world. Under this slogan the Communist movement has advanced along its glorious century old path and won sweeping victories. Today it takes on still deeper significance for the working people of the capitalist countries because working-class unity is absolutely vital for their final victory. This slogan is a call to strengthen international proletarian solidarity which is the basis for the unification of the working people of the world fighting for a common cause.

The Communist and Workers’ Parties, equipped with the invincible teachings of Marxism-Leninism, stand at the head of the struggle for peace and national independence. Resolutely exposing the agents of imperialism, the disrupters of the unity of the democratic forces—regardless of whether they appear in the guise of Right Socialist Blum, bourgeois cosmopolitan, or Trotskyite Tito—the Communist and Workers’ Parties are fighting for democracy and freedom and the establishment of a broad peace front. They support all those who treasure progress and the future of civilisation.

The movement for peace will gain greater momentum. The peoples will curb the rabid cannibals, the Kennans and Forrestals who dream of destroying mankind with atom bombs. Sooner or later the lunatics will be put into straight jackets and the criminals will find themselves in the dock. Such is the will of the peoples. Great aims give birth to great energy. This energy has found expression in the battle of the peoples for peace against the imperialist warmongers. May Day 1949 demonstrates the confidence of the working people in their victory.

Raise higher the banner of international proletarian solidarity, the banner of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin!

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## **TENTH CONGRESS OF SOVIET TRADE UNIONS**

The Tenth Congress of Soviet Trade Unions was recently held in Moscow attended by the finest representatives of the working class and intelligentsia, by Stakhanovites from factories and construction sites, workers of culture and science, and delegates from the local trade union organisations. Among the foreign guests were delegates from the World Federation of Trade Unions and many other trade union bodies.

In his report on the work of the All Union Council of Trade Unions, Comrade V. Kuznetsov, Chairman of the Council reviewing the historical events since the Ninth Congress, dwelt on the main features of trade union work.

Today, as during the war, the Soviet trade unions are actively helping the Bolshevik Party in Socialist construction. The organisation and guidance of socialist emulation occupy an important place in trade union work.

Among the millions taking part in emulation are innovators in industry, whose names are famous throughout the country, as Stalin Prize winner Nikolai Rossiisky, of the Moscow "Calibre" plant; Hero of Socialist Labour Ivan Brodtko, initiator of a special mining process; the Stalingrad bricklayer Belozertsev; Maria Volkov, weaver and Stalin Prize winner.

The nation-wide participation of manual and mental workers in socialist emulation clearly refutes the vile slanders spread by those enemies of the Soviet Union—the American Federation of Labour leaders—concerning forced labour allegedly practised in the U.S.S.R. This slander is refuted by the system of collective agreements between the trade unions and managements, agreements which oblige both parties to improve the conditions of factory and office workers and to

secure increased labour productivity.

The Soviet trade unions have devoted close attention to the question of increasing earnings. Increased labour productivity is resulting in a steady rise in earnings throughout the economy.

The same close attention is devoted to labour protection. State appropriations in this connection, as envisaged by the post-war Five-Year Plan, are five times greater than the amount allocated during the first two Five-Year Plans. Considerable sums are set aside for sick benefit, maternity leave, public education and medical treatment.

In 1949 alone, the Trade Unions will spend more than 1,700 million rubles on cultural work and popular education.

Comrade Kuznetsov devoted the closing part of his report to the international activities of the Soviet unions.

After hearing reports by other speakers, the Congress unanimously approved the work of the All-Union Council and outlined its future tasks.

The Congress approved the Soviet trade union statutes, and elected a General Council and Auditing Commission.

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## MANIFESTO WORLD PEACE CONGRESS

The following Manifesto was adopted at the final session of the World Peace Congress:

“We, representatives of the peoples who have come together from 72 countries, we women and men of different nations, beliefs and convictions, we are conscious of the danger again threatening the world—**the danger of a new war.**

“Four years have passed since the world tragedy and the peoples are once again involved in a ruinous armaments race. Science which should serve the happiness of mankind is compelled to serve military tasks. To this day different parts of the world are enveloped in the flames of war kindled in the main by the intervention of foreign states and the direct activities of their armed forces. Gathered at this great world congress of supporters of peace we hereby declare that we have preserved the freedom of our opinions and that the propaganda of war has not beclouded our minds.

“We know who has violated the agreement reached between the Great Powers which confirmed the possibilities of the coexistence of different social systems. We know quite well who is today violating the United Nations Charter. We also know those who regard the agreements designed to preserve peace between peoples as scraps of paper, those who reject all proposals for negotiations and disarmament, those who are arming to the teeth and who reveal themselves in the role of aggressors.

“We know that the atom bomb is not a weapon of defence. We refuse to play into the hands of those who want to counterpose one bloc of states to another. We are against the policy of

military alliances, which have proved their destructive role. We oppose colonisation which constantly gives birth to armed conflicts, conflicts which can lead to a new world war. We denounce the re-arming of Western Germany and Japan where all the hangmen of the world have again acquired arms. The deliberate organised disruption of economic relations between groups of countries already bears the character of a military blockade. The instigators of the “cold war” have passed from simply threatening war to its open preparation.

“The World Peace Congress registered the fact that the peoples have ceased to be passive and intend to take an active and constructive part in the common cause. These peoples, represented at the World Peace Congress declare:

“We supporters of the United Nations Charter are opposed to all military alliances which are a negation of this Charter and lead to war. We are opposed to the unheard of military expenditure which falls heavily on the peoples and reduces them to poverty. We insist that the atomic weapon and all other means of mass destruction of human life be outlawed.

“We insist on a reduction in armaments of the Great Powers and on the establishment of effective international control with the aim of utilising atomic energy exclusively for peaceful purposes and the wellbeing of mankind.

“We are fighting for national independence and peaceful cooperation between the peoples, for the right of nations to self-determination which constitutes the main condition for freedom and peace. We oppose all measures directed toward restricting and eventually liquidating democratic liberties, measures aimed at clearing the way for a new aggression.

“We shall present a united front in defence of truth and reason in order that the propaganda of war, which poisons the public mind, shall be rendered completely harmless. We denounce war hysteria, racial hatred and enmity between the

peoples. We welcome the stand of resolutely condemning and boycotting those press organs, books and films, and also individuals and organisations conducting propaganda of incitement to a new war.

“We are for close cooperation between the peoples of the world, and, as one, direct all our efforts in defence of peace. In our determination to remain vigilant we are setting up a committee of the World Peace Congress. We are confident that all those who are striving towards a new war will at every stage in their plotting find themselves confronted with the powerful forces of the masses of the people who are capable of ensuring peace.

“The women, the mothers who bring hope to the world should know that we consider it our sacred duty to defend the lives of their children and the security of their homes. Let the youth hear us and rally together, irrespective of their political and religious views in order to insulate their bright future against mass murder.

“The World Peace Congress declares that the defence of peace is the concern of all peoples of the world. On behalf of the public organisations, uniting 600 million men and women represented at the Congress, we address ourselves to the peoples of the earth and say:

“Daring, and still more daring in the struggle for peace.

“We were able to come together. We were able to understand each other. And we express our readiness and our will to win this battle for peace, the battle of life.”

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## **WORLD PEACE CONGRESS**

The World Peace Congress closed in Paris on April 25, crowning its work with the formation of a united front of the peoples of the world which will combat the warmongers, the adoption of a Manifesto and the establishment of the Permanent Committee of the Congress.

More than 2,000 delegates, from 72 countries and representing 600 million people had come to take part in the work of this unique international forum. Neither the French Government's arbitrary restriction of visas to delegates from several countries, nor the terror let loose against the fighters for peace by a number of other governments could prevent the Congress from being held and working successfully. Delegates who were unable to get to Paris met in Prague where they discussed the same questions that were on the agenda of the Paris Congress. The Paris and Prague sessions were held simultaneously. The delegates meeting in Prague retained their mandates to the Paris Congress. During five days of intense work, the people's envoys laid the firm foundation for a united struggle against the warmongers. They vividly demonstrated that the world peace forces are legion; they voiced the will and determination of the peoples to bar the way to the atom-clutching monster that is threatening mankind with its evil talons and prevent it from destroying civilisation.

It was not fortuitous that the warmongers press, planning at first to keep silent about the Congress, later set up a hysterical howl in an attempt to mislead readers, confuse them and turn them away from the supporters of peace.

The signal for this campaign was given by the notorious Un-American Committee in Washington which issued a special pamphlet declaring that the World Peace Congress had been organised by the Cominform! At the same time they produced

another well-known card from the same pack. The mixed selection of lackeys in the camp of the cosmopolitans—headed by Sartre, the French hireling of the U.S. reactionaries, and the American Garry Davis who is throwing dust into the eyes of people by talking rubbish about “world Government”—were given orders to try and disrupt the peace movement. But these manoeuvres were in vain. “Truth travels without visas”, said the outstanding French scientist, Joliot-Curie, opening the Congress. The slanders of the reactionary press editorial boards cannot prevent the peoples from learning the truth about the Congress.

If we relate the facts concerning the aggressive policy of the warmongers with the setting up of military bases, Joliot-Curie continued, if we take into account the location of these bases, and if we analyse the recently signed military pacts—in particular the Brussels, pact and the Atlantic Pact—it will be easy to appreciate that the war in which they want to involve us in the guise of “defence of peace”, is nothing but an anti-Soviet war, a war which the hypocritical forces of social regression have been waging ever since 1917.

Confronted with this ever growing danger of war, it is high time to accelerate the unification and coordination of the activities of all the forces of peace and progress. We must begin a powerful peace offensive against all the forces of war.

Speakers of different political convictions and representing varied social groups, stressed that American imperialism was preparing aggression, criminal war, enslavement of peoples, lowering the living standards of the working people and, in fact, was abolishing their democratic rights.

War is not yet at the threshold, said Alexander Fadayev, the Soviet writer, but it has become a real threat for the morrow. In a number of countries in Western Europe and America, contrary to the strivings of the peoples, an armaments

race is in progress. Facts and figures confirming this race have appeared in newspapers and publications in all countries of the world. But even without these publications people in the capitalist countries are made aware of the armaments race by increased taxation and the increased cost of living.

The imperialists preach the ideology of misanthropy. No one—be he American or Russian—can afford to ignore, for instance, the statement of Eugene O’Neil that it is time for the human race to vanish from the scene and give the ant the chance of inhabiting the world, or the declaration of Henry Miller that he hopes and is firmly convinced that civilisation will be destroyed within a century. It is clear, said Fadayev, that propagation of these ideas today is the continuation of misanthropic racial theories which, giving rein to man’s baser instincts, are needed by selfish people in order to involve mankind in war.

Eugenie Cotton speaking on behalf of the 80 million members of the World Federation of Democratic Women; Lombardo Toledano for the working people of Latin-America; the Hungarian Calvinist Bishop Bereczky; Professor Dubois and Paul Robeson representing the Negro people; the Rumanian writer Sadoveanu; the scientist Mukarzhovsky; L. G. Kosmodemyanskaya, mother of two Heroes of the Soviet Union killed during the war; Ta Ti Lhen from Viet Nam; the prominent Bulgarian public figure, Tsola Dragoicheva and many others voiced the will of millions when they urged that all supporters of peace must unite in order to frustrate the crafty schemes of the Churchill’s.

Nenni of the Italian delegation stressed that the World Peace Congress was not a gathering of pacifists. Unity of the peoples, said Nenni, was the best weapon in the struggle for peace. Unity is necessary in order to render null and void the obligations the governments have assumed in signing the

Atlantic Pact, and to reduce this Pact to a scrap of paper.

We shall be doing our duty if we stretch out a fraternal hand to those who, at all costs, want to prevent the outbreak of a new war.

The meetings in Paris and Prague reflected the unity of all delegates. Both in the Pleyel Hall in Paris and in the chamber of the National Assembly in Prague, dozens of delegations from organisations of the working people, of women, youth, and intellectuals came to voice the will of the people. Most impressive was the meeting and demonstrations held at the Buffalo Stadium on Sunday, April 24. Never before had Paris witnessed such a powerful demonstration. For several days “peace caravans” had been arriving from the provinces and from abroad. Nearly 500,000 people gathered at the Stadium and in the adjoining streets. The speeches calling for unity were met with wholehearted approval. The meeting was followed by a demonstration. All nations were represented in this grand parade.

This monster demonstration served as a formidable warning to the warmongers.

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**STRENGTHENING THE PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC ORDER. Matias Rakosi,  
General Secretary, Central Committee,  
Workers' Party of Hungary**

When tackling important and decisive tasks, the Hungarian Workers' Party always explains them to the working masses. In this way it gives the working people an opportunity of discussing the questions raised, expressing their opinion and deciding their attitude. In connection with the forthcoming parliamentary election we submit these tasks for the consideration of our people.

We have resolutely dislodged landlord-capitalist reaction and representatives of Western imperialism from the political and economic life of our country. The Three- Year Plan which was viewed sceptically not only by our enemies but sometimes even by our supporters, will be fulfilled seven months ahead of schedule.

We consider our economic achievements to be of the utmost importance, but we do not for a moment forget that the individual is the greatest asset of the people's democracy. And that is why we consider the improvements in the public health to be no less important than our economic successes during the recent difficult years. We watch carefully not only the index of production in the coal and metallurgical industries but also the birth-rate and the death-rate of our people. And the fact that we have surpassed the pre-war level not only in the economic sphere but, also in the population increase, and in the sphere of public health, is an additional proof that our country is developing along planned and healthy line, in all spheres of life. The fact that we have now more marriages, that the birth-rate is higher and the death-rate lower than ten years ago, that

we have been able to reduce infant mortality from 9 per cent 10 6 per cent in Budapest—all this speaks of the vast improvement in the economic and living conditions of the working people.

Women are beginning to take an active part in the life of our country. In the past the Hungarian woman was shackled by capitalist exploitation; she did not enjoy equal rights with men, she shouldered, the burden of family and household cares. We are interested in seeing that in every sphere of life women occupy a position in the national economy in keeping with their abilities, with their number and their importance.

It is no exaggeration to say that the strength of our people's democracy can be numerically determined, like the temperature on a thermometer, by the role women play in it. And we shall ensure that the role of the working women in the life of our country grows rapidly in the future.

There has been a radical change in the people's attitude to labour. More and more people are beginning to understand the connection between individual effort and the common cause. They have adopted a new attitude to work, their outlook has broadened, they see the connection between their personal work and building up the country, realising that by better work they can build a better future. The slogan, "Work better and you will live better" has acquired a new and profound meaning. Realisation of this meant that work is no longer regarded as something that has just got to be done; it is more and more becoming a matter of honour and glory, a great incentive in strengthening the nation and building Socialism; it has given rise to new methods. Thanks to this we are able to carry out the Three-Year Plan in 2 years and 5 months.

The international importance and prestige of our motherland grew accordingly as we put our house in order and strengthened the foundations of democracy. This was

expressed in the treaties of friendship in defence of peace and for mutual aid that we concluded with the other People's Democracies and, above all, with our liberator, the great Soviet Union. We signed such an agreement with our northern neighbour, the People's Democratic Republic of Czechoslovakia. This agreement represents an outstanding achievement of the Hungarian people for, over a number of years, reaction prevented the working people of Hungary from establishing good relations with the working people of Czechoslovakia. This agreement is a big victory for Hungarian and Czechoslovak democracy, a victory opening the path to a deeper friendship between the two countries which complement each other. It represents a victory for the entire peace front, bringing the progressive forces still closer together at a time when such consolidation is particularly important.

In speaking of the gains of Hungarian People's Democracy during the past four years we must not for a minute forget that we were able to achieve them only because we had the daily assistance and support of our liberator, the Soviet Union.

## **Five-Year Plan to Lay the Foundations of Socialism**

The fulfilment of the Three-Year Plan will mark the end of the stage of rehabilitating our national economy. We are now entering a new period—the period of struggle to lay the foundations of Socialism in town and countryside. In [???] fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan is a decisive factor.

Our Party wants to speed up the industrialisation of our country, end the backwardness of our agriculture and at the same time gradually abolish the differences between town and countryside. The Five-Year Plan also envisages the

development of our army.

In 1954 Industrial production will reach 230 per cent compared with the last pre-war year. Industrial development during the five years of the Plan will make as much headway as it did in all the fifty years up to World War Two. The result will be that our country will be transformed from an agricultural country with a developed industry into an industrial country with a developed agriculture. New industrial towns and districts will spring up. The social composition of the population will change, since 300,000 new workers will be drawn into industry to carry out the Five-Year Plan. The workers' standard of living will improve: in the course of five years it will go up 35 per cent and by 1954 will be 50 per cent higher than in the last pre-war year.

Great headway will be made in agriculture and stock breeding. The crop yield will increase by 27 per cent. The State farms will increase their crop by 80 per cent, the producers' cooperatives by 35 per cent and the individual peasant households by 11 per cent.

The slow development of individual peasant households is due to the fact that over 80 per cent of them farm small plots. In such cases it is extremely difficult, and often impossible, to use modern agricultural machinery and the latest production methods. The scattered small peasant farms retard and hamper the rapid development of our economic life and the economic level of the people.

Our Party wants every working peasant to use modern means of production—machines. We want him to have everything that the town is capable of supplying. We want him to have electricity and water supply, doctors, hospitals, maternity homes, cinemas and sports grounds. We want him to have a radio set in his home, we want his sons and daughters to enjoy all the amenities of the town. We want him and his

family to benefit from social insurance, old age pensions and all the State assistance which the city worker receives. The working peasantry can get these benefits only through the cooperatives. We are confident that sooner or later the working peasants will see this for themselves and will voluntarily, of their own accord, pass over to joint socialised farming. We shall help them to do this but will avoid forcing them into joining the cooperatives.

## **Struggle for Peace and our Tasks**

Peace is an essential prerequisite for carrying out the Five-Year Plan. I do not think we can be accused of harbouring military intentions against anybody. The reason why we are giving serious attention to developing our army should not be sought in military strivings. Hungary needs a strong army commanded by good officers from the ranks of the working people because a defenceless country tempts imperialist adventurers to indulge in all kinds of interference and provocation. We also need an army to defend our sector of the peace front against the imperialists—the instigators of war.

The U.S. magnates are out to achieve world domination. They hope to carry out their plans for world domination by unleashing a new world war. But the Soviet Union and the liberated countries of the people's democracy are frustrating these plans. Another factor spurring them on in their war preparations is their fear of an economic crisis which they would like to stave off by increasing arms production. Finally, the warmongers are tempted by the profits that arms production yields.

The United States did not suffer from the two world wars. On the contrary, its propertied classes raked in enormous

profits. According to American statistics, the U.S. armament kings made 38 billion dollars out of the first world war. Other figures show that the death of every soldier who fell in World War One brought the American magnates a profit of 3,800 dollars. World War Two was an even better bargain for the U.S. imperialists, since it gave them 52 billion dollars. And they are hoping that a third world war will give them even more.

The American imperialists particularly hate Hungarian People's Democracy. Until the summer of 1947 when the traitor Ferenc Nagy was prime minister, American imperialism looked upon our country as its hunting ground. But we were able to uphold our independence. Our people drove out this traitor and puppet of the imperialists and the U.S. rulers have not forgiven us for this. That is why they are not returning the property the German invaders looted from our country, that is why they are supporting all the forces obstructing the development of our working people. This explains the campaign they ran around the Mindszenty trial.

There is no need in Hungary to prove that the people's democracy guarantees complete freedom of religion. Not a single person in our country has been persecuted because of his religious beliefs. This has been 50 in the past and this will be so in the future.

But should anyone, under the cloak of the Church, wage a struggle against the people's democracy and serve foreign imperialists, should anyone try to harness us once again to the yoke of the big landlords and capitalists, preparing, for this reason, a new war against our country—then the mighty fist of democracy will clamp down on him with the same impact as it did on Mindszenty.

The American imperialists, of course, are hastening to the aid of their accomplice. That is why they have submitted the

Mindszenty case to the United Nations, assuming that because they control a big majority there, they will succeed in setting Uno against us.

The Hungarian Government has decisively and unequivocally rejected this interference in our internal affairs. And in the future we shall continue to reject emphatically any similar attempts against the independence and sovereignty of the Hungarian People's Republic. There is no slander crusade, no governmental note that could force us to deviate in the slightest from the path along which we have been advancing up to now or could force us to give up the struggle for the rights, independence and freedom of our working people.

We stand for peace and we shall spare no effort to secure this peace for our people who have suffered so much. That is why we take part in every movement to strengthen the camp of peace. We shall steadfastly defend our sector of the peace front. Our country represents a powerful bastion of the peace front and we shall guard this bastion the way it is guarded by the other progressive peoples headed by the invincible bulwark of our peace and happiness-the great Soviet Union.

In the forthcoming election the working people of Hungary will say whether they approve of our policy which boldly opposes the warmongers, a policy which is all for a constructive peace. Our people will vote for peace.

The parties of the Hungarian Democracy have decided not to compete with each other in the election but to come forward with a common list of candidates.

The common list is based, of course, on a common election programme and common tasks on which all Hungarian parties are agreed. The common list of candidates, like the People's Independence Front, shows that the consolidation of the democratic forces will continue, as in the past, to yield good results. But it also shows that there is a place for everybody in

the People's Front who wants to work in the interests of rehabilitating and developing our country.

This election will be a heavy blow against reaction: it will open new and greater possibilities for the development and flowering of democratic Hungary, for laying the foundations of Socialism in our country.

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## **TWO WORLDS, TWO PATHS. Boleslaw Bierut, Chairman, Central Committee, United Workers' Party of Poland**

What are the ideological, political and economic reasons for the intrigues of the warmongers? What is the cause of the somersaults and growing nervousness in the policy of the imperialist states?

There is no doubt that of all the reasons for this exceptional nervousness among the imperialist politicians and diplomats, the first is the steady growth of the forces of Socialism and people's democracy, the growing revolutionary consciousness on the part of the working people in most countries, and the onward march of the liberation movement of the colonial peoples.

Both during and after the recent war, capitalist politicians were quite confident that the struggle had seriously weakened the Soviet Union, whose soil is stained with the blood of her sons who died in battle against the aggressor, the country which spared no sacrifice to help the oppressed peoples. But it turned out that the peoples of the Soviet Union, bearing the immeasurable burden of the war, displayed both at the front and behind the lines, a heroism of which only the people of a socialist country are capable. In fact, far from being weakened, the productive forces of the Soviet people which during the pre-war Five-Year Plans had developed at a speed which astonished the whole world actually became stronger during the war because of the efforts and creative abilities of the masses who were prepared to make any sacrifice for their socialist country.

The socialist system which had proved its superiority in peaceful construction displayed an even greater superiority in

wartime and afterwards. As a result, the productive forces of the Soviet Union are expanding at a much greater rate than before the war, thus putting paid to the hopes and expectations of the imperialist politicians.

The reactionaries in the capitalist countries had hoped that the revolutionary working class parties—the heroic French Communists, the Italian Communist Party and others—would be bled white in the struggle against the fascist invaders, that the entire working class movement in the capitalist countries would be weakened, thus enabling renegades and opportunists to take control of the workers' organisations. But it turned out that the revolutionary experience and class consciousness of the working people reached higher levels due to the fact that during the grim years of the occupation the working people, led by the Communist Parties with the support of the Left Socialists, had borne the main burden of the national liberation struggle.

In the countries liberated by the Soviet Army where no direct foreign intervention could come to the aid of the capitalists and landlords, the people took the power into their own hands and, within the framework of people's democracy, took to the path of socialist construction in lands with a total population of 80 million. In France, Italy and in a number of other capitalist countries the revolutionary movement of the working class has grown enormously.

The imperialists of the United States, Britain, France, Holland and Belgium were confident that, having ousted their vanquished rivals from the world market, they would be able to strengthen their despotic rule over the colonial peoples. It turned out, however, that the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries have drawn their own conclusions from the experience of the war and are intensifying their struggle for liberation and independence. The national-liberation wars in

China, Indonesia and Viet Nam are clear proof that the liberation movement is extending among the peoples oppressed by imperialism.

Thus, as a result of the war, the forces of the people have grown and the territory under capitalist control has shrunk. The socialist system of economy which is developing on an ever wider scale in the Soviet Republics, has demonstrated its superiority to the entire world. It has become a stable bulwark and a source of practical experience for the People's Democracies in their development toward Socialism.

In the capitalist system the destructive effect of the economic, political and social contradictions inherent in capitalism is becoming more and more evident.

In the struggle of the two social-economic systems the forces of Socialism are growing, and the hopes and aspirations of the working people the world over are leading them more and more resolutely into the anti-imperialist camp. This is the mighty, invincible force that will be able to foil the, war plans of the imperialist adventurers.

Rooted in the capitalist system are numerous contradictions which reveal the source of the failures and somersaults in the policy of the imperialist states.

As far back as World War One, Lenin profoundly analysed these contradictions in his work "Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism".

Reaching to the very roots of the economy and policy of modern capitalism. Lenin defined imperialism as a social-economic system in a stage of decay, a system in which the internal contradictions have sharpened to an unprecedented degree, and have reached the stage when the capitalist world can be likened to a volcano constantly threatening to erupt.

The process of the concentration of capital which is

unfailingly accompanied by periodical economic crises sharpens the contradictions inherent in capitalist economy, contradictions which have developed into the general crisis of the entire economic system of imperialism. Present day international relations are the reflection of this general crisis of imperialism. The monopolist tendencies of finance capital became more and more pronounced after World War Two. Powerful groups of the financial oligarchy are subordinating to themselves the entire apparatus of the modern imperialist state, utilising it to secure privileged or, at least, the most advantageous positions in the world market.

Typical in this respect is the so-called “Marshall Plan” which is, incidentally, a new method of exporting capital and of its expansion on conditions dictated by the “usurer state” to the “debtor countries” which are in an extremely difficult situation. This is a striking example of the way in which the big monopolies, manipulated by the top leadership of the financial oligarchy, merge with the state Institutions which are subordinated to the monopoly interests. The imperialist governments are becoming the executive organs of the more influential groups of this oligarchy, a financial commercial agency operating on their behalf and attempting to influence international relations in accordance with their interests. This is merely a more developed and pronounced process of monopolist economy merging with the political organs of imperialism at a time when it is becoming increasingly difficult to overcome the contradictions of the capitalist system. The essence of this process was laid bare by Lenin in his brilliant analysis.

It is impossible to understand the essence of social and international relations today if one considers political phenomena in isolation from economic phenomena or vice versa, as most of the tendentious bourgeois commentators do.

Imperialist economy, filled with insoluble contradictions, is the source of imperialism's policy which is becoming more and more rampant and aggressive.

The law of unequal development inherent in the capitalist system in the epoch of imperialism, appears in the present phase of imperialism in a new form. The history of international relations during the present century vividly illustrates the operation of this law. During this period—a period of great social upheavals—capitalism was overthrown on the vast territory of the former tsarist empire. Japanese imperialism expanded at an exceptionally rapid rate only to end in disgraceful failure. Predatory German imperialism which twice attempted to conquer the world, devastated Europe with the ravages of war. The weaker imperialism in countries like France, Belgium, Holland and Italy sold out to American imperialism. Finally, the oldest imperialism—British imperialism—which specialized in getting other people to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for it, suffered ignominious defeat at the end of a long period of rivalry. And the “socialist” Government in Britain defending its diehard masters from its own working class, has with its own hands fitted an American halter to British imperialism. The sole victor, gorged with plunder is predatory American imperialism, which is aspiring to the hateful laurels of Hitlerism.

The structure of the new bloc of imperialist states, undoubtedly contains a number of new features which distinguish it from those known to us from the past history of coalitions and military blocs. One's attention is drawn to the concentration of all kinds of dependence: political, financial, technical and economic in the broadest meaning of the term, the dependence of all participants of the bloc on the senior member who obviously occupies a privileged and decisive position.

The question arises, therefore: Is this dependence on the decisive member an expression of the strength of the bloc or of its weakness?

If the aim of the bloc is, as the imperialist diplomats pretend, the defence of peace (imperialist peace, of course) this means that the relations on which this aggressive bloc is based (firm dependence of the participants on the senior member) will be preserved. The usurer state is the strongest member and the real master of the bloc.

But friendship between the money-lender and his debtor is never genuine or lasting.

Such is the inexorable law of the unequal development of imperialism.

The main factor which is gaining more and more strength, and which sounds the death-knell of imperialism, is the sweeping growth of the revolutionary movement which reached an unprecedented scale as a result of the world historic victory of the Soviet Union over German fascism.

The steady sharpening of the general crisis of capitalism and the ever mounting flames of socialism—these are the two factors under the influence of which a great historical process is reaching completion, the process of transforming in the fire of social battles the old, obsolete system into a new social system.

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Soon, four years will have elapsed since the war ended — four years of intensive creative labour the like of which has never been known in the thousand years of Poland's existence and which has yielded unprecedented results. This became possible because the working people look power into their own

hands, because in exercising power the working people of Poland are relying on alliance and fraternity with the peoples of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, with the working people all over the world. This became possible because, guided by the working class, the Polish people are laying the foundations of a socialist Poland.

The present world line-up is clear cut.

Those who defend the people's power, who want happiness and success for the people, those who are genuine patriots and who want prosperity and sovereignty for their country—these are the champions of peace, democracy and Socialism.

Those who want the exploitations and oppression of the working people, the return of the landlords and capitalists, those who are the dollar worshippers: despite their nationalist phraseology they are the cosmopolitans who are betraying the independence of their countries.

Such is the social and political demarcation line in our day.

The forces of the Polish working people at whose head, marching with closed ranks, is the heroic working class of Poland, the consciousness of the justness of our cause and the indestructible ideological firmness of our Party—these are the guarantees that during 1949 the vast majority of our people will rally still more closely round the platform of the people's Poland in the struggle for peace and for the advance to Socialism.

For all honest people the struggle for peace means the struggle for the freedom and progress of mankind, the struggle for mankind's moral and spiritual, intellectual and material values.

For all working people, irrespective of nationality or religion, colour of skin or way of life, the struggle for peace means the struggle to eliminate the sources and social roots of the plunder, exploitation and coercion of man; it means the

struggle for a new and better social system.

For the working class, for the Communist and Workers' Parties, the struggle for peace means the struggle for the victory of Socialism throughout the world.

The struggle for peace or the course toward unloosing war—this today is the criterion determining the alignment of social forces, for the new relationship of international forces. And this new relationship will result in the final destruction of imperialism and in victory for the social system in which man will never again take to arms against man.

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## **REVIEW OF FORCES OF WORKING PEOPLE. Klement Gottwald, Chairman, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia**

May Day in Czechoslovakia will be a joyful review of the constructive efforts of the working people. After they had rid the country of the wreckers and traitors in February last year, the peoples of Czechoslovakia enthusiastically embarked upon constructive labour.

This labour enthusiasm resulted in the Two-Year Plan for the country's rehabilitation and development being successfully completed by the end of last year. As a result, Czechoslovak industry surpassed the pre-war level by 10 per cent, and the country started its first Five-Year Plan. The Five-Year Plan has had a good start, the results for the first few months show industrial targets being continually surpassed. Similar results have been achieved in agriculture where the spring sowing campaign has been carried out successfully. The successes of the Two-Year Plan and of the first months of the Five-Year Plan have also been reflected in a number of Government measures to improve supplies of food and consumer goods.

So on May Day, the people of Czechoslovakia will hold the first review of their successes in the struggle for the Five-Year Plan. These successes are the outcome, above all, of wide-scale socialist emulation all over the country. For the first time the working class of Czechoslovakia is using this powerful socialist method to develop the country's economy. The emulation campaign is gaining momentum, taking the form of workers making pledges in honour of the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party which will be held at the end of May. Pledges to raise labour productivity and to reduce

production costs were first made by Communist Party organisations in the factories. They gradually spread to the trade unions, youth organisations, and so on, so that today it has become a nation-wide movement embracing most of the factories and the majority of the villages.

Apart from its economic significance, the tremendous scope of socialist emulation is of great moral and political importance. First, it teaches the working people new, socialist ways of organising the economy and a new socialist attitude toward production. Second, it shows the great prestige of the Communist Party and the warmth with which the working people regard it. Hundreds of thousands of working people are enthusiastically competing to fulfil their obligations before the Party Congress—can there be any better proof that our people and its leading detachment, the Communist Party, are one whole, that the people see the Communist Party as their leader, their heart and brain?

Thus, the May Day demonstrations in which all sections of the National Front are taking part, are demonstrations of the Czechoslovak people's respect and devotion to their recognised leader, the Communist Party.

May Day in Czechoslovakia is a militant review of the solidarity of the Czechoslovak people with the peoples of the Soviet Union, the countries of people's democracy and progressive forces all over the world in the struggle against the new warmongers, the struggle to preserve and consolidate peace throughout the world. At the same time the people of Czechoslovakia will show what a powerful contribution they are making to the world-wide movement for peace. A wide campaign in support of the World Peace Congress was carried out. At hundreds of meetings and rallies the people demonstrated their resistance to the imperialist warmongers and their determination to safeguard peace. The

further strengthening of Czechoslovakia's international ties is another big contribution to the consolidation of the world peace front.

In April a delegation of the Czechoslovak Government visited Bulgaria and Rumania where it held successful talks on strengthening the friendly political, economic and cultural relations between these countries and Czechoslovakia. A similar Government delegation visited Hungary to sign an agreement of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

This agreement, in particular, demonstrates the fundamental difference between the policy of capitalists and of the People's Democracies. Only the people's democratic systems in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, whose policy is determined by the interests of the working people, were able to overcome the age-old conflict between these two countries and open a new epoch in Czechoslovak-Hungarian relations—an epoch of mutual alliance and friendly cooperation. There is no doubt that this historical step of the peoples of Czechoslovakia and Hungary strengthens the front of the countries of people's democracy led by the Soviet Union and further consolidates the world peace front. In contrast to the imperialist policy of the "Marshall Plan" and the Atlantic Pact, the People's Democracies once again raise the banner of peace, national and state sovereignty, and equal cooperation between the nations.

May Day in Czechoslovakia is also a demonstration of the loyalty of the Czechoslovak people to the Soviet Union. The working people of Czechoslovakia know that their national independence and socialist construction are guaranteed solely by the fraternal, disinterested assistance of the Soviet Union, the most powerful bulwark of world peace, and the mainstay of progress and friendship between the peoples. Thus, one of the

main points in the policy of the new Czechoslovakia is to strengthen and develop the Czechoslovak-Soviet alliance.

As in the Soviet Union and in the other People's Democracies, May Day in Czechoslovakia is a vivid demonstration of the superiority of the forces of progress, peace and Socialism over those of imperialist reaction and war. The Soviet Union and, side by side with it, the People's Democracies, shine out like beacons of free creative labour and fraternal cooperation before the peoples of the capitalist countries who, filled with fear for the morrow and oppressed by unemployment, are falling more and more into the grip of the imperialist robbers.

Turning their eyes to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the oppressed masses in the capitalist countries are consolidating their ranks this May Day for a more resolute struggle for peace and people's democracy in their countries.

Aware of their obligations to the working people of the world, the peoples of the progressive countries, including Czechoslovakia, pledge themselves this May Day to work ever more actively to build the new system in their countries and to strengthen the bonds of solidarity with the working people everywhere in the struggle against the imperialist warmongers, for peace and progress throughout the world.

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## **FOR AN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC ITALY. Luigi Longo, Deputy, General Secretary, Communist Party of Italy**

For the working people of Italy, May Day this year will be a serious review of their forces and a summing up of the results of the bitter struggle they have waged with such a high degree of consciousness and self-sacrifice, at the price of great sacrifices and even bloodshed.

Last year May Day was celebrated only a few days after the electoral battle in which, with the help of monstrous persecution and fraud, reaction was able to distort the will of the people on an unprecedented scale. But although the old reactionary classes, making use of the Christian Democratic Party, were able to steal an electoral victory, a profound confidence grew in the hearts of the working people, precisely because the blatantly rigged election showed that, in spite of police pressure and the manoeuvres of the politicians, the majority of the politically conscious voters demonstrated their firmness and their unity by rallying over 8 million strong under the slogans of the Popular Front, democracy, national independence and peace.

After the general election reaction, supported by the Vatican and obedient to the directives of its American masters, launched an offensive on all fronts. The slander campaign against the Communist Party, the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies, trade unions and other democratic organisations formed by the working people to safeguard their rights and their gains grew in intensity and became more insidious. Under the cover of this campaign the capitalists attacked the living

standards of the working people, an attack which went hand in hand with increasingly brutal and open police interference. This campaign also encouraged the revival of fascist groups.

But from the very outset, factory and office workers and peasants replied to this offensive with large-scale strikes and demonstrations. Meanwhile, Government organs had charged the Communist Party with preparing insurrection, and not only fascist newspapers but even the organs of the Right Socialists demanded that the Communists leaders should be persecuted, and that repressive measures should be taken against them. From this arose the first cases of bloodshed.

On July 14, last year the criminal attempt on the life of the leader of the Italian Communist Party evoked a wave of popular indignation throughout the country. The people demonstrated their profound love for our Party and its leader. The economic life of the country was paralysed for three days, being resumed only after it became known that Comrade Togliatti was out of danger. The people of Italy were well aware that the blow was not only directed against the Communist Party. They realised, more than ever before, the need for a united struggle. In this they were supported by the international solidarity and, particularly, by the firm solidarity expressed in Comrade Stalin's telegram sent on behalf of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Italian Communist Party.

The Christian Democratic Party answered this impressive expression of popular solidarity with the Communist Party by an attempt to split the trade union unity which had been created after the overthrow of fascism. But the attempt failed. The working people in industry and in the countryside, together with office workers, in their overwhelming majority remained united in the trade unions, in the General Confederation of Labour and in the Confederation of Agricultural Workers.

Many new trade union members have been made, so that today, though the splitters have been intriguing for nine months, the trade union membership is greater than in the corresponding period last year. The same can be said of the growth of the Communist Party. This growth is particularly significant since it must be remembered that in the course of 20 years, fascism sought to destroy the organisational traditions of the working class, and that one of the first tasks after the liberation was to unite the working people into militant organisations and once again to arouse them to the need for organised struggle.

Millions of workers and peasants took part in large-scale actions and impressive strikes against the capitalist onslaught on the bread of the working people, against the attempts made through the medium of the "Marshall Plan" in conspiracy with American imperialism to break down and paralyse industry and subordinate the entire national economy to the interests of foreign monopolies.

Throughout the whole of the year there were discontent and strikes. These actions were organised to protect wages and living standards, and to defend the factory committees and joint management councils which were subjected to particularly violent attack from reaction; they were organised against the wholesale dismissals and against the factories being closed down; to defend labour agreements and the agricultural workers' right to employment, and against the worsening conditions of the sharecroppers and small land-owners.

In vain did the police occupy factories and Villages, practising violence and committing serious crimes. The working people, united, and in organised fashion defended their positions and their rights. They did not succumb to provocation but gallantly made the sacrifices the struggle necessitated. They enriched themselves with valuable experience which will

prove its use as the fierce struggle against reaction continues.

Many workers and many trade unionists were shot by the police. Thousands of the working people, especially Communists, found themselves once again inside the prisons where the fascists had thrown them before. Despite this the main positions of the working class and of the working people in general were victoriously held. This will be so in future as well. We must stress this, since today an even more disgusting and dangerous offensive against Italy's national independence and sovereignty is being launched.

The present Italian Government is controlled by the very people who in the past brought about the country's ruin by selling Italy into the bondage of German fascism and who in their greed and selfishness are bartering her national sovereignty once more—this time to American imperialism. In criminal fashion these people are pushing Italy along the path to war.

The partisan organisations and their finest representatives, and the spirit and traditions of the resistance movement are now subjected to all kinds of malicious attacks because these people are the bulwark of national independence. Partisans, veterans of the liberation war are expelled from the armed forces, thrown into prison and persecuted in thousands of ways. But this offensive will not bring the results expected by the lackeys of American imperialism. All honest Italians, all the working people are rallying around the valiant, veterans of the liberation war and are waging a mighty struggle for peace.

The Parliamentary battle against the Atlantic Pact and throughout the country showed how profound, vigorous and militant are the Italian people in their desire for peace. The Government has signed the Atlantic Pact, an aggressive war pact, openly repudiating the obligations it assumed during the election campaign. The Italian people, who regard peace as

vital, have risen against this Pact. A broad peace campaign is under way throughout the country. The people are now signing a petition demanding that Parliament shall not ratify the Atlantic Pact. Millions of people were active during the preparations for the Paris Peace Congress. This peace campaign has been joined by people of all religions and political opinions, representing all sections of the population.

The working class and the working people rallying around it—the entire people of Italy—are against war. They sympathise with the countries pursuing a peace policy, with the Soviet Union, the land of Socialism and its brilliant leader Comrade Stalin, staunch and faithful leader of the peace forces, with the People's Democracies, with the Chinese people liberating themselves from the imperialist yoke, and with all the peoples fighting for their national independence.

The Communist Party of Italy marches at the head of this struggle. Its clear policy has won great influence for the Party not only among the working class, but also among broad masses of the peasants, among intellectuals and all sections of the working people. The Communist Party was able to maintain its alliance with the Socialist Party of Italy; it skilfully worked together with other democratic groups, and in this way was able to guide the great historical struggle waged by the Italian people for their lives and their future as an independent nation.

On May Day the forces mobilised, organised and united in this struggle, will once again demonstrate their will throughout the country. In thousands of towns and villages millions of people will raise their voice for solidarity, for the progress of mankind, for a free and equal society, for peace.

They will express their gratitude to the great people who have fought the hardest battles and made the greatest sacrifices for the sake of mankind — the Soviet Union and its brilliant

leader.

From the great May Day demonstrations Italian Communists will draw new strength to lead the struggle for freedom and peace to victory.

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## **TITO CLIQUE — RABID ENEMY OF SOCIALISM. Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej, General Secretary, Central Committee, Workers' Party of Rumania**

On May Day, the day of working people's international solidarity, when all honest people throughout the world show their readiness to combat the Anglo-American warmongers, the international working class demonstrates the unity of its ranks in the fight for democracy and Socialism.

The proletariat throughout the world are consolidating themselves more and more round the vanguard of international Socialism, round the hope and bulwark of progressive mankind, the Soviet Union. One of the May Day traditions of proletarian revolutionaries is to denounce all splitters of proletarian unity, all enemies of Socialism.

On this day, the treacherous role of the Yugoslav renegades and the isolation of Yugoslavia, brought about by the treacherous Tito clique's desertion into the camp of imperialism, is particularly evident.

The atmosphere at the recent Third Congress of the Yugoslav People's Front was an eloquent example of this.

The Congress delegates had been handpicked by the Rankovic organs from among the "tried" followers of Tito. To what lengths Rankovic went in "priming" the Congress delegates and its "ideological unity" is seen from the following fact: addressing the congress, a State official said that 1,300 priests had given their blessing to Tito's struggle against the Information Bureau of Communist Parties. Careful preparations were made so that Tito and his clique would be able to get any decisions passed and the semblance of a "united" People's Front created.

The chief role in the Congress repertory was played by Tito.

At -the beginning of his report Tito announced he would speak about the political tasks of the People's Front. But in fact his whole report was devoted to one subject—a lying attack on the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Even when this rabid enemy of Socialism turned to the situation in Yugoslavia, he did it solely to launch yet another attack on the land of Socialism and the fraternal Communist Parties.

The tone and content of Tito's speech was much to the liking of his Anglo-American imperialist masters who rubbed their hands with glee. The "Voice of America" had given much time to broadcasting Tito's report even before it was published in Yugoslavia.

But then, indeed, it is a long time since the imperialists have been able to find such a zealous agent for slandering the Soviet Union!

Indignant at the vile treachery of Trotsky, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin named him Judas-Trotsky. The name of Judas suits Tito very well.

The whole of Tito's speech is proof of his treachery. Tito had "prepared" for the report by collecting together all anti-Soviet lies recently put about by his yes-men. He also took upon himself the odious role of slanderer, circulating the lie about "intrigues" on the part of the Soviet Union, directed, he alleged, against the peoples of Yugoslavia. Judas-Tito was well aware that this monstrous insinuation would be received with indignation by the Yugoslav people. That is why he resorted to insinuations, unable to give any proof whatsoever of these "intrigues".

The Soviet Union and the People's Democracies have only one wish for the Yugoslav peoples—to help their return to the family of the united socialist front so that they can build

Socialism.

When he talked about the “intrigues” of the Soviet Union, Tito deliberately avoided any mention of the real intrigues of Anglo-American imperialism.

The urgent task now facing mankind is to combat Anglo-American imperialism. This is the struggle to nip in the bud the criminal plans of the aggressors who are preparing to unloose a new world war, and to bar their way to world domination which they seek to secure by force of arms. Millions of people are rallying round the Soviet Union in the great united front to defend peace. In all lands, even in the United States and Britain, the imperialists’ own lairs, the peoples raise their voice indignantly against the Anglo-American warmongers, against the Atlantic Pact, the pact of war.

The peoples who have suffered most from the war are in the front ranks of the struggle for peace. Only the peoples of Yugoslavia, the peoples who shed so much blood in the battle against the fascist-imperialist barbarians, find the door to this army of peace closed to them by the Tito clique.

Tito, Rankovic and Company have not allowed any mass action to develop whereby the Yugoslav peoples could express their will for peace and their determination to fight against the Anglo-American warmongers. They are afraid that in the struggle for peace the peoples of Yugoslavia would realise more clearly that Anglo-American imperialism was and still is their enemy, while the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies were always and remain their friends; they are afraid that, having realised this, the peoples of Yugoslavia would begin to see clearly and understand the odious role played by their unworthy leaders.

In his report Tito did not find a single word to denounce the predatory plans of the Anglo-American imperialists. His vocabulary does not contain suitable words. According to Tito,

it seems that there are no such things as Anglo-American imperialists. He did not say a word about the aggressive North Atlantic Pact which is an incitement to war. It is well known that this pact is directed against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Like a swindler and a coward, Judas-Tito concealed this obvious fact from the Yugoslav people.

However, as a rabid enemy of the Soviet Union and the international Communist movement, he maliciously tried to slander the U.S.S.R. the bulwark of world peace, the People's Democracies and the Communist Parties affiliated to the Information Bureau. With his own hands he tore off the mask which covered the real face of an Anglo-American imperialist agent and a deadly enemy of Socialism.

Twice Tito used the word "warmongers". But there was no likelihood that he would hurt the feelings of his Anglo-American masters by denouncing them as the warmongers. Far from it. This word was clearly addressed to the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the Communist Parties against whom this despicable traitor is fighting.

We should not be surprised, therefore, if in a desire to curry even greater favour with his masters, Tito will in the near future concoct a new "theory" that it is neither capitalism with its contradictions nor imperialism, but Socialism and Communism that cause war in our epoch.

Tito has gone over completely to the imperialist camp. Like any other traitor he is afraid to admit this openly, especially since he must make allowances for the real sentiments of the Yugoslav peoples who hate Anglo-American imperialism.

Tito has begged the Western press not to sing his praises in order not to embarrass him.

But by pointing to the Soviet Union as the main enemy while ignoring the predatory plans of his Anglo-American

imperialist allies, Tito has completely betrayed himself, for such a policy can only be the policy of a provocateur in the service of the warmongers.

But his greatest difficulties are just about to begin. Undoubtedly the Anglo-American imperialists will demand that Tito goes still further so that Yugoslavia can be won as a complete state for the camp of imperialism. The facts prove that Tito is getting ready to do this. But there are also other facts which show that the peoples of Yugoslavia will never allow this, that they remain faithful to friendship with the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia's liberator, and with the fraternal peoples of the countries of people's democracy.

This is proved by the hysterical moves Tito had to make at his so-called Congress of the People's Front. To guarantee his anti-Soviet line and bind Yugoslavia more firmly to the camp of imperialism, he dictated the Congress tasks—to take all steps to safeguard his Turkish terror regime. This attitude expresses a fear of the Yugoslav people, it expresses the bourgeois, anti-people's essence of the dictatorship of the Tito-Rankovic clique.

The People's Front tasks put forward made no mention at all of the class enemy or of the necessity to struggle relentlessly against him. It is clear that terror and repression are directed against the entire people, against their finest sons.

Tito, the patron of the kulaks, is shamelessly talking about "socialist Yugoslavia," the "socialist system in Yugoslavia" and so on. A peculiar way of building Socialism when, in foreign policy, support is given to the Anglo-American imperialists, the deadly enemies of Socialism, and inside the country protection is given to the kulaks, similar enemies of Socialism!

The programme declaration of the People's Front, incidentally, states that the Front rallies all the people

regardless of their **world outlook**. So, all capitalists and kulaks, all speculators, ustashi and chetniks, all propagators of fascist philosophy and mysticism, all people with an obviously reactionary world outlook can be members of the People's Front whose programme, according to Congress, is similar to the programme of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia!

Socialism in words and the restoration of capitalism in deeds—for this end the representatives of American trusts arrived in Belgrade. They were made very welcome. First came representatives of American steel trusts. They were followed by representatives of oil equipment companies. The British imperialists are also trying to give Tito speedy help by sending him rubber. "The Manchester Guardian", stated in alarm that **Marshal Tito's regime could last only if he were able to buy sufficient quantities of goods and equipment from the west.**

The international bourgeoisie hastened to save the Tito regime. The so-called trade and economic relations with the capitalist countries are patently of a political nature. The Anglo-American imperialists are helping Tito **politically** in the struggle against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

The Tito clique has even gone so far as to conclude a monstrous transaction with Western Germany, the military arsenal of Anglo-American imperialism in Europe. According to official Anglo-American representatives, this trade will amount to 19 million dollars. To the fascists whom the American monopolists are now nursing, preparing them for a new world slaughter, Tito will send grain and haricot beans, snatching them from the mouths of the Yugoslav people who have not enough food. The S.S. troops who stained Yugoslavia with blond need calories! As to the peoples of Yugoslavia, they can suffer hardships. This is how the Tito-ites think and act. After all, such actions are necessary for the cause of the Anglo-

American warmongers and for the restoration of capitalism in Yugoslavia.

But the peoples of Yugoslavia have not forgotten that at the time when they were really building Socialism, the American imperialists turned back the ships carrying grain bought by Yugoslavia in America.

That is why the coward Tito is stealthily hiding his relations with the foreign capitalists from his people, trying to deceive them about the real essence of these shady transactions.

In his speech Tito called all references to the economic difficulties of Yugoslavia “slanders.” Let us see how he describes the situation:—“In some places there are breakdowns in the supply system;” “incredible things took place in connection with ration cards;” “an incorrect, extravagant policy facilitated the **exhaustion** of the state supply fund;” “in some places workers or other citizens engaged in production **who have no other source of supply** have been deprived of their ration cards” and so on.

The fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies deeply regret that the working people of Yugoslavia should suffer these difficulties. However, it is clear that all the Information Bureau Resolution foresaw would result from the demagogic and adventurous measures of the Tito clique, aimed at compromising Socialism, has been proved in practice.

Tito declared in his report that “every people is free to establish friendship with other people or to break friendly relations with them if they are contrary to their interests”: in conclusion he declared that he and his followers were not responsible for their actions before the international proletariat. Thus, Tito openly formulated his attitude of nationalism. Judas-Tito is betraying the noble principle of proletarian

internationalism in the interests of alliances and commerce with the American, British and German capitalists. The Yugoslav proletariat will never forget this!

The Third Congress of the People's Front of Yugoslavia was called by the Tito clique in the hope of consolidating the anti-Soviet line of the leadership of the Yugoslav Communist Party and openly going over to the ranks of the deadly enemies of the Soviet Union, the enemies of people's democracy and the international Communist movement.

This is the essence of Tito's whole "philosophy" that Socialism can be built in Yugoslavia with the help of Anglo-American imperialism.

The protest movement of considerable sections of Communists, supported by the working class against the treacherous nationalist minority faction is mounting every day. All genuine patriots of Yugoslavia are ever more resolutely rising against this treachery, against their country being turned into a semi-colony of Anglo-American imperialism.

On this day of international proletarian solidarity, the working people are confident that the people of Yugoslavia, led by the working class and the majority of Communists loyal to the great and invincible ideas of Lenin and Stalin, will be able to expel the nationalist Tito faction from the Communist Party of Yugoslavia and bring Yugoslavia back into the ranks of the united socialist front.

The people of Yugoslavia have the moral support of the Soviet Union, the great and powerful homeland of Socialism, they have the support of the People's Democracies and the international proletarian revolutionary movement.

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## **BIG VICTORY FOR PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY IN CHINA**

During the night of April 24, units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army occupied Nanking. The forcing of the Yangtse on a wide front and the liberation of Nanking represent the biggest victory won by the democratic forces of China since the beginning of the civil war caused by the foreign imperialists and their agency, the warlords and comprador bourgeoisie.

Undoubtedly, this victory will be of decisive significance in the speedy establishment of peace and democracy throughout China.

The military defeat suffered by Chinese reaction and the bankruptcy of the corrupt Chiang Kai-shek regime mean, at the same time, defeat for the bosses of the Chinese reactionaries—the American imperialists.

Neither American dollars nor American fighter aircraft could save the reactionaries.

During last year's September offensive, the People's Liberation Army wiped out one-third of Chiang-Kai-shek's crack troops.

The population of the liberated territory amounts to 200 million.

In the course of two years and nine months, the People's Liberation Army routed the main forces of the Kuomintang troops, reducing the Kuomintang army from 4,300,000 men to 1,100,000 on active service and several tens of thousands in reserve. The People's Liberation Army, on the other hand, increased from slightly more than a million to over 3,000,000 men.

While striking a crushing blow at Chiang Kai-shek's

reactionary power and clique, the People's Liberation Army at the same time strove to avoid useless bloodshed and to use peaceful methods to establish a democratic regime in China. With this aim in view the Communist Party of China put forward its Eight Points which could have served as the basis for a peaceful settlement and agreed to open peace talk with the Nanking Kuomintang, Government. However, subsequent events showed that the Kuomintang reactionaries had tried to use the peace talks to gain a respite and to make fresh attempts to reorganise their counter-revolutionary forces. The peace conditions offered by the Communist Party delegation were rejected by the Kuomintang Government.

At midnight on April 20, the People's Liberation Army started the battle for the Yangtse. On the following day 300,000 men crossed the river between Wuhu and An-king. Three days later, Nanking was taken.

On the morning of April 24, twelve enemy divisions were destroyed. The Peoples Liberation Army occupied Taiyuan, capital of Shansi province.

Latest reports show that the units of the People's Liberation Army are successfully developing the offensive on all fronts.

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## **SOVIET UNION HEADS STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. Anna Pauker, Secretary, Central Committee Workers' Party of Rumania**

Although this is but the fourth May Day that is being celebrated since the end of the anti-Hitler war, once again, on this day of international solidarity, working people everywhere are confronted with the vital task of mobilising all forces for the struggle for peace.

Only four years have passed since the gang of fascist criminals and warmongers was smashed. But it is not difficult to detect under cover of the Atlantic Pact the outlines of the old anti-Comintern Pact, hastily remodelled under new Anglo-American leadership, but retaining all the old ideology, aims and methods.

The working class of the world, and together with it the majority of mankind—the generation whose blood has not yet dried in the trenches, the mothers whose children are orphaned, the youth who grew up under the explosion of bombs and want to live—all who remember the horrors of war cannot allow peace, won at the price of such bitter suffering, to be turned by the imperialists into a short respite.

The Soviet Union is the first State in history that is vitally interested in maintaining world peace. The maintenance of a lasting peace in which the Soviet Union is interested is also in the interests of the overwhelming majority of mankind.

The consistent foreign policy of the Soviet Union, its policy in defence of peace, of equality of peoples and national independence of big and small nations, is foiling all the machinations of the bellicose imperialists.

The Soviet Union resolutely tore to shreds the veil of

secrecy behind which the bourgeois diplomats concealed from the masses the real cause of war. The Soviet Union's foreign policy, guided by Marxism-Leninism and the brilliant leadership of Lenin and Stalin, counterposed to the bourgeoisie's hoary methods of secret diplomatic intrigue a frank and open foreign policy which directly and without any reservations appeals to the masses of the world and helps them to understand the relations between States, to unite and organise in defence of peace and the freedom of peoples.

The Soviet Union's struggle for peace continuously frustrated the plans of the imperialists to unleash war. The criminal intrigues of the imperialists were closely linked with their efforts to set up aggressive coalitions against the Soviet Union. But, each time, the Soviet Union frustrated these plans. The fiasco of the military intervention of the German, British, French, American and Japanese imperialists in 1918-20 against the Soviet Republic is known to all. A similar fate befell the anti-Soviet provocations of the imperialists in 1925-27.

The steadily growing strength of the U.S.S.R., the increasing support of the people throughout the world for its peace policy, the wisdom of this policy which is able to use the contradictions between the imperialists in the interests of peace—all this foiled the attempts of the imperialists to unleash war. Thus the outbreak of World War Two was staved off for many years. When the fascist aggressors finally launched the war, their accomplices—the imperialists of the United States, Britain and France—were unable to form the united anti-Soviet front which they had spent so much time trying to organise. Their armies were compelled to fight alongside the armies of the Soviet Union against the fascist aggressors, as was demanded by the interests of the peoples of all lands. During the war when the Western imperialists were sabotaging the opening of the Second Front, the peoples placed all their hopes

on the Soviet Union, on the country which made terrible sacrifices to restore freedom and peace to the peoples as quickly as possible.

“We would be committing a crime against our motherland, against the Soviet people who have temporarily fallen under the fascist yoke, and against the peoples of Europe who are groaning under the heel of German tyranny, if we failed to utilise all opportunities for accelerating the enemy’s defeat,” said Comrade Stalin on November 6, 1943.

The Soviet Army smashed the German and Japanese Invaders so that mankind could have peace.

The imperialists, particularly the American imperialists who made fantastic profits during the war, want to preserve and increase these profits by preparing a new war.

Incapable of understanding the lessons of history, the American and British imperialists, following in Hitler’s footsteps, are organising another aggressive bloc for a new war to win world domination and destroy the democratic and progressive forces. Among their main hirelings in this venture are the Right Socialists, as was recently cynically admitted by banker Harriman, special Marshall Plan representative in Europe. These people have been assigned the despicable role of crowning the American war-mongering monopolists with the laurels of “democratism” and “pacifism”, of extolling the dollar and circulating foul slanders about the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies in an attempt to split and disorganise the working-class movement.

Lately it has become difficult to distinguish between the various breeds of Right social democrats and the nationalist clique of Tito in Yugoslavia which is doing everything possible to serve the initiators of the Atlantic Pact to the detriment of Yugoslavia and the united socialist front.

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But there is a wide gulf between the desire of the imperialists to unleash a new war and the possibility of organising such a war. Day after day the consistent struggle of the Soviet Union for a lasting peace on democratic principles is strengthening the forces of the democratic and anti-imperialist camp which are already vastly superior to the forces of the warmongers.

Thanks to the all-round assistance of the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies are able to counter the economic and political blackmail of the imperialists and to achieve serious successes in developing their economy along socialist lines.

The recently-formed Council of Economic Mutual Aid is a fine demonstration of the relations between the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union; it is a model of cooperation and mutual assistance on the basis of the full equality of friendly countries.

Ruthlessly exposing the warmongers, such as Churchill and the American imperialists, exposing the aggressive character of the Atlantic Pact and at the same time introducing practical proposals to strengthen peace, the Soviet Union is guiding the struggle of the peoples for peace.

Generalissimo Stalin's reply to Henry Wallace's letter; the proposal for a Peace Pact between the Soviet Union and the United States, made by Generalissimo Stalin in his replies to the questions of Kingsbury Smith; the Soviet Union's proposals to reduce Great Power armaments by one-third in the course of a year, to outlaw the atom bomb and for control of atomic energy; the proposal of the Warsaw Conference of Foreign Ministers of eight states to establish a united and democratic Germany, a Germany that would no longer be a threat to peace in Europe—all these examples of the Soviet Union's peace policy express the will of the peoples for peace

and are a blow against the warmongers.

With their machinelike satellite majority the United States and Britain are undermining the United Nations. But despite this the mighty voice of the Soviet Union rings out from the rostrum of Uno in defence of peace and freedom of peoples. The Soviet Union's stand in Uno in defence of the peoples of Greece and Spain, China and Indonesia, Viet Nam and South Africa, Palestine and Libya has inspired the struggle of these peoples against imperialism, has helped to broaden the anti-imperialist camp and has strengthened its unity.

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With the help of the national bourgeoisie and the Right Socialists who have betrayed their countries, the American imperialists are propagating the poisoned ideology of nationalism and cosmopolitanism to cover their aggressive expansionist plans.

Combating imperialist ideology, the Soviet people with their Soviet culture are giving progressive, peace-loving mankind a great example of a world outlook which combines ardent patriotism with internationalism, love for the motherland with fraternal feelings for the working people of all nationalities and with respect for the rights and traditions of every nation, big and small.

This world outlook strengthens and inspires the genuine supporters of peace and the patriots of all countries in the struggle for peace and national independence. The friends of peace throughout the world see their path and aims more clearly when the voice of Comrade Stalin rings out, the voice that is most listened to by all peoples. Millions of working people in Europe and America, even on remote islands in the Pacific, justly consider Comrade Stalin their teacher and their defender who voices their desire for peace and freedom. Both

friends and enemies have come to know the irrevocable truth of Stalin's words, the indissoluble unity of his words and action, the scientific exactitude of his foresight.

Stalin's famous words predicting the "ignominious fiasco of the instigators of a new war" have become the militant banner of the supporters of peace.

Today the peoples can frustrate the war plans of the imperialists. This is obvious when comparing the situation today with that on the eve of the first world war.

After unleashing the first world war the imperialists were able to deceive the peoples, to use them as cannon fodder for their predatory plans. They were able to do this because the working-class movement throughout the world, with the exception of Russia, was dominated by the obedient hirelings of imperialism, the traitors, the Right Socialists. In Russia, where the proletariat was led by a really revolutionary party, by a genuine anti-imperialist party, imperialism suffered a defeat of world historic significance. The Great October Socialist Revolution, the birth of the Soviet Union and its continuous strengthening, the birth and development of the Communist Parties—all undermined imperialism at its very foundations.

Taking advantage of the split in the working-class movement caused by the Right Socialists, imperialism was able to unleash World War Two. As early as 1934 Comrade Stalin warned the imperialists that war against the U.S.S.R. "would be the most dangerous war for the bourgeoisie. It would be the most dangerous war, not only because the peoples of the U.S.S.R. would fight to the very death to preserve the gains of the revolution; it would be the most dangerous war for the bourgeoisie for the added reason that it would be waged not only at the fronts, but also behind the enemy's lines. The bourgeoisie need have no doubt that the numerous friends of the working class of the U.S.S.R. in Europe and in Asia will do

their best to strike a blow at the rear of their oppressors. And let not Messieurs the bourgeoisie blame us if some of the governments so near and dear to them, which today rule happily "by grace of god," are missing on the morrow after such a war."

The fascist aggressors and imperialist circles supporting them ignored this warning. With mathematical precision Comrade Stalin's prognosis became a reality.

Today, when the American imperialists are preparing a third world war and are whipping up a war psychosis, the moral factor is designed to play an all-important role together with the material strength of the Soviet Union, which has grown tremendously, and together with the powerful anti-imperialist camp. **This decisive moral factor is knowledge of the leading role of the U.S.S.R. in the anti-imperialist struggle, in the struggle for peace.** Because of bitter, but invaluable experience, the peoples realise the truth that a successful and consistent struggle for peace, for national independence, for freedom against imperialist plunder and seizure can only be waged alongside the Soviet Union, together with it and with the whole anti-imperialist camp which it leads. Everywhere the Communist and Workers' Parties, true to proletarian internationalism are making this ever clearer to the mass of the people. Everywhere the Communist and Workers' Parties are vigorously fighting nationalism which, as we see from the example of the Tito clique means rejecting the cause of peace and betraying the interests of their people.

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The consistent position of proletarian internationalism is seen from the struggle for peace being waged by the working people of the Rumanian People's Republic and the other

People's Democracies. Under the leadership of the Rumanian Workers' Party our People's Republic is actively defending peace; it is fighting to abolish the exploitation of man by man and to build Socialism. At the same time the people declare their firm determination to defend, arms in hand, the national independence of their native land, their peaceful constructive work and their democratic gains in the event of an imperialist armed attack on the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. In the event of such an attack they will fight a life and death struggle, as only a free people can fight. They will fight alongside the invincible Soviet Army.

Thorez, Togliatti, Pollitt and other Communist leaders have warned the imperialist that if they dare to encroach on peace and attack the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, they will have to reckon with the peoples of the West who will welcome the Soviet Army as a liberating army and will battle together with it to defeat the American imperialists and expel them from the people's soil. The great Chinese people have announced to the world through Mao Tse-tung that in the event of imperialist aggression they will fight alongside the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

Never before have the instigators of imperialist war been confronted with such a gloomy future. Never before have the anti-imperialist forces been so strong and consolidated. Never before have the people had so many ways and means of pushing aside the Damocles' sword of war.

The supporters of peace united around the Soviet Union and headed by it, represent a powerful bulwark. And they will be successful in defending universal peace.

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**MAY DAY—DAY OF UNITY OF  
WORKING PEOPLE. Georges Cogniot,  
Member, Central Committee, Communist  
Party of France**

May Day in France will be held under the keynote of unity of the working class. May First will be a landmark in bringing together wide masses of the people to uphold peace, against ratification of the Atlantic Pact, for wage increases at the expense of the huge profits of the big industrialists, for raising the standard of living which has deteriorated as a result of the "Marshall Plan" and the vassalisation of France's economy, for the right to strike and for all workers' and democratic liberties.

Two years ago, when the Communists were still in the Government, there was no unemployment. Today, however, the number of registered unemployed in Paris receiving unemployment benefit has increased from 4,700 in January 1948 to 24,000 in March 1949, in addition 100,000 applications for jobs have been filed in Paris.

The official report of the finance commission of the second Chamber points out that in view of certain "international exigencies" the "production of finished goods must take second place" and that the country must make a "new orientation", namely, turn to "agricultural production and the production of industrial raw materials". This orientation, according to the report, is somewhat similar to that with which France was faced in 1940 during the early months of the occupation. The author is compelled to admit, willy-nilly, that the outlook is extremely gloomy: "Many enterprises will have to close down, especially in the machine-building, electrical and textile industries; workers will be discharged and in all probability there will be unemployment..."

The conclusion is absolutely correct, with the only difference that the future tense should be replaced with the present.

In his closing remarks at the National Conference of the Communist Party on April 10, Maurice Thorez stated that France's economic and financial situation will inevitably deteriorate due to the war preparations and increasing military expenditure, and to the slowing down and sabotage of production, arising from the subordination of the Government to U.S. insistence. The budget deficit is growing: tax returns for January-February were nearly 50 billion francs below the envisaged figure. As for the 1948 fiscal year, the, as yet, incomplete results reveal a budget deficit of 65 billion francs. Finally, the growing difficulties of the war in Viet Nam, urgently demand an additional 50 billion francs. Thus, right at the beginning of the second quarter, the budget has disclosed a deficit of 165 billion francs.

Inflation is having a devastating effect: in the middle of April the weekly report of the Bank of France showed another increase of 10.5 billion francs in circulation. In the meantime Anglo-American and French financial journals are openly discussing the further devaluation of the franc. This will be the third devaluation since January 1948. Certainly the war preparations are bringing the country to ruin.

The Government's class policy in conjunction with the employers' offensive against wages and trade union rights is reflected in the unjust sentences imposed on strikers, in the refusal to amnesty the miners now in prison, in the attempt to annul the parliamentary immunity of a number of Communist deputies, in the persecution of numerous Resistance fighters and patriots. At the same time traitors and war criminals are acquitted. That is why Maurice Thorez was fully justified in stating on April 10: "Contradictions will grow, class

antagonisms will intensify. We are heading towards big social and political battles.”

The proletariat, all working people and many representatives of the middle classes are beginning to realise with increasing clarity that there is no possibility of survival for the French people unless they adopt a policy of struggle for national independence, a policy of actively defending peace, the policy of the Communist Party of France. Pertinax, the well-known journalist, wrote in a bourgeois newspaper that “The Atlantic Pact threatens the flesh and blood and national independence of the French people. We cannot remain passive and submissive.”

On this May Day the working class will raise still higher the banner of struggle for peace, and for national independence. The working class is heading the struggle against the Atlantic Pact which the people of France regard as not binding so far as they are concerned. The working class, intensifying the struggle in the factories against the production of armaments, is calling for peace-time production, for switching the war industry on to peace rails, The workers ardently proclaim their complete loyalty to the Soviet Union and their loyalty to proletarian internationalism. They are demanding an immediate peace with Viet Nam by means of negotiations with the Ho Chi-Minh Government.

The Communist worker calls to the Socialist worker, to the Catholic worker to engage in joint struggle for their immediate interests, in defence of freedom and peace,

A broad united front has already been formed in one of the decisive trade union bodies—the Metal Workers’ Federation. On April 12, responding to the joint call of all trade union organisations, the workers and technical personnel, members of the General Confederation of Labour and other trade union groups, started a widespread united struggle for collective

agreements. Their demands were granted at a number of enterprises on the very first day; restoration of the wage scale, three-weeks' paid holiday, payment for national holidays.

The working class and its organisations are paying closer attention to supporting and guiding the movement of the working peasantry now suffering from the market crisis arising from the poverty of the urban population and the sharp fall in agricultural prices, due to American competition, heavy tax increases, and the confiscation and auctioning of their property by court decision. Giving every support to the immediate demands of the working peasantry, the working class and its organisations are combating this short-sighted economy and are showing the working people of the countryside that they will be faced with the inevitable choice of either capitalism and the accompanying expropriation, poverty and war, or an alliance with the working class and Socialism which means peace, the expropriation of the expropriators and the handing over of the land to those who till it.

In this way in the course of the May Day preparations the workers first strengthened the unity of their own ranks and later their alliance with the other sections of the working people.

Every election of workers' delegates is a demonstration of the strength of the General Confederation of Labour which is countering the splitting tactics of the employers and the Government. Despite the unprecedented police pressure on the miners, despite the specially devised and fraudulent electoral system, the miners on April 14, when electing social insurance delegates, displayed their devotion to the General Confederation of Labour. The C.G.T. received 71 per cent of the votes while the splinter "Force Ouvriere" hardly polled a fifth of the vote. Had not the voting system been changed compared with last year, the C.G.T. would have received more mandates than in 1948.

The working class is drawing the broad masses of the people into the struggle. All who do not want war are moving into action. As a result of this deep-going movement the propaganda of the "Marshall Plan" organs in France is losing effect. The New York Herald Tribune ruefully admitted in its April 1 issue that American officials are not satisfied with French public opinion. The recent World Peace Congress was accompanied by monster demonstrations throughout the country.

May Day in France will be a day of unity of all working people, of all democrats, to prevent the third world war from being, unleashed and to save the cause of peace.

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## **AGAINST THE WAR IN INDONESIA AGAINST THE AGGRESSIVE NORTH ATLANTIC PACT! Paul de Groot, General Secretary, Communist Party of Holland**

On the eve of the signing of the North Atlantic Pact, the Dutch Government increased conscription into the army by 10,000 men. This, together with the accelerated re-equipping of troops and, the modernisation and extension of aerodromes and ports that could serve as war bases for the United States and Britain, is one of the preparations for war. At the same time, several Marshall plants are switching over to the production of military equipment.

Fearing the opposition of the people to its aggressive "Atlantic" plan, Dutch reaction is doing everything possible to create the impression that the Washington war pact is merely a chorus of peace angels. But the colonial war in Indonesia exposes the true value of the "peace" demagogy of the imperialist aggressors.

For three years Dutch reaction, headed by the Right social democrats, has been assuring the people that its aims in Indonesia are purely "peaceful." But behind this demagogy it is perpetrating such atrocities that even the dollar-tamed Marshall press cannot keep silent. The atrocities committed by the military and secret police of the Dutch-American colonisers in Indonesia against the fighters of the liberation army and the peaceful population are evoking widespread indignation.

A representative of the Protestant Church described in the Dutch press how medical personnel and Indonesian patients were massacred during an attack by Dutch troops in the Protestant missionary hospital at Peniven (Java). Soldiers' letters contain many such reports.

The Indonesian people are waging a heroic liberation struggle against the imperialist bandits, a struggle which is steadily developing into nation-wide resistance—political, economic and military. The national resistance forces in Indonesia operate not only in the hills and forests. They are everywhere in the vast island country—in the towns and in the villages, in the factories and on the plantations. They launch frontal attacks, surprise plants and plantation, carry away supplies and arms, cut the communications of the colonial troops and punish traitors collaborating with the invaders. The frontal attack by large forces against the capital, Djokjakarta, several weeks ago, is an example of the boldness of the partisan troops and their command.

The Indonesian press reports that a new underground government of national unity has been formed under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Casualty lists are published regularly in Holland. The serious state of affairs in Indonesia is causing deep disquiet among the Dutch people and also among certain circles of the bourgeoisie. At the beginning of the year reaction was still in a position to poison the minds of the masses with chauvinism; it still attempted to isolate the Communists, the only party waging a decisive struggle against the colonial war. Today, however, a certain differentiation of Social forces is taking place in the country under the influence of political and military defeats.

Opposition is growing in the ranks of the Social Democrats and Catholics. The war has had a great influence on new recruits in the army and navy; they are putting up more and more resistance against being sent to Indonesia. Women's committees are being formed to demand that the Government should send home their sons and husbands who have already been on military service in Indonesia for nearly three years.

The service men themselves are insistently demanding demobilisation.

The struggle against the colonial war is being waged parallel with the struggle against the preparations for a new world war of which the North Atlantic Pact is the principal instrument. And on this issue too there is growing opposition in the ranks of the Social Democrats and even among part of the conservative Catholics who still retain a certain conception of national independence. There is disquiet among broad sections of the Dutch people over the adventure embarked upon by the reactionary government which signed the Atlantic Pact without consulting either the people or Parliament.

The Communist Party is waging an active struggle against war in this situation. It is denouncing the North Atlantic Pact and calling upon the working people not to recognise it; it is demanding the dissolution of Parliament and the holding of new parliamentary elections to force the bourgeois parties to answer to their constituents.

The Communist Party of Holland is redoubling its efforts to warn the masses still under the influence of the insidious "peaceful" demagoguery of the warmongers, and especially of the Right Social Democrat leaders, against the danger threatening peace. The Communist Party is calling upon the people to celebrate May Day under the slogan: for peace, against war in Indonesia, against the North Atlantic Pact.

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## **YOUTH IN THE RANKS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAMP. Guy de Boysson, Chairman, World Federation of Democratic Youth**

It is difficult to overestimate the role which the youth are playing and will play to an ever greater extent in the struggle of the forces of democracy and peace against the forces of imperialism and war. Young people are taking part in this struggle not only with all the ardour and inspiration characteristic of youth but also with a growing consciousness that they themselves have a particular interest in the defeat of reaction.

The militant character of the youth movement is well-known. But its steady growth should also be stressed. For instance, this year the International Youth Day in Defence of Peace, organised by the World Federation of Democratic Youth, was carried out on a much wider scale than in previous years. Democratic youth also responded enthusiastically to the call for the World Peace Congress. Large-scale youth demonstrations were held in a number of countries against the signing of the North Atlantic Pact.

Young people are in the lead in the struggle against the inhuman colonial exploitation. Countless young fighters are battling for national independence in China and Viet Nam, in Indonesia and Malaya. In France, Britain and Holland the youth are active in the widespread campaign to put a stop to the colonial wars unleashed by the reactionary governments. Great youth demonstrations were held in all parts of the world on February 21 to celebrate the Day of International Solidarity with the youth fighting against colonial oppression.

The youth have given many valiant partisans against

fascism in Spain and Greece. The young partisans enjoy the support of the democratic youth of all countries, as witnessed by the unprecedented success of the recent campaign sponsored by the World Federation of Democratic Youth. In the course of this campaign, youth organisations collected tens of thousands of signatures to petitions addressed to the United Nations. Only recently young people in Britain, ignoring police cordons, demonstrated in the heart of London against the execution of patriots in Greece, thus displaying great international solidarity. In Egypt, Iraq and Iran, students were in the front ranks of the struggle that developed during the past few months for freedom and national independence, against the governments of these countries who have sold out to American and British imperialism.

The youth are courageously fighting against attempts to unleash a new War for they know that war means an end to their future, that imperialism which oppresses the peoples, particularly exploits young people by using them as a source of cheap labour.

The working youth are organising to defend their rights. The formation of an international Committee to defend the rights of the working youth helped to coordinate the struggle in this sphere on an international scale. The youth movement for better living conditions is gaining momentum in all countries. They are fighting growing unemployment—the outcome of the Marshall Plan—in Belgium and Italy. In France and Britain they are fighting for higher wages and in defence of education appropriations endangered by the increased military expenditure. By opposing conscription in the United States and prolonged military service in France and Britain, the youth are combating the aggressive preparations directed against the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and democratic forces of the world.

In the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies the youth are energetically helping to restore the national economy, devastated by the war, to build a better world, free from exploitation of man by man.

Such is the role played by the youth in the general struggle for peace and democracy. The World Federation of Democratic Youth formed in London in November 1945, which unites more than 50 million young men and women representing over 60 countries, has set itself the task of taking a greater part in this struggle by strengthening the unity of the democratic youth of the world. The congress of the World Federation of Democratic Youth and an International Festival, organised jointly with the International Union of Students, will be held in Budapest in the near future.

Reaction is sparing no effort and using every device to try to win over to its side as many young man and women as possible. It is necessary to draw the youth into the struggle against imperialism and for peace on a wider scale than hitherto and to help strengthen the unity of the youth movement.

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## **ALBANIAN PEOPLE FOR SOCIALISM AND PEACE. Enver Hodja, General Secretary, Workers' Party of Albania**

The people of Albania suffered bitterly from the numerous wars fought on our territory and outside it. Albania was always the battleground where the interests of many plunderers clashed. Many times in history has it been conquered, pillaged, and laid waste. Our people were killed, tortured and exterminated. It is understandable therefore, how great was the anger of our people against the invaders and their hatred of the predatory imperialist plans. They desired freedom, independence and unity.

For this our people struggled incessantly. In the Fifteenth Century led by Skanderbeg, our national hero, they showed their courage in heroic wars against the sultans of Istanbul. Our people took part in the Balkan wars and supported the progressive movements of our neighbours against the Turkish invaders to liberate ourselves from the foreign yoke.

The wars for independence steeled our people. In spite of foreign domination we preserved our language, customs and heroic traditions. Fearless and invincible, our people guarded their national culture through centuries. During the guerrilla wars they took to the mountains to escape the atrocities of the enemy.

Albanian feudal lords as well as invaders from Turkey, Italy, Austro-Hungary, France, Germany, Britain and America oppressed and exploited our people—but they failed to break them. In fields and mountains the peasants, arms in hand, were constantly fighting against the feudal lords and the foreign enslavers. They fought to smash the chains of political and economic enslavement, to end the heavy medieval taxes and to

seize the land from the landlords. But the liberation movement of the Albanian people was suppressed and drowned in blood.

After the war in 1913 Albania won formal independence. But the country was still a pawn in the imperialist game. During World War One, Albania was occupied by troops of the Entente.

Our people suffered unbearably under the feudal regime of Ahmed Zogu, a faithful servant of the imperialists, as well as under the yoke of Italian fascism. They were politically and economically enslaved by the feudal clique then in power, watching with horror the country slide into catastrophe. However, as the menace of a second world war became greater, the path of our people, like that of all peoples the world over, was lit by the steady light of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The triumph of the October Revolution inspired the Albanian people with hopes of winning their freedom and independence.

The Albanian people were confident that fascism would be defeated since there was the invincible, steeled, heroic Soviet Union, the country of workers and peasants, the land of the Bolsheviks, the land of Lenin, guided by the great Stalin and the glorious Bolshevik Party. Our people were confident of victory over fascism because the glorious Soviet Army was invincible. They knew that this Army would crush the fascist beast and would liberate the enslaved peoples. Knowing this, the people of Albania fought for freedom and democracy from the first days the country was invaded. Our people's sacrifices in the war were great. Thousands of fighters from among the workers, peasants and patriotic intellectuals gave their lives for the country's liberation.

Our country was again ravaged and plundered. But her sons did not shed their blood in vain. A new, democratic Albania sprang from the ruins, bathed in the blood of the

people.

Guided by the heroic Communist Party, faithful to Marxism-Leninism, our people took a new, glorious road. Today, under the leadership of the Workers' Party, they work as enthusiastically and resolutely to consolidate their victories, to build up the people's democracy and strenuously fight for a stable and lasting peace.

Our people cannot forget the horrors of the war because they themselves have been through them. They knew well who was responsible for the last catastrophe and what were the aims of the enemies of peace. That is why they have a deep hatred for the Idea of imperialist war and for its instigators. They know well how to fight for peace and freedom.

The entire life of our people is closely linked with the triumph of the cause of peace. In our country, where power is in the hands of the working people, large-scale work is under way to rehabilitate our economy and to go ahead with all-round peaceful construction. The foundations of Socialism are being laid. The citizens of the new Albania, young and old, workers, peasants and intellectuals, indeed, all true patriots, are working selflessly in factories and in fields, in schools and offices to build the new life as quickly as possible.

The great successes of the new Albania have radically changed the face of our country. With the help of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, new factories and plants are now working. Production which will improve the life of the people is steadily rising. Men and women work tirelessly in factories, plants and mines knowing that now they are working for themselves and not for foreign enslavers.

The Albanian peasant has become the master of the land. Agricultural output has increased considerably. The people's power is giving great help to the peasant who has set out on a new life, who has come out of medieval darkness to advance,

confidently to a new socialist life for which he shed his blood.

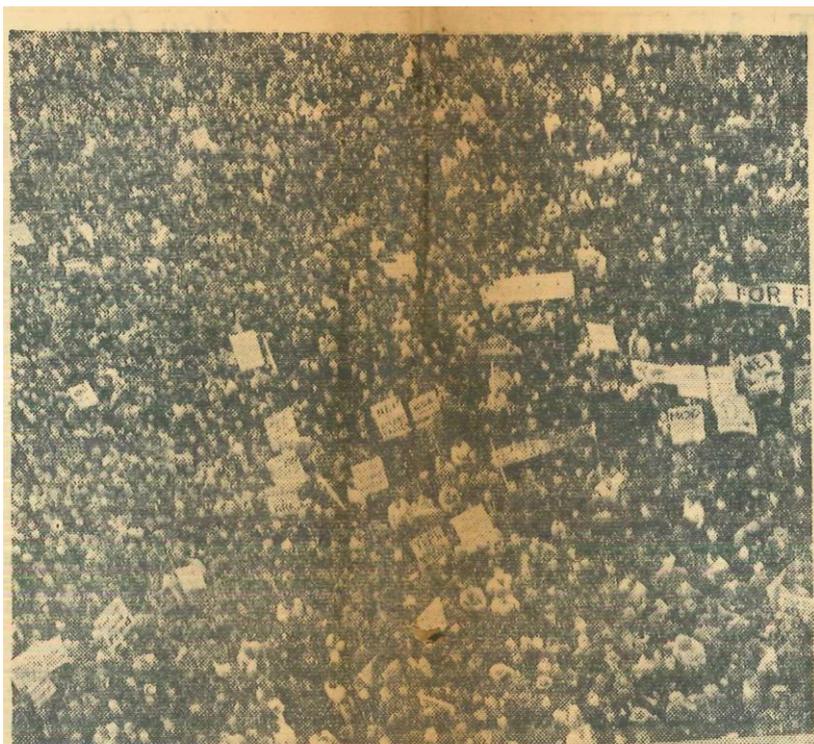
Formerly the level of education in our country was very low. But under the people's power, education and culture have come within the reach of all working people. Illiteracy is being wiped out. Our children now have a compulsory education of five years and compulsory seven year education system is being planned.

The Anglo-American imperialists and their satellites are preparing a new slaughter, a new world war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, against the camp of Socialism. They are threatening the peoples with the atom bomb; they are reviving and re-arming fascism in order to repeat the crimes of Hitler and Mussolini. In every way they are supporting fascist, anti-popular cliques in various countries in the hope of suppressing the national-liberation movements, suppressing the working class and striking a blow at its vanguard detachment, the Communist Parties.

The Anglo-American imperialist and their satellites are organising aggressive pacts directed against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. But the dark designs of the imperialists will inevitably be defeated, for the world camp of Socialism, led by the Soviet Union and the genius of Stalin, is invincible in its struggle for peace.

The people of Albania have resolutely taken their place in the camp of Socialism, sparing no effort in the struggle for peace. They want to be free, independent and sovereign. After many years of suffering, hardship and predatory wars they have found their true path. On May Day—the holiday of working people throughout the world—the people of Albania, guided by the working class and its vanguard, the Workers' Party, are lining up their forces alongside the forces of all progressive peoples fighting to safeguard peace.

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Mass meeting in Copenhagen in defence of Peace

## **FRENCH INTELLECTUALS AND THE CAUSE OF PEACE. Aime Cesaire, Deputy, French National Assembly**

The American imperialists realised long ago that there can be no third world war without the active participation and the consent of France. That is why the sponsors of the “Marshall Plan” and the North Atlantic Pact are centering their attention on France.

The exclusion of the Communists from the Government, the split in working-class unity, the attempt to smash the strike movement by force and the attempt to transform France into a police state where the survivals of democratic liberties are being destroyed—all these facts speak of Washington’s striving to harness the French people.

But it is now clear that this policy of the imperialist “brain’s trust” is a fiasco. The vitality of the General Confederation of Labour which withstood the attacks of reaction, fully preserving its militancy and influence, was a bitter disappointment to the imperialists. Another disappointment was the position taken by the overwhelming majority of French intellectuals on the decisive question of war and peace.

A long path has been travelled since the time when the call of the intellectual who met at the Wroclaw Congress was received either with a sceptical smile in certain circles of the French intelligentsia or was greeted with a conspiracy of silence. Today the overwhelming majority of French intellectuals realise that peace is really in danger, that civilisation is threatened and that, the time for complacency is over.

There is hardly an intellectual in France who would dare to

vouch for the peaceful intentions of the United States; there is hardly an intellectual who does not realise—even if he lacks the courage to proclaim the fact—that the U.S. imperialists are driving toward war, are planning to unleash war.

If we want to determine the stages at this gradual realisation by intellectuals of the danger threatening France, we must undoubtedly start with the Wroclaw Congress. Immediately upon their return from Poland, the French delegates launched a campaign of meetings throughout the country at which they popularised and the ideas in put forward.

In February 1940 the second stage in the struggle for peace began when French men and women, members of the International Committee formed in Wroclaw, called an extended meeting of the Committee in Paris to prepare for the world congress in defence of peace. This was followed by a mass meeting in the Mutualite Hall. We shall never forget the tremendous ovation given to Fadeyev at this meeting and, through him, to the Soviet Union.

The third stage started with the congress of the Union of Intellectuals held in Paris at the end of March at which discussion centered around the question of peace. This struggle for peace was carried forward by the World Peace Congress convened on the initiative of French intellectuals.

The struggle for peace has already yielded positive results: French intellectuals have helped to put the people on their guard against the adventurist policy of the Government. Today not only Communists oppose the warmongers. Certain intellectuals, particularly journalists, are protesting against the Atlantic Pact in the columns of the bourgeois newspaper “Combat”.

Numerous scientists and teachers signed the letter which the Fighters for Peace and Freedom have addressed to President Truman. This letter declares that the people of France

do not consider themselves bound to this aggressive pact directed against the Soviet Union and signed by a government of national betrayal.

The World Peace Congress has met with the enthusiastic response of millions of people. The day is not far off when the **ideas of peace** will become an invincible **forte for peace** which will stay the criminal hand of the governments preparing a new war.

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## **SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY EDUCATES GERMAN PEOPLE IN SPIRIT OF INTERNATIONALISM. Wilhelm Pieck, Chairman, Socialist Unity Party of Germany**

Since its foundation, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany has been propagating the idea of international solidarity and unity with the working people of the world in our struggle against fascist reaction and for the demilitarisation and democratisation of Germany's political, economic and social life.

The following thesis in the "Principles and Aims of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany", unanimously adopted by the inaugural Party Congress, was the starting point of this educational work: "The Socialist Unity Party of Germany declares that it is in solidarity with class-conscious workers of all countries, that it is in solidarity with the peace-loving, democratic peoples of the world."

To revive the idea of international solidarity in Germany the Socialist Unity Party had to launch a campaign against German chauvinism which is still widespread in the country. For twelve years insidious propaganda about their "mission to dominate" other peoples and all kinds of racial "theories" were drummed into the German people by fascism. The imperialist policy of the western occupation powers was to retain in their positions the former fuhrers of the war industry and the German monopolies, thus helping to preserve the spirit of fascist misanthropy. The Hitler bandits had lost their grip on the banner of anti-Bolshevism, but the standard was retrieved by the German "democratic politicians", supported by their Anglo-American masters. The Schumachers headed the new anti-Soviet campaign. Schumacher, ranting against the

Socialist Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, is all for the Marshall Plan.

The struggle waged by the Socialist Unity Party against the wild campaign of lies and slander and against the warmongers is relentless and difficult, but it is successful. At thousands of meetings the Party is explaining to the working people the progressive and democratic policy of the Soviet Union expressed in the concrete measures taken to raise the German people's living standards and to strengthen Germany's peacetime economy.

The Two-Year Plan is helping to raise the material and cultural level of the working people and is of tremendous importance in the political education of the masses. This year's Leipzig Fair, the steady development of foreign trade, the supplementary food provided for millions of workers at the big enterprises, 40,000 special rations for intellectuals, controlled prices on textiles and footwear—all this shows up the lying western propaganda which predicted economic catastrophe in the Soviet zone.

The working people are responding to the measures of the Soviet authorities: the Hennecke movement to raise the productivity of labour and improve the quality of production is spreading to new sections of workers, including the **young** people—a fact we note with particular satisfaction.

The educational work carried out by the Socialist Unity Party has contributed in no small measure to the obvious change in the altitude of German workers and technicians toward our neighbours, the great Socialist Soviet Union. The news that foreign delegates had attended our Second Party Congress in September 1947 and our first Party Conference in January 1949 was enthusiastically received not only by our Party but also by the broad masses of our people.

Meetings in support of the Greek people battling for their

independence were held in dozens of towns. Our Greek friends who visited Germany told us that everywhere they went they were met with warm sympathy and solidarity. This was expressed in the formation of Committees for Aid to Greece, composed of all progressive organisations, which collected money, medical supplies, food and so on. German Women asked the Greek representatives to send them orphans to be cared for.

This awakening feeling of international solidarity among the German working people is being met by the frantic opposition of the leaders of the western bourgeois parties, particularly of the Schumacher's. They are resorting to vicious lies—but without success, for the idea of international solidarity is alive and it is spreading. The congress of young shock workers which opened on April 2, vividly expressed how the idea of internationalism is taking root among the youth. After the speeches of the representatives of the Communist Youth League of the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Youth League, the thousands of young shock workers at the congress rose to their feet and vowed never to take up arms against their brothers and sisters in the land of Socialism and the People's Democracies. The Congress showed that the young people of the Soviet zone are becoming more and more conscious of international solidarity.

The movement for unity and a just peace, initiated by the Socialist Unity Party, is also gaining ground in Western Germany, despite the slander campaign of the Western politicians and the obstacles put in its way by the Western occupation authorities. The German people enthusiastically welcomed the news of the World Peace Congress in Paris. There is not a single organisation, not a single big enterprise in the Soviet zone that has not come out in favour of peace and friendship with all peoples. In Western Germany, even though

the organisation of the World Peace Congress was studiously ignored, workers together with members of the democratic organisations, held factory meetings to discuss the question of peace.

In spite of the leaders of their parties, they are prepared to fight for the unity of Germany and for a just peace,

May Day—its sixtieth anniversary—will be celebrated under the banner of struggle to strengthen our democratic order as the stable foundation of Germany's peaceful development. Our Party's main May Day slogan is the slogan of international solidarity with the working people of the world: "Resolute struggle of the peoples against the warmongers: Down with the Atlantic Pact—conspiracy against Peace; Solidarity and friendship with the Soviet Union as a mighty force in the struggle for peace and democracy."

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## **DEMOCRATIC SPAIN CONTINUES THE STRUGGLE. Vicente Uribe, Member, Political Bureau, Communist Party of Spain**

The working people of Spain greet May Day in difficult conditions. The savage Franco regime, steeped in crimes, has brought about a serious worsening of the economic situation. Governed by a handful of murderers and bandits who are trading our native land, Spain is wracked by chaos and ruin.

The consequences of this chaos are thrust onto the shoulders of millions of Spanish working people—peasants and town dwellers. Their already beggarly standard of living is deteriorating more and more. Factories are closing down; people are starving, while the big capitalists and their Falange hirelings, supported by the terrorist regime, are piling up profits.

More and more people are becoming discontented with the Franco regime. Today not only the class conscious workers are showing their hatred for the Falange. Considerable sections of the petty bourgeoisie, and even the middle bourgeoisie who formerly either supported the Franco government outright or kept out of politics, are now joining the people's resistance movement. Defeatism is becoming apparent even among the supporters of the regime. It has spread to a section of the Civil Servants who either make a bad job of the orders issued by the Falange or add their voice and often action to the voice of millions of Spaniards who wholeheartedly hate the contemptible Hitler successors.

Franco and his gang feel the ground slipping from under their feet. Their monstrous terrorist apparatus cannot stifle the indignation of the people. The Spanish people want freedom and democracy. The heroic struggle of 1936-39 has left deep

roots in the people, roots which the Franco regime has not been able to destroy despite all its criminal efforts.

The bankruptcy of the Franco regime and the inevitability of its collapse is now openly talked about all over the country—in city square, factories, villages. Fascism has intensified its terror, murdering Communists and shedding the blood of Spanish peasants. Only recently the well-known fighters for democracy, Angel Carrero, Pedro Valverde, Juan Puig-Pidemunt and Numen Mestres were executed. But terror cannot save the Franco regime. The forces of the working class, the forces of resistance are growing.

On May Day the Spanish working people will review the results of the bitter struggle they have been waging against fascism for more than ten years. They see how their forces are growing while each day the enemy becomes weaker no matter how many doses of oxygen Washington sends to save him. On May Day the Spanish workers will see that their heroic vanguard—the Communist Party—is even stronger, more experienced and closer to the working masses than before.

The Communist Party of Spain is the sole illegal organisation in the country, the only resistance party which has its organisations in factories and villages. This year the Party has greatly improved its work among the masses and even inside the Falange organisations. The working people support the Party, recognising it as their sole defender and leader. The Communist Party defends the interests of the working people, exposes the Falange and its hirelings—the Right Socialists and anarchists—and calls upon the broad masses to unite. The Party is awakening the class consciousness of the working people by explaining to them its programme of struggle against the Franco regime, against the warmongers, for democracy, the Republic and national independence.

The Spanish people are waging incessant struggle against

their exploiters and executioners in various forms; armed partisan warfare, strikes, agitation and propaganda at factories, and work to undermine the ranks of the Franco hirelings.

Partisan detachments have been operating for several years. Led by the Communist Party they have become a nightmare for the Falangists whose numerous attempts to destroy them have failed. The explanation for this is simple—the partisan detachments are firmly rooted in the people without whose help they could not exist. The people see in the partisans their defenders against the Falange tyranny, the defenders of their interests. That is why they give them every support. The results of partisan activity can be gathered from the fact that Falange organisations no longer exist in many villages of Spain. Their members have either rejected Falangism or fled to the towns in fear of the partisans.

The Spanish people will never forget the help given them by the international proletariat in the days of their resistance to Franco's invasion, when thousands of fighters from all parts of the world came to Spain, giving their lives for Spanish democracy. In the depths of their hearts the Spanish people treasure the memory of the solidarity of the great Soviet people with Spain's cause.

And now, in these days of bitter stress the Spanish people know that they are not alone. Democrats in all lands are voicing their indignation at the terror unleashed by Franco. The numerous meetings and demonstrations held during the week of solidarity with the Spanish patriots who are fighting against the Franco regime, urged the United Nations to intervene and save the lives of the victims of the fascist torture chambers.

Franco terror is powerless to prevent the working people of Spain from learning about the struggle of the working people of all countries for freedom. The Spanish people are closely following the wonderful achievements of the great Socialist

State, the development of its forces; they are following the successes of the People's Democracies in their advance toward Socialism. The Spanish people know who are their real friends and brothers. There is no force on earth that can tear the Spanish workers from the common struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism.

In spite of the Falange terror and imperialism's tightening grip on Spain, in spite of the foul treachery of the Right leaders of the Socialist parties and anarchists, the Spanish people, led by the Communist Party in the struggle between the two camps—the camp of peace and democracy and the camp of fascism and imperialism—stand foursquare with the forces of peace and democracy.

In their drive to turn Spain into a base for a new aggressive war, the Anglo-American imperialists are reckoning on Franco and his police hirelings. They are depending on Franco who yesterday sold his services to Hitler and today has sold them to Wall Street. But neither Hitler nor Franco could find support among the Spanish people who rose in arms against them. Nor will the new pretenders to world domination ever find that the Spanish people support their war aims. The Spanish people hate Falangism, and they hate its new masters—the Anglo-American imperialists.

The people of Spain will never take up arms against the Soviet Union. And if, in spite of everything, aggression is unleashed against the Soviet Union, the working class, headed by the Communist Party, will lead the people into a general uprising against imperialist aggression, for democracy and the national independence of Spain.

The Communist Party is sparing no effort to carry out with honour its duty as leader of the Spanish working class and to mobilise the mass of the people for struggle against the Franco regime, for peace and the fraternity of peoples.

May Day 1949 will be a new demonstration of the strength of the people's movement in Spain. This movement is inspired by confidence in the future and a warm love for the great socialist motherland, for the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union, for the great Stalin.

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## **WORKING PEOPLE OF BELGIUM AGAINST THE MARSHALL PLAN AND ATLANTIC PACT. E. Lalmand, General Secretary, Communist Party of Belgium**

The disastrous consequences of the Marshall Plan are more glaringly obvious in Belgium than in the other Marshall countries.

The meagre credits granted to Belgium and Luxemburg are in sharp contrast to the deliveries demanded in exchange. It was already clear from the conditions of the bilateral Belgian U.S. agreement that Belgium had made a very bad bargain. This was subsequently borne out by facts.

The Marshall Plan has given the United States control of Belgium's foreign trade which is being diverted into channels that do not fit in with the structure of our national economy.

While more and more obstacles have been put in the way of Belgian exports to the United States our home market is flooded with American goods. Thus, Marshall aid imports, such as foodstuffs and tobacco, total 40 per cent of all deliveries, automobiles and tractors 12 per cent, timber and pulp 2 per cent, in all 54 per cent. Machine tools and industrial equipment account for a bare 11 per cent of imports. According to well-informed circles two-thirds of Belgian imports from the United States in 1948 consisted of goods which could have been either produced at home, purchased on more favourable conditions from other countries or could quite easily have been done without.

While the United States has access to our natural resources in the Congo, it buys a minimum of manufactured goods from us. It has forced Belgium to trade with insolvent clients

(Britain, France, Holland), thereby preventing trade relations with Central and Eastern Europe.

For long the propagandists for the imperialist camp kept parroting that American “aid” would bring prosperity to Belgium, and that it was precisely for this reason that the Communists were against the Marshall Plan. But who will deny now that it is precisely the Marshall Plan, so vigorously and consistently opposed by the Communists, that is primarily responsible for the crisis and the unemployment now rampant in Belgium.

The Marshall Plan has seriously worsened the conditions of the working people of Belgium. The people are beginning to realise that American “aid” is not intended to help Europe, that its purpose is to safeguard the interests of the American trusts at the expense of the working people of the Marshall countries.

Nor is it only the working people who are indignant at having to pay for the policy of vassalisation, a policy that is impoverishing our country and leading to her ruin. Certain industrial and financial circles also are beginning to discover that the Americans are demanding too high a price for “defence against the Communist plague”.

Belgium’s subordination to the American imperialists is not confined to the economic sphere alone. The Marshall Plan was the prelude to the Atlantic Pact. Political and military bondage is the payment for American economic “aid”.

The working people of Belgium realise that the pro-American policy of the Belgian Government is not only seriously threatening their standard of living but also the cause of peace. They realise that the struggle for bread is inseparable from the struggle for peace and independence. Thus, the struggle of the Belgian people against the Marshall Plan—for bread—is merging more and more with the struggle against the Atlantic Pact—for independence and peace.

Recently in spite of opposition from the Right trade union leaders and provocations by powerful police forces, Antwerp dockers held a 24-hour strike for their demands and against the Atlantic Pact.

Factory and office workers held big meetings at which they voiced their determination in unanimous resolutions to fight for better conditions and for peace, against the warmongers who are responsible for the plight of the country.

Opposition to the henchmen of American imperialism is growing not only among the working class. Ever broader sections of the population are joining this struggle, demonstrating thereby that the Belgian people treasure their independence. Having won liberation from the Hitler yoke, they will not tolerate the yoke of the dollar.

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## **BRITISH PEOPLE WILL FIGHT AGGRESSORS. Harry Pollitt, General Secretary, Communist Party of Britain**

The central theme of all the May Day demonstrations in Britain will be the firm intention of the working class to defend peace. In this they will have the support of all peace-loving citizens in the country.

At a time when in the eyes of the Tory and Right-wing Labour leaders it has almost become a crime to speak of peace and to express the desire to maintain peace, the working people are proving by their deeds their firm intention of preventing war.

The peace greetings of the workers organised in the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of Trades Councils to the Leningrad Trades Council; the participation of an important British delegation representing all sections of the community at the Paris Peace Congress; the success of the International Women's Day demonstrations, and the warm and comradely reception given recently to the Soviet Women's delegation in every part of Britain, are all political features that the Government must reckon with, as step by step it is lining up with the American imperialists in their new war preparations.

The British workers are also conscious of the drain on the economy of the country caused by the particular wars of British imperialism against the peoples of Malaya and Greece, and of the lowering of their living standards which expenditure on the armed forces demands.

Everywhere in the great industrial areas of Britain the workers are discussing another question—the economic situation and the grim foreboding that Britain is already on the pathway leading to a great economic slump. This issue

becomes still more serious for the British working class in view of the recent admission by Cripps that a new rearmament programme would wreck his own programme of "economic recovery". Cripps also admitted that even if it succeeds, the "recovery" programme will, by the end of 1953, leave the British working class on the present low standard of living.

The British workers have given an unmistakable and very practical demonstration of their desire for peace and their resolute opposition to the policy of the imperialist aggressors by their curt refusal to be associated with the Government's recruiting plans for the Territorial Army.

Every artifice of public propaganda had been employed to make recruiting plans a spectacular success. Cabinet Ministers appeared personally at recruiting demonstrations. Shinwell, Minister for War, who toured the country appealing for recruits, met with terrific opposition from the masses. Members of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress who had been given the role of recruiting sergeants, made endless but fruitless appeals to trade unionists to join the Territorial Army. When it became clear that the workers were resisting all the blandishments, the Labour Government had recourse to the "magic" appeal of Churchill. The inveterate warmonger was brought to the B.B.C. to broadcast a recruiting appeal to the people.

But not even the Churchill magic could charm the workers into the Territorial Army. The whole recruiting campaign has been a complete fiasco. For example, in the great industrial city of Glasgow, out of a population of 1,075,000, only 146 recruits were obtained. Many Trades Councils refused point blank to even discuss the campaign. In the workshops when recruiting, or the issue of peace or war, is being discussed, the most common remarks heard are "They won't get me again," and "Let the Yankees do their own dirty work."

The reasons for this opposition to the Government's war policy are simple. The workers have not forgotten their own experience in the last war. They understand that the question of National Defence against a potential aggressor does not enter into the calculations of the Government, which is strengthening (on the insistence of the American bosses) the preparations for an aggressive imperialist war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. They understand that should the Anglo-Americans succeed in unleashing war, they, more than any other people in the world, would suffer most, because of the U.S. plans to use Britain as a major war base.

The people of Britain want peace and not war. They want to strengthen the bonds of friendship and peace between themselves and the peoples of the Soviet Union and countries of People's Democracy. They want to strengthen the United Nations Organisation as an instrument of peace and not war.

The British people know there is not the slightest danger of their country being invaded by the Soviet-Army. On the contrary, they see that American military forces are based in their country at this very moment, and the knowledge of what this implies fills them with hostility against such troops. They view with increasing apprehension the arrival of more and more American air forces. They see how rapidly housing facilities can be provided for them and their families, while the over-crowded population of British towns and cities are told to be patient.

The tocsin cry of peace will resound from every May Day demonstration in Britain. The demonstrations will carry forward the work of the historic Peace Congress in Paris, which has inspired the forces of peace, with added confidence that the warmongers will be fought and defeated.

In conclusion let me repeat what I stated at a public meeting in the city of Sheffield on October 3, 1948:

“I am confident that, in the event of the Americans launching an aggressive imperialist war against the Soviet Union, the British workers will neither work nor fight in such a war against their Soviet comrades. And if I am asked what policy we would adopt if such a war were launched, I would reply that it would be exactly the same as that adopted by Bevin, when in 1920 he helped to organise the strike on the “Jolly George” and was prepared to support Councils of Action against Churchill’s intervention in Russia.”

None other than Churchill has admitted in his Memoirs of the first world war that it was the strong feelings of solidarity on the part of the British working class for the peoples of the Soviet Union that played no small part in compelling the British Government of the day to change its policy towards the Soviet Union. In our time it is very necessary that it shall be made abundantly clear to the present Labour Government that what has been done once can be done again, so that the peace of the world can be preserved and the constructive efforts of mankind be devoted to increasing the happiness and wellbeing of the common peoples of the world.

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**PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICA DEFEND  
THEIR NATIVE LAND. Luis Carlos  
Prestes, General Secretary, Communist  
Party of Brazil**

The visit of Berle, Pawley, Abbink, Rockeeller and other foreign capitalists to Brazil is now being followed by visiting U.S. generals.

At a time of intensified war preparations by the Truman Government the reasons for General Mark Clark's visit to Brazil are only too obvious. This prominent representative of the militarist group that today rules the United States has really come to direct Brazil's armed forces and to take practical steps necessitated by the war for which the Anglo-American imperialists are preparing.

But if this American general thinks he can command our officers and soldiers and use them as cannon-fodder in imperialist adventures because he happened to command Brazilian expeditionary troops in the war against Hitler, he is greatly mistaken. At their last national congress our war veterans vigorously came out against an imperialist war and our people will support the soldiers, sailors and airmen of Brazil who will refuse to obey the orders of American generals.

The Dutra Government which openly submits to the U.S. monopolists, is the greatest humiliation to our people. Even the Foreign Minister himself admitted that the Government was in "the orbit of the American colossus." It is a government of lackeys and businessmen who are incapable of solving the problems facing the country and who see the imperialist war as the only way out of their difficulties: they are prepared to sell everything—even the blood of our people—to the North-American monopolies in the hope that the war of the

imperialists will save “Christian civilisation” for a little longer, a civilisation which means luxury for the minority but poverty and hunger for the overwhelming majority of the people in the country.

The Dutra Government is handing the country’s wealth over to the American monopolies. It is subordinating the entire state apparatus to the control of American “specialists,” is putting the country’s armed forces under the command of American generals, is drawing the country into the military adventure of the United States. But Mr. Dutra has forgotten the example of Mussolini. Incidentally, when he dragged Italy into war, Mussolini was in a stronger position than the present Brazilian dictator.

The overwhelming majority of the Brazilian people are against war, against the Dutra Government of national betrayal. They are not prepared to accept the mounting poverty, hunger and humiliation to which our country is being doomed by the imperialist yoke. But this overwhelming majority of the people will only be able to exercise its strength to the extent that it is able to unite and organise for struggle and victory. The task of the day is to unite all those who stand for peace, to arouse, mobilise and organise all honest people, both young and old, workers and intellectuals, students and peasants, democratically-minded political figures—all who do not want to play the miserable role of slaves of imperialism.

We, Communists, call upon all patriots regardless of their political, religious or party beliefs to fight in defence of peace; we shall fight side by side with all who really want to fight against war. We must be able to combine the struggle for peace, which is the all important struggle today, with the struggle for our national demands, with the struggle for people’s liberties, with the struggle in defence of our oil and mining deposits. The struggle for peace means systematically

exposing the warmongers, opposing all war preparations, resolutely fighting against the Dutra Government which is trying to involve our people in the military ventures of the American monopolies.

What will be the duty of Brazilian patriots if the Anglo-American imperialists succeed in unleashing an aggressive imperialist war?

I have already answered this question in the National Assembly of March 1946. To involve our people in an imperialist war is a crime prohibited by the Constitution. It is fundamentally a crime against the independence of our country and the lives of our people. Not a single patriot can agree to take part in this venture. What is the aim of the war plans of the Wall Street gentlemen if it is not to completely turn our country into a colony and place our people in bondage to the imperialist magnates. The only people who do not understand this are those who deliberately refuse to do so—the miserable degenerates who have no national feelings and those who want to become the rulers of our people and the servitors of American imperialism.

Can we prevent the criminal activity of this handful of traitors? Yes, we can. Everything depends on the energetic and resolute action of patriots, on the efforts of all those who love peace and freedom. However, should we be dragged into war, which is what the government of our country wants, patriots will be able to defend their freedom. The popular forces of Brazil will contribute to the utter defeat of those who are preparing a new aggressive war. In the vanguard of our people we, Communists, will fight to turn the imperialist war into a war of national liberation. The ruling classes and all traitor politicians supporting the anti-national policy of Dutra and Raul Fernandes should understand this.

Latin-America is today the rear-guard of Yankee

imperialism, its reserve of raw materials and other produce vital in war. Latin-America's population of more than 120 million is a reserve of cannon fodder for the imperialists' war ventures.

The American monopolies and the Washington Government attach such importance to our country that they are discarding their democratic mask and are imposing military and police dictatorships on Latin-America, dictatorships which guarantee "law and order" and scrupulously carry out the orders of the State Department. When the Latin-American rulers do not wish to subordinate themselves so utterly as Dutra and Gonzales Videla, everything is arranged through military coups as was the case in Venezuela, Peru, Paraguay and Costa Rica.

This makes clear the importance of the struggle for peace on our continent. If we are able to unite our people, to mobilise them for the struggle against war, to organise the broad democratic forces of Latin-America and rally them around men who enjoy prestige among the people and who, like General Lazaro Cardenas, have always fought for peace and democracy, we shall be able to strike a decisive blow at the strategy of the American imperialists and prevent them from embarking on a new slaughter.

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## **EVE OF ELECTIONS FOR PEOPLE'S COUNCILS AND PEOPLE'S ASSESSORS IN BULGARIA**

A campaign is under way in Bulgaria to prepare for the elections of people's councils and local people's assessors which will take place on May 15.

Addressing the first election meeting of Sofia workers, organised by the National Council and the City Committee of the Fatherland Front. Dr. Mincho Neichev, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Assembly, said that the election of the people's councils and assessors would be one of the most important features in the work of the Bulgarian people to radically re-organise the state which had been started after September 9, 1944.

After breaking the resistance of the main forces of reaction, abolishing the monarchy and adopting a new democratic Constitution, it became essential to hold elections to local councils continued Dr. Neichev. This election will complete the creation of the new state system of people's democratic Bulgaria, envisaged in the Constitution. The people's councils have a great role to play in carrying out the Five-Year Plan to develop the country's national economy, and thus lay the economic foundation of Socialism.

Calling upon the working people to vote for the single list of candidates put forward by the Fatherland Front, Dr. Neichev stressed that the victory of the Front in the elections would strengthen the forces of the front of peace and democracy fighting against the instigators of a new war, and would be further proof of the unity and consolidation of the people of Bulgaria in their struggle for Socialism.

In a telegram to the International Liaison Committee of

Cultural Workers for Defence of Peace, the meeting expressed its support for the World Peace Congress. “We will defend world peace and our socialist construction with all our might,” says the telegram.

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## **MAY DAY IN BULGARIA**

A committee to prepare May Day celebrations in Bulgaria has been formed under the chairmanship of Comrade R. Damyanov, Chairman of the trade union federation and candidate member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The committee include representatives of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, the People's Army and all mass organisations.

May Day in Bulgaria is a nation-wide holiday of labour. It will be celebrated under the slogans of the struggle for peace; strengthening friendship with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies; reviewing socialist emulation to fulfil production targets and the spring sowing.

May Day celebrations are closely linked with the preparations now being made for elections to the people's councils and the election of people's assessors which take place on May 15.

Enterprises throughout the country will review the results of the May Day emulation drive. After the meetings there will be concerts in the towns and villages.

A large rally will be held in Sofia sponsored by the May Day Committee. On May 1 demonstrations will be held throughout the country.

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## **TOWARDS MAY 1, IN GERMANY**

The Socialist Unity Party of Germany has led the German working people's preparations for May Day.

The days before May Day were marked by the people's militant response to the Peace Congresses in Paris and Prague. To mobilise the German people to fight for peace, the Socialist Unity Party put forward the following May Day slogans: For peace and understanding between the peoples! Against the imperialist warmongers! Long live German unity and a just peace! Down with the Atlantic Pact—a conspiracy against world peace! Solidarity and friendship with the peoples of the New Democracies!

Throughout the Soviet zone, local May Day committees were formed under the leadership of the trade unions. They included representatives of all the democratic parties of the anti-fascist bloc and of mass organisations. Mass demonstrations and meetings are being prepared in towns.

Hennecke shock workers will honour May Day with new production victories. On the eve of May Day the Hennecke shock workers were no longer isolated individuals. The movement had become a mass movement at all great plants in the Soviet zone.

In Western Germany, despite all kinds of obstacles, bans and threats, the working people prepared for demonstrations under the Communist Party slogans: Against the Atlantic Pact! For peace and the democratic unity of Germany! Against the occupation statutes and plunder of the Ruhr, against the Western powers' dismemberment of Germany!

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## **MAY DAY IN ITALY**

In its May Day message to trade unionists and all working people, the Italian General Confederation of Labour declared that the working people, “irrespective of their political opinions or religious beliefs, should be drawn in to take part in the May Day demonstration under the slogans of peace, work and unity.”

All the mass democratic organisations are mobilising their forces to hold powerful demonstrations, meetings and rallies on this great holiday of the working people. May Day committees have been formed in all towns and villages, and at factories.

The chief May Day slogans of the Italian people will be the struggle for peace, against the Atlantic Pact; defence of the people’s hard-won gains; friendship and solidarity of all peace-loving peoples.

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## **CONFERENCE OF HELSINKI COMMUNIST PARTY ORGANISATION**

The Helsinki organisation of the Communist Party of Finland recently held a conference which, in its resolution, pointed out that the home and foreign policy of the Fagerholm Government was contrary to the interests of the Finnish people.

The one-sided Western orientation of Finland's foreign trade has already resulted in reduced exports and lowered export prices. This, in turn, is accompanied by cuts in industrial production, growing unemployment, intensified exploitation of the working class and reduced purchasing power for the people.

“At the same time,” says the resolution, “the Fagerholm Government has launched an attack on the people's democratic rights, dismissing Communists and democrats from state posts, sending out police to attack strikers and so on ...

“The Finnish people's struggle for peace is above all, a struggle for the independence of our country against the strivings of the western war adventurers for world domination, a struggle to consolidate friendship between the peoples of Finland and the Soviet Union.”

The resolution exposed the treacherous role of the Right Social Democrats who are attempting to split the ranks of the working class and called upon all Communists to fight for the unity of the working people.

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# IMPENETRABLE BARRIER



## **ATOMS AND BLOCS. D. Zaslavsky**

The international front of honest labour against the international front of ill-gotten profits; the international front of peace against the predatory conspiracy of the warmongers; the plain folk of the world against the cosmopolitans of the stock exchange, in a word, the working class of all lands against the line-up of capitalists—such is the picture this planet of ours presents on the eve of May Day, 1949.

Who is the stronger?

The United States and Britain, with the string of associates hanging on to their tails having signed the North-Atlantic Pact, countersigned their mutual obligations and said: see, how strong we are!

And yet the capitalists of the United States turn pale at the very mention of the Communist Party of their country; they want to drive it underground, naively assuming that in this way they will put an end to Communism.

The capitalists of Britain instruct their trusted men, Attlee and Bevin to ban the London May Day demonstration. The last of the Russian tsars, who likewise stood in mortal fear of the workers did exactly the same thing a little over thirty years ago.

The capitalists all over the world fear the workers in the same way that the Russian tsar feared them. But the workers of all lands are not the least bit afraid of the capitalists. The war dance performed by the twelve Ministers in the White House at the signing of the North Atlantic Pact did not make the slightest impression. The bloc fetishism has replaced the fetishism of the atom bomb.

The atom bomb is, of course, a formidable weapon, but it is no longer a fetish. The blind faith in the bomb has given way to an equally blind faith in the bloc. The one complements the other.

It isn't so very long ago since the more frightened capitalists were not in need of an anti-Communist bloc. Instead, they worshipped at the shrine of the atom bomb. Like all savages they invested the atom with all the attributes of the supernatural: omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence. This meant boundless faith in the United States, and in its rulers who had only to drop the atom bomb and do, the capitalist order would continue undisturbed. The capitalists of the U.S. likewise had confidence in themselves, believing in their weapon. They needed no assistance—were they not helping the capitalists of the other countries?

But this phase of history has passed. Faith in the atom bomb has been shaken. Silent are the strategists who asserted that henceforth all other weapons are obsolete, that there is no longer any need for artillery and infantry, for soldiers who are so unreliable in wars started by the capitalists.

But if there is no omnipotent atom bomb it follows that there is no longer an all-powerful U.S. True, the European capitalists need U.S. dollars, but then the U.S. capitalists need allies. American capital is every bit as dependent on Western Europe as the bankrupt capitalists of Western Europe are on Wall Street. Less than ever before is there any truth in the claims of the American millionaires that they are "saving" Europe. If anything they are saving themselves from economic crisis and political ruin.

The atom bomb has not justified the expectations of its worshippers. Since it is not all-powerful it follows that infantry, cavalry and artillery are needed. Human beings, people, are needed to be reduced to decomposing flesh by war. In other words Western Europe is needed.

The temple of the sacred atom is being abandoned. The craven capitalists, consoling and encouraging each other, are now performing in the temple of the anti-Soviet bloc. This is

the new fetish in honour of which solemn rites are being performed.

The signing of the Pact was such a rite. High priest Truman, with arms upraised invoked both divine and atomic blessing for the new anti-Communist, anti-Soviet deal. Dean Acheson chanted the glory of aggression. On bended knees, genuflecting before the writing table, the bloc worshippers rested their hands on the new table of commandments. The shade of Hitler hovered over the dome, Churchill sang the “Hosanna”.

The written language of the world has been enriched with 12 signatures: power, might, greatness!

This was the pomp of the Middle Ages in the middle of the 20th century. This was diplomatic cretinism which, in its obtuseness surpasses parliamentary cretinism.

Parliamentary cretinism denies the real political force—the people, and bows to an imagined greatness—the oratory of the deputies.

Diplomatic cretinism is sometimes expressed in worship for a Ministerial signature while completely ignoring the real force—the people.

The signature affixed to a document may mean much or it may mean nothing. This is well known to every banker, provided he is not a dabbler in politics. The signature on a cheque has meaning provided there is a deposit in the bank. If there is no deposit, no account, the signature is useless.

The 12 noughts which adorn the North-Atlantic Pact may, perhaps, be of some worth to autograph hunters. But there are no people on the current accounts of the signatories.

The capitalists have pledged themselves to fight against the Soviet Union. But the peoples of the world have not taken and never will take such a pledge.

The forward-looking workers in all the capitalist countries

have declared that they will not fight against the first Socialist State in the world. In making this declaration the workers expressed the sentiments of the plain people everywhere. And the words of these workers, Communists and people of no party affiliation are infinitely stronger than the signatures on the worthless agreement signed in Washington.

There are such, things as dud bills and worthless agreements with which timid people can be blackmailed. But they lack substance. Behind them lies bankruptcy: financial, in relation to bills and political, in relation to agreements.

People do not always realise what they are signing. Take, for example, that worthless document, signed by the four statesmen who imagined themselves to be the greatest on earth. I have in mind Munich. The first to append his signature was the “greatest” of all, Adolf Hitler. Then came Chamberlain, each letter laboriously written out. Mussolini followed, his signature written with a flourish, and last of all came the scraggy hand of Daladier. These gentlemen signed the death sentence on Czechoslovakia and the destruction of the Soviet Union. Munich was an anti-Communist and anti-Soviet agreement.

Little did Hitler realise at the time that he was signing his own death warrant, that seven years later he would, be taking poison to escape the hangman’s noose. Mussolini never knew that he was signing his death sentence and that seven years later he would be hanged, head downward. Nor was Chamberlain conscious that he was signing his inglorious resignation and that one year later he would be regarded as the most contemptible creature in Britain. Daladier failed to realise that he was patenting his right to the richly deserved title of French Judas and that only a year later he would be held in execration by his people.

Czechoslovakia, sentenced to death at Munich, is very

much alive, and her independence and progress are driving the capitalists of the U.S. and Britain frantic with fury.

The Soviet Union, sentenced to destruction at Munich, smashed Hitler Germany and has frustrated all the scheming of international capital to secure unrestricted control over the working class.

Messrs, Bevin, Schuman, Sforza and the others have solemnly pledged: on the appointed day to place thousands and millions of people at the disposal of the U.S. capitalists. Where are your "current accounts", gentlemen speculators? Where are the people in whose name you have pledged yourselves?

This capitalist fanfare is but heightening the vigilance of the people. The Day May demonstrations of the working people everywhere will be held under the slogan of denouncing the warmongers. Nobody will succeed in taking mankind unawares. The criminals of a third world war are known by name. Have they not inscribed their names on the document that incriminates them?

To this criminal agreement of the 12 governments the peoples of the world are counterposing their solidarity in the struggle against capitalist plunder. Real strength is on the side, of the working class, on the side of the plain people.

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

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