

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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of the Communist and Workers' Parties**



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U.S.S.R. ON GUARD FOR PEACE AND SECURITY OF PEOPLES

The Second Session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. which recently completed its work, ratified the State Budget of the Soviet Union for 1951 and adopted a Law In Defence of Peace. The 1951 State Budget testifies to the steady advance of Soviet economy and culture. It means another stride forward in the development of all the Soviet Republics. The Law in Defence Of Peace voices the will of the Soviet people to uphold peace. Both these documents clearly express the peace-loving policy of the Soviet State and are a big contribution to the cause of defending peace.

All the thoughts, hopes and acts of the Soviet people, loyal to the behests of the great Lenin, led by Comrade Stalin, their leader and teacher, are aimed at preserving and consolidating peace and at utilising its blessings for the building of Communism. In the Soviet land, there are no classes and groups thirsting for war: Soviet society, by its very nature, is a champion of peace. Unswervingly defending peace, the Soviet Union quickly healed the severe wounds of war and successfully completed the Five-Year Plan for the rehabilitation and development of the national economy. In 1950, the last year of the post-war Five-Year Plan, gross industrial output in the U.S.S.R. was 73 per cent above the 1940 level, instead of the 48 per cent provided by the Five-Year Plan!

The rapid growth of production in the U.S.S.R, made it possible to raise the standard of living of the people. On March 1, 1951, the Soviet Government effected

another—the fourth—reduction in State retail prices for food and manufactured goods.

Each article of the 1951 State Budget of the U.S.S.R. reflects the unbending will of the Soviet people for peace, to march onward to Communism. Military expenditure by the U.S.S.R. will comprise but 21.3 per cent of the budget allocations in the current year, against 32.5 per cent in the pre-war 1940. Considerably more funds are allocated for the further development of the economy than last year. A total of 178,500,000,000 rubles, or 39.5 per cent of the budget, go for financing the national economy, mainly for new capital construction. Social-cultural measures take 120,800,000,000 rubles, i.e., 26.8 per cent of the budget. The main part of budget revenue is derived from the accumulations of Socialist enterprises. Taxes on the population account for only 9.4 cent of the total revenue.

Budgets, in the language of figures, indicate the political course of any State. They mirror the actual policy pursued by this or that government. President Truman, in his message to Congress, declared that, in the current year, U.S. appropriations for military purposes will surpass the 50 billion dollar mark. This sum is nearly 50 times more than U.S. military expenditure in the pre-war 1938-1939 fiscal year, and is almost double the war expenditure in 1941-1942.

Under pressure from the U.S. warmongers, the Governments of Britain and France have doubled their direct military expenditure this year compared with last year. The agents of the U.S. imperialists in the Balkans—the fascist Tito clique—spend over 70 per cent of Yugoslavia's Budget on war preparations. Parallel with this, the imperialist rulers have drastically reduced the

already miserable appropriations for cultural needs. In the 1950-1951 fiscal year, the expenditure for education in the U.S.A. amounted to a mere 1 per cent of the budget. An even these paltry allocations have been severely cut by the U.S. Government.

The two Budgets—that of the USSR, and that of the U.S.A.—are expressions of the two diametrically opposite lines pursued by the two States on the questions of peace and war. The Soviet people direct the bulk of their expenditure for peaceful construction: for gigantic hydro-electric stations and canals; for the purpose of transforming nature. Investing tens of billions of rubles in these great projects, the Soviet people are firmly confident that they will succeed in building the hydroelectric stations, in building the canals and in triumphing over drought, and that peace will be preserved. It is clear to every healthy-minded person that, since the Soviet Union spends its basic funds on peaceful construction, on developing culture and furthering the health services, it wants peace and is constantly striving for peace. Not a single State, as is clearly proved both by economic laws and historical experience, can simultaneously engage in gigantic peaceful construction and in all-out war preparations. The United States, having begun preparations for a new world war, was forced, at the same time, drastically to curtail peaceful production. The same is true of the rulers of Britain and France. The governments of these countries place the entire burden of war expenditure on the backs of the working people who are already suffering from onerous taxes and high prices. The course of war preparation is incompatible with the course of developing peaceful economy.

The building of Communism in the U.S.S.R. is one of the main factors for the preservation and consolidation of peace, The higher and more magnificent the edifice of Communism, the greater its power of attraction and the easier it is for the ordinary people in all countries to see this, The mightier Soviet Socialist power, the stronger are the People's Democracies, since the building of Socialism in these countries is organically linked with the successes of building Communism in the U.S.S.R. and since, in their constructive work, the People's Democracies rely on the selfless, fraternal aid of the U.S.S.R.

The successes of the Soviet Union strengthen and cement the entire powerful camp of peace and democracy.

On the basis of alliance and friendship with the U.S.S.R., People's China, which is carrying out huge democratic transformations, is growing stronger; the German Democratic Republic is successfully forging ahead. That the Soviet Government, in conditions of frantic war preparations and open acts of aggression by the American-British imperialists, finds it possible not only to continue but also to extend its peaceful construction on such an immense scale— this testifies to the peaceful policy of the U.S.S.R., to the confidence of the Soviet people in the invincibility of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism whose forces are growing steadily.

Comrade Stalin declared in his interview with a "Pravda" correspondent: "Peace will be preserved and consolidated if the peoples will take the cause of preserving peace into their own hands and defend it to the end. War may become inevitable if the warmongers succeed in entangling the masses of the people in lies,

in deceiving them and drawing them into a new world war”.

The new Soviet Budget—a peace budget—is a most powerful weapon in the struggle against the imperialists’ falsehoods, deception and slander. Ordinary men, the world over, who get to know how much the U.S. Government spends on war preparations and how much the Soviet Union spends on peaceful construction, will understand who is the enemy and who the friend, whom to defend and whom to hate.

The Soviet Government does not only proclaim a peace policy but pursues it unswervingly. The Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., expressing the demand of all Soviet people and mindful of the Address of the World Peace Congress to parliaments in all countries, recognising that the conscience and sense of justice of the peoples, who, in the lifetime of a single generation, experienced the calamities of two world wars, cannot reconcile themselves with war propaganda conducted with impunity by aggressive circles in a number of countries, adopted a special **Law for Defence of Peace**. According to this law, any war propaganda in the U.S.S.R. will be regarded as a grave, crime against mankind and subject to severe punishment. Persons, guilty of war propaganda, will be tried as grave criminal offenders.

The entire mode of life of the Soviet people excludes any possibility of advocating homicide or of attacking other peoples. In the Soviet Union, just as in the countries of People’s Democracy, which adopted similar laws, there was created long ago an atmosphere of nation-wide struggle for peace, and propagandists for war can only be individuals who have lost all contact with the people, and who act against the people. But even in

such conditions the peace-loving States adopt special laws in defence of peace.

Why, it may be asked, have not similar laws been enacted in the U.S., Britain, France Italy and other capitalist countries, where the warmongers have run amok and, enjoying complete impunity, are intensifying war propaganda, whipping-up war hysteria, plotting and widely circulating barbaric plans for the extermination of entire nations?

Because the ruling circles in these countries, pursuing a policy of expansion and aggression, terror and poverty, strive only for laws to punish the common people whose only “guilt” is that they are fighting for peace, bread and work.

But the ordinary man is beginning to see ever more clearly the profound depth of the dreadful abyss towards which he is being impelled by the warmongers.

The Communist Parties, marching in the vanguard of the struggle for peace, are rallying the people for defence of the best achievements of mankind, for the struggle against evil and savage reaction, for defence of peace. Peace is dear to all people of good-will, and if they unite their efforts, if they take the cause of preserving peace into their own hands, peace will triumph over war!

STALIN PRIZE AWARDS IN U.S.S.R.

The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. has adjudged the 1950 Stalin Prize winners for outstanding achievements in the sphere of science, invention, literature and art. Recipients include a large group of workers of science and culture, engineers, technicians and stakhanovites.

The Stalin Prize awards are further testimony to the rapid advance of science and culture in the Soviet Union, to the unity of science and practice and to the attention given by the Government to the further development of Soviet culture.

WILL OF PEOPLES FOR PEACE IS UNBREAKABLE!

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FRENCH WOMEN— CHAMPIONS OF PEACE

Approximately 30,000 delegates from all parts of the country gathered on March 11 in the town of Gennevilliers (near Paris), on the initiative of the Union of French Women, for the National Women's Conference for the struggle for disarmament. The delegates were elected at women's meetings in houses, streets, city blocks, villages and factories.

The conference was held under the slogan of struggle for peace, for reduction of armaments, against the rearming of Western Germany, for signing a Pact of Peace between the five Great Powers. The presidium of the conference included Frédéric Joliot-Curie, Irène Joliot-Curie, Jeannette Vermeersch, Raymonde Dien, Maria-Claude Vaillant-Couturier and Françoise Leclercq. Women's delegations from a number of countries, including a delegation of German women, were present.

A report was delivered by Claudine Chomat, General Secretary of the Union of French Women. "We shall do all that is necessary," she said, "to promote the great peace movement in France. We shall not let our sons and husbands become soldiers for a new war. We shall not allow our country to be turned into a munitions dump and reduced to ruins."

The delegates wholeheartedly approved the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress and the

First Session of the World Peace Council. They pledged to spare no effort to popularise and carry out these decisions.

“DAY OF YOUTH STRUGGLE FOR PEACE” IN ITALY

The Italian Peace Committee has set up a National Youth Union which will unite the movement of the Italian youth for peace. This Union proclaimed March 18 as a “day of youth struggle for peace”.

During preparations for carrying out this day, the youth are voicing their support for the Appeal of the World Peace Council for the signing of a Pact of Peace between the five Great Powers, against the remilitarisation of Western Germany, against war appropriations, against the extension of military service, for the right of the youth to work and, education, for friendship among peoples. Hundreds of manifestations, rallies and discussions are taking place. The peace committees are setting up youth unions.

PEACE RICKSDAG IN SWEDEN

Peace partisans in Sweden held a peace Riksdag in Stockholm on March 3-4. More than 400 representatives from various organisations, uniting in all over 300,000 people, and also several hundred guests arrived from all parts of the country.

The Riksdag unanimously supported the Appeal of the World Peace Council for a Pact of Peace, decided to

conduct a campaign for signatures in support of this Appeal and issued the following “Call of Swedish Citizens for Peace and International Co-Operation”:-

“We stand for a policy of peace by Sweden that does not involve our country in military blocs and war preparations;

“against the armaments drive which inflates prices and lowers our living standard;

“for all-round and free trade and cultural relations, developed on the basis of Sweden's own interests.

“We want to live in peace with all peoples!”

The call was sent to all trade-union and other organisations in Sweden. The Riksdag also adopted a resolution on the international situation and measures to activate and rally all peace-loving forces in Sweden. A special committee was elected to investigate facts of war propaganda and to prepare measures against this propaganda.

ON EVE OF SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN IN INDIA

The Preparatory Committee for the Second All-India Peace Congress has decided to end the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal and to concentrate attention on popularising the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress and the World Peace Council and on collecting signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council for a Pact of Peace.

SESSION OF SUPREME SOVIET OF U.S.S.R.

The second session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. was held in Moscow on March 6-12. The session approved the State Budget of the Soviet Union for 1951. Budget revenue was approved to the amount of 458,716,644 thousand rubles and expenditure to the amount of 451,502,680 thousand rubles, with revenue exceeding expenditure by 7,213,964 thousand rubles.

The bulk of the budget expenditure consists of allocations for financing the national economy and social-cultural undertakings. Expenditure on defence of the country amounts to 21.3 per cent of the total budget expenditure, i.e. 11.2 per cent less than in the pre-war year of 1940.

In connection with the Appeal of the Second World Peace Congress to the parliaments of all countries, the session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., unanimously adopted a law for defence of peace.

The session elected the members of the Supreme Court of the U.S.S.R. and approved the decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. adopted in the period between the first and second sessions of the Supreme Soviet.

LAW FOR DEFENCE OF PEACE ADOPTED BY SUPREME SOVIET OF U.S.S.R.

The Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, motivated by the high principles of the Soviet

peace-loving policy, pursuing the aims of strengthening peace and friendly relations between the peoples:—

considers that the conscience and sense of justice of the peoples who, during the lifetime of a single generation experienced the calamity of two world wars, cannot reconcile themselves with the propaganda for war conducted with impunity by aggressive circles in a number of States and aligns itself with the Appeal of the Second World Peace Congress which voiced the will of all progressive mankind in relation to banning and condemning the criminal war propaganda, The Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics decrees:—

1. That propaganda of war, irrespective of form, undermines the cause of peace, creates the danger of a new war and is, therefore, a grave crime against mankind.

2. Persons guilty of propaganda of war must be brought to justice and tried as inveterate criminals.

SESSION OF LABOUR AND PEACE. P. Pavlenko, Writer, Deputy of Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

The Session of the supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., held in Moscow from March 6-12, was extremely specific in its nature. Two main questions should be marked out in the agenda: The State Budget of the U.S.S.R. and the Peace Law.

Discussion of the draft budget lasted several days. Deputies, representatives of the Republics, of areas and

regions took a most active part in the discussion. What did they speak about?

Gaidarov, Deputy for the Sabirabad constituency in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, noted that in 1950 the national income of the U.S.S.R. was 64 per cent above the 1940 level, that the well-being of the population had improved considerably and that appropriations for the national economy and for social-cultural undertakings had increased. He added that the budget foreseen for his Republic is nearly double that for 1940 and that considerable sums are allocated for the continued planting of forest belts in the Azerbaijan Republic, for increasing the yield of wheat and cotton crops and for extending the irrigation system.

Deputy Butenko, from the Krasnograd constituency, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, spoke of the development of the national economy in the Ukraine during 1950. The collective farms increased the number of cows by 44 per cent; pigs, 26 per cent, and horses 23 per cent. Refineries considerably increased the output of sugar. And yet only recently the Ukraine was the arena of heavy battles.

Deputy Sabitova, from Kazakhstan, Central Asia, said that 1,400,000 children were attending school in her Republic and that Kazakhstan had established world records for crops of sugar beet, rice, millet and tobacco. She noted that construction of the Stalingrad hydro-electric station is of great significance for her Republic; it is an undertaking which, in the near future, will make possible the transformation of ten million hectares of land in West-Kazakhstan and the Gurjev regions into fertile lands. Ten million hectares! This means at least a billion poods of grain. Deputy Sabitova made demands on a number of Ministries and raised the

question of developing potato and vegetable bases in the vicinity of a number of towns in Kazakhstan.

The session learned from the speech by Deputy Lazis from Latvia that during the past five years 55 per cent of the budget in Soviet Latvia had been allocated for social-cultural measures alone. Deputy Kuznetsov informed the session that during the past twelve months nearly four million working people received treatment or rested completely or partially at State expense; more than five million children enjoyed holidays in the pioneer camps, in other words, almost two Finlands of resting children! In the capitalist countries the worker lives worse in 1951 than he did in 1945, 1946, 1948 and 1949, whereas, the land of Socialism, having overcome the difficulties of the post-war rehabilitation, is marching forward at full speed.

While real wages are falling in the capitalist countries and prices soaring, in the Soviet Union there have been four price reductions which have meant a considerable rise in real wages.

The Session of the Supreme Soviet, convened at a time when there is so much noise in the capitalist countries around the preparations for another war adventure, discussed, with amazing calm, everyday matters pertaining to Communist construction. Schools are more essential than guns, hospitals are more important than haying airbases on the territory of other States. There are more than a million schoolteachers in the Soviet Union. Here is the army of peace! That is why, on the last day of the Session, the words spoken in defence of peace sounded so natural and convincing.

It is not at all fortuitous that the law for the protection of peace was on the agenda of the Session. Building of peace—this is the Socialist system in

practice, the very basis of this system; consequently, defence of peace is also the cause of Socialism.

For six years the countries in Central and South-East Europe, having established the people's democratic system within their borders, have been enjoying the blessings of constructive peace. In the East; People's China has begun peaceful construction.

The Peace Law adopted by the Session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. was taken as an oath. Peace, won by the blood of the best sons of the Soviet people, does not exist so that its fate may rest with generals-cum-businessmen and businessmen from atom strategy who appear to have learnt nothing, Peace exists for those who treasure it and who can make good use of it. There are infinitely more such people in the world than there are instigators of war and their hangers-on.

When the Chairman announced that the Peace Law had been unanimously adopted the hall rang with applause. All turned their eyes to the Presidium where, in the very last row, stood a calm and modest man, the man whose features are dear to the best sons and daughters of mankind. He, too, applauded the delegates of the people who simply, unanimously and insistently, had adopted the Peace Law.

This was another slap in the face for the warmongers!

Another blow against the instigators of war! Another powerful, world-wide call to the peoples to take the fate of peace into their own hands, to grasp it firmly, preserve and strengthen it as the tree of life, as a token of well-being! The applause in the Kremlin will resound all over the world. And let it be heard by the Polish peasant, the Iceland fisherman, the Negro in the depths

of Africa, by the Viet Nam warrior combating the enemy at the threshold of his home, and by the heroic people of long-suffering Korea. Let it be heard by the unknown soldiers of peace who are selflessly fighting for it in the factories of Britain, among the farmers of America, in the streets of Western Germany and at French ports.

The Peace Law has been adopted in the Soviet Union.

It has been adopted also by Parliaments in the people's democratic countries.

From now on, those guilty of war propaganda will be liable to trial in the States where there exists a firm conception of honour and conscience.

It will now be clear to all that the conception of honour and conscience does not refer to the U.S. rulers and their satellites.

POPULARISING—DECISIONS OF PEACE COUNCIL IN RUMANIA

Peace committees in factories, offices and in rural and urban districts are widely popularising the decisions of the World Peace Council. In the Bucharest district, members of peace committees are going from house to house explaining the great significance of these documents.

The Permanent Peace Committee of the Rumanian People's Republic decided to launch, in April, a campaign for signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council for a Pact of Peace.

At a meeting of working people in the May-Day oil district (Ploesti), the oil worker, Constantin Banu, said:

“The imperialists will never again succeed in deceiving us. They have caused us much suffering; we know why they are against the Pact of Peace. Our signatures to the Appeal of the Peace Council, our daily work and the struggle of all peoples for peace, will frustrate their aggressive designs.”

In Caransebes (Severin region), the decisions of the Peace Council were discussed at the Regional People’s Council, in the railway-shops, the teachers’ training college and other institutions.

NATION-WIDE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES IN BULGARIA

The hundreds of telegrams and letters daily pouring into the Bulgarian National Peace Committee from various organisations, meetings of the working people and from individual citizens, testify to the warm support for the decisions of the World Peace Council on the part of the Bulgarian people, to their readiness vigorously to help strengthen the peace front by selfless labour in carrying out the Five-Year Plan.

On March, 10, an enlarged meeting of the National Peace Committee discussed the decisions of the World Peace Council, outlined concrete measures for popularising and carrying out these decisions and resolved to conduct, between April 15 and 30, a nation-wide collection of signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council for a Pact of Peace.

On the basis of the experience of the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Appeal, the meeting recommended the area, regional and town peace

committees to summon enlarged meetings to discuss the World Peace Council decisions. Between April 1 and 15, talks will be conducted in groups among the population of towns and villages. By April 10, three-men groups for collecting signatures to the Appeal will be formed in all factories, offices, peasant co-operatives, machine-and-tractor depots, schools, military units and in streets and villages.

Simultaneously with the campaign for signatures, collections will be taken for the international peace fund and for the heroic people of Korea.

STATEMENT BY UNION OF CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS

In its recent statement, the Union of Czechoslovak Writers called upon all honest workers in the sphere of culture in all countries—men and women—to back in every way the decisions of the World Peace Council.

Czechoslovak writers also resolutely supported the proposal of the World Peace Council to convene international conferences of authors, artists, scientists and other workers in culture, with a view to discussing questions concerning the development of national culture and international cultural co-operation.

EUROPEAN WORKERS' CONFERENCE AGAINST REMILITARISATION OF WESTERN GERMANY

A conference of workers' representatives from European countries on the question of "Unity of the working people and trade unions in the European countries in the struggle against remilitarisation of Germany" will be held in Berlin on March 23-25. The Initiative Committee created by the workers of German and French enterprises addressed a letter to all central trade union organisations in the European countries, international trade union organisations and to workers of a number of large enterprises, inviting them to send representatives to this conference.

In connection with the address of the Initiative Committee, the Italian General Confederation of Labour called upon the Italian trade union organisations to elect delegates at large enterprises in order that they might express the will of Italian working people to prevent the arming of Western Germany.

The Initiative Committee is receiving hundreds of letters from mills and factories from all countries in Europe approving the idea of convening the conference and enclosing lists of delegates. Election of delegates is continuing in factories in France and Germany.

AGAINST FASCIST TERROR AND POLICE REPRESSIONS IN FRANCE. Raoul Calas, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party

The other day, the Radical, Henri Queuille, who was Minister of Interior in the Pleven Government, formed a new Government which in no way differs from the old. Pleven, Moch, Queuille; Queuille, Moch, Pleven—one and the same people! One and the same majority! The self-same masters—the American imperialist rulers! Queuille may drop one or another point from the fascist electoral law due to the rift that appeared in the American parliamentary Party majority and which brought about the fall of the Pleven Government. But the law that Queuille will try to get through Parliament will not basically differ from the former bill. The leaders of the American party in France are resorting to every means in an effort to deprive the Communist Party—the first Party of France from the standpoint of votes polled—completely or almost completely of representation in Parliament.

The French rulers are seeking agreement on a fascist electoral law in order to further intensify their anti-popular policy and to pave the way for de Gaulle, the candidate for dictator. This law will mark a new phase in the policy of fascisation and repressions pursued since 1947.

The ban on the functioning in France of the leading organs of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Federation of Democratic Women,

imposed by the Pleven-Moch Government last January, is a glaring example of the police and fascist nature of the Government. The prohibition revealed once again the complete subordination of the French rulers to the American trusts which insist on more brutal police measures. This was also an expression of the displeasure of American imperialist circles who were furious over the powerful popular demonstrations against Eisenhower's arrival in France.

The police repressions carried out by the French Government, on a model more and more reminiscent of the methods of Hitler and his Gestapo, are designed to isolate the French Communist Party and the peace movement, to smash the only force capable of frustrating the plans of the warmongers and of organising an indestructible movement against the rearmament of Germany without which no war can be unleashed in Europe.

The French rulers are trying to hit hardest at the fighters for peace and freedom, seeking thereby to prevent any concrete actions in defence of peace. Such is the essence of the foul law issued on March 11, last year, and aimed at suppressing propaganda and struggle against the production and transportation of war materials. This law even provides for the death sentence, and the civil court gives way to the military tribunal.

The successive Governments in France are persecuting and hounding with brutal ferocity those courageously fighting against the war in Viet Nam. The sentence of one year's imprisonment imposed on Raymonde Dien and the five year sentence on Henri Martin, the warrant issued for the arrest of Leo Figueres, Secretary of the Union of the Republican

Youth—such are the striking examples of the policy of repressions aimed at suppressing the struggle for peace with Viet Nam and for the withdrawal of the French expeditionary corps from Indo-China.

Brutal repressions are accompanied by dismissals of workers' delegates and of workers, people who opposed, as was the case in Tarbes and Limoges, the production of war materials and the presence of American officers in war factories. Similar measures were taken against dockers selflessly fighting against the unloading of American armaments.

The Pleven-Queuille Government openly violated the Constitution, the right to strike and to trade union activities; persecuted Civil Servants who took part in the peace demonstrations; removed from their posts Mayors in Paris and a number of other cities for voicing their support of peace; did their utmost, employing every means and any pretext, to deprive a number of Communist Deputies of their Parliamentary immunity; sought to enact a law against the democratic press, the draft of which was introduced by the Socialist, Desson.

Prohibiting the functioning in France of the World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Federation of Democratic Women; banning circulation in France of the journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!", organ of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties, the journal "New Times" and nearly all other Soviet publications; systematic deportation of foreign-born antifascists and active peace partisans—all these are but a prelude to similar measures against French democratic organisations and press.

The Right-wing Socialist leaders are displaying the greatest zeal in this dirty work. Moch, when Minister of the Interior, caused workers' blood to flow. The Right-wing Socialist Eugene Thomas, Queuille's deputy in the Ministry of the Interior, is organising arson and assassination on the model of Goering (recently, for example, in Bully-Grenay, Pas-de-Calais Department) with the purpose of foul provocations against the Communist Party.

The Right-wing Socialist leader André Philip declared in "Le Populaire" in typically fascist style that sometimes it is necessary "to sacrifice certain freedoms in order to save freedom in general", i.e. to continue capitalist oppression.

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But "chickens shouldn't be counted before they are hatched". The Government can only succeed in its aim if the influence of the Communist Party declines and its contact with the masses is weakened. However, the growing struggle of the working people for their immediate demands, the numerous successes of the Communists in by-elections, their active role in the broad movement for peace and, finally, the fact that during the months of January and February 1951 alone, over 20,000 people joined the Party—these facts show that the French Communist Party is linked with the masses more closely than ever before.

No less significant is the fact that recently the Communist Party and other democratic organisations achieved outstanding success in the struggle against police repressions. The Lyons military tribunal acquitted Jeanne Pitaval and the other Roanne fighters for peace

who had resisted the transportation of war materials. Raymonde Dien, courageous twenty-two year old woman who lay on the rails at Saint-Pierre-des-Corps to hold up a train loaded with arms for the war in Indo-China, was set free 48 days before her sentence expired. The twelve fighters for peace who, singing the “Marseillaise”, demonstrated in Saint-Brieue against the transportation of war materials, as well as four members of the staff of “France d’Arbord”, organ of the former franes-tireurs and guerrillas, were acquitted.

It should be mentioned that on a number of occasions both civil and military judges acted as patriots, despite pressure on the part of the Government. However, in most cases the success of the struggle was determined by the mass action of the working people. Leaflets and posters were issued in hundreds of thousands of copies, and hundreds of meetings were held. The homes of judges, prefects, municipal councillors, members of the Government and even the President of the Republic were literally flooded with petitions and protest resolutions. Numerous brief protest strikes took place, while demonstrations were held outside the courts. In the course of the struggle the “Popular Aid”—an organisation for defence of victims of anti-democratic and anti-national repressions—gained in strength. The number of readers of its organ, “La Défense”, increased.

These results have added confidence in the possibility of successful struggle against the repressions. They showed that any fascist law, even after its passage through Parliament, can be nullified, on the condition, however, that there is action by the masses, action that each time is thoroughly prepared.

The struggle against repressions can also be successful if this struggle is combined with struggle against the source of the repressions, that is, mainly against the Government's war policy. It is necessary to show to the masses, on the basis of concrete facts, that the repressions are the work of the same people who freeze wages, cause unemployment, deprive the youth of the possibility of getting a profession, close the school doors to them, constantly increase taxes, raise prices, persecute resistance fighters and patriots, and at the same time, cover up corruption and amnesty traitors and collaborators.

It is also essential to describe vividly to the people the lives and struggles of the imprisoned and persecuted fighters for peace and freedom, of the staunchness and courage of such heroes of the struggle against war as Henri Martin and Raymonde Dien. Every tradition in the struggle against repressions must be utilised, such for example as the campaign—remarkable in its scale—conducted between 1919 and 1925 for the liberation of André Marty and the Black Sea “rebels”, which experience the Committee for the Liberation of Henri Martin is utilising now.

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Not everywhere is the struggle against the repressions being waged with equal vigour. The successes achieved by peace partisans in this struggle help, more than anything else, to convince the vacillating, those who succumb to the noisy propaganda of the enemy and who lack confidence in the victory of the working class and the people.

Only yesterday the gravediggers of France—Daladier, Reynaud and the Vichy traitors—calculated on destroying the French Communist Party by means of terror. But the Party gained even greater strength as a result of five years heroic struggle against the Hitler occupationists and their hirelings. Today, in the struggle against the new onslaught of fascism, the French Communists will close their ranks, increase their fighting spirit, take with them ever broader masses of the working people and democrats, and inflict decisive defeat on the Government of oppression, national betrayal and war.

CULTURAL-EDUCATIONAL WORK IN POLISH COUNTRYSIDE. Marian Jaworski, General Secretary, Polish Peasants' Mutual Aid Union

The cultural revolution in the Polish countryside is taking place in the conditions of a sharp ideological struggle of the new against the old, against antiquated concepts, views and habits of a considerable section of the peasantry.

The Polish bourgeoisie and landlord suppressed every initiative on the part of the advanced peasants who tried to organise cultural life in the countryside. Where police-administrative measures proved inadequate, the ruling classes resorted to political subversion, to the theory of so-called "agrarianism" which counterposed the peasantry to the working class.

The reactionary anti-people's policy of the propertied classes in Poland brought about the ruin of the masses. This policy led to ignorance and cultural backwardness, particularly in the countryside. Not only were the doors of the higher educational establishments and secondary schools closed to the working class youth and to the peasant youth; the children of working peasants were not always able to attend even the elementary schools. Prior to the war, about a million peasant children received no education at all, and 80 per cent were able to finish only two, three and, at the most, four classes of elementary village school. This explains why millions of people were illiterate in old Poland.

The years of Hitler occupation further aggravated the situation.

In these conditions, in the conditions of economic chaos, there began, after the liberation of the country and the transfer of power into the hands of the working class and the peasantry, a struggle for the liquidation of cultural backwardness, which particularly affected the countryside, a struggle for the development and reorganisation of our culture on the basis of revolutionary, social and economic reforms.

The working class not only helped the peasantry carry out the agrarian reform and distribute the land of the rural rich, but also directly influenced the peasantry and encouraged the political development of the peasant masses.

The political and economic activity of the peasants grew, together with their activity in the sphere of cultural construction. Thousands of examples showing how, immediately after liberation, working peasants repaired the old schools and built new ones, opened village clubs and libraries and organised amateur art circles, are proof that the creative energy of the free peasant masses is awakening and developing. The peasants are displaying a keen interest in education, science and culture.

The Peasants' Mutual Aid Union, a mass peasants' organisation, was formed with the support of the Polish Workers' Party to help the peasant masses carry out their social-economic and educational tasks.

Reaction, which united around Mikolajczyk for the struggle against the People's Government, was also active in the sphere of culture. It sought to revive in the countryside the "traditions" of cultural-political subversion, directed against the mass of the people.

This was most evident in the reopened “peasant universities” which, before the war, were the breeding ground of reactionary, kulak ideology, where mysticism, “solidarity of the peasants” and hostility towards the working class, were propagated. After the liberation of the country, the “theory of agrarianism” was spread by the Right-wing leaders of the peasant youth organisation, “Wici”.

But, under the leadership of our Party and with the fraternal aid of the working class, the revolutionary peasant “masses, particularly the peasant youth, combated these alien tendencies. The democratisation of the peasant youth organisations, followed by the unification of the village youth in the united workers-peasants organisation—the Union of Polish Youth—took place in the process of this struggle. The peasant universities merged with the Peasants’ Mutual Aid Union.

The Right and nationalist deviations in the Polish Workers’ Party also affected the development of cultural life in the countryside. Support for the “theory”, that education and culture should develop on a non-political, non-class basis, backed up the “theory” of peasant solidarity in the countryside. By overcoming this deviation and uniting the working class, a basis was created for a wide ideological and organisational cultural offensive in the countryside.

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The successful building of Socialism in Poland provides the basis for large-scale cultural-educational work in the countryside.

Simultaneously with the political and economic achievements of the working class and working peasantry, with the growing prosperity of the workers and peasants, the cultural activity of the mass of poor and middle peasants is growing and the cultural backwardness of the countryside is being eliminated.

The Polish United Workers' United Peasants' Party and the Government, utilising the experience of the C.P.S.U.(B) and the Soviet State in the matter of raising the cultural and political level of the masses, are displaying increasing solicitude and rendering ever greater material aid in organising and developing cultural life in the countryside.

In the Polish countryside there are no longer any children not attending school. The number of peasant children attending intermediate schools and colleges together with workers children, is growing steadily. The network of agricultural schools has increased. A total of 20,000 peasant youth attend the 184 agricultural lyceums (intermediate schools) whereas the student body of the 18 peasant secondary schools which existed in 1938 numbered only 1,700.

A hundred thousand peasant youth finished short-term agricultural courses in 1950.

Much is being done to combat illiteracy which will be wiped out by the end of the year. More than 3,000 reading classes were organised in 1950 for those who had learnt to read and write. Village school teachers are rendering valuable assistance in the struggle against illiteracy. Frequently, peasants who themselves only recently learnt to read and write, help combat illiteracy. Those who finish these elementary courses are drawn into social life and elected to district people's councils, etc.

The demand for newspapers and books among peasants is growing. Some 3,700,000 copies of newspapers and journals, mainly newspapers published by the Polish United Workers' Party, such as "Gromoda", "Chlopska Droga" and others, are circulated in the countryside. These two newspapers receive more than 7,000 letters a month from peasant readers. The number of rural correspondents is increasing.

Popularisation of newspapers and books in the countryside is facilitated by the wide network of State and public libraries. There were 20,000 libraries at the close of 1950 with a total of 4,300,000 books. The villages receive large quantities of the best works of progressive Polish and world literature. Interest in Soviet books is growing. Peasants are beginning to read Marxist-Leninist literature. Reading circles and self-education circles are being organised in the libraries and village clubs. There were more than 3,800 self-education agricultural circles in 1950. A new type of rural club, organised by the Peasants' Mutual Aid Union together with the Polish Youth Union, opened in 1950. Village clubs and reading-rooms now number 99,100. Many reading-rooms were opened by the peasants themselves. Thus, in the Ostrzewow district, all the reading-rooms were opened at the expense of the district. The more than 2,500 editorial boards organised last year issued 4 total of 7,538 wall newspapers.

At the close of 1949, the village clubs had 2,293 amateur art circles, choirs, orchestras and ensembles, and at the end of 1950, 5,000. The repertoires of these circles have considerably improved. Performances given by these circles and ensembles on May Day, for instance, revealed richness of artistic form and the

presence of talent and its development among the working peasantry. The rural theatrical circles and ensembles Particularly distinguished themselves at the All-Polish festival of Russian and Soviet Plays in 1949.

Village clubs are becoming increasingly important link in developing the offensive on the cultural front, in popularising science in the countryside, and in combating prejudice, ignorance and backwardness. Their role and significance is also growing in publicising the producer co-operatives, and in the struggle for peace.

A mass sports and physical-culture movement, practically non-existent before the war, is developing in the countryside. Peasant sports organisations have a membership of approximately 300,000 men and women who take an active part in the social and political life of the country. Eighty-eight thousand members of peasant sports organisations took part in last year's May Day celebrations. These sports organisations repaired during the May Day emulation campaign about 3,000 stadiums, sports grounds and equipment.

Electrification and the development of a radio and cinema network accelerate the spread of culture in the countryside. Altogether, 12,435 villages have so far been electrified, 445,000 loud speakers have been installed in the villages, 605 permanent cinemas and 202 mobile cinema functioning.

The cultural link between the working class and working peasantry are being strengthened. About 8,000 workers' patronage groups visited the countryside in 1950. These also contained theatrical and sports collectives which helped the village clubs, theatrical circles and sports societies. Last year, 2,000 peasant

excursions were organised to mills and factories, city theatres, museums and exhibitions.

The 17,000 branches of the Poland-Soviet Friendship Society, organised in the countryside, popularise the economic and cultural achievements of the U.S.S.R., particularly in the sphere of collective-farming.

The unfolding, many-sided cultural-educational work in the Polish countryside facilitates the growth of the consciousness and activity of the working peasantry in their struggle in alliance with the working class and under the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party, for a new, Socialist countryside. The cultural revolution, as one of the vital conditions for the successful building of Socialism in our country, will develop more and more in the process of the reorganisation of the countryside.

HUNGARIAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP MONTH

The Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Month opened with a celebration meeting in the State Opera Theatre in Budapest attended by the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Working People's Party, the Council of Ministers, leading industrial workers, stakhanovites, innovators and also the Ambassadors and members of the diplomatic missions of the friendly countries. A Soviet delegation headed by Academician V. P. Nikitin was present.

In his speech of greetings, Ferenc Erdei, Minister of Agriculture and Chairman of the Hungary-Soviet Society, said: "The more we advance in the Socialist construction of our country, and the greater the tasks we set ourselves, the more we can learn from the brilliant example of the Soviet people and the more we get from every meeting with their representatives".

Academician Nikitin, who addressed the meeting, referred to the well-known Hungarian scientists: Bolyai, mathematician, Eötvös, physicist, and Semmelweiss, physician, and stressed the role they played in the development of science. He told the audience of the popularity in the Soviet Union of the works of the bard of freedom, Sandor Petöfi, Csokonai, Ady and other representatives of Hungarian literature, as well as the music of Liszt, Bartok, Kodaly and other Hungarian composers.

Academician Nikitin described the struggle waged by the Soviet people for peace. "We are confident", he said, "that the extension of cultural relations between

our peoples, and the consolidation of our friendship, serve the cause of peace and the common cause of security for the peoples”.

CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE FORCES IN SWEDEN. Hilding Hagberg, Vice-Chairman, Communist Party of Sweden

Sweden has not been involved in war since 1814. It kept out of the two world wars, although they raged near her borders, particularly World War Two. Officially, Sweden was neutral, but neutrality was not observed on quite a number of occasions, especially during World War Two, and in many respects Sweden provided support for the Hitler war gamble. The natural resources of Sweden were placed at the disposal of fascist Germany for the purposes of war.

The two world wars were golden rain for the Swedish capitalists who sucked the blood of the peoples, waxing rich on mass annihilation and destruction. From a country formerly importing considerable amounts of capital, Sweden became, as a result of World War One, an exporter of capital. As a result of the military preparations that preceded World War Two, and also of the post-war armaments drive, the recent years have witnessed a steady increase of production in Sweden. So the Swedish capitalists are thriving on the danger of war.

Long traditions of peace, naturally, give rise to certain illusions among the people. Isolationist trends find favourable soil among them. Noisy statements by the present-day Swedish policy-makers about neutrality, succeed, to a degree, in masking a foreign policy that actually backs aggressive American imperialism. The screen—"freedom from military alliances"—misleads the people, both in relation to the actual nature of official foreign policy, and the appraisal of the country's stand

in the event of war concerning which there is loud and noisy propaganda.

Formally, Sweden is not a member of the North-Atlantic Union. Her Right-wing Socialist Government constantly repeats that Sweden, allegedly, is pursuing a policy free from alliances and intends to keep aloof from the “rival blocs of the great Powers”. These statements, however, are usually accompanied by declarations about ideological solidarity with the so-called western Powers, by anti-Soviet attacks, and assertions that the aggressive Atlantic bloc is of a “defensive” nature and pursues peaceful aims.

The Government and the entire bourgeois press is Americanised and is hostile to the Soviet Union. Senior officers of the Swedish army talk about Sweden participating on the side of the Western powers in the war now being prepared against the Soviet Union, as being natural and desirable. Speculating on the “forthcoming” war, they are already mapping “air routes” for U.S. strategical aircraft over Swedish territory in the direction of the vital centres of the Soviet Union. Formally, they explain this by the fact that the Norwegian Government, headed by Right-wing-Social Democrats, is establishing strong points for U.S. aircraft adjacent to the Swedish border, and also by the fact that the shortest air route between Norway and the Soviet Union lies across Swedish territory. This signifies for the country the danger of being involved in a new world war if such a war is not prevented.

The Government’s policy is increasing the danger to the country’s security. The “freedom from alliances”, proclaimed by the Government, did not prevent it from taking the initiative, two years ago, in forming a military alliance between Sweden, Norway and

Denmark. These attempts did not produce immediate results, But there is, nevertheless, a kind of “Scandinavian” co-operation both in the political, social and cultural spheres.

The Swedish Government joined the bloc of Marshallised countries and continues to participate in it even after Washington openly turned the “Marshall Plan” into an instrument for arming Western Europe and switching its economy onto a war footing. An American control commission, with the right to control the country’s policy in the economic, financial and social spheres, is located in Stockholm. As a result, the rate of the Swedish kron was reduced by 30.5 per cent.

In U.N.O., the Swedish representative usually lines up with the bloc directed by the United States. Sweden voted **against** the proposals to ban the atomic weapon and institute control over this prohibition; **against** the proposals to reduce armaments and to sign a Pact of Peace between the Great Powers; **for** the so-called Acheson Plan aimed at making U.N.O. a permanent tool for furthering U.S. war policy, etc. A field hospital was sent by Sweden to Korea and placed at the disposal of the U.S. command. Measures have been taken to form a battalion, one thousand strong, to be placed in Korea “at the disposal of U.N.O.”, i.e., the U.S. interventionists.

Hence, official Swedish policy is actually subordinated to the aggressive Atlantic bloc under American command.

The people are being ideologically prepared on a wide scale to take part in the war now being prepared by the imperialists against the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies.

But the people of Sweden do not want war and regard all these gambles with profound mistrust. During the election campaign last autumn, the Social Democratic Government, describing the Right and People's Parties as being hopeless in the matter of Securing peace for the country, and posing demagogically as the sole reliable champion of the policy of freedom from alliances and of peace, was successful over its bourgeois "opponents".

The Communist Party with its weak means of propaganda (it possesses only about one per cent of the entire press) failed to overcome this demagogy of the Right-wing Social Democrats. It was unable to explain to the disquieted masses of the people that the Government and the bourgeois parties were, in effect, united on questions of foreign policy. The task of the Communist Party of Sweden is to considerably intensify its activity and to overcome its shortcomings.

The Communist Party regards defence of peace as its main duty. It regards the struggle of the Swedish people for peace as part of the struggle waged by the great international peace movement against the imperialist war plans.

From this standpoint, the Communist Party opposed Sweden's joining the bloc of the Marshallised countries and the Council of Europe. It demanded that the Swedish representative in U.N.O. should support the Soviet proposals for prohibition of the atomic weapon and for disarmament. Communists submitted proposals in the Riksdag for banning war propaganda in the country and urged that the Riksdag give its backing to the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress. The Communist Party protested against the policy of support

for U.S. intervention in Korea. It is indefatigably fighting against the armaments drive.

In this struggle, our Party relies directly on the firm will of the people for peace, a will which expresses itself, in their growing mistrust of the official foreign policy of the Government, and particularly of the U.S. policy of unleashing war. Discontent caused by the ever-growing burden of the armaments drive is growing in the country. Together with the working class, other sections of the population are strongly resisting Sweden's joining the Atlantic Pact. Under this pressure and due to the increasingly conscious desire of the people for peace, the Swedish rulers are finding it more difficult to manoeuvre especially in view of the resolution branding China as an "aggressor" adopted by Uno on orders of the U.S. imperialists and preparations for taking sanctions against her. Under pressure of the growing discontent of the masses, prominent leaders of the Social-Democratic Party openly expressed themselves in *Riksdag* against this U.S. demand, and, in doing so, actually opposed the "compromise line" on this question declared by the Government. The people are becoming increasingly aware who it is that represents the forces of war. And they are steadily becoming convinced that these forces must be combated.

The conscious and organised movement of peace partisans in Sweden, based on the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress and the World Peace Council, will have to overcome powerful resistance. Social Democratic leaders, as well as the leaders of the trade union movement and bourgeois parties, are relentlessly opposed to the peace movement.

Recently, many workers in the sphere of culture—writers, artists, physicians and also well-known trade union leaders—invited organisations sympathising with the cause of peace, and individual peace supporters to a Swedish Peace Parliament held on March 3-4 in Stockholm. It supported the Appeal of the Berlin session of the World Peace Council for the conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the five Great Powers and decided to collect signatures to this Appeal.

The Peace Parliament was a powerful demonstration of support for the decisions of the Warsaw Congress and the session of the Peace Council, and was the most outstanding event in the history of the struggle of the Swedish people for peace.

The Swedish people feel the results of the country's adherence to the "Marshall Plan", and subsequent armaments drive. The present "brief inflation" may make the cost of living soar by 15 per cent within the current year alone. The present rise in prices and the prospect of a further rise are causing sharp discontent among the people. True, the masses do not always see the connection between the rise in prices and war preparations. It is essential to make this clear to them and to develop their activities in the struggle against intensified exploitation and war preparations.

The "theory" that war is inevitable hindered the Party's struggle for peace and it is still hindered by the widespread underestimation of the danger of war among the Party members. There was an unevenness in Party work. Individual members and organisations achieved remarkable results. This testifies to the enormous and indeed inexhaustible possibilities of the Party for rallying the broad masses in a united front for peace. The main task of the Fifteenth Congress of the

Communist Party of Sweden, due to be held this month, will be to overcome all shortcomings in the struggle for peace.

CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY

The Congress of the Communist Party of Germany, held early in March, was attended by 1,148 delegates and 154 guests.

A message of greeting from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) was warmly applauded by the delegates. The greeting read:

“The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends fraternal greetings to the Congress of the Communist Party of Germany.

“We wish the Communist Party of Germany success in its struggle for the vital interests of the German people, for a united, independent, democratic and peace-loving Germany”.

The Congress was attended by representatives from the fraternal Communist Parties of China, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria and Holland.

The delegates accorded a hearty welcome to members of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany who arrived together with Comrades Wilhelm Pieck and Walter Ulbricht.

Mark Reimann reported on the “Tasks of the Communist Party of Germany in the struggle to preserve peace and for a united democratic Germany”.

In concluding his report Max Reimann Said: “All our strivings must be directed:

1. To prevent the remilitarisation of Germany and to carry out the decisions of the World Peace Council.

2. To secure the unity of Germany by establishing an All-German Constituent Council.

3. To secure the signing of a peace treaty in 1951 which would provide for the withdrawal of all occupation forces within one year.

4. To attain unity of action in the struggle against remilitarisation, for peace, for a united democratic Germany and Social rights for the working masses.

5. To strengthen our Party as the only party in Western German which is consistently guiding the struggle of our people for peace, unity and democracy, the peaceful prosperity of Germany”.

Delegates who spoke in the discussion and representatives of the fraternal parties stressed the great political responsibility that rests with the Communists of Western Germany in preserving peace in Europe.

In his speech, Walter Ulbricht vividly demonstrated the serious danger of war and the path the German people should follow in order to avert this danger.

One of the major tasks to be solved by the Party is that of improving the work of the leading Party organs, from the Central Board down to the leadership of the lower organisations. The Party leadership must see its task in a more vigorous promotion of young cadres, in daily and systematic direction of the Party organisations, in extended mass work and in verifying fulfilment of decisions.

Both the report and the speeches of delegates sharply criticised the activities of the Central Board and a number of leading Party organs in the Laender.

The Congress resolutely condemned opportunist and sectarian deviations. It adopted a number of measures designed to strengthen the Party politically and

ideologically and to improve its organisational fighting strength and secure the purity of its ranks. Accordingly, the Congress unanimously approved the changes in the personnel of the leadership.

Greeting the Congress, Comrade Wilhelm Pieck called upon the Party to intensify the struggle against remilitarisation of Western Germany.

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the birth of Rosa Luxemburg, the Congress honoured the memory of this great champion of peace, one of the founders of the Party.

The Congress adopted documents:—

A Resolution which, with some amendments, corresponds to the text of the “theses” issued by the Party for the Congress; the Party Rules; a telegram to Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin, leader and teacher of the world peace camp; telegram to Boleslaw Bierut, President of People's Poland, and a message of greeting to the General Committee of the Communist Party of France; Manifesto addressed to the population of Western Germany; and a letter “To all German men and women sentenced and imprisoned for fighting in defence of peace and for the unity of Germany”.

The Congress elected, by secret ballot, the Central Board of the Communist Party of Germany. The unanimous election of Comrade Max Reimann to the post of Chairman of the Party was welcomed with great enthusiasm and applause.

The culminating point in the work of the Party Congress was the handing over of a banner by the Hamburg Party organisation to the new Central Board. On an earlier occasion, the unforgettable leader of the Party, Ernst Thaelmann, who was murdered by the fascists, presented this banner to the Hamburg Party

organisation as a gift from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks). Loyal comrades hid the banner during the sanguinary years of fascism and preserved it for the Party.

The presentation of the banner was a symbol that the Party would fulfil with honour and in the spirit of Ernst Thaelmann, the great historic tasks facing it.

POLITICAL EDUCATION IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL

Last December, the Communist Party press in Brazil published an article by Luis Carlos Prestes, under the title, “Guided by the doctrine of Comrade Stalin, our teacher, let us master Marxist-Leninist theory”.

In his article, Prestes pointed out that the ideological and political education of the membership must be the constant concern and a vital task for the entire party.

Following the publication of this article, the Communist press in Brazil began a campaign for political education of the Communists.

In a leading article, the newspaper, “Voz Operaria”, advanced the task of organising classes for the study of the “History of the C.P.S.U.(B)” and the biography of Comrade Stalin. The article also pointed to the need to organise circles for reading and studying the Manifesto issued by the Communist Party last August, as well as the articles which appeared in the newspaper, “Democracia Popular”, and the journal, “Problemas”. Party organisations, writes the newspaper, must also show concern for independent study by members, helping them to combine mastering theory with current tasks.

WORK OF PARTY TYRNOV REGIONAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA WITH PARTY ACTIVE

The Tyrnov regional committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria is now making a practice of drawing the Party Active into discussion of important questions.

Recently, the Bureau of the Tyrnov regional committee held a meeting in Drenovo at which a report on the organisational work of the Drenovo district committee was heard. The functionaries of the Drenovo district committee, first secretaries and the organising secretaries of all the district committees in the region—in all 47 people—took part in the discussion. The Party Active helped the Bureau in bringing out positive aspects and shortcomings in the work of the Drenovo district organisation and also in disclosing defects of the Bureau in leading the district Party organisations. During the discussion, the district committees effected a valuable exchange of experience in organising work.

The Tyrnov regional committee held another meeting in the town of Gorna-Orehkoviza, this time dealing with the work of the propaganda department of the Gorna-Orehkoviza district committee. First secretaries and secretaries of the propaganda departments of all district committees in the region and the Party Active attended the meeting.

Last year, too, the Tyrnov regional committee successfully applied the method of discussing important questions on the spot with the participation of the Party Active. For example, after discussing shortcomings in the building of the big “Rosiza” reservoir, the situation

on the construction site improved considerably and the annual programme was overfulfilled.

CLASSES FOR SECRETARIES OF DISTRICT AND TOWN COMMITTEES IN RUMANIAN WORKERS' PARTY

Recently, the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party held ten-day classes attended by 185 first secretaries of district Party committees and 21 first secretaries of town committees.

Lectures were read on the organisational structure of the Party, the present phase of the class struggle in Rumania, the Five-Year Plan, organisation of Socialist emulation, Party policy in the sphere of the Socialist reorganisation of the countryside, the struggle for peace, and Party policy on the national question.

A number of important inner-Party questions were also discussed for the purpose of exchanging experiences: the organisation and method of work of district and town Party committees; the Party Active; planning Party work and verifying its fulfilment; guidance for mass organisations, etc.

**FRANCE. YOUTH DEMOSNTRATION IN
PARIS AGAINST COLONIAL WAR IN VIET
NAM AND AGAINST EXTENDING THE
TERM OF MILITARY SERVICE**



FRANCE: Youth demonstration in Paris against colonial war in Viet Nam and against extending the term of military service.

FRANCE: Youth demonstration in Paris against colonial war in Viet Nam and against extending the term of military service.

**STRUGGLE OF MEXICAN PEOPLE FOR
PEACE AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.***
Dionisio Encina, General Secretary,
Mexican Communist Party

The entire course of international events since the Tenth Congress of the Mexican Communist Party (November, 1947) confirms quite clearly the existence of two political trends in the international arena: the policy pursued by the democratic and anti-imperialist camp led by the mighty Soviet Union—a policy securely based on a consistent and staunch defence of peace, on respect for the freedom and independence of nations, on recognition of their equality; and the policy of the imperialist, anti-democratic camp led by the U.S. monopoly circles. The aim of this camp is to establish, by violence and war, U.S. world domination; to subordinate, by fire and sword, the will of all countries and peoples to the rule of the slave-owners; to unleash a third world war; to trample underfoot democracy and the growing movement of the peoples along the pathway to complete emancipation and Socialism.

Contrary to the plans of U.S. imperialism, and of home reaction and their hired agents, the people of Mexico will never go to war against the Soviet Union, will never serve as cannon-fodder for the interests of the Wall Street oppressors and exploiters now preparing anti-Soviet aggression.

* From report to Eleventh National Congress of the Mexican Communist Party,

The Soviet Union has never threatened and will never threaten the sovereignty of our country or of any other nation. It does not meddle in the internal affairs of the peoples.

U.S. imperialism, on the contrary, has always been the worst enemy of the national independence and national sovereignty of the people of Mexico.

The firm stand of our Party, which reflects the resistance of the Mexican people to the preparations for an anti-Soviet aggressive war, is a stand in defence of the national interests contrary to the designs of the U.S. imperialists who, with the help of the war they are now preparing, seek to enslave Mexico even, more and to subordinate it to military and political domination.

Against U.S. Colonisers, for National Independence of the Country

For some time past, the Aleman Government has been striving to make Mexico's economic development both in agriculture and industry, dependent on U.S. loans. This path simply means handing over our natural resources to the rapacious U.S. imperialists.

In place of the loan which, it was alleged, would save our oil industry (a loan the U.S. imperialists failed to impose due largely to the resistance of the Mexican people who regarded this loan as an encroachment on the national sovereignty), agreements for boring in the areas known as reservations were signed with certain U.S. oil companies. According to these agreements, the U.S. companies will take 50 per cent of the oil produced in these areas over the period necessary to cover the

capital investments, and 15 per cent of the total output for a period of 25 years in “compensation” for services.

Another fact is the realisation in practice of the so-called Clayton plan and the Havana Charter which are instruments of U.S. expansion directed at undermining our national economy.

At the same time, U.S. capital investments are increasing in industry, trade and agriculture. In industry, this penetration is effected through the medium of so-called joint enterprises in which the bulk of the capital is American; by means of buying up operating enterprises, as is the case, for example, in the footwear, chemical and other industries; and by opening branch factories of big U.S. monopolies, such as the A & CJS in Monterey (Anderson & Clayton Joint-Stock Company), slaughter-houses and refrigerating plants in the north of the country, etc.

In the sphere of trade, attempts are being made to force Mexico to buy only from the United States and to sell solely to it or through its mediation. The Government connives at competition, the effects of which are disastrous for the national trade.

Agriculture is controlled, directly or indirectly, by the big U.S. monopolies, with the Anderson & Clayton Company to the fore.

This policy of colonisation gravely affects our economic position.

Official, and obviously under-estimated, figures give the following picture of the rising cost of living: if 1941 be taken as 100, in 1942 the cost of living for a worker was 115.9; in 1943, 151.8; in 1944, 190.7; in 1945, 204.5; in 1946, 255.5; in 1947, 287.6; in 1948, 305.4; in 1949, 321.7; between January and March 1950, 331.2. Since March 1950, the cost of living, due to a number of

reasons, soared so steeply that even the President of the Republic had to acknowledge that the rising cost of living was becoming unbearable.

Naturally, this monstrous impoverishment took place to the accompaniment of growing profits for the exploiters.

The foreign debt of Mexico, October 31, 1950, stood at 476.3 million dollars. (Since 1941 alone, the debt shot up by 370.2 million dollars, or more than three billion Mexican pesos). Thus, total indebtedness exceeds the sum of four billion Mexican pesos.

Confronted with such an economic situation, our Party, in addition to organising the struggle of the working population and of all people for a general wage increase, for resolute action against the monstrous cost of living, for price reductions, for controls on a national scale and better living standards for the broad masses of the people, is demanding that a series of essential measures be taken. The Party considers the following measures to be main and vital:

Introduction of currency control, control over import and export. End to the plundering of the main sources of national wealth by U.S. imperialism acting through the medium of so-called "joint" companies. A stop to the Government's policy of the "open door" in relation to capital investments by the U.S. imperialists, and tightening of Mexican laws concerning foreign investments. Protection for Mexican industry, banning, for this purpose, the import of those foreign manufactured goods whose competition is disastrous for home production. Industrial and trade exchange with all countries, particularly with the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the Chinese People's Republic; the conclusion of trade agreements with these

countries. End to the Government's policy of foreign imperialist loans which undermine and enslave the national economy. Nationalisation of the main means of production now in the hands of foreign imperialist corporations. Nationalisation of banks and all enterprises of public utility, to review and annul all concessions granted to imperialist companies and not to permit any extension of the concessions. Strict observance of the national laws prohibiting trusts and monopolies and their disastrous activities levelled against the people, as, for example, those of the "Azucar" joint-stock company.

Cement Alliance Between Working Class and Peasants

One of the basic problems of the Mexican revolution is the division of the land among the poor peasants. There are still great latifundia in the country that have not been effected by agrarian reform, Many of them are in the possession of foreigners, mainly Americans, while the number of landless peasants exceeds one and a half million.

The Aleman Government sought not only to end completely the sharing of the land but also to review the redivision already carried out with a view to restoring their former property to the landlords and, at the same time, to protect, under cover of so-called respect, for "small property", the land acquired by landowners in some regions in the country. A considerable part of these new owners are State officials. The rich lands of the Matamoros cotton area,

for example, were seized by prominent Government officials including the President himself.

Under these conditions the peasant masses in our country are beginning to realise the need for their own independent organisations which would consistently represent their interests, and ensure an alliance with the proletariat as the sole guarantee of success in the struggle waged by the peasantry.

Our Party played a decisive role in establishing the “General Worker-Peasant Alliance of Mexico” which rallied, in the first instance, workers in the mining and ‘oil industries, a considerable section of the textile workers and the peasants in the main regions of the country such as Laguna, Yaqui, Mante, and others. This new organisation is the only national worker-peasant organisation independent of the State. It was formed in spite of open resistance on the part of the Government which set out to destroy this organisation.

All over the country, workers and peasants are courageously resisting the Government’s aggressive policy. Outstanding examples of this resistance are the struggle waged by the miners’ union, the peasant struggle in the Lagunera region, and the growing movement among the oil workers’ and railwaymen unions against the Government-imposed leadership.

National-Democratic Anti-Imperialist Front

The Mexican working class, guided by the Communist Party, must struggle with renewed vigour in order to defeat the Government’s anti-labour policy, resolutely defend the right to strike, and fight for at

least a 30 per cent increase in wages and pensions, for the independence of working class organisations from the State, for genuine and wide trade union democracy, against corruption and gangsterism.

This struggle must be based on the militant mobilisation of the working class, on its organisation and strength, and the elimination of bourgeois tendencies and agents from its ranks.

The indigenous peoples suffer from a double national yoke: they are oppressed, on the one hand, by U.S. imperialism and, on the other, they suffer from the dominant position of the Mexican nation.

The so-called Mexican revolution did not substantially change the position of the indigenous peoples. Successful completion of the bourgeois-democratic revolution must, inevitably, place before the Mexican working class the task of helping the development of the indigenous peoples into nations. At present, only the proletariat can fulfil this task.

The Mexican nation must always recognise and respect the right of the indigenous peoples to self-determination and also their right to broad administrative regional and local autonomy.

The proletariat is the only class in the country capable of waging the struggle for the right of the indigenous peoples to self-determination and for all their progressive and revolutionary demands. The Communist Party must secure an alliance between the indigenous peoples and the Mexican proletariat and transform them into a reserve for the revolution.

The central task facing the revolutionary and progressive movement in Mexico is to organise a **national-democratic, anti-imperialist front** which, in addition to the working class and peasantry, should

include the petty bourgeoisie and part of the national bourgeoisie who, together with all other democratic and patriotic elements, are ready to fight against imperialism, for the independence and sovereignty of the country, for consistent realisation of agrarian reform; respect for political and civil rights, and extending these rights to the youth and women; for an economic policy advantageous to the broad masses of the people; for industrial development of the country and a higher standard of living for the working people; for defence of the Constitution and adherence to it; against war and for peace. This national-democratic and anti-imperialist front must rely on a close alliance between the working class and peasantry, with the working class playing the leading role.

The main task is struggle for working class unity. This is not a matter of formal unity or of unity for unity's sake, as announced in 1938 by the corrupt leaders, Laborde and Campa, who advanced the slogan: "Unity at all cost". The unity that we want must be a militant unity. And this unity must find expression in resolute struggle by the workers for higher wages, for the right to strike, which is now in danger, for the independence of the trade unions from the State, for trade union democracy and against corruption. This unity must have a firm basis in each factory. This unity calls for a united front of the workers in the various factories and various trade union organisations in the struggle for their specific demands.

The treachery of the reformist leaders—Government agents—must be exposed; it is essential to make clear to the working class that the reformist leaders are betraying the cause of struggle for their economic and political demands, that for a long time

past they have been acting as agents of the bourgeoisie inside the Mexican working class movement.

Our Party Must Become Real Vanguard of Working Class

National and international events and the tasks arising from them, call, more so than ever before, for a powerful Party of the working class.

The main organisational task of the Mexican Communist Party is to become a mass Party, closely linked with the working people and with broad masses of the people, with their requirements and aspirations; a Party heading and directing the struggle of these masses. Our Party must become the real vanguard of the working class.

To achieve this main aim it is essential, above all, to educate the entire Party in the spirit of the Marx-Lenin-Stalin teaching, of mastering our invincible theory, in applying it in deciding all problems facing our country. In this way, our Party will be able to find correct solutions and become the vanguard of the working class in Mexico.

Second: while pursuing its political line it is essential for the Party to maintain, through its lower organisations and leading organs, close contact with the masses of the workers in the country. It is essential that it rely on the broad masses of the working people, particularly on the working class. To do this, the Party must study and be thoroughly acquainted with the problems of the working people, give correct solutions to these problems, orientate the working class and

successfully guide it in solving its economic and political problems; the Party must stand at the head of all the working people and lead them to victory, heading their revolutionary battles.

Our strength lies solely in the masses. If the Party enjoys their support it will be strong and will possess enormous possibilities for waging the struggle, for rallying the masses.

While supporting the economic demands of the working people, our Party must bring political consciousness into their ranks, explaining to them the historical role of the working class, its decisive and leading role in defeating, in Mexico, the imperialist conspiracy against peace and the independence of the peoples, in order to win complete liberation and national sovereignty, to transform the old, capitalist society into a new, Socialist society and take the Mexican people along the Socialist road.

Pursuing this policy, we shall wage consistent struggle against economism which at present undermines our work.

Third: in order to transform our organisation into a mass Party, it is essential that we give correct leadership to the masses, that a clear political line be elaborated for them and that it be pursued correctly, both as regards strategy and tactics.

By linking up the problems of the broad masses of workers and peasants in our country with the main task of fighting for peace, we will set out along the correct road which will result in our Party becoming a mass Party. At the same time, we must consistently combat sectarianism and opportunism in our ranks.

Sectarianism, which manifests itself mainly in the absence of contact between the Party and the broad

masses of the working class and the people, arises from lack of confidence in the masses, in their activity and ability to wage successful struggle.

Sectarianism prevented the Party from establishing the necessary contact with the masses. In the struggle for peace, for example, sectarianism prevented this struggle from being developed on a large-scale, in keeping with the decisions of the World Peace Congress. Due to sectarianism, our activities in defence of peace did not yield the results which could have been achieved.

Opportunism manifests itself mainly in abandoning principles, in the political weakness of the struggle against the enemy, in distorting our political line and deviating from it.

The branch, and, above all, the factory branch, the branch in industry in general, is the basic organisation of our Party.

This means that the Communists must turn mainly to the places where the working class is concentrated. Our principal task in improving the organisation of the Party is to strengthen the work of the branches in industry and to form new branches in the main industrial enterprises in the country.

We must combat bureaucratism and routine in the work of the Party. In the central leadership and in other leading organs of our Party there are comrades who spend most of their time in the office, who fail to realise that in order to make our Party strong it is necessary to go to the masses, to establish contact with the branches, to help strengthen these branches and guide them.

The principles of democratic centralism call for revolutionary vigilance on the part of the entire Party,

vigilance levelled against provocateurs and spies—agents of the enemy; against the traitors expelled from the Party and who recently have intensified their treacherous, anti-Party activities; against any attempt to smuggle into our Party ideas alien to the proletarian nature of our organisation; against any manifestation of opportunism, sectarianism and bourgeois nationalism.

We cannot hope to build a strong Communist Party in Mexico if we do not correctly apply the methods of criticism: and self-criticism in our ranks.

Most important in the organisational work of the Party is the selection of people and of leading cadres, the carrying out of the decisions and verifying their fulfilment.

The role assigned by imperialism to the counter-revolutionary Tito agents has its parallel in Mexico—in the fight waged against the Mexican Communist Party by the gang of provocateurs led by Laborde and Campa.

The provocative activities of these elements are closely linked with those of the Trotskyite, treacherous and adventurer groups who, in Mexico, as in other countries, are fighting against the Communist Party, serving imperialism and reaction and seeking to undermine the genuine Communist movement.

Thus, the provocative activities against the Communist movement in various Latin-American countries are combined, and Laborde, Sanchez, Cardenas and Co. are the transmitters of these activities in Mexico.

The struggle to expose this clique and to warn the masses against its subversive activities, the task of eradicating its anti-Party work wherever it is conducted—constitute one of the main political tasks of

the Party, and are part of the struggle against the designs of imperialism and reaction.

In 1949, our Party had 197 basic organisations; at present, there are 600, many of them factory branches.

Despite these successes, we cannot permit any complacency. There are still considerable shortcomings to be overcome.

Until now, little attention has been devoted to educating Party members, particularly in the leading organs, beginning with the Political Commission. The political and theoretical level of the Party is low and does not correspond to present-day requirements. A serious under-estimation of educational work was observed, the effects of which are felt even now. The education of Party members and leading cadres is one of the main and decisive problems for our organisation.

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We are faced with great political tasks in the sphere of defending the vital interests of our people and the working class. **Of these, the main task is organising the struggle of the masses in defence of peace.** This cardinal task forms the basis of our political line. **Defence of peace must be the pivot of the daily work of the Party, of each of its organs, of every active Party member.**

We must rid the Party of all harmful theories to the effect that our organisation cannot carry out big tasks because it is still small.

Our Party can fulfil great and important tasks: it can, by its mass revolutionary work and by correct leadership and guidance in the struggle of the working people for their vital interests and demands,

considerably influence the situation in the country, and facilitate the struggle of the Mexican people for peace, national independence, liberation from the imperialist yoke and for Socialism.

Great battles lie ahead of us. Nothing will make us retreat or abandon our duty of leading our people onward to the victory of the cause of peace, national independence and Socialism in Mexico.

PEOPLES OF SYRIA AND LEBANON FIGHT FOR PEACE (Letter from Beirut)

The decisions of the Second World Peace Congress and the first session of the World Peace Council fully correspond to the national aspirations of the peoples of the Near East.

The active work of the Syrian and Lebanon delegates on their return from Warsaw is worthy of attention. In addition to articles in the press, the delegates spoke at numerous meetings in the towns and countryside; many more peace committees have been set up. In the course of just over a month, groups of people visited the Congress delegates—religious leaders in Syria, Sheikh Mohammed el-Ashmar and Sheikh Salah Zaim—asking them about the work of the Second World Peace Congress, about the resolutions of the Congress and also about their impressions of life in the People's Democracies.

Dr. Georges Hanna, the Lebanon delegate, and member of the World Peace Council, has just completed a very interesting book about his visit to Warsaw and the work of the Congress.

The Congress decisions were widely publicised and are now being discussed not by the peace committees alone, but also at numerous meetings attended by ever greater numbers of people of different political trends.

We are sure that the Appeal for signing the Pact of Peace, as well as the other decisions of the World Peace Council, will meet with wholehearted support from our peoples. These decisions, closely related to our daily needs and national aspirations, make it possible to create a national front of struggle for peace, a front

which will unite all people of goodwill around these just demands.

The war in Korea brought home even to the most trusting people the dreadful crimes and atrocities the American imperialists and their accomplices can resort to; it has shown also of what a really free people is capable when it rises in defence of its independence.

The declaration issued by the U.S., Britain and France, the obvious aim of which is to arm the countries of the Near East, reveals to our peoples that, on the pretext of arming for the defence of our territory, they are actually preparing to take over our countries completely. They are trying to impose their war plans on us, “with or without UNO”, as is clearly pointed out in the declaration.

Imperialism has always tried to justify military occupation or intervention in the affairs of our countries by alleged threats of war and strategic considerations, such as: “the necessity to guard the route to India”, “to defend the oil regions, or the minorities.” But these manoeuvres could never deceive our peoples. For us, war means military occupation and enslavement.

Sometimes, the imperialists try to convince us that we must rely on their military aid to defend ourselves against possible military aggression. But our peoples know very well that the only danger of armed aggression threatening us comes from the U.S.-British imperialists who want to turn our countries into strategic bases for use against our constant friend—the Great Soviet Union.

As a result of the war preparations and war propaganda, prices on prime necessities have risen sharply—in the first place, the price of bread. The already low standard of living of the working people is

becoming simply intolerable. In combating the war propaganda, we are fighting for bread.

The crimes perpetrated by the American imperialists against the civil population in Korea are unanimously condemned by our peoples. These crimes throw fresh light on the “liberation” mission of American imperialism and the role played by the United - Nations, fulfilling the duties of an American gendarme at the behest of an aggressive “majority”. The war budgets are a heavy burden not only for the peoples of the Great Powers alone, but for our countries as well. For example, the money invested in the strategically important airfield in Beirut would have sufficed to supply our agriculture with tractors, to meet the grain requirements of our population and to build and equip the several hundred schools so direly needed by our towns and villages.

Our foreign trade has been reduced to mass import of manufactured goods from the U.S., France, and Britain. Our young national industry, the output of which has been steadily declining since 1945, is in a difficult position.

The break in economic relations between Syria and Lebanon, brought about by foreign banks, particularly by the Syria-Lebanon Bank which runs the economy of these two countries, has resulted in a still greater decline in the national economy. Unemployment is increasing; the deficit in trade is growing continually.

Our peoples, aware of the danger threatening them, are demanding restoration of trade with the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies, with which normal economic relations were unofficially severed. Soviet and other progressive newspapers, books and films describing the struggle of the peoples for liberation and

peace, have been banned. Meanwhile, text books in the foreign schools glorify colonisation and imperialism; the bookshops are stacked with American, British and French books and journals which, like the foreign films shown in our country, propagate misanthropy, crime, gangsterism and pornography.

The Governments, which are controlled by the imperialists, resort to all forms of repressions and persecutions in a vain attempt to halt the ever-growing peace movement and to break its militant spirit. All the charges brought against the peace champions, including that of violating public security, proved groundless. On every occasion, the tribunals were forced to acquit the partisans of peace.

This, obviously, was not to the taste of the imperialists. Consequently, the Lebanon Government recently issued a circular to the security troops instructing them to observe the activities of the fighters for peace. According to the emergency law now in operation in Lebanon, peace partisans are liable to a term of imprisonment ranging from three to fifteen years. However, this measure has not intimidated the peace supporters who are fully determined to fight even more selflessly against the war danger, against the imperialist oppressors.

The Syrian and Lebanese peace congresses, held last October, defined the immediate tasks of the movement on a national scale, namely, to fight against the imperialist agreements and against placing strategic bases on our territories at the disposal of foreign powers.

The decisions of the World Peace Council make it possible to unite broad sections of the population in the movement for peace, to create a really national front of

struggle against imperialism and war—a struggle which is the basic task of the peace partisans in Syria, Lebanon and in the other countries of the Near East.

Our peoples know that despite the present difficulties, repressions, and terror, peace and freedom will triumph.

Mohammed DJAFAR

Beirut, February 1951

FACTS EXPOSE...

“Peaceful” character of the West Berlin “police”

“Service Instruction No. 5,” issued to the West Berlin police, contains for tactical use of buildings in street fighting, adaption of buildings for defence purposes, training personnel in the use of poison gases, etc... This “police” force is equipped with trenching tools and means of overcoming barbed wire entanglements. The “mobile units” have machine-gun platoons and “heavy arms platoons”.

Apparently the West Berlin “police department”, subservient to the Americans, has rather strange ways of regulating street traffic.

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A new prescription for improving capitalism

A certain Nichols, editor of an American journal, has announced a competition for a substitute for the word “capitalism”. The reason given is that the word has acquired a “derogatory meaning” and that “it is difficult to portray our society in a favourable light” by means of this word.

Nichols, turning to the reader for help, declared that the replacement of this one word would help change the course of history.

This is a somewhat hoary undertaking. Futile attempts to substitute for the word “capitalism”, which the masses understand but hate, terms such as “free enterprise”, “economic democracy” and so on, have been made many times by even more “doughty” apologists for capitalism.

Vain indeed are the searchings of the editor. Changing a bankrupt’s name has never yet saved a firm from ruin.

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Satellites display zeal

Recent reports from Latin America show that the American puppets in these countries are tumbling over themselves to serve Wall Street in its aggressive plans. Thus, General Quiroga, Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of Bolivia, now in the U.S., declared that, in the war against the U.S.S.R., Bolivia will side with the United States. Fearing that he had been by-passed, Brazil’s War Minister, General Newton Estillak Leal, hastened with the report that he would also visit the U.S. The Ecuador Government, on its part, declared that it had offered the U.S. a squadron of ten airplanes from its meagre resources to “help patrol the approaches to the Panama Canal.” One can expect that the bellicose ardour of the South-American generals will soon result in their jumping from the sixteenth floor!

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Gonard gets ready for crusade

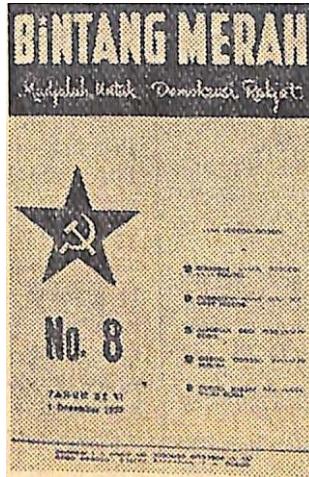
Thirsting for glory, Gonard, hitherto an obscure colonel in the Swiss army, delivered a report at a meeting of the “New Helvetia Society” in the town of Solothurn. He declared, firstly, that the Swiss army was the “strongest in Western Europe,” for “we have not disarmed since 1945, our equipment is steadily increasing and we are geographically well-placed”. Then follows point Two: “If, after fighting on the plateau, we are unable to continue the struggle, we shall retreat to the foothills of the Alps and then into the Alps. If surrounded, we shall withdraw to the mountain districts...” Gonard foresees every detail!

Who, then, is going to attack the gallant colonel and drive him into the “foothills of the Alps and then into the Alps?”.

Nobody. The fact of the matter is that Gonard speaks as mouthpiece of the Swiss bankers who also want to make their “whack” out of the war hysteria and armaments drive.

BOOK REVIEW

ORGAN OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDONESIA “BINTANG MERAH”



Last August, the Communist Party of Indonesia resumed, in Jakarta, publication of its theoretical organ, the fortnightly journal, “Bintang Merah” (“Red Star”).

An editorial published in the first issue defined the tasks of the journal as follows: “We call upon all Communists, all patriots and progressives to rally around our journal which must be a weapon for strengthening our ideology and our organisation”.

The journal published articles devoted to the international significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the experience of the Communist Party

of the Soviet Union. These articles laid particular stress on the importance of studying the “Short History of the C.P.S.U. (B)” by members of the Communist Party of Indonesia. In its January issues, the journal reprinted the chapter “Mountain Eagle” from Comrade Stalin’s work “About Lenin”. It makes a feature of reprinting excerpts from Comrade Stalin’s works. Recent reproductions included chapters from Comrade Stalin’s “Foundations of Leninism” (the “Peasant Problem”, “Strategy and Tactics”) and Comrade Stalin’s writings on the national liberation movement of the peoples of the East.

An article published on the occasion of the First Anniversary of the Chinese People’s Republic stressed the significance of the victory of the Chinese people for Indonesia.

For our Indonesian people,” says this article, “the victory of the Chinese people is part of our victory. It greatly strengthens the revolutionary front. It teaches us, both from the standpoint of theory and practice, how to accomplish our revolution.”

One of the issues of the journal published Mao Tse-tung’s work dealing with questions of strategy of the revolutionary struggle in China. The Editorial Board of “Bintang Merah” urged its readers to study the experience of the Communist Party of China.

An article by D.N. Aidit, member of Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Indonesia, exposed the real meaning of the decisions adopted by the “Round Table Conference” in The Hague which proclaimed the “United Republic of Indonesia” which would be represented in this so-called union of Holland and Indonesia. These decisions claimed that Holland and Indonesia would be represented in this Union as “equal

partners". The article laid bare the hypocrisy and falsehood of these noisy declarations and characterised the "Round Table Conference" as "one of the measures undertaken by the Americans in Indonesia for the purpose of preparing war." The article set the task: struggle against the decisions of this Conference which serve the interests of the imperialist plunderers and which aim at perpetuating the colonial regime in Indonesia under a new label. The article stressed the fact that, in this struggle, the peace-loving Indonesians will enjoy the support of the working class of the Netherlands led by the Communist Party. The main slogans of the Communist Party of Indonesia are: "Annul the decisions of the 'Round Table Conference!'", "For a People's Democratic Indonesia!"

In an article headed "For Organisational Unity of the Communist Party of Indonesia", M. X. Lukman, Member of Parliament and Member of the Political Bureau of the Party, wrote that in order to become the leading party of the people of Indonesia, the Communist Party must be ideologically united and consolidated and stand firmly on the basis of the Lenin-Stalin teachings. Further, Lukman emphasised the importance of the development of criticism and self-criticism in the Party and of the need to rid it of alien elements.

The articles published in "Bintang Merah" focus attention on improving vigilance and strengthening discipline in the Party. These factors acquire particular significance in the conditions prevailing in Indonesia, where the reactionary forces resort to insidious methods in the struggle against the Communists: fabricating statements and manifestoes and presenting these forgeries as Party documents etc. In this connection, mention should be made about the decision of the

Party, published in one of the issues of the “Bintang Merah”, which relieved Comrade Ngadiman from his duties as chairman of the Communist Parliamentary group for violating Party discipline: Comrade Ngadiman made an arbitrary statement in Parliament on New Guinea on behalf of the Communist Party without consulting the Party leadership. The decision noted that Comrade Ngadiman had admitted his mistake.

In focusing attention on the need for stronger Party discipline and sharper vigilance, “Bintang Merah”, at the same time, is fighting for strengthening the ranks of the Communist Party of Indonesia, for its transformation into the militant vanguard of the working people in their struggle for peace, against the colonial regime and exploitation, for national independence.

M. L.

GENERAL STRIKE IN BARCELONA

The protest demonstrations in Barcelona against increased transport fares, which started on February 23, developed into a general strike against the high cost of living, and the Franco regime of hunger and war. On March 12, factory and transport workers, government employees and office workers, salesmen and small traders in Barcelona and the neighbouring industrial towns went on strike. No newspapers appeared. More than 300,000 working people took part in the strike.

The strikers ignored the non-strike order of the falangist trade unions (the only legal trade unions in the country), and organised mass street demonstrations and meetings. The demonstrators sang the “Internationale”. Students also took part in the demonstrations.

The government of butcher Franco concentrated strong forces of police, infantry, cavalry and civil guards, transferred from Saragossa. A clash took place between police and strikers, during which a number were killed and many wounded. Despite savage repressions, the working people of Barcelona valiantly held their ground in the struggle for better living conditions and against the war policy of Franco.

The characteristic feature of the movement was unity: the working people—Communists, Socialists, Anarcho-Syndicalists—acted in unison. Many employers sided with the strikers.

The general strike in Barcelona—the most widespread movement since the Franco regime was installed in Spain—met with a wide response in the country and abroad. Strikes began at the enterprises Bada-lona, Sabadell, Gava, Cornellà and other towns

near Barcelona. In Italy, solidarity demonstrations and strikes took place.

GROWING RESISTANCE OF YUGOSLAV PEOPLE TO FASCIST TITO-RANKOVIC REGIME (Review of Press of Yugoslav Political Emigrés)

The newspapers of Yugoslav revolutionary political emigrants—"For a Socialist Yugoslavia", "Under the Banner of Internationalism", "Nova Borba" and "Napred"—devote much space to the situation in Yugoslavia, the struggle of the people of Yugoslavia against the fascist Tito-Rankovic clique and to the growing political crisis in the country.

The position of the working people of Yugoslavia is becoming increasingly intolerable. The newspaper "For a Socialist Yugoslavia" reports that even official Yugoslav Statistics show that last year the worker could not purchase the necessary vital food with his earnings. Due to cruel exploitation, 300,000 workers are incapacitated annually as a result of accidents alone. At many enterprises, such as "May 3" and "Torpedo" in Rijeka, 70-80 per cent of the workers suffer from tuberculosis. Forced to bear the entire burden of fascist regime, the working people of Yugoslavia are rising in struggle against terror and oppression, for bread and their vital rights.

This spontaneous struggle for essential needs is becoming, under the leadership of the Communists, an ever more organised political struggle against the fascist regime, against the plunder of the national wealth by the U.S. imperialists, for independence and peace. The struggle of the Yugoslav people takes various forms,

including armed clashes with fascist military and police detachments.

The most organised struggle is waged by the Yugoslav proletariat. Yugoslav workers are disrupting the production plans of the fascists who have switched the economy onto a war footing. The newspaper "For a Socialist Yugoslavia" reports that, as a result of mass sabotage and absenteeism, 120 million work-days were lost in Yugoslavia during eight months of 1950. The budget showed a deficit of 35 billion dinars and output in the war industry declined 30 percent. An article "Belgrade working people fighting against the Tito gang" published in the newspaper "Under the Banner of Internationalism" says that Belgrade workers are utilising the experience acquired during the liberation movement against Hitler occupation and that by means of sabotage they reduced production by approximately one-third at some of the biggest enterprises, such as "Ivo Lola Ribar", "Industrija Matora", "Proleter", the railway shops, etc. The workers of the "Cukarica" shipyards fulfilled the six month's program by only 53 per cent and the "Remont" enterprises by 42 per cent. Fearing the organised struggle of the working people, the Yugoslav fascists replaced 9,764 "doubtful" trade union functionaries during 1950.

After the ukaz of the fascist Government about reducing the bread ration and raising prices on essential foods, numerous slogans appeared on buildings in Belgrade calling for intensification of the struggle against fascism, and exposing the Titoite's policy. Most of these slogans appeared in Hadji Milentic Street, in Crveni Krst, Cukarica, Paliluj and other factory districts.

The newspaper "Nova Borba" reports that at the metallurgical works in Smederevo absentees average

400 a day; at the plant in Vares, output of pig iron dropped by 35 per cent; output in the steel works in Zenica declined by 4,300 tons during one month alone and in September, 1,300 workers left the plant. In Jesenice, output of open-hearth furnaces decreased by 3,000 tons a month, while waste rose to 50 per cent. The metal workers who do not want their steel to be used for an aggressive war are leaving en masse. The plan for recruiting new workers for the iron and steel industry was fulfilled by a mere 30-40 per cent.

Workers in Istria struck work in protest against wage cuts. Building workers at the "Trijestina" enterprises in the Kopar district and of the "Edilit" and 'Bor' enterprises took part in the strike which broke out on November 15, 1950.

Yugoslav miners are waging an active struggle against the Tito-Rankovic clique. Three times more workers were mobilised for work in the mines than was the case in 1939. But the miners are sabotaging export plans, reducing coal and ore output everywhere, and quitting their jobs. The "Bor" mines are producing 25 per cent less; production of lead in Trepca is down 20 per cent and in Breza, output of coal declined during the past year by 40,000 tons compared with pre-war. In the mines in Bosnia, coal output was down by 80,000 tons. In the first half of 1950, the mines in Serbia sustained a loss of 44 million dinars and during July and August, 26 million dinars.

The Yugoslav fascists are intensifying terror and repressions against the working people. Recently, the trial took place in Kreka of members of an underground organisation spreading anti-Titoite propaganda among the workers.

Yugoslav railway workers, actively fighting for peace, are disrupting shipments of war materials, causing damage to railway transportation. In two months of this year the unloading of 132,000 waggons was held up. Every twenty-four hours trains are, on the whole, 500 hours late. Yugoslav railway workers are battling in conditions of fierce terror. In last September alone, military tribunals convicted 1,500 railway workers. Another trial of 110 railwaymen was held recently in Belgrade when severe sentences were meted out. Of the 29 railway workers put on trial in Bradina (Bosnia), two were sentenced to death.

The newspapers of Yugoslav emigrés recently wrote about the growing struggle by Yugoslav dockers for peace. Twenty-four thousand dockers and peasants, mobilised for work in Adriatic ports, are fighting under the slogan "Peace does not wait on us, it must be won!". In November last year, workers in Susak and Rijeka refused to unload 800 waggon-loads of war materials. The same report states that in the last three months there have been more than 1,000 instances when workers refused to make parts for tanks, to transport materials for construction of pill-boxes, etc.

The struggle against the fascist Tito-Rankovic regime is also gaining momentum in the countryside. The main burden of fascist plunder is borne by the working peasantry, while the kulaks in the Titoite co-operatives and outside them wax rich. Working peasants have no desire to deliver their grain and food to the fascists.

In Serbia the meat purchasing plan was fulfilled by only 18 per cent in the last quarter of 1950, tax payments by only 16 per cent; in Croatia, the livestock purchasing plan was fulfilled by 21 per cent, potatoes by only 16 per cent. According to data for December 1,

1950, the autumn sowing plan, due to resistance on the part of the peasants, was fulfilled by only 58 per cent. Plans for the mobilisation of peasants for forced labour have been frustrated. In Dalmatia the plan was fulfilled by 1 per cent, in the Karlovac region 11 per cent, in Rijeka region 2 per cent, etc. Throughout Croatia the plan for forced mobilisation of peasants was fulfilled by only 10 per cent.

The Titoite fascists are resorting to brutal repressions in an attempt to intimidate the peasants. In August last year, 118 peasants in Serbia were convicted for failure to deliver grain, and 342 for resisting other forms of fascist plunder.

Peasants are leaving the kulak co-operatives en masse. In order to save the pseudo-co-operatives from collapse, the Yugoslav fascists have issued a draconic law severely punishing peasants for any attempt of the co-operatives. In July last year, the fascist courts in Macedonia condemned 103 peasants for attempting to leave the co-operatives. Fifty people were sentenced to death. This, however, did not help the fascists. The following month, many more peasants left. Peasants set fire to the granaries to avoid their grain falling the hands of the fascists.

The newspaper, "Napred", published by the Yugoslav political emigres in Bulgaria, contained an eye-witness account of the bloody events in Cazin and its vicinity, where peasants used arms to protect their property against the fascist robbers. The 179th Regiment, quartered in the town of Banja Luka, was dispatched to quell the revolt. After long hours of stubborn battle the peasants retreated to the mountains. Rankovic janissaries began brutal repressions against the population in Cazin. The savage

janissaries shot people on the spot, showing no mercy either to women, the aged or children. Captain Orcic Luka and Lieutenant Milutin killed four children in the presence of the soldiers. More than 800 people were arrested in Cazin and the surrounding district. These acts of bloody terror perpetrated against the peaceful population caused frightful indignation among the soldiers. A large group of rank-and-file soldiers and N.C.O.'s, headed by Lieutenant Milos Manic, sided with the revolting peasants.

Armed clashes with fascists also took place in the Kastelac area (Istria) when one UDB officer was killed.

In appraising the events in Yugoslavia, the newspaper "For a Socialist Yugoslavia writes: "No rabid terror on the part of Rankovic can intimidate our peoples, suppress their fierce hatred for the bitter enemies of peace, democracy and Socialism—the American-British barbarians and their fascist Tito-Rankovic gang."

POLITICAL NOTES

LATEST PLOT BY TRAITORS

The so-called committee for International Socialist Conferences (COMISCO), this wretched offspring of the Second International which rotted alive, has again gathered in London.

It would probably not be worthwhile wasting words on this squeaking of provocateurs were it not for two circumstances: in the first place, COMISCO leaders busied themselves with exhuming the worm-eaten corpse of the Second International; in the second place, they performed this smelly operation to the tune of a warmongering harangue by General Eisenhower in Washington, who again threatened to use the atom bomb.

This: attempt to resurrect the Second International signifies that COMISCO has not justified the hopes of the imperialists. Feverishly preparing for war, the Wall Street and City masters are demanding that the Right-wing Socialist traitors display eve greater servile zeal, extend and intensify their splitting activities in the working class movement. In order that they might carry out these demands of the imperialists, the American and British spies from COMISCO are now making attempts to transform their organisation into a "Socialist International".

What aims are these servile lackeys of imperialism, these zealous defenders of capitalist slavery and Anglo-American spies pursuing under their "socialist" mask? According to the reactionary press, which for quite

understandable reasons, went out of its way to boost the COMISCO conference in London, the conceived “new Socialist International” is expected to extend its influence to Asia, strengthen its links with the Titoites, and participate in “collective security”.

The mention of Asia and Tito is not fortuitous. Asia is singled out because the affairs of the imperialists in this part of the world are in a particularly doleful state. The two countries emphasized are India and Japan. With these countries as a base, the “International” reckons on developing wide-scale subversive, propaganda and espionage activity against People’s China. The declaration about strengthening the links with the Tito gang is also not without intent. London’s not very astute gravediggers believe that the worm-eaten corpse of the Second International can, to some extent, be revived by an injection of Titoite “Communism”. But is it not clear that, by adding one more exposed spy to the gang of traitors, COMISCO, transformed into an “International”, will not become any more “working class”, nor any the less despised by the workers.

Finally, the COMISCO squeak about “collective security” gives its “leaders” away completely. The idea is to give support to the aggressive North Atlantic Pact, to intensify the splitting activities of the imperialists against the world peace movement; it means that the imperialists are looking for new ways and means to undermine the working-class movement, to demoralise the fighters for peace, to prepare the “ideological” ground for a new world slaughter.”

That is why the COMISCO “socialists” squeak, while General Eisenhower bangs the table, threatening to

wife out entire cities. In both cases, the operators are the same—plotters against peace.

This obliges the millions of people of good-will, all to whom peace and security of the peoples are dear, to increase their vigilance tenfold and to intensify their activities in defence of peace.

Jan MAREK

EUGENE DENNIS RELEASED

Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the National Committee of the U.S. Communist Party, was released from the federal prison on March 12. In a statement to press correspondents, Comrade Dennis declared that he would continue to fight for peace. As is known, Comrade Dennis was imprisoned for “contempt” of the un-American Committee of the House of Representatives.

IN BRIEF

* **Thousands of working people in Istanbul are scoped up in miserable shacks** while 12,000 dwelling houses and apartments are vacant due to high rent.

* **Hunger is rife in India.** In the town of Poona, the daily grain ration per person was cut to six ounces (170 grams); 400 hungry women, reduced to despair, raided food shops.

* **The Peasants' Mutual Aid Union is organising 1,700 Michurin circles in the Polish countryside this year.** In the producer co-operatives, such circles are being organised by the agronomists of the machine. and-tractor depots.

* **The population in Western Germany is boycotting newspapers calling for war.** The weekly "Rheinischer Merkur" lost 20,000 readers after it had published an article demanding rearmament of western Germany. The newspaper, "Augsburger Zeitung", lost 5,000 readers.

* **Trade turnover in the Bulgaria People's Republic increased 20 per cent in 1950 compared with 1949** as a result of the sharp increase in production of consumer goods. Prices were reduced considerably on food and prime necessities.

* **8 rest camps will be opened in Hungary on May Day,** for vocational school students; 15,000 future young workers will spend their holidays at the best resorts.

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