

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

*For a Lasting Peace,  
For a People's  
Democracy !*

Bucharest. Organ of the Information  
Bureau of the Communist and Workers'  
Parties



NO. 43 (103), FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1950

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

*For a Lasting Peace,  
for a People's Democracy!*

Bucharest. Organ of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1950 | PRICE M. 15 cents

*Source: Journal "For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy",  
No. 43 (103), Friday, October 27, 1950*

*Origin of language: English*

*Translated into English, transcribed and prepared as an E-Book.*

*October 2021*

*The Socialist Truth in Cyprus Direct Democracy (Communist Party)  
London Bureaux*

<http://www.st-cyprus.co.uk>

[www.directdemocracy4u.uk](http://www.directdemocracy4u.uk)



## CONTENTS

STRENGTHENING THE POWER IN THE LOCAL ORGANS OF POWER IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES .....	5
PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS IN RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC .....	11
NEW CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY .....	12
THE PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES WARMLY SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMME FOR SETTLING THE QUESTION OF GERMANY .....	12
TOWARDS THE SECOND WORLD PEACE CONGRESS.....	16
PEACE MOVEMENT IN U.S.A.....	16
GERMAN PEOPLE EXTEND THE PROGRAMME OF STRUGGLE AGAINST WARMONGERS .....	17
ACTIVE PREPARATIONS IN BRITAIN .....	18
PEOPLE OF JAPAN AGAINST WAR.....	19
NEW ECONOMIC SUCCESSES OF THE U.S.S.R. AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES .....	21
U.S.S.R.....	21
HUNGARY .....	22
POLAND.....	23
CZECHOSLOVAKIA .....	24
DEVELOPING SOCIALIST LAW IN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Stefan Rais, Minister of Justice, Czechoslovak People's Republic .....	25
PARTY LIFE.....	34
PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY .....	34
RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN .....	37
"STALIN COURSES FOR PEACE" ORGANISED IN ITALY .....	38
THIRD CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREECE....	39
ELECTIONS TO THE LOCAL COUNCILS IN HUNGARY. Sandor Zold, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Hungarian Working People's Party .....	41

FRENCH PEASANTS ACTIVELY OPPOSE THE POLICY OF WAR. Hubert Ruffe, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party.....	48
SPANISH PEOPLE IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. Antonio Mije, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Communist Party of Spain .....	55
AGENTS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM EXPOSED. Herman Matern, Member, Political Bureau, Socialist Unity Party of Germany.....	61
WORKING CLASS OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE VISE OF FASCIST REGIME OF THE TITO CLIQUE. Raiko Damyanov, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Communist Party of Bulgaria .....	69
CZECHOSLOVAKIA. A GROUP OF TEACHERS PREPARING FOR CLASSES .....	79
IN THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC .....	80
FIRST SUCCESSES OF INNER MONGOLIA .....	80
1950 PLAN FULFILLED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.....	81
WORKERS' PALACE OF CULTURE OPENED IN SHANGHAI ....	81
SOLICITUDE FOR THE HEALTH OF THE WORKING PEOPLE .	82
PEACE MOVEMENT IN ARGENTINE. Alcira de la Peña, Member, Executive Committee, Communist Party of Argentine	83
POLITICAL NOTES .....	88
MURDERERS IN THE GUISE OF "BENEFACTORS" .....	88

## **STRENGTHENING THE POWER IN THE LOCAL ORGANS OF POWER IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES**

On October 22, elections to the local councils took place in the Hungarian People's Republic in an atmosphere of great political elan. The Rumanian People's Republic is also preparing for elections to its people's councils. The establishment of people's councils in Bulgaria, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and Albania, and the national committees in Czechoslovakia which function as people's councils, marks an important stage in the political development of the People's Democracies, in the further democratisation of the State power in these countries.

The strengthening of the local organs of power—the people's councils—in the People's Democracies is a result of the victorious struggle against the machinations of external and internal enemies of the people's democratic system, a result of the further consolidation of the alliance between the workers and peasants and of the leading role of the working class in this alliance.

The masses in the People's Democracies are indebted to the invaluable aid of the U.S.S.R., to the heroic Soviet Army, not only for the fact that they were able to break the chains of imperialism but also for the fact that they themselves were given the possibility of themselves deciding their fate, of creating and developing in every way their new State, of creating and strengthening the State system of people's democracy which is a form of the dictatorship of proletariat.

Liberated by the Soviet Army from age-old oppression, the peoples of these countries, headed by the working class and guided by the Communist and Workers' Parties tempered in class battles, overthrew the hated power of the landlords and capitalists, smashed the counter-revolutionary bourgeois parties which, with the support of the U.S.-British imperialists, sought to restore the old system. Drawing upon the rich revolutionary experience of the Soviet Union, they introduced agrarian reform, nationalised the banks, large-scale and medium industry, the mines, transport and wholesale trade. These major political and economic changes which, by their nature are equivalent to a socialist revolution, would have been impossible without a consistent and resolute struggle against the enemies of the people, the exploiting elements in town and countryside, against the agents of the U.S.-British imperialists—the Right Socialists, bourgeois nationalists and saboteurs, against spies and traitors, against all who resisted and continue to resist the establishment of the new People's Democratic State.

Step by step in the course of this struggle the old State apparatus was destroyed and the new one built up, a State apparatus corresponding to the interests of the people; a new apparatus of State power was organised in order to regulate the economic and cultural life of these countries; a new people's army, new organs of the people's militia and State security were formed in these countries. Tens and hundreds of thousands of the best sons and daughters of the people were taken into the State apparatus and given key positions in the economy, in the people's Army, in the people's militia, in the State security organs, where they replaced the dislodged hostile and bureaucratic

elements. The new State apparatus, fortified with proletarian elements, ensures fulfilment of the tasks facing the People's Democracies in laying the foundations of Socialism.

Here it should be noted, however, that the reorganisation of the local organs of State power in the People's Democracies proceeded at a much slower rate than the building up of the central organs of power. But during the past few years big changes have been wrought in this sphere as well. Reactionary elements were cleared out of the local organs of government; true, this did not mean that the remnants of the old in the local organs of government had been completely liquidated. Measures were taken to tighten control over the work of the local organs, but this control does not, as yet, extend to all organs of local power. Many measures were successfully carried out to bring the lower organs of power closer to the people; however, here, too, much remains to be done.

The remnants of the old administrative system which, in the hands of the exploiters barred the people from administering the State, are being eliminated as a result of the elections to the people's councils which replace the provisional organs of State power hitherto existing in the localities. With the introduction of the system of people's councils, all organs of State power in the People's Democracies will, from top to bottom, consist of deputies elected by the people and responsible to the people. This is how there is being put into practice the statute contained in the Constitution of all the People's Democracies: "All power belongs to the working people and proceeds from them."

The people's councils came into being in the People's Democracies and developed as organs of power

of the people's democratic State. Basing themselves on the rich experience of the organs of State power in the U.S.S.R., they are, on an ever wider scale, drawing the broad mass of the working people into the work of State administration. The working people of the Hungarian People's Republic, for instance, elected 220,000 members and candidate members to the people's councils. At the beginning of December, more than 80,000 members will be elected to the local councils of the Rumanian People's Republic. The people's councils in Poland number more than 95,000 members of whom 29.5 per cent are workers or of working-class stock, 50.8 per cent peasants, 14.2 per cent intellectuals, 4.9 per cent handicraftsmen, others, 0.6 per cent. People's councils in Bulgaria have 50,000 members.

Bearing in mind that various permanent commissions are being formed directly under the people's councils (planning, finance, public health, public education, cultural-educational, etc.) into which many tens of thousands of activists are drawn and who, through the councils, are mastering the art of State administration, the boundless possibilities available to the masses for participation in State management in the People's Democracies, become obvious.

The Communist and Workers' Parties are the guiding, organising and inspiring force of the People's Democracies. Being the broadest mass organisations, the people's councils link the millions of non-party working people with the vanguard of the working class—with the Communist and Workers' Parties. By their daily work they strengthen the direct ties of the working people with the people's democratic State, bring to the fore the enormous creative abilities of the people, their organisational talents, their creative initiative. The

work of the people's councils includes economic and budgetary planning, mobilising the local resources to meet the needs of the national economy, supervision of schools, hospitals, cultural-educational and children's establishments, solicitude for the population; for a steady improvement in its living conditions etc.

In the People's Democracies we are witnessing the process of the strengthening of the people's councils, are seeing further steps being taken towards democratisation of the State administration, towards getting the masses to take part in solving State problems, while in the U.S.A., Britain, France and other capitalist countries we are witnessing a process of fascisation of political life and the State system. The ruling classes in these countries are employing direct violence against the oppressed classes; they are depriving the working people of the most elementary civil rights and personal freedom, are unleashing monstrous, repressions against progressive elements and democratic organisations of the working people. The U.S.-British imperialists are, more and more openly, going ahead with their criminal plans, aimed at crushing the mounting resistance of the people to the war preparations. The imperialists are endeavouring to extend their aggressive operations beyond the confines of Korea, to hurl mankind into the terrible abyss of a new world war. The savage atrocities of the U.S.-British interventionists in Korea provide all peace-loving peoples with a clear picture of the fate the Wall Street monopolists are preparing for the world.

In these conditions, when the U.S. rulers have passed from preparations for aggression to open acts of aggression, when the powerful world movement for peace is steadily growing and extending, the elections

to the people's councils in Hungary and Rumania, the further strengthening of the organs of local power in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and Albania acquire great international importance. This important historical fact demonstrates to the world the unity of the working people in the People's Democracies and their militant determination to repel the warmongers.

By their unanimous participation in the elections to the people's councils, by their new successes in State, economic and cultural construction, by their participation in the common struggle of the people for peace, the working people of the People's Democracies again and again demonstrate that they, drawing upon the experience of the Soviet Union, are steadily advancing toward the realisation of their great aim—the building of Socialism in their countries.

## **PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS IN RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC**

The Rumanian Workers' Party and the popular organisations are engaged in large-scale propaganda work in connection with the forthcoming elections to the regional, district, town and village people's councils. Voting takes place on December 3.

A total of 311,222 propagandists have been allocated for electioneering purposes, of whom 119,072 will work in the towns, 192,150 in the countryside. These propagandists are organised in groups of 8 or 10 persons, each of whom will canvass from 20 to 30 apartments. On Sundays, thousands of worker propagandists travel to rural villages.

# **NEW CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

## **THE PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES WARMLY SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMME FOR SETTLING THE QUESTION OF GERMANY**

On October 20-21, on the initiative of the Government of the U.S.S.R., a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the U.S.S.R., Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic was held in Prague to discuss matters arising from the decisions of the secret meeting, held in September, of the Foreign Ministers of the U.S., Great Britain and France.

The New York meeting of the three Powers reached separate decisions on the German question. These decisions constitute yet another gross violation of the obligations assumed by the Governments of the U.S., Great Britain and France in the Potsdam Agreement; they are a threat to peace in Europe and are contrary to the interests of all peace-loving peoples, including the national interests of the German people. The imperialist rulers of the U.S., Great Britain and France are striving to revive German imperialism and completely to turn Western Germany into an instrument of their aggressive military strategic plans in Europe.

The declaration issued by the Foreign Ministers of the U.S.S.R., Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic, fully exposed this dangerous and criminal

policy of the Governments of the U.S., Great Britain and France, a policy aimed at unleashing war in Europe. While hypocritically announcing their readiness to raise the question of “ending the state of war with Germany”, the U.S.-British ruling circles are striving all the time to postpone as long as possible the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany, thereby postponing the unification of Germany, and prolonging the “Occupation Statute” which secures their domination in Western Germany.

Ignoring the desire of the German people for peace, the U.S.-British imperialists, while stifling peaceful German industry are taking the course of developing war industry and of restoring the German army. At present, the various military formations in the Western zones of Germany and in the Western sectors of Berlin number 456,000 men. Grossly violating the Potsdam agreements, the Western Powers are raising the question of further extending this West German army and of utilising it for their aggressive aims.

The declaration issued by the Foreign Ministers of the U.S.S.R., Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic completely exposes this criminal policy of the imperialist warmongers, and in doing so, renders an invaluable service to the cause of peace.

Guided by the interests of supporting peace and security for the nations and taking into account the legitimate desire of the German people for a speedy peace settlement for Germany, the Foreign Ministers of the eight Slates declared that they regard as urgent:

1. that the Governments of the U.S., Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union should issue a declaration slating that they will not permit the re-militarisation of

Germany and her involvement in any aggressive plans whatsoever, and that they will unwaveringly carry out the Potsdam Agreement about ensuring conditions for the formation of a united peace-loving democratic German State;

2. that all restrictions in the way of developing peaceful German economy be removed and the restoration of German military potential prevented ;

3. that a peace treaty with Germany, with the restoration of a united German State, be signed immediately in keeping with the Potsdam Agreement so that the occupation troops of all Powers be withdrawn from Germany within one year from the signing of the peace treaty;

4. that an All-German Constituent Council be formed on a parity basis of representatives of East and West Germany, which Council should prepare the formation of a Provisional democratic peace-loving all-German sovereign Government and submit corresponding proposals for joint approval by the Governments of the U.S.S.R., the U.S., Great Britain and France, and which, prior to the formation of the all-German Government, should take part in consultations during elaboration of the peace treaty. Under certain circumstances the German people may be consulted directly with regard to this proposal.

For their part, says the declaration, the Governments of the U.S.S.R., Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic will do all in their power to facilitate the solution of these urgent tasks in the interests of strengthening peace and international security. This declaration of the Ministers of eight States shows once again the firm determination of the

Soviet Union and the democratic, countries of Europe to uphold the cause of peace, and to prevent the rebirth of aggressive German imperialism. The democratic programme for regulating the question of Germany, as outlined in this declaration finds unanimous support among all peace-loving peoples and inspires them in the mounting struggle against the warmongers.

The warm approval with which this programme was greeted is evident from the comment in the democratic press in all countries. The peoples insist that the democratic programme for regulating the German question, elaborated by the Prague meeting, should be put into practice, because this is the way to peace in Europe the way to consolidate world peace.

## **TOWARDS THE SECOND WORLD PEACE CONGRESS**

### **PEACE MOVEMENT IN U.S.A.**

The peace movement which embraces all sections of the population, the movement against the war in Korea, for banning the atom weapon, is gaining momentum in the U.S.A. To date, over 2,600,000 Americans have signed the Stockholm Appeal.

The 580 delegates attending the annual Conference of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union unanimously adopted a resolution urging control over atomic energy and that all outstanding questions with the U.S.S.R. be settled in a peaceful way. The Chairman of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers speaking at the 46th annual Convention of the Union said: "We want peace and we are insisting on our right to demand it".

The Iowa farmers Union, at its annual Convention, endorsed resolutions calling for lasting peace throughout the world and criticising the Government's policy in relation to Korea.

"The New York Labour Conference for Peace" has announced that 5,000 signatures to the Stockholm Appeal had been received from St. Louis and that a campaign is under way in that city for a peaceful solution to the Korean problem. The New York Peace Information Centre has issued a special call in connection with Second World Peace Congress.

Over 100 prominent American citizen, including 80 Protestant clergymen, eminent scientists and leaders of women and youth organisations have signed the Stockholm Appeal during recent weeks.

Speaking at an election meeting, Albert J. Loveland, a candidate of the Democratic Party for the Congress elections scheduled for November 7, said : "If there are among you those who desire to declare war on China tomorrow and drop atom bombs on Moscow, then do not vote for me on November 7." Loveland also raised his voice for banning the atom bomb. Statements in defence of peace were also made by M. Du Bois, candidate for the State of New York and prominent historian and sociologist; John Mc Manus; Clementina J. Paolone, President of the American Women for Peace Association, Sam Parks, Negro Trade Union leader and others.

## **GERMAN PEOPLE EXTEND THE PROGRAMME OF STRUGGLE AGAINST WARMONGERS**

The proposals of the Prague session of the Permanent peace Committee Bureau focus the attention of all fighters for peace on Western Germany. The proposals were discussed and endorsed at the sitting of the West-German Peace Committee as well as at the West-German Women's Peace Conference held despite the ban imposed by the occupation authorities. Many youth organisations have also supported the Prague proposals. The proposals of the Prague session are being made known throughout Western Germany. For this the fighters for peace are using both legal and illegal

means.

Thirty-seven clergymen belonging to the Confessional Church recently published a statement which protested against the remilitarisation of Western Germany. Professor Luttke, honorary Chairman of the Catholic League "Una Sancta" in Munich has also supported the Prague proposals.

Protests against the propaganda for a new war and the American intervention in Korea rang out in many cinemas in Western Germany during the showing of American news-reels propagating war.

The Americans recently organised a discussion in the so-called civilian forum in Frankfurt-on-Main. Contrary to the expectations of the initiators of the discussion, many speakers opposed the re-militarisation of Western Germany and demanded that a plebiscite be held on the rearmament of Western Germany and on the creation there of a mercenary army.

The fighters for peace in Western Germany have sent numerous telegrams to the UN General Secretary and the Security Council demanding that the proposals for the reduction of armaments and the ban on war propaganda be endorsed.

## ACTIVE PREPARATIONS IN BRITAIN

In connection with the preparations for the Second World Peace Congress, the campaign for collecting signatures to the Stockholm Appeal has been intensified in Britain. In many cities the number of signatures anticipated by the opening of the Congress is rapidly being obtained. Ilford, for example, which set itself a

target of 30,000 signatures, has already collected 17,000.

The week preceding the Congress will be celebrated in Britain as Peace Week. Thousands of canvassers will be out collecting signatures; decorated vans will be on tour with teams of canvassers; there will be meetings and processions in the towns to be visited.

The British Peace Committee has asked the local peace committees to send in the names of the most active peace workers, of whom three will be sent by the Committee as delegates to the World Congress.

A Reception Committee for the World Peace Congress, composed of people from all walks of life, including Lady Mabel Smith, veteran member of the Labour Party, has been set up in Sheffield.

## PEOPLE OF JAPAN AGAINST WAR

The all-Japan Peace Committee has announced that up to the beginning of October several million signatures to the Stockholm Appeal had been collected in Japan, including over 650,000 signatures in Osaka, one of the main industrial centres of the country, over 250,000 were obtained in Tokyo, and over 230,000 in Kyoto.

Many citizens in Miyazaki (Kyushu Island) including the Mayor, have signed the Stockholm Appeal.

Rikatoro Miyake, a 60-year old peasant in the Isakawa Prefecture, collected over 700 signatures in a short space of time. Thousands more signatures are being collected among the working people in Japan.

Japanese partisans of peace have elected their

delegation to the Second World Congress. The delegation includes: 34 representatives of the Trade Unions and other democratic organisations, 8 delegates from scientific and cultural organisations, 2 from women's organisations and 2 from peasant organisations.

# **NEW ECONOMIC SUCCESSES OF THE U.S.S.R. AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES**

## **U.S.S.R.**

The Central Statistical Department of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. recently published fulfilment results for the third quarter of the 1950 State plan for the development of the national economy. The plan for the third quarter for gross industrial output was fulfilled by 103 per cent. Grass output for the first nine months of 1950 increased by 22 per cent compared with the corresponding period for 1949, and by 24 per cent in the third quarter compared with the third quarter of 1949.

Despite unfavourable weather conditions in a number of districts, the gross grain harvest in 1950 is not less than last year's. The cotton and sugar beet crops are higher than last year's. The technical base of agriculture was extended and developed. In the first nine months of the current year agriculture received 130,000 tractors (in terms of 1 h. p. units), 33,000 combine harvesters, including 16 self-propelled combines, 66,000 trucks etc. The level of mechanisation of agriculture has been raised. The past year has also seen a considerable increase in the livestock of the collective and State farms.

The sale of foodstuffs to the population in the third quarter increased by 30 per cent compared with the same period for 1949, in particular, the sale of meat

products by 33 per cent, fats by 52 per cent, etc. The increase in the sale of manufactured goods was even higher.

In the third quarter of 1950 the number of factory and office workers in the U.S.S.R. was 2,400,000 more than in the third quarter of last year. Productivity of labour in industry registered a more than 12 per cent increase compared with the third quarter of 1949.

This year 500,000 young specialists graduated the country's higher educational establishments and technical schools, including correspondence courses, while approximately another 800,000 were enrolled.

## HUNGARY

In the third quarter of 1950 Hungary's industry overfulfilled its production plan which the Government had increased in the course of its realisation. In the heavy and light industries the quarterly targets were fulfilled by 106.9 per cent. Compared with the corresponding period for last year the output of heavy industry went up by 37.1 per cent, that of light Industry, by 34.8 per cent.

In agriculture, the wheat harvest per hold, was 16 per cent higher than last year and that of rye 8.8 per cent higher. In the socialist sector of agriculture a much higher yield was obtained than the average for the country. The wheat yield in the producer co-operatives and State farms is from 5 to 13 per cent higher, and the rye yield from 16 to 30 per cent higher than the average crop harvested in the country.

The number of workers engaged in industry and

construction increased by nearly 200,000 during the past year.

## POLAND

The report published a few days ago by the State Planning Commission shows that the economic plan for the third quarter of the current year has been overfulfilled. The Plan for manufactured goods has been carried out by 106 per cent. Compared with the third quarter of 1949 production increased by 18 per cent. The plan was fulfilled and overfulfilled in the majority of industries, including mining, electric power, steel, ore, tractor, automobile, machine tool, agricultural machinery, textiles, knitgoods, footwear, etc.

There has been a considerable growth in capital construction this year. For the first second and third quarters of 1950 capital investments increased by 80 per cent compared with the same period last year.

This year's harvest of four different crops is three per cent higher than the 1949 figure. The livestock herd showed a 15 per cent increase compared with 1949 and the number of hogs increased by 33 per cent.

Freight transport increased by 12 per cent in the third quarter of 1950 compared with the same period for 1949. The trade turnover for the entire trading network was 119 per cent and 170 per cent in State and co-operative retail trade compared with the third quarter of last year.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Since the nationalisation of industry Czechoslovakia has achieved considerable successes. Productivity of labour increased by 10 per cent in the first six months of the current year compared with last year and by over 18 per cent compared with 1948. Output increased by nearly 16 and 33 per cent correspondingly. Compared with the pre-war year of 1937, output increased by nearly 50 per cent during the first six months of 1950.

The plan for the second year of the Five-Year Plan is being carried out successfully. The September target has been fulfilled by over 102 per cent and the plan for the first nine months of the year by 101.6 per cent, despite increased quotas.

# **DEVELOPING SOCIALIST LAW IN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Stefan Rais, Minister of Justice, Czechoslovak People's Republic**

The victory of the glorious Soviet Army in the Great Patriotic War over the Hitler invaders and the liberation by this Army of the peoples suffering under the yoke of Nazi occupation constituted the decisive conditions for the establishment of our People's Democratic Republic.

In his remarkable lecture "The policy of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia" and also in his speech to the Eighth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Clement Gottwald noted the following basic conditions which gave rise to our State: the complete defeat of Hitler Germany in the Second World War by the armed forces of the Soviet Union; the political and moral bankruptcy of the former ruling circles; the broad unity of our people within the country.

These were the historical conditions in which the Slovak uprising (August 1944) and the Prague uprising (May 1945) which were led by the working class, headed by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, took place. In the flames of the national liberation struggle the National Front—a specific political form of class alliance between the working people of town and the countryside—was formed.

\*

After the liberation of our country the working class of Czechoslovakia, guided by the Communist Party, got the opportunity to effect profound and far reaching revolutionary changes. On the basis of the Kosice programme, of which Comrade Gottwald was the author, people's State power was established in the form of National Committees, equality of Czechs and Slovaks in the spirit of the Lenin-Stalin national policy was introduced, and a new foreign policy initiated based on the principle of proletarian internationalism and on close friendship with the Soviet Union.

Immediately after the formation of the new State, the property of enemies of the people and of traitors was confiscated and, later, the main branches of industry, power, resources, banks and insurance societies were nationalised. Part of the land of landlords was distributed among the peasants. This helped to consolidate the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry.

The National Committees which replaced the former bureaucratic bourgeois administrative organs, provided the basis for building, from top to bottom, a new system of State administrative organs with the broad participation of the working people. At the same time the correctness of the Lenin-Stalin thesis concerning stiffening resistance by the overthrown exploiting classes, and intensification of their struggle against the State power of the working class, found full confirmation.

Bourgeois reaction, representatives of which managed to get leading posts in certain National Front parties, as well as important positions in State and economic organs, sought in every way and despite the clear results of the 1946 Parliamentary elections

gradually to wipe out the revolutionary gains of the people. With the help of the Western imperialists, reaction tried to effect a change, favourable for them, in the balance of forces in the State apparatus and sought, above all, to destroy the National Front and to isolate the Communist Party. The attempt of reaction to organise an armed putsch in February 1948 was resolutely nipped in the bud.

The rout of reaction in February completed the victory of the Kosice Government programme, revealed the real strength of the National Front and consolidated the alliance between the working people of town and countryside. Addressing the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on November 17, 1948, Comrade C. Gottwald referred to this saying: "Only in this way can the fact be explained that, when the reactionaries destroyed the National Front at top, the latter revived literary over-night, consolidated itself once again and appeared before Messrs. reactionaries in the form—to their horror—of action committees of the regenerated National Front which rallied the workers, peasants, intelligentsia and all sections of the working people". Reaction failed to restore capitalism in our country, and this, as stressed by comrade Gottwald, is the main and decisive result of the February events.

The February victory consolidated the State of the people's democracy. The nationalisation of industrial enterprises, foreign trade and domestic wholesale trade was continued, land reform carried out, and the land handed over to the tillers of the soil. The alliance and friendly relations of our country with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies were further strengthened and became indissoluble.

\*

The Lenin-Stalin teaching on the dictatorship of the proletariat, the example and experience of the Soviet State and the Soviet working people—these are our invaluable guides in building the new State.

The people's democratic State, as a form of the dictatorship of the proletariat, has a proletarian, class content. The legal system of such a State reflects the social interests of the ruling class—the working class. With the rise of people's democracy the bourgeois State was replaced by a new State radically different from the old—the State of workers and peasants. Similarly, the law in a people's democratic State differs in essence from the law in a capitalist State, from bourgeois law which served the interests of the ruling exploiting classes.

The new type of State, fulfilling the functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat, is a State which effects the transition from capitalism to Socialism. All those countries which, as a result of the victory of the Soviet Army in the Second World War, have taken road of building Socialism, are developing a State system of a Socialist type, based on the great example of the first Socialist power in the world. The experience of the Soviet Union teaches the working people of the world that it is not only the possible, but also necessary to build a Socialist society by utilising the Socialist State as the decisive force in building Socialism. The task of the Socialist State is to suppress the resistance of the overthrown exploiting classes and to build Socialism, to develop Socialist production relations, to restrict, dislodge and, finally to completely abolish the exploiting classes and educate the people in the spirit

of Socialism.

It is precisely this aim that our people's democratic State, our revolutionary law serve. "Our laws", said comrade Gottwald, "by means of which we are building a new Socialist legal system, strengthen and consolidate our people's democratic State system. They consolidate the whole basis of the emerging Socialist system in economy, culture, in the attitude and the consciousness of the people. They create the basis for a new altitude on the part of the worker to his State, to society, to labour and to his fellow-citizens, and, as a consequence, they regulate and facilitate our path to Socialism."

The February victory hastened the adoption of the Constitution of May 9, 1948, which consolidated all the revolutionary gains of the working people and provided a firm base for the continued development of our legislation.

The Constitution declares that the real source of all power in the people's democratic State is the people who, through their representatives in the National Assembly, not only drew up laws but also put these laws into practice through their representatives in the National Committees. By defining the political and social rights of citizens, the Constitution consolidated the new organisation of people's democratic State power. The Constitution affirms the significance and role of public, Socialist property and recognises the right to private property in so far as it is not an instrument for exploiting the working people. The vital economic law of Socialism: the principle of a planned economy is written into the Constitution. However, our Constitution does not regard this as a final result, it merely opens up wide possibilities for the further

development of our country along the road to Socialism.

The adoption of the new Constitution annulled all legal regulations which ran counter to the principles of the people's democratic State.

In the autumn of 1948, work was begun on Government instructions, to codify the new Socialist legal regulations which must be uniform for the entire State and which, in all respects, are designed to reflect correctly the will of the working people, headed by the working class, and in this way, correspond to existing social and economic conditions.

The introduction of a new legal system designed to ensure for our country a steady development towards Socialism, was a task of enormous State significance. Its successful realisation was the outcome of the consolidated moral and political unity of the Czechoslovak working people, the outcome of utilising the experience gained by the Soviet Union in elaborating the Soviet legal system, the outcome of the joint co-operation of not only politicians and experts but, above all, of all sections of the working people.

In 1950, a number of laws came into force. The purpose of these laws is, in the first place, to protect the People's Democratic Republic, Socialist property and Socialist construction, to safeguard the interests of the working people and of the individual, and also to further the education of the people in the spirit of Socialist commonweal.

The new criminal code is an effective instrument of the working people in the struggle against the class enemy.

On January 1, 1951, a new series of civil laws will appear and a new system of civil jurisprudence will come into operation. At the base of the new civil code

there lies Socialist property in the means and instruments of production which, according to the Bill, constitute the inviolable source of the wealth and power of the Republic and of the well-being of the working people. State property, the property of the entire people, is the highest form of Socialist property. The Bill also safeguards personal property—the property of the working citizen regarding items of personal use. At the same time it recognises private property which still exists, but which is being dislodged gradually by our social development.

Civil-juridical relations are fully subordinated to a single economic plan, thus eliminating the bourgeois principle of free agreement. Juridical action should be regarded from the standpoint of the norms of the Socialist commonwealth and the requirement of the single economic plan. The Bill also recognises the right of inheritance, imparting to it, however, a new content: it no longer serves the interests of private, exploiting property, but, by passing on the personal property of small artisans and individual peasants to the members of their families, it strengthens and secures the family bond.

The new civil code will put an end to the false division of law into private and social. The new laws in the sphere of justice and judicial procedure signify a profound democratisation of the latter, making it a serious factor in the new State system. More particularly, it is necessary to stress the formation of the new legal organs which secure the wide participation of people's judges in legal proceedings.

Of great significance for building Socialism is the support accorded the development of producer co-operatives and the protection of co-operative property

in agriculture. The conditions for the powerful development of co-operatives are provided by the land reform, consistent struggle against kulaks, the unprecedented output of agricultural machinery and, above all, by the work of our Communist Party. The law on the Central Co-operative Council which unified various types of agricultural cooperatives helped to form a mass base for a co-operative movement directed towards the Socialist reorganisation of the countryside.

The new law pertaining to labour and payment for labour of State employees is designed to further the reorganisation of the State apparatus into a reliable instrument of the working class and its State. That is why all barriers deliberately erected by the bourgeoisie between the working people and State employees, have been removed. The new law is based on the Socialist principle of remuneration for work done.

The consistent financial control which ensures the economy being conducted on lines of business accounting, as well as the system of arbitration now being introduced, guarantee the further successful development of Socialist industry and trade.

In December 1949, a new law was passed concerning the family which stressed that, in the people's democratic State, family relations are not determined by material and property interests. This law defined marriage as a firm, free and equal partnership of man and wife. Both have equal rights and obligations, alike in mutual relations and in relation to children. The law guarantees equality for all children; the difference between legitimate and illegitimate children—a difference inherited from the days of feudalism—was abolished—and an obligatory civil form of marriage introduced.

The continued democratisation of the State apparatus is ensured mainly by the fact that the National Committees report on their activities to the working people in whom is vested the right to recall members of these organs of people's power if they do not justify the confidence of the masses. At the same time, we are devoting close attention to training people's judges and people's prosecutors from the ranks of the working class. The honourable task of the State apparatus, at all levels, is, first of all, "to see that the will and the interests of the people and their State, embodied in our laws, should be always and everywhere realised in complete consonance with the spirit of people's democracy and the great Socialist aims." These words of Clement Gottwald express the essence of our Socialist law which, always and everywhere, must direct the work of State organs in the interests of the working class, in the interests of building Socialism in our country.

## PARTY LIFE

### PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

On October 20 the Central Committee of the French Communist Party held its plenum in Saint-Ouen, a working-class suburb of Paris.

Addressing the opening session of the Plenum, Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Communist Party, speaking on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, in moving words wished Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, the man whom the Communists and all workers of France know as their tried leader, as a courageous fighter for the consolidation of peace, for the victory of democracy and Socialism, a speedy recovery. (Thorez has been compelled, temporarily, to refrain from work due to poor health.)

Deeply moved, all present accorded Maurice Thorez a warm ovation.

The Central Committee then turned to the question on the Agenda: fulfilment of the tasks put forward by the General Secretary in his report on September 29, "Extend and Win the Battle for Peace". Auguste Lecoeur, Secretary of the Communist Party reported. Basing himself on Maurice Thorez' report Lecoeur stressed the need:

1. To give new stimulus to the struggle in defence of peace and to broaden it; resolutely to combat

manifestations of sectarianism which hinder the realisation of broad unity of the working people, all the more so since all possibilities are at hand for achieving this unity.

2. To redouble the activities of the Communist Party in exposing the “theory” about the inevitability of war.

3. To intensify the struggle against extending the term of military service to 18 months, against American intervention in Korea and against the war in Viet Nam; to wage a more energetic struggle to win the demands of all sections of the population and, in particular, the demands of the working class for wage increases.

4. To effect unity of the masses and to draw them into the struggle against war and poverty; the success of this struggle depends, above all, on the Party, on the ability of its members to improve their work, to display initiative, courage and a sense of responsibility in carrying out the tasks set.

Lecoeur emphasised the need for criticism and self-criticism—the driving power in developing the Party. He noted that inner-Party democracy is a law for the Party and assumed that broad sections of the Party membership, would take part in discussion of all questions concerning the Party.

Lecoeur’s report was followed by discussion, Jacques Duclos delivered the closing speech.

In the political resolution the members of the Central Committee, proceeding from Maurice Thorez report to the Plenum at the Central Committee on September 29, which was the main document inspiring the activity of the Party in the common struggle for peace, bread, freedom and national independence pledge:

1. To raise their ideological knowledge and regularly

devote the necessary time to studying the classics of Marxism-Leninism, as well as the principal documents of the Party, the Information Bureau and the mass organisations and to thoroughly prepare for lectures.

2. To improve the quality of their work, to prepare for every meeting of the Central Committee with the view to introducing constructive proposals in the discussion an elaboration of the political line.

3. To redouble their efforts in order to present the political problems still more clearly and in order to effect thorough a strict control of the carrying out of the tasks on the sector of work assigned by the Central Committee. To proceed from the fact that the political line must not only be proclaimed but also put into practice.

The members of the Central Committee consider that one of their cardinal tasks is their work in the Party federations to which they have been assigned and to which they must give every assistance, and increase the activities of the federations in keeping with the general plan of the Department. This plan to be discussed by every federation committee by December 15.

The Central Committee adopted a number of resolutions. One of the resolutions protests against the ruling of the military tribunal in Toulon which sentenced Henri Martin, naval rating, to five years imprisonment merely because he denounced "dirty war" in Viet Nam.

## **RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN**

The resolution adopted by the extended meeting of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Britain which was held in the middle of October says:

“The offensive against peace and the United Nations has been carried to a new height by the Acheson Plan to wreck the basis of the United Nations. The Acheson Plan is a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations. The Charter places responsibility for the maintenance of peace in the hands of the Security Council, and requires unanimity of the five Great Powers in any decision for military or other action against aggression.

“The principle of unanimity is the cornerstone of world peace. For this reason the champions of a new world war have ceaselessly delivered their main offensive against the principle of unanimity which they denounce as “the Veto”, because it represents the obstacle to their aggressive plans.

Now, the Acheson plan has flung the basis of the Charter to the winds, and proposes to place the decision for military action in the hands of the United Nations Assembly, with an automatic American-controlled majority, thus preparing the way for further military adventures against the colonial peoples and for war against the Soviet Union. Britain and the other American satellite States have trailed behind this American plan for the destruction of the United Nations”.

## **"STALIN COURSES FOR PEACE" ORGANISED IN ITALY**

Both the scale and the rapid development of the movement for peace and the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal have brought forward in the lower organisations of the Italian Communist Party—in the sections and branches—thousands of activists who are devoting their daily work in the factories and in residential areas to organising the peace movement and peace committees.

To enable these activists to orientate themselves correctly in dealing with matters arising from the struggle, to deepen their theoretical knowledge and to supply them with material for talks with the people and for debates with opponents, all the Party federations have organised in the sections and branches short-term courses to study the problems of peace.

A booklet which briefly enumerate literature dealing with the struggle for peace, is the main text-book for these courses. The three lectures contained in the booklet outline, in simple and clear form, the theoretical and theoretical and tactical principles by which the Communist Parties are guided in the struggle for peace, the peace policy of the U.S.S.R., its efforts and its numerous concrete measures for peace between the peoples since 1917; the significance of the peace movement, the struggle waged by this movement against imperialist war, for independence and freedom for the peoples; organisational forms of the struggle for peace at the present time.

As the recent Plenum of the Central Committee of

the Party pointed out, the organisation of hundreds and thousands of such short-term, "Stalin courses," will help to eliminate weaknesses and shortcomings in the work of the activists, enhance the initiative and militancy of Communists, and will enable the Party to raise to a higher level its leading role among the masses of the people, its daily explanatory work among partisans of peace among all social strata, and expose the warmongers and their lackeys in Italy.

\*

During the month's campaign to increase the circulation of the Communist press in Italy over 302 million lire were subscribed to the fund for "Unita", central organ of the Italian Communist Party. The largest contributions were made by the people of Milan (32 million lire), Bologna (22 million) and Genoa (21 million).

### THIRD CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREECE

The communique issued by the Presidium of the Third Conference of the Communist Party of Greece and relayed by the "Free Greece" radio reads:

"The Third Conference of the Communist Party of Greece was held in October. The Conference discussed the following items: 1. Ten years of struggle (lessons, conclusions and tasks), report by N. Zachariadis; 2. The life of political emigrants in the People's Democracies, report by V. Barzotas; 3. Organisational matters, report

by J. Joannides.

The conference unanimously endorsed the political resolution and the text of a call to the Greek people and the army.

It was held in an atmosphere of criticism and self-criticism, of militant enthusiasm and co-operation in solving the problems now facing the Communist Party of Greece. All decisions were adopted unanimously.”

## **ELECTIONS TO THE LOCAL COUNCILS IN HUNGARY. Sandor Zold, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Hungarian Working People's Party**

On October 22 elections to the local councils were held in Hungary. These elections were the most important step, since the adoption of the Constitution of the Hungarian People's Republic, in fully realising the principle that the working people are the source and masters of all State power.

Before the liberation of the country the State apparatus in old Hungary was an instrument for suppressing and exploiting the working people. The State organs and institutions served but one purpose—to oppress the working people to the maximum. The offices of the State organs were the scenes of constant humiliation. for ordinary folk, objects of the hatred of the working people.

Since the liberation of Hungary by the Soviet Army, far-reaching changes have taken place in the country, in the process of which the class character of the Hungarian State was fundamentally altered and also the attitude of the working people. towards the State. In our people's democratic republic, power belongs to the working class which is in alliance with the working peasantry. The party of the Communists—the Hungarian Working People's Party is the leading force in our country.

Corresponding to these changes the functions of the Hungarian State have changed and acquired a broader

character: together with the suppression of the former oppressors and exploiters, with defending the independence of the country, priority was given to the great organising role of the State in carrying out our Five-Year Plan, in building Socialism.

These tasks which are now on the agenda of the day due to the changed class character of the State, also call for a radical reorganisation of the State apparatus.

V. I. Lenin wrote that only the million-fold masses can be the creators of the new society. Just as these creators numbered hundreds in the epoch of serfdom, he wrote, just as thousands and tens of thousands built the State in the epoch of capitalism, so it is with the Socialist revolution which can be effected only with the active, direct, practical participation of tens of millions in State administration.

The State structure of the Hungarian People's Republic prior to the elections to the local councils did not fully meet the requirements of Socialist construction and of the increasingly tense international situation; nor did it correspond to the tasks of drawing the broadest masses of the working people into the administration of the State. Immediately after the liberation, we set about radically reorganising the State apparatus. The personnel of the supreme organs of State power and of the State apparatus was completely renewed. Representatives of the working class, of the working people were advanced to key positions in the Ministries, army, police, etc.; the guiding, leading and controlling role of the Hungarian Working People's Party was effected on an ever bigger scale in the organs of State power and in State administration. Despite this, however, the old State structure, the old forms (outdated territorial divisions of the country, dualism in

the central and local organs of State administration, intricacy in settling matters, parallelism in the State apparatus) became a bigger obstacle to successful work as the power of the working people grew stronger. The old State structure, its old forms began to hamper our forward movement, the development of our democracy. The further reorganisation of the State apparatus became inevitable.

The Law on the local councils states: "Advancing along the path to Socialism the Hungarian People's Republic is building a State apparatus that ensures the active and constant participation of the working people in building up the State power and in the work of the State apparatus, that bring the working masses closer to the work of settling matters, a State apparatus that consistency carries out the principle of Socialist legislation." The first preparatory measures for reorganising our State system were carried out on the basis of this Law: provisional councils were formed in Budapest, in regional centres and cities and in district centres. As Comrade Rakosi pointed out, these councils immediately infused a new spirit into the administrative apparatus, improved and accelerated the solution of matters. But the provisional councils were, nonetheless, institutions of a transitory nature. The members of the provisional councils were not elected but promoted by the local organisations; the establishment of the councils was not preceded by widespread explanatory work among the working people. There were no councils in the rural areas.

The fundamental reorganisation of our State apparatus, accompanied by the consolidation and development of our democracy, has been achieved now as a result of the elections to the local councils.

On October 22 more than 3,200 local councils were elected with over 220,000 members and candidate members. One-third of the elected councillors are members of the Hungarian Working People's Party, the remainder are the representatives of other parties, or non-party people. The councils are made up of 55,000 factory workers, 132,000 working peasants (of whom 80 per cent are individual peasants), 10,000 representatives of the intelligentsia, over 5,000 handicraftsmen, and thousands of office workers and people of other professions. There are 60,000 women councillors and 50,000 youth (up to 25 years).

The councils include the best representatives of the working people. "Among the worker nominees to the councils," wrote Comrade Rakosi on the eve of the elections, "we see the best innovators in production, leading workers, stakhanovites, those who are in the fore in production, in subscribing to the loan, in the work of taking patronage over the country villages, in a word, those who by their example and selflessness are in the lead. Among the peasant nominees to the councils we see model farmers who have distinguished themselves in production, who in exemplary fashion meet their obligations to the State, who are in the forefront with grain deliveries, in concluding agreements with the State, in growing and reaping bumper harvests. Among the nominees are those who in their particular sphere of work have proved by word and deed that they are true supporters of the people's democracy and spare no labour when it is a question of defending our native land. Among the thousands of representatives of the intelligentsia we see scientists and artists, Kossuth Prize winners, our best engineers, physicians, agronomists, the flower of the intelligentsia

loyal to the people."

The People's Front which, under the leadership of the Hungarian Working People's Party, unites all patriotic and democratic forces in the country fighting for peace, nominated candidates to the councils.

To ensure success it was necessary to carry out before the elections, the most widespread agitational work, embracing literally the whole people. This faced our Party organisations with big tasks. It stands to reason that election propaganda had to be conducted in such a manner as not to overshadow other important tasks (production, autumn sowing campaign, etc.), and to combine these measures with the election preparations.

The central leadership of the Hungarian Working People's Party thoroughly prepared the Party organisations for the elections. Comrades Erne Gerö and Josef Revai reported on the important political questions of the struggle for peace and our Five-Year Plan, for the leading functionaries engaged in organisational and propaganda work and in work among cadres. At the same time our propagandists were instructed on the importance and organisational structure of the councils. More than 250,000 propagandists were prepared in evening schools. The fact that a considerable number of these propagandists were non-Party, is of great significance.

Individual propaganda was the main method of political agitation during the election campaign. In Budapest 70,000 people took part in this work; in Pecs 6,500 people, in Miskole 7,000, in Szeged 4,500, etc. These figures show that individual propaganda covered all the working people. Also the propagandists of our mass organisations: the trade unions, the Hungarian

Union of Democratic Women, the Union of Working Youth, took part in propaganda activities.

In the course of the election campaign the Party and non-Party propagandists, the press, and radio explained to the working people that by electing local councils they were thus strengthening the Hungarian People's Republic, were voting for the Five-Year Plan, for the wellbeing of the Hungarian people; that the elections would be the answer of (he Hungarian people to the crimes of the imperialist bandits in Korea, the answer to the plans of the warmongers. During the preparations for the elections the sentiment of friendship for and loyalty to the Soviet Union took still deeper root among our people, particularly so because the election activities were closely linked up with the struggle for peace. The Hungarian working people still more strongly realised that the strengthening of their ties with the Soviet Union, the unequivocal fulfilment by them of their duty in the world front of peace, are the guarantee of peace, freedom and independence for our country. When speaking of international events the propagandists told the masses of the tireless struggle for peace being waged by the Soviet Union, explained the significance of the titanic plans for transforming nature in (he U.S.S.R., exposed the insidiousness of the American imperialist warmongers and their plans to rule the world.

The day of the elections was a great holiday for the Hungarian people who unanimously voted amidst great rejoicing.

Of the 6,158,850 electors with the right to vote, 5,967,877, or 96.9 per cent, went to the rolls. The People's Front polled 5,836,755 votes, or 97.8 per cent, against 46,277 votes; 84,845 votes were invalid. These

results show that never before were the Hungarian people as united as they are today, that the Hungarian people approve of and support the policy pursued by the Hungarian Working People's Party, that they unanimously and enthusiastically came out in favour of the people's democratic order, the Five-Year Plan, and peace. This is a serious defeat for the imperialists, for the external and internal enemies of our people; it is a major victory for the peace front.

## **FRENCH PEASANTS ACTIVELY OPPOSE THE POLICY OF WAR. Hubert Ruffe, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party**

The policy of preparing an aggressive war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, pursued by successive Governments since May 1947, has had disastrous consequences for the peasantry of France. The "Marshall Plan" and the Atlantic Pact subordinate and sacrifice the national interests of France, including the interests of her agriculture, to the policy of the American imperialists striving for world domination.

The French countryside is now experiencing a profound crisis. This crisis is aggravated by the disparity between agricultural prices and the prices for industrial goods and also by the growing tax burden. Many products of agriculture remain unsold. The main reason for this is the shrinking purchasing power of the working people. To this must be added the loss of foreign markets and also the "Marshall Plan" import of agricultural produce of which the country is not in need.

French peasants hate war. They have paid dearly for all former imperialist wars. They are aware that the criminal rulers in Washington have assigned them the role of pawns to be sacrificed in a third world war. Ready to defend their country, their native land, they fail to see why France should go to war against her friend and ally—the Soviet Union, for the interests of the American capitalists.

The raising of the term of military service to 18 months, the introduction of an additional three-month

service for the second contingent of the 1949 class, the mobilisation of reserves, supplying of 28 divisions with new equipment, the allocation of an additional 2,000 billion francs for military expenditure, the re-armament of Western Germany, the dispatch of French troops to Korea, the continuation of the criminal war in Viet Nam—all this enables the Peasants to see ever more dearly the link between their difficulties and the War policy. This knowledge simulates the peasants to intensify the struggle for peace.

Masses of French peasants are taking part in the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal. For instance, in the Loir-et-Cher Department, which, in the main, is an agricultural region, 120,000 signatures have been collected. Fifty per cent of the population in this Department signed the Stockholm Appeal within a month of its publication. It is difficult to enumerate all the rural communes in France in which over 95 per cent of the population has signed the Stockholm Appeal. The same applies to all the rural municipalities which publicly have joined the Appeal.

The scale of the campaign can be judged by the fact that many leaders of the organisations affiliated to the General Confederation of Agriculture have signed the Stockholm Appeal.

The preparations for the Second World Peace Congress have given a new stimulus to the struggle for peace. More signatures are being collected. Additional peace committees and commune peace councils are being formed. Large numbers of peasants are taking part in public meetings in the villages and communes which are discussing the Prague appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress and are electing delegates to Department peace

conferences to be held in the 90 Departments of France. In the Lembeye canton (the Tower Pyrénéss Department) comprising 31 small communes, the biggest of which has no more than 200 inhabitants, 17 public meetings were held in one day. After full discussion, 60 delegates were elected to the Department conference. Peace committees have been set up in Cavaillion and Arroseee. Six commune mayors, who chaired at local meetings, signed the Stockholm Appeal. An additional two hundred and forty four signatures were collected in the canton.

One hundred meetings are planned for the Aisne Department. In the Loir-et-Cher Department preparations are under way for 206 meetings. Films will be demonstrated at 37 meetings in the Manche Department. In the Eure-et-Loir Department, peace relay races will embrace 120 villages and will coincide with public meetings. Such are the concrete forms of the growing peace movement.

Prime Minister Pleven's announcement extending the term of military service to 18 months brought home still more to the peasants the danger of war. The struggle against the Government's Bill has become one of the most important aspects of the struggle of the peasants for peace.

In the Korrèze Department, the youth organisation affiliated to the General Confederation of Agriculture lodged a protest with the Parliamentary deputies against this Bill. At the Agricultural Exhibition in Bourganeuf (Creuse Department), 310 signatures against the Bill were collected. Many rural municipalities have expressed themselves against the extension of the term of military service.

The rallying of all working peasants to fight against

the consequences of switching the economy to a war footing, as well as advancing the just demands of peasants and united actions to win these demands such are the decisive factors in the struggle for peace in the countryside.

By their unity in struggle, agricultural workers succeeded in winning a 3,000 franc monthly bonus. The Government had intended restricting this bonus to industrial workers and office employees and even this only after stubborn struggle.

During recent months the vine-yards of the South were the scene of a broad movement of working peasants for immediate demands. During the grape harvest the agricultural workers won, as a result of repealed strikes, a wage increase. The struggle of the agricultural labourers in the Aisne, Somme and Seine-el-Marne Departments, who struck work during the harvesting, was also successful

The struggle of tenants and share-croppers for their immediate demands is also gaining momentum. Share-croppers and tenants are forced to make a heavy contribution to the landlords in the form of rent. In 1947, this contribution amounted to 35 billion francs, in 1948, 60 trillion and in 1949, 100 billion francs. The share-croppers and tenants, loaded with an unbearable burden of ever-increasing taxes and rent, are fighting against the sequestration of their property and evictions which are carried out everywhere in France. Sporadic struggles against these acts break out with growing frequency in various parts of the country. Sometimes the peasants resist the armed police carrying out the evictions. Such was the case in Narosse (Landes Department) and in Boitteux (Cotes-du-Nord Department).

All the small and medium peasants are fighting against the competition of American suppliers of agricultural products, the unnecessary imports and against the stifling of French agriculture. In 1919, some 13 million quintals of agricultural products were imported. In May and June this year, food imports exceeded exports from the country by more than 30 billion francs. In August, the Government signed a new agreement for the import of nearly 16,000 tons of agricultural products—the same products which French peasants grow on their own soil.

French peasants, particularly tobacco and beet growers, have more than once expressed themselves against this policy. When the United States forced France to buy American tobacco, and when the French Government decided to cut by 30 per cent the price paid for tobacco in order to compel French tobacco growers to cut production, the growers organised numerous actions. In Strasbourg, for example, 10,000 people took part in a demonstration. in Marmande (Lotet-Garonne Department) 8,000 people participated. A general strike of tobacco growers, resulting in the complete stoppage of tobacco supplies, took place in fifty Departments. Some 25,000 beet growers demonstrated in Paris against the policy of national betrayal for which they are made to pay.

The Congress of eight federations of the General Confederation of Agriculture of the Mediterranean Departments held in Marseilles in July, protested against the imports of agricultural products and also against the French-Italian customs union which directly threatens horticulture in the Southern Departments. In Cavaillon (Vaucluse Department) 2,000 market-gardeners expressed a similar protest. The federation of

the General Confederation of Agriculture in the Maritime Alps denounced the military expenditure and the tax burden which weighs heavily on the peasants. Not a week passes without such protests being lodged all over the country. These protests emanate from the Department federations of the General Confederation of Agriculture and find expression in increasing peasant actions.

For example, among vine-growers there is considerable alarm and profound discontent due to the drastic reduction in the price paid for wine following this year's good harvest (which, however, is not reflected in any noticeable reduction in market prices).

The Communists are the best champions and leaders of the agricultural labourers and working peasants during these large-scale mass actions, for organising which increasing opportunities are available.

The Communists must, within the General Confederation of Agriculture, which is a united agricultural organisation, resolutely defend the interests of the working peasants, make every effort to prevent the break-up of the peasant farms and preserve the independence of French agriculture and peace.

Working among the share-croppers and tenants, the Communists seek to strengthen the canton and Department branches of tenants and share-croppers and to turn them into autonomous organisations. At present, they are waging a large-scale struggle in defence of the Rules that secure the rights of these categories of the peasantry. The Communist Party secured the adoption of these Rules immediately after the war. However, supported by the Government and its Parliamentary majority, the landlords are now seeking gradually to annul these Rules.

All the sufferings of the French working peasants and all the dangers threatening them are the outcome of the policy of preparing for war. Imbued with the spirit of the broadest unity and rejecting any assertions of the inevitability of war the Communists are seeking in every way to secure the complete success of the peace conferences now being held in preparation for the Second World Peace Congress.

## **SPANISH PEOPLE IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. Antonio Mije, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Communist Party of Spain**

After the meeting of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties, held in Hungary in the second half of November, 1949, Spanish patriots—both at home in the country and those in emigration, redoubled their activities in the struggle for peace. This struggle is now the basis of the general line and the practical work of the Communist Party.

Despite the difficult conditions of fascist terror and repressions, the steady and persistent political work conducted by our Party in Spain helped, in large measure, to expose the criminal war policy of Franco and the real aims of the U.S. imperialists who seek to make Spain a base for realising their aggressive plans.

Awareness of the war danger is growing among the masses of the Spanish people. This is leading to an intensification of the struggle against the American warmongers and the Spanish fascists. Significant in this respect is the fact that despite the Franco fascist terror, the Spanish people are taking part in the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal.

Collection of signatures is conducted in various forms and in all possible ways. The initiative of peace partisans is growing and more and more they display boldness and fearlessness in face of fascist repressions.

The Stockholm Appeal was circulated in thousands of copies at factories and workshops in Madrid,

Catalonia and Galicia and in working class districts in many other towns, as well as in universities and schools throughout the country.

Spanish patriots are fearlessly expressing themselves in favour of peace, against war between the peoples. Even the Spanish fascists cannot conceal this fact. Recently, the newspaper "Pueblo", organ of the falangist trade unions, submitted a questionnaire to its Madrid readers on the subject: "How should the war in Korea be ended?". The readers' answers were scarcely to the liking of the falangists: 78 per cent of those who filled in the questionnaire expressed themselves for a peaceful settlement, 15 per cent for continuation of the war, while 7 per cent gave various answers.

Hundreds of people are signing the Stockholm Appeal in factories in Barcelona, in the villages of Castille, Andalusia, Estremadura and Majorca. In Vizcaya and in Alicante, groups of workers of different political views are unanimously supporting the Appeal. Spanish emigrants in France receive from numerous villages in Spain hundreds of letters containing signatures to the Appeal or declarations of support for it. Port workers and women in Alicante, as well as thousands of people in a town in Central Spain, signed the Appeal collectively. Professors and teachers in Madrid and Barcelona schools have informed Spanish emigrants of their agreement with the Stockholm Appeal.

The underground press of the Communist Party and of a number of partisan organisations played an important role in popularising the Stockholm Appeal and in developing the struggle for peace. The "Mundo Obrero" (Madrid), "Mundo Obrero" (Galicia), "Trebball" (Catalonia), "El Guerrillero" (Galicia), all have devoted

much attention to these questions,

The Franco people do not conceal the anxiety caused by the developing peace movement. Falangist newspapers have intensified the campaign against the Stockholm Appeal, a campaign aimed at keeping the intelligentsia and students from joining the Appeal. However, even certain representatives of the Catholic intelligentsia have made statements in Government newspapers to the effect that although they disagree in many things with the authors of the Stockholm Appeal they, nevertheless, agree with the denunciation of the atom bomb and, for this reason, have signed the Appeal.

Another fact of political significance is a certain change in the attitude of the Catholic hierarchy to the question of peace. The hierarchy is a bulwark of the Franco regime and, with the aid of this regime, it was granted privileges which it had not enjoyed for many years. And yet, despite this, Cardinal Segura had to agree to organise in Seville on August 15 a mass religious procession to pray for peace. Actually, the procession was a demonstration against the Franco war policy. Recently, the Bishop of Barcelona, and the Bishop of Tarazona (Saragossa Province), expressed themselves in favour of peace in pastoral letters, advising the faithful "to pray for peace". Eminent representatives of the church hierarchy were forced publicly to declare their attitude, to the question of peace, since the masses, more than once, have expressed their determination to defend peace and to fight against war.

It can be said that positive results have been achieved in rallying the masses for the struggle for peace and in collecting signatures in our country; these

will be followed by other successes, notwithstanding the obstacles created by the fierce fascist repressions. Moreover, conditions are maturing for a wider and firmer unity of the Spanish people in the struggle against the war plans of Franco and his American-British imperialist masters.

In numerous letters from the country received by Spanish emigrants, it is said that "if we could act here freely, millions of Spaniards would sign the Stockholm Appeal." This shows the real sentiments of the masses of the people in our country.

The collection of signatures to the Stockholm Appeal and the struggle for peace are of exceptional significance for Spanish revolutionary emigrants. We do not know of any other campaign for which such masses of the Spanish people, irrespective of political views and social position, could be mobilised. Proof of this is contained in the following figures: by the beginning of September, over 340,000 signatures had been collected among Spanish emigrants, of which approximately 200,000 had been collected in France, 46,081 in Cuba, 43,000 in Uruguay, 31,050 in Mexico, 15,000 in Argentine and 5,609 in Chile.

In the process of struggle for peace our comrades learned how to isolate the lackeys of imperialism—the leaders of the Right Socialists and anarchists. Our comrades succeeded in getting a big majority of anarcho-syndicalist workers to sign the Stockholm Appeal, and many of them, together with the Communists, are actively collecting signatures. Together with the Communists and all patriots, hundreds of Socialist working people are signing the Stockholm Appeal. Developing energetic activities for peace, thousands of Socialist and anarcho-syndicalist

working people marched together with Communists, Republicans and other patriots, despite threats and the foul campaigns conducted by the leaders of the Right Socialists and the anarchists against those signing the Appeal.

This is a valuable experience for the further development of mass work and is a positive step forward towards the unity of all the peace-loving forces of the Spanish people. This campaign has revealed the possibilities for establishing contact with people of various social categories and of different political and religious views, people who have no desire to be drawn into the abyss of war for the sake of the American imperialists. This campaign shows also that the struggle for peace can be made more active, that it is possible to draw into it also those people who, living in the country, did not have clear perspectives but who are now beginning to realise that the struggle for peace, against the plans of the imperialist aggressors, is also the struggle against Francoism, a struggle against those who are responsible for the Franco regime still existing in our country.

To-day, the Party is faced with great tasks. One of these is to guide and organisationally consolidate, by forming additional hundreds and thousands of peace groups and committees, the great mass of Spanish people who have signed the Stockholm Appeal. This is a matter of rallying all the Spanish peace partisans who are fighting for national independence, all who want to frustrate the cannibal designs of the American imperialists seeking to reduce Spain and the Spanish people to ashes.

With the opening of American aggression in Korea, greater activity was displayed in collecting signatures to

the Stockholm Appeal. The reason for this is the indignation in Republican and patriotic circles of the Spanish people at the barbarous aggression of the American imperialists against the Korean people.

To prevent Spanish Republicans and patriots in France from fighting for peace, the French Government resorted to Fascist-type repressions against them. It concentrated its blows against the most consistent partisans of peace—against the Spanish Communists. It is clear that, in their desire to accelerate Spain's joining the North Atlantic Pact, the imperialists want to silence the voice of the Spanish Republicans in France.

But the fascist repressions of the French Government will never be able to halt the movement of the Spanish partisans of peace in France, just as Franco's terror failed to prevent thousands of Spanish people from expressing themselves against "the atomic weapon. They will fail to do this because the struggle of the Spanish people for peace is closely linked with the struggle against the Franco regime and is part and parcel of the powerful world-wide movement for peace. The Spanish people know that theirs is a just cause; they know that the great movement for peace which embraces hundreds of millions of men and women, the movement of which the standard-bearers are the Soviet Union and the leader of progressive mankind—the great Stalin—will triumph, and that, in its turn, this will result in saving Spain and in restoring her national independence and freedom.

# **AGENTS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM EXPOSED. Herman Matern, Member, Political Bureau, Socialist Unity Party of Germany**

The Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany recently struck a telling blow at Anglo-American agents by taking measures to paralyse their influence, destroy their centres and redouble the vigilance of the Party.

The following individuals were recently expelled from the Party: Paul Merker, former State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Timber Industry; Leo Bauer, former head of the "Deutschland-Sender" broadcasting station; Bruno Goldhammer, former official in the Information Department; Willi Kreikemeyer, former director general of railroads; Lex Ende, former editor-in-chief of "Friedenspost"; Maria Weiterer, former secretary of the board of the Democratic Union of German Women. The following were removed from their posts: Bruno Fuhrmann, Hans Teubner, Walter Beling and Wolfgang Langhoff.

This important decision of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party was the outcome of the preliminary results of the investigation conducted by the Central Party Control Commission concerning the contacts of certain leading Party functionaries and officials of State organs with agents of the Anglo-American secret service.

As is known, the secret services of the imperialist powers operate with a long-term perspective and seek

to set up centres in democratic organisations and in the countries of the anti-imperialist camp. These agents and their centres are engaged not only in espionage and collecting information. Facts also show that their aim is to bore from within in the working-class parties and organisations, and to capture leading posts in them. Thus, in Yugoslavia the U.S.-British imperialists succeeded, with the help of the Tito gang, in turning the leadership of the former Communist Party into their espionage agents and the Party into an instrument for carrying out the policy of the warmongers, an instrument of the fascist dictatorship of the Tito clique.

The Rajk trial in Hungary and the Kostov trial in Bulgaria proved irrefutably that similar attempts, pursuing a long-term objective, were undertaken in other Communist and Workers' Parties as well. It is clear, in particular, from the evidence of the American secret service agent, Tibor Szönyi, that American intelligence tried to recruit agents also from among German political emigrants. This recruiting was done by Noel H. Field, one of the heads of the "Office of Strategic Service" (American military intelligence) and director of the pseudo philanthropic organisation "Unitarian Service Committee". It became known to our Party that a number of German political emigrants in Switzerland and in France had been in contact with Field. It was necessary, therefore, to ascertain the nature of these contacts.

Field first appeared on the scene at the end of the civil war in Spain. As an official of the U.S. State Department he was a member of the League of Nations International Military Commission. At the end of 1938 this Commission was in Bisaure del Tel, registering the men who had fought in the ranks of the International

Brigades and who could not return home—to countries where fascism was in power. The official reason given for registering these persons was the need to evacuate them to democratic countries. But the League of Nations, true to its policy of supporting Franco behind the screen of “non-intervention”, had no intention of effecting this evacuation; the men were registered for the purpose of supplying the espionage organisations of the imperialist Powers with a complete list of those who had fought in the International Brigades. At the end of the war in Spain this Commission operated partly also in the French camps in Argeles-sur-Mer and Saint-Cyprien. Its headquarters at the time were located in Perpignan. The documents testifying to registration bore Field's signature.

Through Goldhammer, Field succeeded in establishing contact with the German emigrants in Switzerland and, through Maria Weiterer, with the leadership of the German emigrants in France. Maria Weiterer handed over to him all data concerning the sources and means of communication of which she was aware, and was also the go-between in contacting Paul Merker with Field. A few incidental remarks about the help allegedly afforded political emigrants by Field sufficed for Merker, as well as for Kreikemeyer, Lex Ende and Beling to regard Field as a friend of the working-class movement; they did not trouble to get more detailed information about him.

Thus, Field became a trusted man with the leadership of the German emigrants in France and Switzerland. He was given lists with the names of the emigrants and often acted as go-between in establishing highly confidential inner-Party contacts.

When the Second World War broke out, some of the

German emigrants began to display political and ideological deviations which made them vulnerable for the recruiting purpose of the imperialist agents. These deviations manifested themselves, on the one hand, in a lack of confidence in the Soviet Union as the leading-force of the progressive camp, in lack of faith in the strength of the working class, and, on the other, in an under-estimation and direct denial of the reactionary character of imperialism. This trotskyite position was held by Berz, Merker and others. Merker, Ende and others, for instance, failed to see the reason for the German-Soviet Pact of 1939, they believed the anti-Soviet slander of the trotskyite agents of imperialism. At the same time they assumed that the aim of the American, British and French imperialists was, allegedly, to liberate the peoples of Europe from fascism.

Such grave political deviations made these people tools of the class enemy. This was particularly obvious in relation to the attitude of the leadership of the German emigrants in Marseilles toward the anti-fascist resistance movement, which was headed by the French Communist Party. Immediately after the occupation of France, the Central Committee of the French Communist Party organised widespread propaganda among the German soldiers. Many emigrants interned in the south of France, escaped from the concentration camps, made their way to the occupied zone and took part in the resistance movement. At the end of 1940, an agreement was reached between the Central Committee of the French Communist Party and Comrade Beling as leader of the German emigrants in Southern France, to send the greater part of the German emigrants to Northern France for political propaganda

among the German soldiers.

But the leadership of the German emigrants in Southern France did not carry out the agreement to send German anti-fascists to Northern France. In the spring of 1942, the French resistance movement furnished the conditions for wider activities by the German emigrants. The Central Committee of the French Communist Party informed Merker, Ende and Kreikemeyer of its decision to draw a large number of German emigrants into the resistance movement in the occupied zone of France. Merker, Ende and Kreikemeyer, however, declared that this decision was a provocation, although they knew of the agreement reached with Beling. When the Central Committee of the French Communist Party told Merker to report for his assignment he fled, with the aid of Field, to Mexico, that is, as far as possible from the arena of struggle. Kreikemeyer and Ende transmitted the decision of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party to Berz in Switzerland, to get his viewpoint on the matter. Berz, Baer and Field decided to reject the call of the Central Committee of the Party and Field took this decision to Southern France. Thus, the leadership of the German emigrants in Southern France and Switzerland, following Field's instructions, pursued the policy of the American imperialists, a policy that had as its object not to weaken the German fascist army and to tie down a minimum of its forces in the West. Influenced by Field and Bauer, Berz also hampered the sending of German emigrants to Germany to organise a resistance movement there. This, too, suited the policy of the American imperialists.

At the time when the Soviet people, making heavy sacrifices, were waging a heroic struggle against the

German fascist army and its satellites, the treacherous “theory” became current among the emigrants that it was necessary to draw farther away from the struggle, not to take an active part in it and to preserve their forces for a “later period”, when the Soviet Army would smash and destroy fascism. This “theory” filled in completely with the designs of the U.S.-British imperialists who wanted to see the Soviet Union weakened to the maximum in the war and who did not want the German fascist armies pinned down in the West.

When it became clear that the Soviet Army, single-handed, was capable of smashing the Hitler war machine with its own forces, the Second Front was finally opened after many months of procrastination. In the meantime, the Anglo-American intelligence organs began to send German emigrants also to Germany to collect the information they needed. Fuhrmann and Teubner evolved the “theory” at the time that the American spies are progressive elements and could be used in the democratisation of Germany.

After the collapse of Hitler Germany, Allen Dulles, Field and others organised the return of some of the emigrants to Germany. Thus they received exact information about the places of work of certain comrades and were able to retain their “good” acquaintanceship. In the summer of 1945 Field went to Mexico to settle the matter of Merker’s return to Germany. Field returned to Germany as an American officer. Merker, Kreikemeyer, Maria Weiterer and others maintained close contact with Field, corresponded and conferred with him, without informing the Party of this. They did not even frankly tell the Central Party Control Commission of their talks and conferences. Merker

described Field as an American Communist.

In 1948 the American intelligence, veiling its intentions behind the desire to “render assistance”, tried to infiltrate into the organisation of the victims of fascist terror. Field and other agents bent every effort to obtain the names of the members of this organisation and to establish contact with the active functionaries by sending them food packages.

Experience shows that anyone who has ever had contact with the imperialist intelligence service can never get away from its agents. Such people serve as a basis for enemy activity even if they have not been actively involved in work over a long period. That is why the Party must know of such contacts established during the war in order to safeguard itself.

Even after Field was exposed, the individuals expelled from the Socialist Unity Party of Germany by decision of the Central Committee, did not help the Party to disclose all the threads and contacts. On the contrary, by their silence and excuses about “poor memory” they helped the enemy to cover up these lies. This shows that the enemy had succeeded in completely entangling these people.

In preparing for war against the Soviet Union, the People’s Democracies and the German Democratic Republic, the U.S.-British imperialists, by planting their agents, in the Communist and Workers’ Parties, are endeavouring to weaken and disintegrate the forces fighting for peace. They first began to carry out their designs long ago, paying special attention to [he German emigrants and war prisoners in the countries of the West. Moreover, the enemy agents concentrated on people who, finding themselves in difficulties, easily succumb to enemy influence. Elements close to anti-

Party groupings, individuals who have no confidence in the Soviet Union, in its leading role and in the working class, petty bourgeois and morally corrupt elements, trotskyites and other rabble—such are the types on whom the enemy relies for support.

The decision of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany is a severe blow to the U.S.-British warmongers. The enemy agents have been driven out of the Party and, in this way, the Party has been strengthened.

This decision enhances the vigilance of the Party, it will teach the entire Party to approach questions of principle not according to one's sentiment, but, in each case, regardless of the individual, firmly and resolutely overcoming the influence of the enemy, to expose his agents.

# **WORKING CLASS OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE VISE OF FASCIST REGIME OF THE TITO CLIQUE. Raiko Damyanov, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Communist Party of Bulgaria**

The fascist Tito-Rankovic clique, which has gone over to the camp of imperialism, has opened wide the doors of Yugoslavia to foreign capital.

Ruthless plunder by the Tito satraps is supplemented by the yoke of the Anglo-American capitalists who are getting enormous profits from the plunder of the Yugoslav working people. Due to the criminal activities of the Tito clique, Yugoslavia's economy is experiencing a catastrophic decline. The "way out" of this situation as seen by the Titoites—enslaving American loans—is worthy of traitors and spies. The Yugoslav working class, caught in the vise of the fascist Tito clique, is, increasingly, beginning to feel the enslaving effects of the American dollar and the British pound.

The subordination of Yugoslavia's economy to foreign capital and its inclusion in the system of imperialism are leading to the complete restoration of capitalism in Yugoslavia. The fascist Tito clique is vainly trying to cover up this restoration with demagogic slogans about "transferring" enterprises into the hands of the so-called "labour collectives" established along the lines of Mussolini and Hitler. The working class of Yugoslavia is beginning to realise, more and more clearly, that these pseudo-popular, pseudo-Socialist manoeuvres of the fascist traitors veil the imperialist

policy of plundering the country, the policy of brutal oppression of the people.

## I.

At its meeting in November 1949, the Information Bureau of the Communist Parties noted:

“The ever-growing slavish dependence of Yugoslavia on imperialism leads to the intensified exploitation of the working class and to a sharp deterioration in its conditions”. This conclusion is fully borne out by numerous facts.

Inflation is growing in Yugoslavia; it is leading to still greater chaos in the country’s economy and to a further deterioration in the conditions of the working class. During the first half of the current year, 55 billion dinars were in circulation in the country. Due to inflation, the workers and the working people as a whole are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. Compared to the 1945 level, prices for food and other consumer goods have risen by more than 750 per cent.

Even the organ of the Austrian Right Socialists, the “Arbeiter Zeitung”, admits that due to rising prices the living standard of the working people of Yugoslavia has dropped by 50 per cent compared with 1946.

In 1949 the wage fund was cut by 9 billion dinars (in round figures). At the “Proletari” factory in Belgrade, for instance, the average monthly wage was reduced in May this year, from 3,200 to 2,400 dinars. The average wage of a skilled worker is 3,000-3,500 dinars; but the subsistence minimum for a worker’s family calls for 18-20,000 dinars. All that a worker can buy with his monthly wage—and by no means every worker—is a pair

of shoes.

Matters are in a catastrophic state with regard to food and other consumer goods. According to the Tito hucksters, the ration should cover 35 per cent of the requirements of the worker and his family, but actually he does not receive even 15 per cent of the ration needed to satisfy his needs. The workers are obliged to buy from kulaks in the nearby villages at speculative prices.

The Tito criminals go so far as to deprive workers of their rations under different pretexts. If a worker falls sick and is forced temporarily to leave the factory or the mine, he is immediately deprived of his ration book.

The Belgrade correspondent of the "New York Herald Tribune" noted on September 16, that, as regards food supplies the entire population of Belgrade depends on the free market. It is now becoming clear, wrote the correspondent, that the prices on certain consumer goods are so high that in order to buy 900 grams of butter the citizen gives up 20 per cent of his average monthly wage.

According to the same correspondent, prices on certain consumer goods increased as follows in 1950 compared with 1949 (per kilogram): sugar from 200 to 500 dinars. lard from 250 to 550 dinars, vegetable oils from 200-300 to 650-700 dinars, pork from 300-400 to 500 dinars, tomatoes from 35-40 to 150 dinars.

Recently the fascist Tito clique cut the bread ration by 10 per cent.

The Tito clique is silent about the length of the working day in the factories and mines. However, as is known, the Yugoslav workers are forced to work 9-10 hour day, and sometimes much more. Thus, at the "Breza" mine the working day is 12 hours, while at

Danube ports dockers are on the job of loading and unloading every bit of 15 hours a day.

At many enterprises the workers are compelled to work no less than 20 hours a week in excess of the normal working time. For instance, at the Timok coal mines (and this holds true for a number of other enterprises), the working day has been extended to the maximum.

The mobilisation for “voluntary” work on Sundays is a real calamity for the working people of Yugoslavia. To “encourage” working on Sundays the Titoites concocted a particularly cruel system: those who do not work on Sundays without pay are simply not paid for the next day’s work.

In addition to this inhuman exploitation of the working people the unprecedentedly hard conditions of labour are disastrous for the health and life of the workers. At the mines, for example, there are no safety measures, leave alone medical supplies for first aid. It is not surprising therefore that, at the “Golubovec” mine in Croatia, the number of miners off sick during twenty days of July alone, was double the June figure.

The absence of safety measures accounts for accidents on a mass scale. On the construction of the Samac-Sarajevo railway more than 420 young men and women lost their lives in half a year. Hundreds of Yugoslav workers perish in explosions and other accidents. At the “Podlabin” mine, for instance, 84 workers lost their lives; at “Zeleznik” 11 men perished; every day accidents are registered at the “Vrshka cuka”, “Bor”, “Trepca”, “Trbovlje”, “Zletovo” and other mines as a result of which miners often lose their lives.

Yugoslav workers are living today in conditions that

can be compared only with the conditions of slaves in South Africa. In Belgrade, housing priority is accorded the personnel of the UDB and activists of the fascist Tito party. In Rijeka (Fiume) hundreds of port workers, the majority of them young men, sleep on concrete floors in ramshackle hutments. These conditions have caused sickness on a mass scale. Due to bad housing and working conditions, 40 per cent of the young workers employed in the cement factory at Beocin have contracted tuberculosis.

The conditions of the working class of Yugoslavia are further aggravated by the heavy tax burden and the compulsory Tito loans which are used not to improve the living conditions of the workers but to maintain a huge army and police force and a tyrannical State apparatus. In 1949 alone, 54 billion dinars, or 33 per cent of the State budget, were spent on the upkeep of this apparatus.

The taxes imposed on the working people of Yugoslavia increased by 20 billion dinars in 1950 compared with 1949, while allocations for public health and social insurance were curtailed by 5 billion dinars.

## II.

To the difficult conditions of the working class of Yugoslavia must be added the fact that they have no rights whatsoever, and also the refined terror of the Tito gang which, for brutality, puts in the shade the terror of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco.

The factories, mines and lumber camps swarm with UDB agents with unlimited rights to apply any repressions against the workers. At the "Trepca" mine, for instance, there is a Rankovic agent for every third

worker.

The Titoites use forced labour in a big way. Hundreds of thousands of workers and peasants are forcibly mobilised for work in the mines producing strategic materials for the U.S.-British instigators of a new war. In 1949, 450,000 people were sent to forced labour in the mines of Bosnia, Slovenia and Croatia. That same year, 4,253,977 hours of forced labour were worked in 96 pits.

The Titoites forcibly mobilised tens of thousands of workers, mainly from the Rijeka, Karlovac, Zagreb, Bjelovar and Dalmatia regions to build the Lupoglava-Stalije railway, The Titoites planned to mobilise over 5,000 workers for the second relay scheduled: to work on the track in July and August. But their plan came to nought they succeeded in mobilising not more than 5 per cent of the original figure. In the Zagreb region, for instance, they were able to round up only 26 instead of the thousand workers anticipated.

The workers and peasants of Yugoslavia do not want to toil for the Titoites. After being forcibly sent to work they return to their homes or to other regions, or hide in the forests. Rankovic's armed bands are scouring the country looking for runaway workers.

The trade union apparatus, profusely staffed with agents provocateurs of the UDB, is the watchdog of the bloody Tito regime and zealous servitor of the fascist Tito executives in oppressing the working class. This apparatus helps to intensify the exploitation of the workers by lengthening the working day and by economic pressure. Complying with the instructions of the fascist authorities, the leading trade union bodies withhold wholesale, as a form of punishment, ration books from workers. At the "Trepca" mine 8,000

workers were deprived of their ration books in 1949, in Zenitsa, 4,500 workers; at the "Rasa" mine, 6,000 workers and members of their families were deprived of their ration books in the first half of this year.

Deduction from wages is another form of punishment of workers practised on a wide scale. In many instances deductions amount to 60 per cent of the wage.

All these facts show that the Tito trade unions, headed by rank trotskyites and provocateurs of the Djuro Salaj type, have become an instrument of oppression and plunder of the Yugoslav workers. The workers, under the leadership of Communists-internationalists, are ever more boldly and resolutely turning to active and mass struggle against the fascist Tito clique.

## II.

Organised sabotage by the workers is an increasing occurrence in the factories, mines and lumber camps. They are turning out poor quality production, cutting down labour productivity and abandoning work on a mass scale.

At the "Udarnik" hosiery factory in Zrenjanin, employing about 250 people, large quantities of stockings are produced with serious defects. According to the Tito trade union organ, "Rad", of August 11, 11,300 kilograms of the 14,500 kilograms of copper wire manufactured by the "Rade Koncar" plant which produces electric motors and other machines, had to be discarded, as well as 2,482 of the 3,233 transformers. At the "Ivo Lola Ribar" enterprise in Zeleznik, a considerable part of brand new lathes was damaged. In

assembling lathes, the workers concealed or destroyed details without which the lathes are useless.

The ever growing resistance of the workers to the brutal exploitation confronts the Tito clique with the need to replace skilled workers with unskilled workers, with workers lacking the slightest acquaintance with the production processes. The result is a lowering of labour productivity and systematic non-fulfilment of production plans. The newspaper "Borba" admits that 72 per cent of the workers at the "Kreka" coal mine, one of the biggest in the country, fulfils the daily target only by 55 per cent. The workers of the cement plant in Beocin do not fulfil the quota even by 50 per cent.

Transport workers' are offering increasingly resolute resistance to the export of raw materials to the United States, Britain and other capitalist countries. They re-route many goods trains. Port workers in Rijeka dumped into the sea 1,700 cubic metres of timber consigned to Britain.

The Austrian newspaper "Volkswille" reports that, due to sabotage by Yugoslav workers, an ammunition car exploded on the Stalac-Nish line; the explosion damaged another ten cars. Traffic on the Belgrade-Skopje railway was delayed for 14 hours.

A form of struggle against the fascist Tito clique, widely practised by the workers, is failure to report for work. The Titoite "Borba" admits in its issue of September 3, that at the metallurgical plant in Smederevo, nearly 400 workers do not report for work daily "without giving any reason whatsoever". At some enterprises, and especially at the mines producing ores for export to the United States, from 500 to 1,000 workers do not report daily. At the "Rasa" mine in Istria, of 7,000 workers, an average of 950-1,000 do not

report for work. As the Tito newspaper "Rad" admits, failure to appear at work has cost Belgrade enterprises 2,230,000 labour hours, Tito himself admitted in a speech at Split that, in 1949, more than 400,000 workers did not report for work daily. As a result, 112 million work days were lost, that is, 26 per cent of the total number of work days for the year. Translated into dinars, this gives the enormous sum of 7 billion dinars.

In their fight against the Tito fascist dictatorship the Yugoslav workers are resorting to strike action. At the mines in Croatia alone, the Titoites lost 164,915 work days as a result of strikes in 1949. In the course of six months, 102,000 work days were lost as a result of strikes by lumber workers in Slovenia.

Illegal literature and leaflets are distributed throughout the country, revolutionary anti-Tito slogans often appear on the walls of houses in towns and villages.

The working class of Yugoslavia is offering increasingly effective resistance to Tito's fascist regime and to the war preparations. The peace supporters in Yugoslavia are uniting under the slogan: "Our peoples will never fight against the U.S.S.R.".

\*

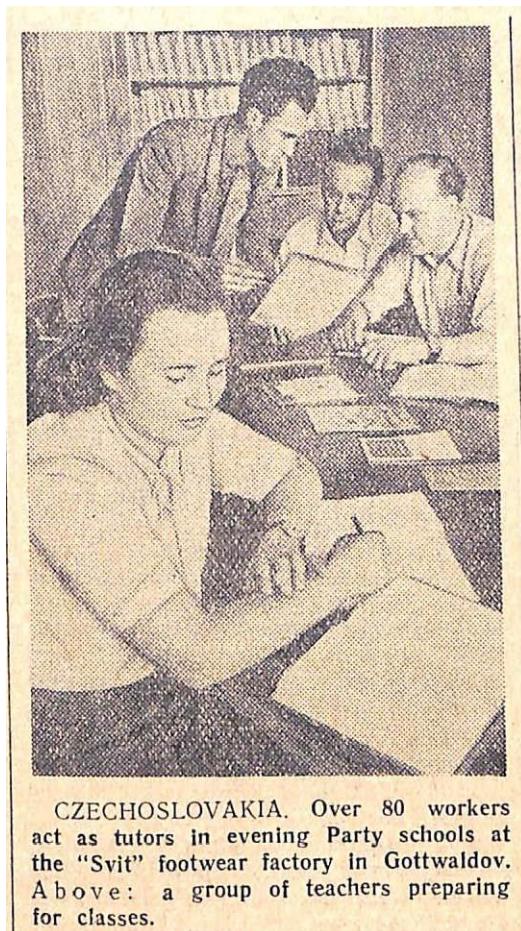
Increasing poverty, ruin and death from starvation—these are what the rule of the Titoite traitors has brought to the working class of Yugoslavia. The facts show that the Yugoslav working people have no desire to reconcile themselves to the position of colonial slaves of U.S.-British imperialism—a position to which they are doomed by the Tito clique. The peoples of Yugoslavia are rising to the struggle for their freedom

and national independence. This growing struggle is headed by the Communists, devoted to the cause of the working class, to the cause of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

The Yugoslav Communists-internationalists, who have remained true to Marxism-Leninism, to the interests of the Yugoslav peoples, to friendship with the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, are building up a truly revolutionary Communist Party—the vanguard of the working people of Yugoslavia. Under the leadership of this Party the Yugoslav peoples, upon overthrowing the Tito fascist dictatorship and emancipating themselves from the colonial oppression of American and British imperialism, will take the path of democracy and Socialism.

The heroic working class of Yugoslavia which has glorious militant traditions, is not alone in this struggle. It is supported by the working class of the world and the progressive forces of all countries, headed by the great Soviet Union and the brilliant leader and teacher of the peoples, Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA. A GROUP OF TEACHERS PREPARING FOR CLASSES



CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Over 80 workers act as tutors in evening Party schools at the "Svit" footwear factory in Gottwaldov. Above: a group of teachers preparing for classes.

*Czechoslovakia. Over 80 workers act as tutors in evening Party schools at the "Svit" footwear factory in Gottwaldov. Above: a group of teachers preparing for classes.*

# **IN THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC**

## **FIRST SUCCESSES OF INNER MONGOLIA**

The historic victory of the Chinese people opened wide perspectives for free development along the path of progress and people's democracy, not only to the Chinese people who constitute the bulk of the population of the Chinese People's Republic, but also to the other nationalities inhabiting this great country.

In the course of the past year the People's Government of the Autonomous region of Inner Mongolia achieved considerable successes, particularly in agriculture. Large-scale work is underway to forestall natural disasters which in old China constituted yearly calamities. Dyke repairs carried out in the Chelimu district prevented, for the first time in many years, flooding in the West Liao River area.

Big gains have been recorded also in animal husbandry. In four regions of Inner Mongolia alone, the number of animals has increased by 16 per cent. Various co-operative unions and mutual aid groups are being formed. The number of producer and Consumer co-operatives almost doubled in the course of the year. At present their membership amounts to nearly half a million.

Considerable successes have been achieved in popular education in this part of the country which, formerly, was extremely backward in the sphere of culture. In this region where, formerly, hardly 10 per cent of the population was literate, to-day, two-thirds of all children of school age are studying in 2,800

primary schools. The sale of books during the past nine months, in the Chinese and Mongolian languages, in four regions of Inner Mongolia alone, was in excess of one and a half million. For the first time in the history of Inner Mongolia serious measures are being taken to combat epidemic and social diseases.

## **1950 PLAN FULFILLED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE**

Many industrial enterprises in Manchuria—one of the main industrial region of the Chinese People's Republic—have fulfilled the 1950 programmes ahead of schedule. As reported by the Chinese press, five factories under the supervision of the Dairen Far East Electric Company completed their annual production plan between August 28 and September 25. Plan fulfilment was accompanied by improved quality, lower production costs, increased labour productivity and higher wages. For instance, a glass factory which fulfilled its plan on August 28 greatly improved the quality of its production, increased labour productivity by 57.5 per cent, raised wages by 35 per cent, and cut costs by 7.8 per cent. These successes are the result of the new organisation of labour and the development of emulation among the workers.

## **WORKERS' PALACE OF CULTURE OPENED IN SHANGHAI**

The first Workers' Palace of Culture opened in Shanghai on the occasion of the anniversary of the

Chinese People's Republic. The Government handed, over one of the biggest hotels in the city for this purpose. The Palace building was reconstructed and now has a large hall for meetings, a concert hall, sports premises, chess room, large library and a reading room etc. The Palace houses two permanent exhibitions devoted to the history of the working class movement in Shanghai and to the labour achievement is of the Shanghai workers since the liberation.

## **SOLICITUDE FOR THE HEALTH OF THE WORKING PEOPLE**

In November, 1949, the first night sanatorium for industrial workers was opened in Northeast China. At present there are 35 such sanatoria. The experience in such sanatoria where workers in need of medical treatment spend the evening and night after their day's work has proved most beneficial. In view of this, the Labour Department of the Northeast People's Government has instructed the managers of factories and mines to take all necessary measures to extend the network of night sanatoria.

## **PEACE MOVEMENT IN ARGENTINE. Alcira de la Peña, Member, Executive Committee, Communist Party of Argentine**

After the outbreak of bloody American aggression in Korea, the smokescreen of the “third (i.e., neutral—Ed.) position” of the Argentine dictator Peron, was soon dispersed. The broad masses clearly saw that this position veils the capitulation to American imperialism and the drawing in of our country into an aggressive war. And sure enough, the Argentine Government was one of the first to discard its “third position” and obligingly offered food, raw materials and Argentine soldiers to the Americans. Not satisfied with the verbal statement of the Peron Government, the U.S. State Department got the Argentine Ambassador Remorino to submit these proposals in writing. This fact evoked deep indignation in the country and Peron was compelled to state that it was, allegedly, a question only of an “agreement regarding supplies of canned meat to American ports.

At home in the Argentine, Peron did not carry out an agrarian reform, in spite of his anti-oligarchy demagogery. On the contrary, he made open concessions to the big latifundi at the expense of the working peasantry. Nor, for that matter, did he nationalise the enterprises, the property of foreign capitalists, apart from buying the railroads, the property of which was little more than scrap. In this transaction the British did a good business deal. for they would have had to spend considerable capital on installing modern equipment, while they sold

the railroads for a billion dollars more than their actual cost. The Americans, the holders of big capital and owners of the basic industries in the country, began to occupy first place in the sphere of foreign capital investments in the Argentine. The penetration of American capital has particularly intensified in connection with the agreements recently signed with the U.S. Government, granting the Argentine a loan of 125 million dollars.

Since Peron's social demagogy sharply diverges from the actual state of affairs, the working people are ever more insistently demanding that the promised social reforms be introduced. In the face of these demands of the masses and confronted with an economic crisis which is aggravated by the general crisis of capitalism, the Peron Government sees the only way out of the situation in fascisation of the State and in preparing for imperialist war. In accordance with this, it increased military expenditures from 587 million pesos in 1945 to 3 billion in 1950. This is an additional heavy burden on the working masses. While the minimum budget of a family of four rails for 1,074 pesos a month, the majority of skilled workers receive no more than 500-600 pesos a month.

Currying favour with its American masters, the Peron Government ordered its Parliamentary majority to ratify the pact signed in Rio de Janeiro and hastened to inform Trygve Lie that the Argentine would meet its obligations and support American aggression in Korea. Thus, the masses still influenced by Peron saw for themselves that the country is being sold to American imperialism and is heading straight for a new war, toward intensified exploitation of the working people. This explains why the peace movement is spreading and

becoming more militant, despite repressive measures. It is becoming a force capable of bringing increasing influence to bear on the country's policy, as is borne out by the fact that the Government abandoned its earlier decision to send troops to Korea.

The fascist Peron Government has intensified its repressions against the fighters for peace, for it clearly realises that the broadening of this movement menaces the realisation of the agreement with the enemies of the Argentine people. It has closed the premises of the peace movement and banned all meetings in defence of peace. It is arresting and torturing people canvassing for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal and is staging veritable pogroms in the apartments of the arrested. The police have orders to shoot "at sight" anyone seen collecting signatures. The assassination of Jorge Calvo, one of the leaders of the Communist Party, and of Angel Zelli, leader of the Textile Workers' Trade Union, is part of the terror plan carried out by the American gangsters against the partisans of peace. The fascists manifest particular hatred for the courageous Argentine women who are models of militant spirit and selflessness in the struggle for peace. These women are hounded and brutally ill-treated. Every foreign-born citizen taking part in the peace movement is subject to the "No. 4144" deportation law.

But the Argentine people have not flinched in the face of this fascist police terror. Despite this terror the partisans of peace collected 1,200,000 signatures to the Stockholm Appeal, and in doing so they displayed real heroism and resourcefulness.

The following fact testifies to the novel forms employed in the propaganda for peace: during a military parade in honour of the national hero, General Jose de

San Martin, the following slogan appeared on the base of the obelisk situated in the centre of the capital of Argentina: "San Martin—yes, MacArthur—no." When the Argentine Government pledged to deliver meat supplies to the American imperialists to support aggression in Korea, the partisans of peace advanced the slogan: "Argentine meat for the Argentine people and not for the American aggressors!" At the same time the Argentine Communists and other peace partisans put forward the main slogan of struggle: "No fuel, no raw materials, no provisions, nothing for the Anglo-American imperialists and their satellites!" No bases for war against the U.S.S.R. an the free peoples of the world!"

That these tasks are absolutely feasible is proved by the development of the peace movement since it first started. Notwithstanding police persecution and all kinds obstacles put in the way by trade union leaders, notwithstanding the sabotage of certain democratic party leaders, the partisans of peace held their first all-Argentine Congress which was attended by 1,500 delegates. The composition of the delegates as well as the composition of the Argentine delegation to the American Continental Congress in Mexico, speaks of the breath of the movement, for the delegates represented all social strata of the country. The collection of signatures to the Stockholm Appeal, the actions against the sending of troops to Korea demonstrate the growing activity of the workers and peasant masses, and particularly of the women and youth in the peace movement.

Despite intensified fascist terror we are preparing for our second all-Argentine Congress which will be held before the Second World Peace Congress. The peace movement in the Argentine has set itself the following

tasks: to collect three million signatures in the country, to prevent the shipment of Argentine meat to the American army, to develop the struggle against the foul campaign to militarise the country. These tasks must be linked up with the struggle for the immediate economic and social demands of the working class and the masses, to stop repressions, to win democratic liberties, defend the economic political independence of the country, to safeguard peace throughout the world.

## POLITICAL NOTES

### MURDERERS IN THE GUISE OF “BENEFACtors”

The meeting of MacArthur and Truman on Wake Island took place, as is known, after the Far Eastern dictator had been invited a dozen times and a dozen times refused to come to Washington. Finally, the President of the U.S.A. set out himself. This is understandable, for the power of the military clique in the U.S., is so great nowadays that the President had to obey his general.

The names of the participants in the meeting speak for themselves. MacArthur as is known, right at the outset of his career, became notorious for killing Philippine guerillas and American unemployed. He now bears the brand of murderer of Korean women and children.

Others present at the meeting included: Harriman, a representative of the most reactionary circles of monopoly capital in the U.S.A. and one of the most active warmongers; Bradley, Chief of General Staff the advocate of “preventive war”, Radford, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet and Jessup, “special ambassador” and confidential agent of Wall Street.

Only in the ironic sense could this gathering of warmongers be called a “Council of Peacemakers”. Yet, MacArthur, with unparalleled cynicism, loudly declared that the admirals and generals together with the bankers were, allegedly, wholly taken up with solicitude for peace and the well-being of the peoples! For the benefit of simpletons, MacArthur went so far as to

declare that the U.S. plans would evoke "great enthusiasm" in all Far Eastern countries.

The peoples of the Far East know full well the "plans" and the "deeds" of the U.S.A. They know the monstrous atrocities of the U.S. imperialists in Korea. The Korean people will never forgive the U.S. bandits for the blood of the mangled women and children, for villages and towns reduced to ashes. The peoples of the Far East will never forget how the Chiang Kai-shek gang, with the help of the American imperialists, annihilated over 10,000,000 people, the Chinese people will never forgive Chiang Kai-shek and his inspirers—Truman and MacArthur—for the death camp in Chunking where thousands of Chinese patriots were put to death. The Chinese people will never forget that the U.S. monopolists not on} provided Chiang Kai-shek with billions of dollars but, most thoughtfully, supplied him with perfected instruments for torturing his victims.

The Americans are now hastily equipping the French colonisers in Indo-China with tanks and aircraft. The people of Viet Nam know full well who it is that supplies the shells that are bringing death to their towns and villages. "The American imperialists are trying to stage in Viet Nam the same comedy that proved abortive in China and Greece",—writes "Laodonhung", organ of the Viet Nam Confederation of Labour.

The Philippine peasants will never forgive the American imperialists for the massacre of the population of Bacalarao, carried out by the American "peacemakers". nor will they forgive other massacres carried out since the "liberation" of the Philippines by the United States.

The sanguinary and shameful acts of the American colonisers evoke the wrath and indignation of all

progressive mankind. The hypocritical statement of the Truman barbarians, whose “solicitude” for the peoples of Asia is expressed in mass annihilation of the civil population, in wanton destruction of towns and villages and in ruthless plunder of the colonial peoples, will deceive no-one. The murderers of women, children and old folk will not escape the just tribunal of the peoples of Asia. MacArthur talks about “enthusiasm”. Yes, his statement will evoke enthusiasm, but this will be the enthusiasm of more determined struggle against foul imperialist aggressors.

Jan MAREK

## EDITORIAL BOARD

*Journal “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy”  
appears every Friday. Address of Editorial Office and of  
Publishing House: 56, Valeriu Braniște, Bucharest.  
Tel. 5. 10.59.*