

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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FOR FURTHER LESSENING OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION

A Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Soviet Union, the United States of America, France and Great Britain took place in Berlin over January 25–February 18. The proceedings of this Conference were followed with the greatest attention by the widest possible public, by hundreds of millions in all countries, since vital international problems, pertaining to strengthening peace, easing the international tension and ensuring genuine security for the peoples, were discussed.

The very fact of the holding of the Conference of the Four Foreign Ministers after a break of five years is proof of the significant success gained by the peace-loving forces. Over and over again there was confirmed the possibility of and the need for co-operation on the part of the Great Powers for the purpose of achieving a peaceful settlement of controversial international issues and preventing the danger of another world war, of extending co-operation between the different states. The Conference brought into clearer relief the differences between the viewpoint of the Soviet Union and that of the Western powers. At the same time ways and means for narrowing these differences also stood out more clearly.

The question of easing the tension in the international relations called for the closest attention on the part of the Berlin Conference. It is perfectly clear that in the present situation a lessening of the tension in the international situation as a whole and the reaching of agreement on the burning international issues can be achieved only by the joint efforts of all

the big powers plus the efforts of the other states. Consequently, the delegation of the USSR, anxious to reach agreements which would be acceptable to all the participants in the Conference, which would correspond to the vital interests of all the nations and ensure peace and security for the peoples, suggested the holding of a conference of the Foreign Ministers of France, Great Britain, USA, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China. The time is fully ripe for the holding of such a conference. At this conference it would be possible to reach agreement for ending the armaments drive, for a reduction of existing armaments and also to adopt decisions aimed at prohibiting weapons of wholesale extermination and abolishing the military bases on foreign territories. The holding of such a conference would undoubtedly contribute to a settlement of the Korean problem, issues relating to the People's Republic of China, including the question of restoring its lawful rights in the United Nations Organisation, and the establishment of peace in Indo-China.

The proposal of the Soviet Union to call a conference of representatives of the Five Powers was warmly supported by all people of good will deeply interested in easing the international tension. In these circumstances the Foreign Ministers of the Western Powers did not dare reject the Soviet proposal out of hand, and after long discussion it was decided that a conference of representatives of the USA, France, Great Britain the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China and also of representatives of the countries directly concerned in the respective issues be held in Geneva on April 26. It was also decided that the Governments of the USA, France, Great Britain and the Soviet Union would be a further exchange of views

on questions of disarmament or at least a substantial reduction in armaments.

The decisions reached on these questions, constitute the most important and positive result of the Berlin Conference. This result, undoubtedly, would have been more significant had the representatives of the USA, Great Britain and France made a real effort to settle the urgent international issues on the basis of agreements acceptable to all, as was the case with the delegation of the USSR which endeavoured to achieve this throughout the entire period of the Berlin Conference.

Proceeding from the desire to prevent a resurgence of German militarism, which twice in a quarter of a century plunged the peoples into war, the delegation of the USSR submitted to the Conference a number of concrete proposals, proposals which constitute a constructive programme for settling the German issue and ensuring European security, paving the way for the unification of Germany on a peaceful and democratic footing and guaranteeing the vital interests of the German people. The delegation of the USSR proposed the Draft Peace Treaty with Germany, "Preparing the Peace Treaty with Germany and Convening a Peace Conference on the German Peace Treaty" "Formation of a Provisional all-German Government and the Holding of Free all-German Elections" and easing the financial-economic commitments of Germany arising from the war, as already effected by the Eastern Germany.

With a view to ensuring free all-German elections and preventing any pressure on the elections on the part of the foreign occupation troops, the Government of the USSR suggested the withdrawal of the occupation forces six months before the elections take place from

both Eastern and Western Germany with the inspection of linked contingents. At the same time the delegation of the USSR resolutely opposed the inclusion of a united Germany or of any part of Germany in any grouping of such as the “European Defence Community” which is a military bloc of one group of European countries directed against the other European states.

The unification of Germany must above all be a matter for the Germans themselves. Any other solution of the German problem would be unreasonable and unjust to the German people. On these grounds the Soviet delegation suggested that representatives of the two parts of Germany be invited to the Conference in order to hear the views of the German people themselves on this matter. At the same time the Soviet delegation particularly emphasised that in the solving of the German problem the governments of the Great Powers, who bear the main responsibility for preserving peace; cannot stand aside and be passive onlookers in this matter. They must do everything needed in order to ensure that the united Germany is restored as a peace-loving, democratic, independent state.

Submitting its proposals on the German problem the Soviet delegation took as its starting-point the fact that there is a real possibility of preparing and signing only of the German people but also of the other peoples, especially the Soviet, Polish, Czechoslovak, Yugoslav, French and British peoples who suffered most from German aggression and who made an invaluable contribution to the victory over Hitlerism.

However, these proposals of the Government of the USSR, aimed at a speedy and just settlement of the German problem in the interests of peace and security to Europe, were rejected by the Ministers of the three

Western powers. The proposal of the USSR for a referendum in Germany in order to ascertain what the German people want—the Bonn and Paris agreements or a peace treaty—was also rejected. At the same time the Ministers of the US, Great Britain and France failed to put forward any constructive proposals for ensuring the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany and its reunification on a peace-loving and democratic footing.

The representatives of the three Western powers brought to the Berlin Conference but a single proposal on the German question: the so-called “Eden Plan” which envisages the holding of elections in Germany under the control of the occupation authorities of the Four Powers. By means of this plan, which opens up wide opportunities for arbitrary action on the part of revenge-seeking fascist elements, certain American circles, supported by some official personages in France and Great Britain, would like to retain the occupation regime in Germany for a long period of time, to pave the way to power in a united Germany for the militarist clique, to revive the Wehrmacht and include it in the “European Defence Community” as the main shock force. The German newspaper “Neues Deutschland” commented that the elections proposed by Eden “would signify the whole of Germany being given over to the Bonn militarists and revanchists—the Kesseirings, Rayackes and Guderians who constitute a danger to the peace and security of Europe and who want to involve the German people in another war”.

However, the German people, as stated in the memorandum issued by the Government of the German Democratic Republic, have no desire for a militarist and revanchist election. They are opposed to elections held under the control of and with interference by foreign

states, they want elections that are based on blackmail and fraud, elections which would be used as a screen for restoring the fascist dictatorship and carrying out the designs of the West German revanchists. They want free elections on a democratic basis and with strict observance of their national right to self-determination, elections, which must be prepared by the provisional all-German government.

When it became quite clear that the Ministers of the USA, Great Britain and France did not want a settlement of the German problem on a broad basis the delegation of the USSR proposed the establishment of two all-German committees: one to have the functions of reaching agreement and co-ordination in the sphere of trade and financial transactions, transport, frontier matters and other, questions and the other with functions relating to the development of culture, of scientific and sports contacts between Western and Eastern Germany. But these proposals likewise were not accepted by the representatives of the Western powers.

Striving to strengthen peace in Europe the delegation of the USSR submitted for consideration by the Conference the tremendously important draft of the main principles of the "General European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe". The aim of this treaty is to ensure, by joint efforts, peace and security for all the peoples of Europe, to prevent the possibility of aggression against any European state, to contribute to the strengthening of universal peace and to reinforce international co-operation. The proposal of the USSR for a general European system of collective security envisages the close co-operation of all European states to prevent any violation of peace in Europe and, in the event of peace being violated, envisages the measures

necessary for rebuffing the aggressor. A united camp of all countries, irrespective of their social system, must be formed in the struggle for peace. Such a treaty would be to complete consonance with the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter and would not injure any non-European power.

Acceptance of the proposal submitted by the Soviet delegation for a system of collective security in Europe would contribute to a speedy solution of the German question and exclude the possibility of involving separate parts or a united Germany in military groupings.

The proposal of the USSR for a general European treaty on collective security in Europe corresponds to the cherished aspirations of the European peoples, to their strivings for strengthening world peace. Even the US press, the "New York Times" in particular, has had to admit that the suggestion of the Soviet Union for a general European treaty on collective security, which is an alternative to the so-called "European Defence Community", evoked a lively response in Western Europe precisely because it is a real and concrete plan for ensuring security in Europe. The representatives of the three Western powers, however, rejected this Soviet plan for ensuring European security.

The Austrian issue which was discussed at the Berlin Conference could have been settled in a few days had not the Ministers of the USA, Great Britain and France rejected measures which would prevent attempts at an Anschluss with Austria on the part of Western Germany and ensure the genuine independence of Austria. Linking Austria with definite calculations the Western powers rejected the Soviet proposals which correspond to the interests of the Austrian people and to the tasks

of ensuring European security. The London "New Statesman and Nation" said that Dulles had prevented any compromise on the Austrian treaty, since the signing of the Austrian treaty would place Adenauer in an altogether difficult position and could prevent ratification of the "European Defence Community" treaty.

Nevertheless, as stressed by V.M. Molotov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, in his statement at the final session of the Berlin Conference, "there is a possibility of having this question settled in the immediate future. It is essential that the Austrian Government should take this into account and that this should be correctly understood by the Austrian people."

Despite the fact that the Ministers failed to reach agreement on a whole number of questions the Conference, undoubtedly, will benefit the peoples insofar as it facilitates the strengthening of peace and the security of the peoples. The issues which remained unsolved are not removed from the order of the day. It is necessary to work, with greater perseverance in order to solve them.

The peoples of the world, vitally interested in the lessening of international tension and in strengthening peace, wholeheartedly approve the consistent foreign policy of peace pursued by the Soviet Union, the concrete programme of struggle for peace and security of the peoples of all countries advance by the USSR at the Berlin Conference. Increasingly, the peoples are becoming aware that there are no controversial issues in the present international situation which cannot be solved by peaceful means. And the more active and vigorous the struggle waged by the popular masses in all

countries for further easing of the international tension,
for world peace, the quickly will these issues be solved.

PUBLISHING V. I. LENIN'S AND J. V. STALIN'S WORKS IN KOREA

Part one of the first volume of a collection of works by V. I. Lenin and J. V. Stalin on Party building and also volume 4 of a collection entitled “Building a Socialist Economy”, which includes works, by V. I. Lenin and J. V. Stalin devoted questions of economic construction, have been issued in Pyongyang.

The first volume includes articles by V. I. Lenin and J. V. Stalin during the Struggle for founding the Bolshevik Party, while volume 4 contains works written by J. V. Stalin between December 1927 and March 1939.

SIXTH CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA

The Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Bulgaria opened in Sofia on February 25.

The delegates include Party members from the ranks of the working class, working peasantry and people's intelligentsia. Also present are fraternal delegates from the Communist and Workers' Parties of 33 countries including the Soviet Union, Chinese People's Republic, the countries of people's democracy and other countries.

On behalf of the Central Committee G. Damvanov, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Bulgaria opened the Congress. He asked the delegates to rise in tribute to the memory of J. V. Stalin, great continuer of the Lenin's cause, and G. Dimitrov, leader and teacher of the Bulgarian people. The Congress also paid tribute to the memory of V. Kolarov and other outstanding figures of the Communist Party, of Bulgaria who had passed away since the Fifth Congress.

After the election of the presidium and other bodies of the Congress, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was elected en bloc, amid great enthusiasm, as honorary members of the presidium. The following agenda was adopted:

1. Report of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria made Vylko Tchervenkov
2. Report of the Central Auditing Commission—Jordan Katrandjiev, Chairman of the Central Auditing Commission.

3. The directives of the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Bulgaria concerning the second Five-Year Plan (1943-53) for the development of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria. Reporter—Comrade G. Chenkov.

4. Amendments to the Rules of the Party —Comrade Todor Zhivkov.

5. Election of the central organs of the Party. The report of the Central Committee was delivered by Comrade Vylko Tchervakov.

Following the reports on the first and second items of the agenda Comrade P. N. Pospelov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, head of the CPSU delegation, read the message of greetings from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which was wholeheartedly welcomed by the delegates. The message-reads:

“TO SIXTH CONGRESS, COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA

The Central Committee, of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends its fraternal greetings to the Sixth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The Bulgarian Communist Party has to its credit great successes in socialist construction and in consolidating the people’s-democratic system. Under the leadership of the Communist Party the people of Bulgaria are successfully building their own industry, reconstructing agriculture and developing socialist culture.

We wholeheartedly wish the Bulgarian Communist Party new successes in socialist construction. In the struggle for the advance of agriculture, further strengthening the alliance of the working class and peasantry—the basis of the people's-democratic system—for raising the material and cultural level of the working people, for peace and friendship among the peoples.

Long live the Bulgarian Communist Party!

Long live the indestructible friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria!

**Central Committee, Communist Party
of the Soviet Union**

The Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Bulgaria continuing its work.

GERMAN PEOPLE WANT PEACE TREATY

In different ways millions of Germans are demanding the signing of a peace treaty with Germany and denouncing the “European Defence Community”. By February 20 some 11,736,896 people had signed petitions calling for the reunification of Germany on a democratic basis the signing of a peace treaty, the formation of a provisional all-German government and the holding of free and really democratic elections.

The National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany has received thousands of telegrams and letters from the personnel of factories and offices, from groups of people and from private, individuals, all demanding a solution of the German question in conformity with the proposals submitted by the Soviet delegation at the Berlin Conference of the Four Foreign Ministers.

Patriots in Western Germany are circulating numerous questionnaires among the population. The overwhelming majority of women and youth approached have expressed themselves for a peace treaty against the “European Defence Community”.

In Osnabruck 100 out of 123 expressed themselves for a peace treaty, one voter was invalid and 22 did not express an opinion. In Duren (Eifel district) 229 out of 291 questioned expressed themselves for a peace treaty, 34 for the “European Defence Community” and 28 abstained.

STATEMENT BY COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRIA AFTER BERLIN CONFERENCE

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria has issued a statement addressed to the people of the country which reads in part:

The key question debated at the Berlin Conference, was whether German Militarism should be revived again.

The Soviet Union is trying to prevent the resurgence of German military. This corresponds not only to the interests of the Soviet Union but also to the interests of all peoples, including the German people. This also corresponds to the vital interests of our people.

The import of the proposals advanced by Molotov is clear: to ensure the security of Austria from German militarism which Dulles wants to revive. Hence the state treaty must stipulate that Austria will not take part to any war alliances and will not permit the construction of foreign war bases on its territory.

Austria, the statement concludes, needs a clear-cut policy of neutrality. Austria needs first of all a resolute course directed against German militarism... Only in this way can Austria take its place in the ranks of all the countries of Europe both in the East and in the West.

CELEBRATION OF 36th ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET ARMY AND NAVY

The Soviet people and the progressive people throughout the world celebrated the 36th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

On February 22 a celebration meeting was held in the Central Theatre of the Soviet Army (Moscow). The appearance in the presidium of Comrades K. E. Voroshilov, N. K. Bulganin, N. M. Shvernik, and marshals, admirals, and representatives of the Soviet public was greeted with rounds of applause.

The meeting was opened by Comrade N. A. Bulganin, Minister of Defence of the USSR. The first speaker N. A. Mikhailov, Secretary of the Moscow Regional Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, addressed the meeting on behalf of the Moscow organisation of the Party. Greetings were also delivered by Comrade N. M. Shvernik, Chairmen of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, A. N. Nesmeyanov, President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and A. N. Shelepin, Secretary of the Central Committee of the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League, P. I. Ashirkov, Chairman of the Berets collective farm (Moscow region) and Hero of Socialist Labour, spoke on behalf of the collective-farm peasantry.

The Chinese people widely celebrated the 36th anniversary of the Soviet Army. Lectures and talks were held and, photographic exhibitions arranged in towns and cities of the Chinese People's Republic.

Celebration meetings devoted to the 36th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy were held, in

Warsaw, Sofia, Bucharest, Budapest, Tirana, Pyongyang and to Ulan Bator.

On February 21st a meeting devoted to the anniversary was held to Paris.

PREPARATIONS FOR FOURTH CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil has decided to hold during the current year the Fourth Congress of the Party with the following agenda:

1. "Report of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil" to be given by Comrade Luis Carlos Prestes, General Secretary.

2. The Programme of the Communist Party of Brazil, report to be given by Comrade Diogenes Arruda, Secretary of the Central Committee.

3. Amendments to Party Rules—report by Comrade Joao Amazonas, Secretary of the Central Committee.

4. Election of central organs of the Party.

The resolution adopted by the meeting points out that the Fourth Congress will be a factor of prime significance for strengthening and extending inner-Party democracy—an indispensable condition for the maximum growth of the revolutionary initiative of the Party organs and members. The Fourth Congress will greatly invigorate the membership, raise their military and reinforce the solidarity and indestructible unity of the Party.

The call to the Party organisations, signed by Comrade Luis Carlos Prestes, points out that all members must take part to the discussion of the draft Programme and Rules approved by the meeting of the Central Committee. Full freedom of criticism must be ensured.

The newspaper "Voz Operaria" has opened a special Congress column in which all the members can express

their views on the matters coming up for discussion at the Congress and on the various aspects of Party life.

BRINGING VIRGIN SOIL IN THE USSR UNDER CULTIVATION

Noble Initiative of Young Soviet Patriots

On February 22 young men and women in Moscow and Moscow region visited the Grand Kremlin Palace to say farewell to the first group of volunteers—members of the Young Communist League—setting out to bring uncultivated land under the plough.

The appearance in the presidium of Comrades G. M. Malenkov, V. M. Molotov, N. S. Khrushchev, K. E. Voroshilov, N. A. Bulganin, L. M. Kaganovich, A. I. Mikoyan, Z. Saburov, M. G. Peryukhin, N. M. Shvernik, P. K. Ponomarenko and A. I. Kirilenko was greeted by a tumultuous and prolonged ovation.

The meeting was opened by Comrade Shelepin, secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union Leninist Young Communist League.

“During the past few days”, he said, “over five thousand Muscovites, more than a thousand young people from the Kuban and over eight thousand members of the Young Communist League in the Ukraine have volunteered to participate in the work of bringing virgin soil under cultivation. The call of the Party has been taken up with enthusiasm by young patriots to the Tambov, Voronezh and other regions. In this patriotic movement there is displayed the courageous character of our youth, in striving always to be ready to fulfil its duty, before the homeland and the people”.

Comrade Benediktov, Minister of Agriculture of the USSR, said that this spring the collective farms and

machine and tractor stations in Siberia, Kazakhstan, the Urals and the Volga area planned to bring under the plough and sow 1,800,000 hectares of virgin soil. In addition, the state farms to these areas bring under cultivation another 500,000 hectares of virgin soil will be sown, to such valuable crops as spring wheat. Upon completing the sowing the machine and tractor stations, collective and state farms in these areas will bring under the plough several million more hectares in preparation for the next crop.

The meeting was also addressed by Comrade Lubanov, first Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR and Minister of Agriculture of the RSFSR, by Comrade Kozlov, Minister of State Farms of the USSR, by representatives of the youth setting out to bring virgin soil under the plough, etc.

The speech delivered by N. S. Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, was greeted with an ovation.

The meeting unanimously adopted a Call to all members of the Young Communist League and the Soviet youth calling on them to take up the noble initiative of the young patriots and to join the movement for bringing virgin soil under cultivation.

“We know”, says the Call, “that bringing the new land under cultivation will not be an easy matter. At first we shall encounter not a few difficulties. But was it not around the first hand that new towns, and cities were built in places which were once waste land; was it not around the camp-fire that the first builders of Komsomolsk-on-the-Amur, Magnitogorsk and the powerful hydro-electric stations held their Komsomol meetings! The young people of the Soviet Union have never yearned for a soft life-this is how our Communist

Party has brought them up. We have a clear vision of our great goal and we shall selflessly and perseveringly work for its realisation”.

*

The Soviet press report that over 23,000 Komsomol members have already volunteered for the cultivation of virgin soil on February 22 the first big contingent of young people left for the Altai area.

STATEMENT BY V. M. MOLOTOV

At Concluding Session of Berlin Conference of Four Foreign Ministers on February 18, 1954

The Berlin Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the USSR, France, Britain and the United States has considered the issues on its agenda pertaining to the international situation. The exchange of views during the Conference has helped in arriving at a more correct understanding of the position of the countries represented here.

The differences between the stands of our Governments were clearly brought out. At the same time the ways for reducing these differences have become clearer insofar as a desire to accomplish this will be really manifested by the sides concerned.

True to its unswerving policy of peace, the Government of the USSR held and continues to hold that the Berlin Conference will benefit the peoples to the extent that it furthers the strengthening of peace and the security of the nations.

It is known that in some big states there are forces resisting an improvement in relations between countries. These forces are interested in maintaining and, possibly, in adding to the international tension. They were frightened; for example, by the cessation of the war in Korea because they are interested in large war orders and in the armaments drive. This, after all, helps them to line their pockets, to increase their profits and super-profits.

These, however, are the interests of narrow and only particularly privileged groups in these countries striving for the unlimited amassing of wealth at the expense of other people. As for the interests of the popular masses, and, we might say, the interests of the nations, big and small, they are entirely different. The peoples are interested in a lessening of international tension, in the consolidation of peace. It is these interests that guide the Government of the USSR in its entire foreign policy.

Agreement has been reached at this Conference that the Governments of the United States, France, Britain and the Soviet Union will take measures to promote the successful solution of the disarmament problem or at least a substantial reduction of armaments. This imposes definite obligations on the Governments of the Four States.

Further, agreement has been reached on the convocation in Geneva of a Conference of representatives of the United States, France, Britain, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China as well as of the countries directly interested in the given questions. At this Conference it is intended to facilitate, the final settlement of the Korean question. Such an agreement is in the interests of strengthening peace and in the interests of solving the problem of the national unification of Korea. The question of re-establishing peace in Indo-China will also be examined at this Conference. The striving of the peoples of Indo-China for the establishment of peace and national freedom should be given due support by all the freedom-loving peoples.

During the discussion of the German problem we all stated that the settlement of this question was

inseparably bound up with the safeguarding security in Europe. This means that Germany should be united among democratic and peaceful lines and that resurgence of German militarism be prevented.

The differences in the positions of the four States on the question of Germany have now been established with sufficient clarity. The present Berlin Conference has made it particularly clear that the solution of the German problem is, first of all, a matter for the Germans themselves. The Governments of France, Great Britain, the United States and the USSR bear responsibility for the settlement of the German question, but they must not forget that the foreign occupation forces on the territory of Germany have only limited tasks and must not bar Germans from settling the question of the unification of Germany, the re-establishment of the unity of the German state on democratic and peaceful principles.

At this Conference we have unfortunately not reached agreement even of such a simple matter as hearing the Germans and learning what the German people themselves think of the pressing problems of Germany's unification and, their participation in safeguarding peace and security in Europe. The Soviet representatives are certain that had we heard the Germans, had we heard the representatives of Eastern and Western Germany we would have greatly facilitated the settlement of urgent problems that interest the entire German people.

The attention of all Germans is focused on the question of re-establishing the unity of the German state. To accomplish this we must promote the earliest holding of free all-German elections. If we really want to have free elections in Germany they must be carried

out by the Germans themselves and not by the foreign occupation authorities.

To ensure genuine freedom for all-German elections the Soviet Government has proposed that the foreign occupation forces be withdrawn from the entire territory of Germany except for strictly limited contingents. It would then be possible to avoid interference and pressure by foreign powers in such a purely internal affair of the German people as the free election of deputies to an all-German national Parliament.

The conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany is a question that brooks no delay. To uphold the need for the earliest conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany means to uphold the earliest re-establishment of the unity of Germany. So far we have not succeeded in reaching agreement on beginning preparation of a peace treaty with Germany. This problem, however, must be solved. The Soviet Government hopes that the Four Powers will continue efforts for a satisfactory settlement of the German question in conformity with the interest of strengthening peace in Europe.

The Governments of the United States, Britain, France and the USSR were able to reach understanding during the war. All the more so should they be able to find ways for co-ordinating their actions in conclusion of peace, especially in order to prevent the danger of another war.

The Soviet Government has never concealed its negative attitude towards the establishment of military groupings of some countries directed against other countries, since such developments in international relations intensify the danger of war and run counter to

the objective of establishing lasting peace among the nations.

The Soviet Government cannot but point to the special danger of such a military grouping as the "European Defence' Community", whose establishment means resurgence of German militarism. Such plans are not in the interests of peace in the security of Europe.

Therefore the Soviet Government has put forward the proposal contained in the Draft General European Treaty, for Collective Security in Europe. Germany too could take part in this treaty on the basis of equality, today as represented by Eastern and Western Germany and after the re-establishment of unity by a unified Germany. Also non-European countries could contribute to bringing about a system of collective security in Europe. It would be wrong to forget that the unleashing of both the first and second world wars started in Europe. Precisely for this reason the proposal of the Soviet Union for a General European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe is of particular Importance.

The question of a state treaty with Austria could have been settled at the Berlin Conference. So far this has been prevented by the above-mentioned plans which increase the danger of the resurgence of German militarism. Nevertheless the Soviet Government is confident that there is a possibility of having this question settled in the immediate future. It is necessary that the Austrian Government should take this into account and that this should be correctly understood by the Austrian people.

The convocation of the Berlin Conference and the resumption of direct contact between the Foreign Ministers of France, Britain, the United States and the

USSR are of definite significance in the present situation. It facilitated examination of some urgent international problems whose solution is essential for the further lessening of the tension in international relations.

The issues which remained unsolved at this Conference are not removed from the order of the day. We must continue our efforts and work with greater persistence for their solution.

The Berlin Conference, will, we hope, promote co-operation among the Powers in international affairs in the interests of strengthening peace.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND CALLS ON PEOPLE

The newspaper “De Waarheid” published the text of the call addressed to the people by the Communist Party of Holland. With feelings of alarm and indignation, it reads, hundreds of thousands of people in the country heard the announcement made by War Minister Staff concerning the construction of US military base on our soil. This is confirmation of the threat of which the Communist Party of Holland gave warning dozens of times both in written form and orally. By means of this measure, the Americans are trying to make the first step from invisible economic occupation to visible military occupation of the country. The call urges the people to wage resolute struggle against the quartering of foreign occupation forces on the territory of Holland.

The Berlin Conference has demonstrated the call continues, that instead of the “European Army”, which aggravates the danger of war, it is possible to build a system of collective security in Europe. This proposal, advanced by V. M. Molotov, makes it possible for Europe to eliminate the danger of war. And precisely at this moment, when it is possible, given the desire, to take the road of peace, news confirm of the arrival of US armed forces in our country. Unanimous resistance can avert this danger.

The call says in conclusion: Men and women of Holland fight for your life and security! No foreign soldiers in our country.

FOURTH PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

The Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Com took place on February 6-10. Comrade Mao Tse-tung, at present on vacation, was not present.

Liu Shao-chi, Secretary of the Central Committee, delivered a report on behalf of the Political Bureau.

Chu Teh and Chou En-lai were among the 44 people who spoke at the meeting. At the thorough discussion the Plenum unanimously adopted a “Decision on Strengthening the Unity of the Party”, unanimously approved the work of the Political Bureau since the previous plenum and decided to complete during the current year at all-China Party conference.

Report by Liu Shao-chi

At the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Comrade Liu Shao-chi delivered the “Report of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee”.

Referring to the work of the Political Bureau in the three-and-a-half years the previous plenum of the Central Committee, Comrade Liu Shao-chi pointed out that the Party and the people guided by the Political Bureau, headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, had done a tremendous amount of work. During this period the Central Committee guided all the work connected with

the Movement to Resist American aggression and Aid to Korea, for the peaceful liberation of Tibet, the land reform, the suppression of counter-revolution and the ideological remoulding of the intelligentsia: it led the “San Fan” movement (against bribery, tax evasion, pilfering of state property, cheating on Government contracts, abstracting economic information from Government sources for private gain—Ed.) and a number of other social transformations. At the same time there developed in industry and in the rural areas a movement for more output and economy, labour emulation and the patriotic movement to increase output as well as numerous other measures which contributed, greatly to increased output both in industry and agriculture. The 1952 output of the basic industrial and agricultural items surpassed or approached the highest figures ever recorded in the history of China; corresponding development was also registered in the sphere of communications, transport and trade; we had a balanced state budget; market prices were stabilised; the purchasing power of the population rose and the standard of living went up. The entire Party and people have achieved a radical improvement in the financial and economic situation of the country—a factor which facilitated the successful completion of the work of rehabilitating the national economy in 1952. Gross industrial and agricultural output was 170 per cent of the 1949 level, with the output of modern industrial enterprises increasing 2.6 times compared with 1949. The share of the modern enterprises in the over-all industrial and agricultural output increased from 17 per cent in 1949 to roughly 28 per cent in 1952. The socialist and the semi-socialist

sectors grew considerably in the course of rehabilitating the national economy.

Further, Liu Shao-chi pointed out that in 1953 the People's Republic of China entered the period of planned economic construction and began work on the first Five-Year Plan. The adoption by the Political Bureau, on the basis of the proposal submitted by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, of the general line of the Party for the transitional period was a necessary and timely measure. In the months which followed the elaboration of the general line, the Party carried out considerable propaganda and educational work among the membership, functionaries and among the population of the country with the result that the general line of the Party have been wholeheartedly supported by the majority of the population; the socialist ideology becoming predominant in the country and capitalist ideology was severely condemned.

Inspired by the general line of the Party, said Liu Shao-chi was successfully fulfilled the 1953 assignment, the first year of the first Five-Year Plan of construction. As the approximate estimates show gross industrial output, privately-owned industry included, was 106 per cent of the annual plan and rose roughly 84 per cent compared with 1952. The industrial ministries fulfilled the plan for capital construction 96.8 per cent in agriculture, although some regions suffered from serious natural calamities, production of foodstuffs were somewhat in excess of the 1952 level.

Last winter, with the aim of ensuring state stocks of food and stabilising prices, in order to check the spontaneous growth of capitalist elements in the countryside and crush the resistance of the capitalist class to the measures restricting the growth of this class

the state began to carry out the policy of planned food purchases and planned supply of the population. An enormous amount of work had been done in this respect.

Liu Shao-chi said that much had been done in the spheres of culture and education, of democratic upbuilding and international relations and in many other spheres. Great progress was registered in strengthening the united front embracing different nationalities, democratic parties, groups and public organisations in the country.

Enumerating the victories won by the Chinese people Liu Shao-chi stressed in particular that all these achievements are inseparably linked with the selfless aid given by the great Soviet Union and by the countries of people's democracy; they are inseparably linked with the profound solidarity of the peace-loving peoples of the world.

He noted, further, that since the third plenum of the Central Committee not few successes had been attained in the sphere of Party education and study, in the sphere of strengthening and building the Party organisations. At present the Party has a membership of 6,500,000; its composition has improved the consciousness of the members and the fighting efficiency of the Party has been enhanced. After enumerating the successes of the Party since the third plenum Liu Shao-chi turned to the shortcomings and mistakes in different links of Party work. He stressed that the timely disclosure and rectification of the mistakes and shortcomings in the work were a major reason for the achievements in all fields of the work and pointed out that it is necessary, in future too, constantly to maintain an atmosphere of modesty,

criticism and self-criticism in the Party and that the struggle for correcting and overcoming shortcomings and mistakes be waged without let-up.

The Political Bureau, he continued, asks the Fourth Plenum to approve the decision to hold an All-China Party Conference in 1954 to discuss the first Five-Year Plan of state construction and other questions related with it.

Referring to the struggle for strengthening the unity of the Party Liu Shao-chi pointed out that on December 24, 1953, at a meeting of the Political Bureau, Comrade Mao Tse-tung made a suggestion for strengthening the unity of the Party. The Political Bureau unanimously approved the suggestion and, acting on it, had prepared a draft “Resolution on strengthening the unity of the Party” which it submitted for discussion at this plenum.

The resolution reads in part: “Unity of the Party, unity of the working class, unity of the working people and unity of the entire people—this is the main guarantee for the victory of the revolution. This is one of the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism. The Communist Party of China, basing itself on the unity of the entire Party, led the people to the completion of the new democratic revolution and to the founding of the People’s Republic of China. However, at present the revolution in China has not been brought to final completion, the enemies of the people inside the country have not as yet been fully eliminated; outside the country, there is still the imperialist encirclement. Now that China is in the phase of the socialist revolution, that is, in the phase of socialist transformations, we must gradually tackle the job of socialist industrialisation and the socialist transformation of agriculture, cottage industry;

privately-owned capitalist industry and trade in order to transform our country into a great socialist state. This revolution, replete with the most complex, sharp struggle, is deeper and broader than the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal revolution, the revolution directed against bureaucratic capitalism in the period of this struggle the foreign imperialists will in no circumstances adopt the role of more onlookers, and on other hand inside the country the classes already overthrown will never become ... in their fate, while doomed classes cannot but resist. The extreme counter-revolutionary elements from this class will, increasingly plot with foreign imperialism and seize on every opportunity to undermine the cause of our Party and the people in order to strike at the Chinese revolution and restore reactionary rule in China. One of the chief methods of the imperialists and counter-revolutionaries in their struggle against us, in the first place, attempt to undermine the unity of our Party, to recruit agents in the ranks of the Party”.

The resolution urges all members to be deeply conscious of the need to safeguard the unity of the Party and to fight to consolidate this unity.

AFTER THE BERLIN CONFERENCE.

Yvonne-Dumont, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party

The convening of the Berlin Conference of the Four Foreign Ministers was regarded by the people of France as an important message for the peace-loving policy of the USSR, of the persevering struggle waged by the peace supporters in all countries, of the resolute struggle fought by the French people against the resurgence of German militarism.

When the people of France heard the results of the elections held in Western Germany on September 6, results which added to their disquiet, the fight against the "European Defence Community" widened, took on diverse forms and every day involved ever new social circles and sections of the population.

A decisive role in developing this struggle was played by the decision of the recent meeting of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party which called upon the Party members to spare no effort in building the unity of all French men and women irrespective of persons who are opposed to ratification of the Bonn and Paris military treaties.

As is known, politicians of such widely divergent views as Daladier, "Louis Alain and Paul Boncour greeted and expressed agreement with the rally of 70,000 Parisians organised by the peace movement. It is also known that in response to the call issued above the signatures of a number of public figures a national conference against the revival of German militarism held in Paris was attended by 500 people of different political views and convictions. On the initiative of the

Bureau of this conference 164 people, including former ministers, RPF deputies, Communists, MRP members, Radicals, university teachers, and lawyers of different views, requested a meeting with Prime Minister Laniel and presented to him a joint statement which was later published in the press. In this statement they protested against the stand taken by Bidault who at the Berlin Conference persisted in referring to the "European Defence Community" as an "irrevocably accomplished fact", as if the treaty had already been ratified by the French Parliament.

Despite the ban imposed by some of the leaders of the Socialist Party, increasing numbers of the active members and elected persons of this Party openly oppose the "European Defence Community" in the press and at public meetings. For example, one of the branches of the Socialist Party in the Rhone Department invited a Communist deputy to address a meeting in its premises at which he exposed the real aims of the "European Defence Community". Twelve Socialist mayors in the Pyrenees-Orientales Department signed an appeal to convene a Department peasant peace rally, and three of them were elected to the Department peasant peace council.

Meetings are being held all over the country at which elected persons and active members of the different parties, members of the Union of War Veterans and of the League of Human Rights jointly call for united action against the "European Defence Community". Sixty such meetings have already been held in Paris and the suburbs. Addressing these meetings many municipal councillors have expressed themselves against the "European Defence Community". In particular, such statements were made by 42 of the 80

mayors in the Seine Department and by 1,400 municipal councillors in the Seine-el-Oise Department.

The most varied measures are being taken in order to bring the different social strata of the population into the struggle.

Since November the National Council of Peasants in Defence of Peace and Agriculture has held 40 Department peace rallies which were attended by thousands of peasant delegates. These rallies had the backing of many village Mayors of different political outlooks and of many chairmen of agricultural trade unions and co-operatives.

In memory of the first trainload of French women deported to Germany during the Hitler occupation, a number of women prominent in public life who suffered grievously during the war issued a call to all women on January 31, urging them to take action against the Bonn and Paris military treaties.

On February 21 several hundred engineers employed in different industries and boards held a national conference for struggle against the "European Defence Community" and discussed ways and means of developing the struggle.

Note should also be taken of the appeals issued by teachers, painters, sculptors, lawyers, high-ranking officials and artists who have also called for action against the "European Defence Community".

All these actions stem from a broad mass movement: the adoption of resolutions in the factories, collection of signatures on the doorsteps, in the streets, in the villages. From 70 to 100 per cent of the people approached express themselves against rearming the German revanchists and in all constituencies

deputations hand lists with signatures to their respective deputies.

*

But all these actions, no matter how strong and effective, did not reach the scale needed to make the representative of France at the Berlin Conference take into account the will expressed every day by French men and women and by their representatives in Parliament. The Berlin Conference, disclosing before us the possibilities, enables us also to become increasingly conscious of the things still remain to be done.

All the people of our country followed the Berlin Conference with unwavering attention. They approved the proposals made by the Soviet delegation for disarmament and the convening of a Five Power conference to examine measures for easing the international tension and particularly for establishing peace in Indo-China. These proposals correspond to the peaceful aspirations of the working people of our country who express their determination to put an end to the burden imposed by war orders and the armaments drive.

The fact that the Ministers of the Western Powers could not completely reject these proposals is a powerful stimulus encouraging us to redouble our efforts for negotiations and relaxation of the international tension in all spheres and above all in the German question, which is the centre of attention for the people of France. The proposals advanced consistently and persistently on this question by V. M. Molotov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union, and the draft "General European Treaty for Collective

Security in Europe” has met with wide response in our country.

A solution to the question of guaranteeing security in Europe and maintaining universal peace, as convincingly stated by V. M. Molotov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, in his speeches at the Berlin Conference, can be achieved solely by collective effort on the part of all the peace-loving states. In this respect the stand taken by the Soviet Union wholly and completely corresponds in the interests of all European peoples including the French people. Because, instead of counter-posing one grouping of states to other European states the Soviet Union proposed a general European system of security, a system envisaging the close co-operation of all European states in the matter of not permitting violation of peace in Europe, of administering the necessary rebuff in the event of peace being violated. Because the system of security proposed by the Soviet Union is based on a general European principle, all European states can participate in it. This system is aimed at preventing aggression against any European state. This system, relying on the aims and principles of the UN Charter, gives real guarantees of security to all European states.

All French men and women worried about the future of their homeland gratefully welcomed this draft since by neutralising Germany and eliminating any danger of a revival of German militarism; it is, for France above all, a guarantee to her security and independence, and consequently, also effective instrument for peace.

All honest people, sincerely desirous of having the means for achieving peaceful agreement among the nations and giving close attention to this draft.

On the other hand, this draft gives rise to penetration among those who, screened by the cloak of Europe and speculating on the lawful and generous aspirations for fraternity among the peoples, are engaged in forming aggressive blocs and alliances, while the so-called “big news” press is afraid to print the full text of the draft. And when it was unable to maintain complete silence, it published merely abridged and distorted excerpts.

For the working class of France, for all patriots cautious to see France avoid the misfortune that will threaten her in the event of the formation of the “European Defence Community”, this draft is a valuable weapon in the great struggle which will assume bigger and bigger dimensions: the draft will help the working class and all patriots to combat the adherents of the “European Defence Community”. Consequently, the working class and all patriots must acquaint the entire population with the full text.

Carrying out the will of the American imperialists and acting contrary to the national interests and the will of the people, Bidault stubbornly supported the idea of forming the “European Defence Community”. In this way he prevented agreement being reached on the German problem. Bidault hoped that this would enable him to say to the French people that “agreement was impossible because of the intransigence of the Soviet side and the only thing to do now is to ratify the “European Defence Community” treaty.”

But right now French men and women reply to this: “The obstacle in the way agreement was the support of the plans for restoring a revanchist Germany; let us remove the obstacles and renounce once and for all the

“European Defence Community”. By doing so we can pave the way for genuine-negotiations”.

The French working people and all patriots are aware that the battle will be a hard one. The imperialists have demonstrated that they are determined at all cost to cling to the “European Defence Community”, the main link in their aggressive plan, and in this respect the stand of France is of the greatest significance. Hence, they will use all the means in their disposal: intimidation, all kinds of pressure, vilification and bribery in order to split the ranks of those who are against rearming Western Germany and to get the Bonn and Paris treaties ratified by the French Parliament.

Consequently, the peace supporters in France bear a great responsibility before their people and all peace-loving peoples. The Berlin Conference and the lessons will, in large measure, help them in carrying out this task.

The decision of the Berlin Conference for a meeting in Geneva on April 26 was whole-heartedly welcomed by big sections of the public in France who see in this decision the possibility of ending the long drawn-out Indo-China conflict and of an immediate cease-fire in Viet Nam. For instance, the “Paris-press-Intransigent” wrote that the decisions adopted by the Four Foreign Ministers in Berlin give grounds for believing that the Geneva meeting, “L’Humanite” commented, “presupposes agreement for a peaceful solution of the Indo-China problem. Why, then, continue the war?”

In addition to the substantial results achieved, the Berlin Conference enabled many people to realise just how decisive are the struggles waged by peace fighters all over the world and the action taken by peoples for

solving the international problems. The Conference proved that the road of struggle is the road to victory. And it is along this road that we shall march straight ahead.

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL*

I. Brazil Under Growing Expression of US Imperialists

1. Brazil is a vast, country with rich natural resources. It is rich in iron ore, oil, coal, manganese, gold and other minerals. Brazil has fertile soil, favourable climatic conditions for all branches of agriculture, and her extensive plains and plateaus favour all forms of animal husbandry. Our country has rich in forests and water resources which could be utilised for the benefit of our people, for building irrigation systems, combating drought and electrifying the country.

However, notwithstanding these tremendous possibilities the conditions of the peoples of Brazil are deteriorating daily, becoming increasingly unbearable. People die from starvation on the roadsides in North-Eastern Brazil and in the main industrial cities; tuberculosis and other diseases kill and incapacitate millions of people. The people have neither schools nor hospitals; they live in ignorance and die in poverty.

The poverty of the people in a country as rich as ours is the result of the predatory policy of the

* Draft Programme of the Communist Party of Brazil approved at the meeting of the Party's Central Committee in December 1953, and published in the "Voz Operaria" on January 2, and in other progressive newspapers in Brazil.

American monopolies, the result of the rule of the owners of the latifundia and big Brazilian capitalists.

The American monopolies have already seized our main mineral, resources. "United States Steel" and "Bethlehem Steel" have a grip on the mining of manganese. "Standard Oil" is battling to grab our oil deposits. US bankers control the extraction of iron ore and the Volta Redonda iron and steel works. The "Light" and the "Bond and Share" companies control nearly 90 per cent of the generation of electric energy. US capital already controls a great part of Brazil's industry!

Foreign trade is dominated by the US imperialists who fix prices according to their interests and act as middlemen in selling some of our products, hindering trade between Brazil and other countries. American monopolies compel us to export our goods at exceedingly low prices and charge us excessive prices for imports. US monopoly firms control the great part of our coffee exports and have in their hands the buying, cleaning and export of our cotton.

American capital holds the key positions in our air transport, controls our railways and threatens to destroy our merchant fleet. Rockefeller is building big agricultural enterprises all over the country with the aim of seizing control of our big centres of agriculture; American meat companies buy up land and form huge plantations and ranches.

Contrary to the laws of the country the US monopolies strive for a specially advantageous rate of exchange in order to transfer their profits abroad. At the same time capital investments of the US monopolies in Brazil, are growing rapidly from the accumulated profits with the result that more and more profits are transferred at abroad. American investments in Brazil

act as a powerful pump extracting from the country a considerable part of our national income and a large part of the gold earned by our exports.

Thus, the entire national economy of Brazil is being turned into a mere appendage to the US war economy. The American imperialists directly interfere in the entire in the entire administrative life of the country; they have taken over the state apparatus of Brazil in order ruthlessly to exploit and oppress our people, to plunder the country's national resources and to extract maximum profit.

Our country is rapidly losing the attributes of a sovereign nation and is flooded with agents of the US monopolies. The representatives of Brazil abroad become obedient tools in the hands of the US State Department; our armed forces are under the command of American officers and sergeants, and the rulers of the country openly play the role of mere servants of the US Government. By means of the press, radio, cinema, literature and arts, which have become instruments for colonisation, US agents are trying to do away with the cherished traditions of our people and our national culture.

Thus, the US imperialists are penetrating social and cultural life in Brazil, humiliating our people and destroying, the independence and sovereignty of our nation which they want to reduce to the status of a US colony.

This situation threatens the people of Brazil with complete enslavement and imperils the future of our nation.

2. The domination of US imperialism becomes more serious owing to intensified militarisation of Brazil State expenditure is rising. Inflation is growing and taxes and

prices, on the home market are soaring. All this is a heavy burden on the shoulders of all sections of the population.

Millions of workers in Brazil suffer from severe privation as a result of the fall in real wages, the new forms of exploitation and the steady growth of unemployment. On the pretext of regulating the time of arrival for work a system of times is being introduced. The social rights and gains won by the workers are being abolished. Strikes are brutally suppressed. The present government interferes with the work of the trade unions, in trade union elections, and plants police agents and agents of US imperialists in the leading bodies of the trade unions. Workers suffer from malnutrition, live in miserable slums, because ill and die, lacking the necessary medical aid; they suffer from occupational diseases and tuberculosis. Their children are denied vocational training and practically deprived of the opportunity to attend elementary schools.

The peasantry, who constitute 70 per cent of the population and who make up the millions of sharecroppers and metayers, tenants, smallholders, agricultural labourers, farmlands, etc., are, in their majority, landless and brutally exploited; they are deprived of all rights and are at the complete mercy of the big landowners on the plantations, on the ranches, in the mills and oh sugar-plantations. Dowsed to illiteracy, victims of local diseases, bare-footed and ragged, millions of peasants live a life of misery in huts, with the mattock as their sole agricultural implement. This situation is becoming worse owing to the constant rise in prices paid for agricultural implements, fertilisers and means for combating pests, owing to the growing profiteering of middlemen who are protected

by the Government and enjoy favourable credits from the State Bank. The situation is worsening because of rising taxation, increased railway tariffs and because of unilateral and arbitrary fixing of prices for the products of agriculture and animal husbandry. Agricultural labourers are paid a starvation wage. The small and medium farmers are robbed by landlords and usurers, have no rights to their holdings and are constantly threatened by the big landowners and the authorities. The small and medium demands are strangled with enslaving agreements; they cannot dispose of their own products which are actually confiscated by the owners of the land they rest. They are often evicted from their holdings. Draught in the North east and flooding in other parts of the country are a veritable calamity for the poor who, living in terrible poverty and receiving no aid from the Government, are forced to seek refuge in other parts of the country. Thousands perish by the roadside or fall, in the long run, into the clutches of new exploiters.

The peasant fight for land and against the arbitrary action and exploitation by the landlords is brutally oppressed and drowned in blood by the Government.

The middle sections of the urban population experience great difficulties. Salaries and wages paid to Government, trade and bank employees and clerks as well as to those called to the colours are, in ever-increasing measure, trailing behind the rising cost of living. The intelligentsia, people of the free professions, scientists, specialists, writers, artists, film workers and teachers who refuse to serve as American lackeys and who take action in defence of the national culture are persecuted, suffer more, and more from privation and

come up against the greatest obstacles in their creative and professional activity.

No better off are the handicraftsmen, small industrialists and small tradesmen suffering from the consequences of inflation, high interest charges, decline in business activity, lack of credits and unbearable taxation. In carrying on production business they are forced to fight against growing difficulties and live in fear of the morrow.

Industrialists and traders are unable to expand their business because of the low purchasing power of the working masses and the competition from American goods. American monopolies control entire branches of Brazilian industry and use all the means at their disposal to strangle and retard development of home industry, to prevent the founding of the basic branches of industry needed to free Brazil from the economic dependence in which it now finds itself. The control over bank credits, transport, the distribution of raw materials and the granting of import and export licences are utilised, by the American imperialists against Brazilian industrialists and traders. Imports of machinery needed for the development of Industry become more and more difficult while imports of the raw materials necessary for our home industry are more and more restricted.

Even some, farming and ranching circles are forced to take action against the growing difficulties resulting from the monopoly grip exercised by American firms on Brazil's foreign trade. The US Government fixes exceedingly low prices for our exports and prevents us from exporting our agricultural and animal-husbandry products at favourable terms, for example, in the Soviet Union and China, countries which constitute a huge market.

Thus, the growing domination of our country by the US imperialists results the most disastrous consequences. The militarisation of Brazil and of its national economy injures the vast majority of the population of our country.

3. The American imperialists do not confine themselves to plundering our national wealth and unbridled exploitation of our people. They also want to involve Brazil in the aggressive war for which they are getting ready. They do not conceal their intention of using the people of Brazil as cannon fodder.

The aim of the propaganda of the American imperialists and their Brazilian hirelings is to convince our people that in a future war Brazil must side with the US. But the war now being prepared by the US imperialists is an aggressive, predatory war aimed at establishing world domination and at enslaving other peoples for the sake of profits. Incapable of realising these sinister plans by means of their own forces alone the US imperialists want this war to be waged by others, at the cost of the blood of other peoples. Since Brazil is a big country with a numerous population and industrious resources the US imperialists want to involve our people in war as a supplier of soldiers and strategic materials, to utilise our soil as a bridgehead for the complete colonial subjugation of Brazil and all Latin America.

Were the people of Brazil to take this road they would be reduced to the role of mercenaries of the imperialist armies and together with these armies would suffer shameful defeat. History teaches that the war now being prepared by the US against the Soviet Union, China and the countries of people's democracy is a gamble, doomed beforehand to complete fiasco. The

defeat suffered by the American aggressors in Korea is the clearest proof that the latest pretenders to world domination will be smashed should they try to repeat Hitler's bloody adventure. The mighty Soviet Union is much stronger today than when it smashed the fascist axis; on its side are the great China and the countries of people's democracy, forming together, with it a united and invincible bloc. At the same time in the camp of the imperialist aggressors headed by the US there are growing contradictions which divide and weaken it. Should the American imperialists unleash a new war they will suffer inevitable defeat.

Participation in any aggressive war on the side of the US would signal for Brazil not only an adventure devoid of any justification from the standpoint of morals and politics, but also complete destruction of the country, extermination of its youth and still greater poverty for the entire population. No, Brazil must not take this road.

4. The supreme interests of the people of Brazil call for a complete break with the aggressive militarist and colonising policy of the US. Brazil can achieve progress only by taking another road, the road of peaceful co-operation with the peace-loving countries, the road of equal relations with all peoples of irreconcilable struggle in defence of its sovereignty and national independence. In order to step out along this road Brazil must put an end to the hatred American domination and establish closer contact with all countries which recognise and respect our independence, above all with the Soviet Union and China.

Peace and peaceful co-operation with all countries can ensure Brazil a vast market for exporting surplus goods produced by its agriculture and industry, open

boundless opportunities for buying the machinery and raw materials needed for the large-scale development of its national industry.

The road of peace and peaceful co-operation with all peoples is the road to progress for Brazil, the road to rapid development of its national economy, the road to freedom and independence that will enable it to raise the cultural level of the people and create the prerequisites needed for a free and happy life for our people. By taking this road Brazil can occupy a worthy place as a free and independent country in the world commonwealth of nations.

II. Brazil's Present Government is Instrument of American Imperialists

1. The present Government of Brazil is a docile instrument in the hands of the American imperialists. It helps the American monopolies in plundering the country and exploiting our people.

The Vargas Government is doing its utmost to facilitate the penetration of American capital into our country, to facilitate the growing domination of the American imperialists and the complete colonisation of Brazil by the US. The laws of the country are interpreted in the interests of the American magnates are changed in accordance with the wishes and instructions of the US Embassy.

The foreign policy of the Vargas Government is openly dictated by the US State Department, and the Brazil delegation in the United Nations Organisation has

become notorious throughout the world for its servility to the US Government.

Orders issued by the American imperialists are turned by the Vargas Government into laws designed to help the American monopolies to plunder our national wealth and intensify the exploitation of our people. Contrary to the clearly expressed will of the nation the Vargas Government signed military agreement and other agreements with the US which encroach on the interests of Brazil. The armed forces of the country have been placed under the direct command of American generals and admirals who are openly preparing them for the aggressive wars now being plotted by the American warmongers. The Vargas Government is implanting in the state apparatus various kinds of US “specialists”, assistants” and “advisers” who directly interfere in the entire administrative life of the country. By means of its agents placed by the Vargas Government at the head of the secret service of the armed forces and all police organs in the country, the US intelligence service interferes in the political life of the nation, persecuting Brazilian citizens who realise to submit to American slavery or who fight for the freedom, sovereignty and independence of Brazil.

On the pretext of US “aid” in the development of the national economy the Vargas Government transfers to US agents the leadership of economic and finance policy which is now directed in accordance with the war plans of the US Government. Millions of dollars and cruzeiros are spent on armaments, on the construction of naval and air bases, construction and reconstruction of railway lines and a number of ports to facilitate the transportation and export of raw materials for the US war machine and to create conditions facilitating the

switching of big military contingents and the stationing of air and naval squadrons. In order to buy in the United States the materials necessary for the above-mentioned work the Vargas Government obtains extortionate loans which are ruling the country and subjecting it to colonial dependence on the US Government.

Pursuing a policy of complete abnegation of national sovereignty the Vargas Government seeks to inculcate in the student youth and in literary, art and science circles an attitude of scorn for the national traditions and worship of the cosmopolitan ideas and racial obstructionism of the US imperialists.

2. The reason for this policy of national betrayal is rooted in the actual political system of the landlords and big capitalists represented by the Vargas Government and linked with US imperialism. It is impossible to liberate Brazil from the imperialist yoke without destroying this system.

The owners of the latifundia and the big capitalists submit to the US imperialists because they too want another world war and are interested in exploiting and enslaving the Brazilian people. Consequently, they turn to the US warmongers in the hope of waxing rich out, new wars, of getting huge profits by selling raw material and food at sky-high prices, of making billions out of this bloody business.

The owners of the latifundia and the big capitalists turn to the US imperialists because they fear the Brazilian people more and more. By means of the Vargas Government and supported by American dollars and arms they want to retain their privileges and hold up the progress of Brazil. Relying on the US imperialists they doom the majority of the nation to poverty and

slavery and the country stagnation, increasing backwardness and disintegration.

To involve Brazil in war, to barter it to the US imperialists in order to save the latifundia, the feudal survivals and the survivals of slavery in agriculture—such is the aim of the entire policy of the Vargas Government. This policy of upholding the interests of the reactionary minority clashes irreconcilably with the interests of the overwhelming majority of population, with the supreme interests of the nation.

True, the Vargas Government is the Government that was elected in 1950. But this does not signify that the election was the reflection of the will of the majority of the people or that our people enjoy actual freedom and can, by using their constitutional rights, replace the prevailing system by another one or radically change it. The present Constitution of Brazil, although it reflects certain democratic gains, is, in fact, a code of laws aimed at oppressing the people. It guarantees the owners of the latifundia their land monopoly as a sacred right; it guarantees political leadership to the exploiting minority in the country. Only those who are able to read and write have the right to vote. But half the population is illiterate. Soldiers and sailors are denied the right to elect and be elected. Not all political parties, including the political party of the working class—the Communist Party—can take part in elections, and electors who disagree with the prevailing system are subjected to brutal police assassination. The broad peasant masses who live in conditions of slavery, can in fact, take part in elections only to vote for candidates imposed by the owners of the land on which they live. Since the monopoly of the means of propaganda, press and radio is in the hands of

the big capitalists and landlords—lackeys of the US imperialists—genuine freedom of propaganda exists only for candidates of the rich. The elections must be used by the people in their struggle, but, as things are, simply a farce for covering up the despotic nature of the ruling regime.

But even this Constitution is not adhered to and observed by the Vargas Government. The democratic rights inscribed in it are systematically violated by representatives of the reactionary police state. In violation of the Constitution new laws are being drafted, such as the present security law which in point of fact, wipes out all individual freedoms. In co-operation with the police, the court and judges interpret and apply the laws in the interests of the owners of the latifundia and of the big capitalists, the lackeys of the US imperialists, and sentence to long terms of imprisonment all who disagree with the present regime of exploitation and oppression! The Constitution is used only as a camouflage for covering up the tyrannical nature of the Government.

Violence against the people is the main weapon of the Vargas Government. At the same time it resorts to unrestrained demagoguery, to out-and-out hypocritical promises of “reforms” and “radical” changes, including promises to change the economic and social structure of Brazil in an attempt to deceive the peasantry. Vargas promises to carry out land reform. But the land reform proposed by Vargas serves the interests of a tiny minority since it will affect only a fraction of the cultivated land, while the small number of peasants who will receive land must pay the Government a sum which is beyond their possibilities. Moreover, the Government wants, by means of this reform, to legalise

the present system of land tenure. Obviously such a “reform” can give nothing to the vast majority of the peasants who are in need of land and who want to get rid of the enslaving system of tenure. What the peasants need is not this sham land reform but a genuine revolutionary land reform which would transfer to them all land belonging to the Government and the owners of the latifundia as well as the implements of production. These manoeuvres of Vargas are designed to safeguard the privileges of the reactionary minority, to guarantee the land monopoly and maintain the semi-feudal relations in agriculture.

Thus, Vargas Government is a government of war preparation and of national betrayal, a government of enemies of the people. The Vargas Government is a useful and necessary, weapon in the hands of the US imperialists since it facilitates the complete colonisation of Brazil by the USA.

3. Brazil needs, another, a genuine people’s government capable of safeguarding the interests of overwhelming majority of the people. Such a Government, as the lawful representative of the broad progressive and anti-imperialist sections of the population would do away with the hated domination of the US imperialists, confiscate the capital and enterprises belonging to the US monopolies and carry out of a policy of peace and co-operation with all other nations on an equal footing, in keeping with the supreme interests of the nation. This people’s government would be in a position to abolish the feudal survivals and the ownership of land by big landlords and would ensure free distribution of the land among the peasants and all those who want to live by agricultural labour. This people’s government would put an end to

illiteracy and backwardness, wipe out the local diseases, put an end to the machinations and unnecessary expenditure which are of benefit only to the privileged minority, to the expenditure on war preparations and would use all this money for immediate and effective aid to the poor and to those who have suffered from the natural calamities. This people's government would establish a system of complete freedom and democracy for the people, would guarantee industrial worker's and other working people chief gains, their rights and ensure for the entire population of Brazil a blooming free and happy life.

If we want to live and to prosper, if we want our country to have the happy future to which it is fully entitled, if we want liberation from the hated US enslavement and to take our people out of the backwardness, poverty and ignorance, we must put an end to the domination of the owners of the latifundia and the big capitalists in the service of the US imperialists and overthrow the Vargas Government.

4. The Communist Party of Brazil is convinced that the democratic transformations needed by our people can be achieved only by a democratic government of national liberation, by a government in which along with the working class there would participate the peasantry and intelligentsia, the petty bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie.

The Communist Party is fighting for Socialism, but it is convinced that in the present economic, social and political conditions in Brazil socialist transformations are impossible. But it is quite possible to fulfil the task of replacing the present anti-national and anti-people's government by a people's government which would free Brazil from the domination of the US imperialists and

their lackeys—the owners, of the latifundia and the big capitalists.

The democratic government of national liberation will be genuinely democratic, people's government; it will be a patriotic government, a government of peace, of defence of sovereignty and national independence will be a government of salvation for Brazil and of happiness for people.

III. Inevitability of the Agrarian and Anti-Imperialist Revolution and Replacing the Present Government with a Democratic Government of National Liberation

The democratic revolution of national liberation and the replacement of the Vargas Government are inevitable. The people of Brazil are rising against the present regime and will not let the Vargas Government turn Brazil into a US Colony. The present regime of exploitation and oppression which is in the service of the imperialists must be abolished and substituted by a new people's-democratic system. Thus, the supreme interests of the nation demand profound economic and social transformations.

The Communist Party of Brazil will insist that the democratic government of national liberation, coming into existence as a result of the liberation struggle of our people, shall carry out and give the force of law to the following democratic and progressive changes in the economic and social structure of Brazil:

Foreign Policy and Defence of National Independence

1. Annulment of all agreements and treaties with the USA that encroach on the interests of the nation.

2. Confiscation of all capital and enterprises belonging to the American monopolies and annulment of the foreign debt owed by Brazil to the US Government and US banks.

3. Clearing out of all military, cultural, economic and technical US missions from Brazil.

4. Friendly relations and peaceful co-operation with all countries, especially with countries capable of co-operating with Brazil without discrimination, on the basis of complete equality and mutual advantage.

5. Adoption of measures contributing to the preservation of peace. Prohibition of war propaganda and punishment for those guilty of war propaganda.

People's-Democratic Political System

6. Sovereignty of the people, that is the concentration of all power in the country in the hands of the people. Abolition of the Federal Senate. Supreme, state power shall be vested in a National Congress composed of representative elected by the people. All organs of the new system from top to bottom shall be elected by the people. Electors shall have the right to annul at any time the mandates of their representatives.

7. The President of the Republic shall be elected by the people for a term of four years. The President shall exercise his functions in the country through the Council

of Ministers which shall be responsible to the National Congress.

8. All citizens who have reached the age of 18, irrespective of sex, property, nationality, place of residence and education, shall have the right to vote and be eligible for election. The same rights shall be enjoyed by illiterates and men serving with the colours, irrespective of rank, including soldiers and sailors. Proportional representation of all political parties in all elections shall be guaranteed.

9. States, municipalities, federal territories and the federal area shall enjoy political and administrative autonomy. All organs of power shall be elected by the people.

10. Inviolability of the citizen and domicile shall be guaranteed. Wide freedom of conscience, speech, assembly and association, the right to strike, freedom of the press, freedom to teach, freedom of religion and worship, the right to move freely from place to place and free choice of trade and occupation shall be guaranteed.

11. Abolition of all forms of racial, religious and national discrimination. Punishment for those guilty of discrimination. The right to education for children of immigrants in their own language.

12. Separation of all religious bodies from state. The state shall be secular.

13. Democratisation of the armed forces and building of a national people's army, navy and air force closely linked with the people and upholding the cause of peace, national Independence and the democratic gains of the people. Soldiers, sailors corporals, sergeants and officers shall enjoy full civil rights and freedom of political activity. They shall be ensured

normal and human conditions of life. Free access for privates and n.co.'s to officer rank.

14. Complete abolition of police organs of repression. Democratisation of military police and their inclusion in the national armed forces. Substitution of all other police bodies by the people's militia.

15. Justice shall be free of charge and effected in the shortest possible term. Court and judges shall be elected by the people.

16. Abolition of all forms of economic, social and juridical inequality of women. Women shall enjoy equal rights with men in relation to inheritance, marriage, divorce, profession, civil service, etc. The state shall undertake all expenditure for protection of mother and child.

17. Literary, art, technical and scientific peaceful work shall be encouraged with full support and aid on the part of the state.

18. Protection and promotion of sports and physical training. State construction of public sports grounds, gymnasiums, stadiums, etc.

19. State aid for housing construction to ensure the working population with comfortable, and cheap apartments in the shortest possible time.

20. Medical aid shall be ensured for the population and a network of health centres established throughout the country. Systematic measures to combat local diseases shall be guaranteed.

21. Free and compulsory elementary education shall be guaranteed by building a network of schools throughout the country with a view to abolishing illiteracy. The state shall provide textbooks and educational material at low prices for those attending educational establishments. Gradual reduction of

educational charges. Guaranteed work for young specialists graduating from the middle, technical and higher educational establishments.

22. Special help and protection for the Indian population and protection of their land. Indians shall enjoy the right to free organisation of self-government.

23. Effective and immediate aid from the state to the population stricken by draught, flooding and other calamities, chiefly by means of providing fertile land, agricultural machines and implements and long-term credit free of interest. People forced to leave their native places will be given aid to restore their households.

24. Effective reform of the tax system, abolition of all unjust taxes, introduction of a progressive income tax and simplification of the entire tax system. Establishment of effective control over prices and practical measures against inflation. Currency reform to stabilise the national currency.

Independent Development of National Economy

25. Guaranteed freedom of private initiative for manufacturers and freedom of internal trade. The democratic government of national liberation will not confiscate the enterprises and capital of the national bourgeoisie. It will, however, confiscate and nationalise the capital and enterprises belonging to big capitalists who have betrayed the interests of the nation and who have aligned themselves with the US imperialists.

26. Protection of the national industry. To ensure that import of foreign goods, mainly American goods, shall not injure home industry or hinder the founding of

new industrial branches and enterprises. Free development of industry producing for civilian needs shall be guaranteed.

27. Independent development of the national economy and the creation of conditions for intensified industrialisation of the country utilising for this purpose the confiscated capital and enterprises of the American imperialists. For this it will be necessary to invite private capital which must be guaranteed profits and protection in accordance with a special law.

28. Reorganisation of foreign trade with a view to protecting home production. Abolition of all kinds of unjust restrictions, preventing imports of equipment and raw materials needed for developing the national economy.

29. State aid to handicraftsmen and all small and medium-sized producers by means of ranting credit and favourable terms for buying raw materials and by means of supplying them with necessary machines and implements.

30. Co-operation with foreign governments and private capitalists whose capital would further the independent development of the national economy and serve the national interests and the industrialisation of Brazil, on the basis of observance of the laws of the country.

Radical Improvement in Conditions of Workers

31. Fixing of minimum wage rates which would ensure decent living conditions for the workers and their families throughout the country. Equal pay for equal work irrespective of sex, age or nationality.

32. Effective implementation of the eight-hour working day and 44-hour week for all working people, a six-hour, working day for those working underground, those engaged in work detrimental to health, and for juveniles.

33. Democratisation of social legislation, its extension to cover also the workers employed in state enterprises and agricultural workers. The trade unions shall exercise control over the proper implementation of social legislation.

34. Guarantee of freedom of organisation and free activity for the trade unions. The trade unions shall be granted the right freely to conclude, collective labour agreements with private and state enterprises and control over their implementation.

35. All forms of social insurance, including unemployment benefit, shall be paid at state expense and at the expense of the capitalists. Pensions and benefits for victims of industrial accidents in accordance with the needs of the working people and their families. Transfer to the trade unions of management functions and control over the activity of the social security bodies and pension boards.

36. Abolition of all types of forced labour, of the laws authorising the militarisation of labour and of all fines, including fines for absenteeism.

Agrarian Reform and Aid to Peasants

37. Confiscation of all land belonging to big landlords and its transfer, free of charge, to landless and land-hungry peasants, and to all who care to till it. Distribution of the land shall be recognised by law and

each peasant given-title deeds. The possession and seizure of the lands, belonging to both landlords and the state, already effected by the peasants shall also be recognised by law and the peasants will receive necessary title-deeds.

38. Abolition of all types of semi-feudal exploitation of the peasants, metayage, payment in kind and all forms of payment by means of labour; abolition of the coupon system and introduction of a system of obligatory remuneration in money for categories of agricultural labourers.

39. Agricultural labourers shall be guaranteed an adequate wage rate not lower than the level of unskilled workers in industry and allotments of land for those desirous of receiving it.

40. The property of wealthy peasants shall be protected by law. Both the land cultivated by them or by hired labourers and other forms of their property shall be protected by law against any infringement.

41. Abolition, of all arrears owed by peasants to big landowners, money-lenders, banks, the Government and to American imperialist companies.

42. Granting of low-interest long-term credit to peasants for the purpose of buying agricultural machines and implements, seeds, fertilisers and chemicals for combating pests, building materials, etc. Technical aid shall be provided for the peasants. The co-operative movement shall be encouraged.

43. Construction of irrigation systems in accordance with the needs of the peasants and the development of agriculture, particularly in the North-eastern regions affected by draught.

44. Abolition of all restrictions in the fishermen's right to work. State aid to the fishermen through

granting credits for construction of dwellings, storage facilities, etc., and. placing at their disposal equipment and vessels for fishing.

45. The state shall guarantee minimum prices for the products of agriculture and animal husbandry essential for the needs of the population with a view to enabling the peasants to develop their farming and raise its productivity, simultaneously protecting the interests of the broad consumer masses.

IV. Forge in Struggle Broadest Possible Anti-Imperialist and Anti-Feudal United Front

The Vargas Government will not relinquish its position without struggle. The latifundia-owners and the big capitalists—the henchmen of American imperialism—will try might and main to retain their privileges. At the moment the interests of these classes are represented by Vargas; they can, of course, be represented by another tool of this oppressing minority, but conditions in Brazil will not be changed one iota. It would likewise be a mistake to think that Brazil can be saved from the impending catastrophe and that the country can be freed from the yoke of the US imperialists by means of state or military coups, partial reforms of elections which leave untouched the base of the present reactionary system.

Had it not been for violence against the people and the support by the foreign oppressors, the rule of the latifundia-owners and big capitalists connected with the American imperialists would long ago have ceased to exist in Brazil. This explains why the prisons are

overcrowded and strikes suppressed by force of arms, why the police interfere in the affairs of the trade unions and why the genuinely democratic political parties are banned and constitutional rights systematically violated. The regime of reaction and terror has been forced on the people by the reactionary forces.

In these conditions resolute revolutionary struggle by all patriots of Brazil is necessary in order to overthrow the Vargas Government and replace it by a democratic government of national liberation. There is no other way to liberate Brazil from the imperialist yoke; there is no other way to wrest power from the hands of the reactionary, minority and carry out the social-economic transformations which are essential for the progress of our homeland.

The patriotic and democratic forces now moving into action throughout the country against the present government of national betrayal are numberless, and they already realise the urgent need to save Brazil from its present catastrophic plight. Marching in the van of these forces is the working class which by its glorious struggle is striking blow after blow at reaction showing to the broad popular masses and to the broadest social forces the path of struggle as the sole way out of the situation of growing poverty and slavery which oppresses all of them.

But the victory of the patriotic forces is possible only if they unite and in the crucible of the liberation struggle against the Vargas Government's policy of war, hunger and reaction forge the broadest anti-imperialist and anti-feudal united front, the democratic front of national liberation.

The workers and peasants constitute the main and indestructible force of this liberation struggle. The alliance of the workers and peasants' is possible and essential. The workers, as allies, will help the peasants in the struggle for land. The peasants, as allies, will help the workers in the struggle for a radical improvement in the conditions of the working class. This alliance of the main forces of the Brazilian people will decide the fate of the Vargas Government and the reactionary regime symbolised by it.

In order to replace the Vargas Government by a democratic government of national liberation it is essential that the worker-peasant alliance be joined by the patriotic intelligentsia, workers in the realm of science, writers, art workers, technical personnel, teachers and people of free professions, who likewise suffer from the present situation of the country and who have no desire to be slaves of the American colonisers. For the same reason trade, office, bank and state employees, people working independently, clergy linked with the people, soldiers, sailors, n.c.o.'s and officers of the armed forces will align themselves with the workers and peasants. The worker-peasant alliance will also be joined by the handicraftsmen, small and medium manufacturers and traders suffering from the disastrous consequences of the American domination and the Vargas policy of national betrayal. This alliance will also be joined by a section of the big manufacturers and traders who also suffer from the US imperialist competition and the Vargas economic and financial policy.

And so all the progressive forces in Brazil irrespective of social status, party affiliation, religious or philosophical convictions, all democrats and patriots

anxious to see their homeland free and powerful will rally around the great worker-peasant alliance.

This democratic front of national liberation, the broad and powerful united front of all the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal forces, will guarantee the salvation of Brazil, will be the sole force capable of establishing the people's-democratic system in the country and of wresting Brazil from American domination and its present humiliating position, the sole force capable of leading our homeland to a bright and happy future.

The Communist Party of Brazil holds that the struggle for the creation, extension and reinforcing of the democratic front of national liberation is an urgent and pressing task, a matter of honour for all, Brazilian patriots.

The Communist Party of Brazil deems it necessary immediately to unite throughout the country the broad popular masses, people of all classes and social strata ready to fight for democracy and peace, against the policy of war, hunger and reaction pursued by the Vargas Government, to fight for the overthrow of the present government and its replacement by a democratic-government of national liberation.

The Communist Party of Brazil places this programme before the people, of Brazil whose glorious traditions of struggle for freedom and independence are the best guarantee of the realisation of this programme. The people of Brazil, led by their working class which is closely linked with the peasantry, will successfully

realise this programme, take into their hands the destiny of the homeland and transform Brazil into a great, free, independent and flowering nation.

The US Imperialists want to turn Brazil into a main base for effecting the complete colonisation of all the countries of Latin America, but the Communist Party of Brazil believes that the people of Brazil have all the necessary conditions for victory in the patriotic struggle against the enslaving yoke of the United States of America, in the struggle for people's democracy.

The Communist Party of Brazil calls on all Brazilian patriots to rally in the struggle for translating this programme into life, the programme that will bring happiness to our people and glory to our homeland.

**PHOTO: ASSEMBLY WORK IN ONE OF THE
SHOPS OF THE “GANS” PLANT IN
BUDAPEST WHERE THE “MARGITA”
DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE IS MADE**



Good progress is being made in developing the machine-building industry in the Hungarian People's Republic. Photo: Assembly work in one of the shops of the "QANS" plant in Budapest where the "Margita" diesel locomotive is made. The "Margita" locomotive is exported to different countries.

CALL OF SWEDISH COMMUNIST PARTY

Recently the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Sweden addressed a call to all members of the Party and to all working people who sympathise with it, headed "For a normal working-week, guaranteed, work and maintenance in old age". The call points to the growing anxiety felt among the working people due to dismissals for so-called compulsory holidays and the intensification of labour.

The demand for guaranteed work, for a normal working-week and for maintenance in old age, reads the call, can rally all workers and the working people; as a result of resolute and united action the workers' have already achieved a measure of success in this sphere. In order to achieve still greater success and to bring the struggle for these vital demands to victory it is essential that the activity be intensified.

"One of the key Party tasks in this campaign", the call goes on, "is the winning of a bigger circulation for the Party press and more members for the Party. The political prerequisites for strengthening the influence of the Party exist."

BAD CONDITIONS OF WORKING YOUTH IN YUGOSLAVIA

Reports published in the Yugoslav newspaper "Omladina" testify to the difficult conditions of the working youth in Yugoslavia. It quotes an apprentice at a conference of working youth in Bels-Palanka who described his conditions that:

"We work before going to school and after lessons until late at night and sometimes until dawn. None of us has holidays or vacations. Our masters force us to carry water for their wives, chop wood and clear the snow. They refuse to supply us with soap and towels and that's why we come to school dirty."

The newspaper reported that of 43 apprentices present at the meeting only 7 received meagre wages for their hard labour. Most of them pay their bosses for the "training". As a rule, the working youth in Bela-Palanka live in damp, dilapidated hovels, which are but faintly lit. Two apprentices, for example, live in a hovel next door to a goat-shed. According to "Omladina" many similar facts could be quoted.

FEUILLETON

“Bad Words”

An American statesman was nervously pacing up and down his study. The papers lying on his desk irritated him. All of them said one and the same thing: plants closing, production declining and recession and depression, sweeping vast areas of the country.

The statesman threw himself into the armchair, and seeking quiet picked up a bundle of newspapers and magazines. His eyes lighted first on “Business Week”—a magazine which in the past delighted him, with its news of bustling business activity. But now the very first item said that the industrial production index had dropped about three points during the week ending January 16. The statesman threw away “Business Week” and picked up the “Wall Street Journal” for January 20, which told its readers that during the previous week department store sales had fallen 8 per cent. Discarding the “Journal” he opened the January 23 issue of the “Magazine of Wall Street” hoping to find something more cheerful in this voluminous and, undoubtedly, reliable journal. But the “Magazine” told him that the recession in business activity had hit hard at the railways and their maintenance enterprise. Freight loadings at the beginning of January were 10 per cent than in the corresponding period for the previous year.

Only by thrusting aside the newspapers did the statesman find quiet. The terrifying words—“crisis”, “depression”, “recession”—which gave him nervous

shudders were no longer before his eyes and troubling his mind.

All of a sudden he had a brainwave: wouldn't it be better to do away with these words altogether—they are so irritating. Why not ban them, erase them from the vocabulary of the Americans and replace them with others, more pleasant and soothing. And when a statesman gets hold of an “idea” he immediately finds many adherents. This was how (or approximately how) a “psychological campaign” was launched in the US to erase unpleasant and disturbing words and replace them with others that have not yet been compromised.

Whatchell, President of the “Colvert Distilling Company”, one of the boosters of this campaign; posing the question upside down with the greatest of ease, declared that continual talk about a crisis was obviously undermining confidence and might provoke a crisis. Representative George struck a more decisive blow against the “guilty” words, saying that all the talk about the deteriorating economic situation should be regarded as a violation of “patriotic duty”.

“Time” magazine was, perhaps, the most resourceful. It produced an irreplaceable prescription for avoiding the unpleasant phenomena in the national economy. “Such expressions as ‘depression’ and ‘recession’ have become bad words”, wrote the magazine “and are never to be used if a nicer word can be found”. It then cited a rather long list of the “nicer words”. For example, recession can be replaced for convenience by a ‘rolling readjustment’, ‘correction’, a ‘slippage’, an ‘easing’, a ‘mild dip’, a ‘downswing’, a ‘normal adjustment’, a ‘levelling off’, a ‘slight downturn’, a ‘fall’, a ‘return to normality’. “Time” immediately tells its slow-thinking readers why these

words are nicer. The crux of the matter is that all these euphemisms “defy definition.”

The knights of the psychological offensive, however, did not stop at condemning the employment of harmful and unwanted words as an anti-patriotic act and at replacing them with, dreary exercises in semantics. According to the “New York Times” the US capitalists intend putting an end to the depression psychology by means of advertising the boundless opportunities for prosperity.

In mid-January the National Advertising Council held its tenth annual convention in Washington, attended by 200 businessmen. It was on these businessmen that the gentlemen in charge of the “psychological front” pinned their hopes. A special committee was formed which the big monopolies lavishly financed to the tune, of several million dollars. This committee took upon itself responsibility for supplying optimistic evaluations and prognoses to the newspapers, television and radio companies.

Millions of dollars yield their results. The publicity sharks, adopts at duping the philistine, are doing their best. In addition to egg powder and nylons they are strenuously advertising the “boundless opportunities for prosperity”. There is no dearth of daring, although groundless, preplacing and magic conjuring.

Tom, old man, take my word for it, there is no real unemployment, says Charles Wilson, Secretary for Defence, to Thomas Colman, Republican leader in Wisconsin, and the “New York Post” presents this as an example of optimism and of profound statesmanship.

This, however, is as useless as beating the drum in a flood. It brings grist to the mills only of the advertising

firms which get profitable orders for pushing a doubtful commodity.

Of course, one can label as a “slight downturn” or a “downswing” the fact that, for example. In Missouri thousands of cotton-plantation workers have been laid off and are now going hungry. According to the “Post Dispatch” the numbers suffering from hunger are greater than at any time since the depression at the beginning of the thirties.

Perhaps the “Time” jugglers would prefer for euphony to label as a “levelling” or “slight downturn” the fact that in Pennsylvania coalmines are being closed one after the other and that thousands of miners find themselves on the streets, that the coal output has dropped 23.5 per cent compared with 1952 and that the number of miners employed has declined nearly 16 per cent. The publicity sharks would probably describe as a “normal’ adjustment” the fact that butter, according to the “News Chronicle”, is beyond the reach of many Americans and that consumption of butter has declined by half compared with pre-war and that the problem of selling butter has become a “nightmare” for Washington. And what definition if not a “return to normalcy” will the Wall Street linguists find, for the town of Helena (Montana), where, according to the newspaper “People’s Voice”, a soup kitchen for the starving unemployed has been opened for the first time since the 1930’s...

But juggling with words, and conjuring cannot conceal the crisis manifestations in the US economy.

John SMITH

THE LIE FACTORY

The “Bills”, a weekly paper published in Bombay, reports that a group of senators has accused Allen Dulles; chief of the US Central Intelligence Agency, of spending millions of dollars from the state budget on the upkeep of organisations engaged in forging “Information” about the new China. A special investigation has fully confirmed the charge. It was established that a special body for forging “information” about the People’s Republic of China had been functioning for a long period in Taipei island of Taiwan. This “Information”, depicting things in China in the way the Americans and the Kuomintang clique wanted them depicted, was supplied to American intelligence officers and then routed to Washington to the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other Government bodies.

Thus, the source of the fantastic lies about People’s China, with which the American people are fed, is revealed—they are obtained by the Dulles’ office from the forgers in Taipei.

TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. Lina Fibbi, Alternate Member of Central Committee, Italian Communist Party

For the women of Italy, as was the case for the entire people, the past year was one of stubborn struggle and big successes.

Last year, the women of Italy celebrated International Women's' Day in the midst of the election struggle. All the political parties set special store on agitation among the women, not simply because women are the majority of the electorate, but mainly because they remember that in the 1948 general election many women, intimidated by threats and taken in by falsehood and deceit, voted for the Christian Democratic Party. The women's vote enabled it to come to power and pursue its policy of servility to the American imperialists, the policy of continued impoverishment of the people, of repressions against the working people and attack their rights, a reactionary policy which, had such grave consequences for millions of working people and their families.

The result of the 1953 election also depended largely on the women. In its endeavour to secure a majority the Christian Democratic Party used all the means at its disposal state apparatus, radio, church, etc., spending billions of lire on unbridled anti-Communist propaganda among women, trying to get them to vote for the clerical list.

However, the experience gained in the five-year term of office of the Christian Democratic Party, **the**

broad and effective activity of the democratic women's movement, particularly the Communist women, the measures taken and the slogans advanced in connection with the celebration of March 8, 1953, and particularly the holding of the National Congress of Women, contributed to the fact that most of the women voted against the Government bloc and the fraudulent electoral law. As a result of the big success of the democratic forces the law did not become operative.

This leftward swing of the women must not be regarded simply as a temporary election success; it signifies a change of great historic significance in the struggle for the emancipation of the women of Italy; it dealt a blow at the widespread view that it is impossible to free the women from the influence of the clerical politicians.

The national conference of working women held at the end of January was striking proof of this change. In the course of 21,000 meetings and rallies held during the preparations for this conference, and at the conference itself there were advanced slogans and tasks for the realisation of which the trade unions (General Confederation of Labour) and the democratic women's movement will fight in the near future. One of the chief demands of the working women is the elimination of the difference in remuneration for male and female labour—the starting point for the realisation of the principle of the Constitution: "Equal pay for equal work". Another major demand of the women is strict adherence to labour agreements and existing laws such as the law for protection of mother and child and its extension to those categories of women workers not yet covered by it safeguarding the dignity of the working women, etc.

These demands are of great significance and the women of Italy now preparing to celebrate International Women's Day are rallying in the fight for their realisation. These demands are of special significance also for the reason that the awakening of the broad masses of women has given rise to profound alarm in cardinal and other reactionary circles. They are waging a shameful campaign through their cardinals, ministers and deputies against the employment of women, trying to get the working people to believe that the unemployment in Italy stems from the fact that too many women are employed in industry. They try to intimidate women workers, to divide the working people and deflect their attention from the real cause of the crisis in the Italian economy, namely, the economic, military and political subjugation of Italy to American imperialism.

The majority of women in Italy are house-wives who, because of poverty, extremely low wages and high prices are forced to work miracles every day in order to feed their families; they insist on the adoption of the proposals advanced by the democratic women members of Parliament, proposals which, if implemented, would guarantee housewives the right to social insurance as the first recognition of the social significance of their labour. International Women's Day will have the effect of imparting a wide scale to the preparatory work for signatures to the petition for decent housing conditions and against rent increases and evictions. The tenth anniversary of the Resistance Movement will be celebrated this year. This event, too, is of enormous significance for our entire people. Consequently, March 8 will be above all a great and united demonstration of the women and of the entire people of Italy for peace,

freedom and democracy. Ten years ago the women of Italy played an active role, in the war of liberation as a result of which the people cleared out the German fascist occupationists and smashed fascism. Hundreds and thousands of women were killed, jailed, tortured to death and subjected to persecution; in their tens of thousands the women joined “the groups for defence of women and aid to the fighters for freedom”. In this way a basis was formed for a broad, organised women’s movement unprecedented in the history of Italy.

After the liberation thousands of women joined the Communist Party and the democratic trade unions. Immediately after the war they founded the “Union of Italian Women”—the first big organisation of democratic women. Consequently, ten years ago the women of Italy began to take an active part in the political life of the country. They won the most important of their rights—the right to vote. A little later, they won recognition of their right to equal pay for equal work, the right to any position and to work at all trades. But these rights still remain on paper.

Ten years after winning these important rights the women of Italy are becoming increasingly conscious that the problem of their genuine emancipation is closely linked with the struggle of all progressive forces in the country for the observance of all civic rights inscribed in the Constitution of the Republic of Italy, and for placing at the helm of the country those who really represent the working people and who would strictly adhere to and abide by the Constitution.

These things, which only a few years ago were not easily understood by the majority of Italian women, are now so obvious that they are giving rise to profound changes in the consciousness of the women. This

explains why increasing sections of women workers in industry and of all working women are breaking through the obstacles of hatred and discord which the clerical and reactionaries of all hues want to maintain.

Women's Day this year, will be marked by having a special "solidarity postcard"—the symbol of unity—which will be taken directly to the factories, to every house, every village and district, to every place where women live and work. On March 8, sprigs of mimosa, the traditional Women's Day flower, will be worn by men and women, decorate shop windows, gates and houses, tramcars, teachers' desks and the benches of women workers. In the factories the working people will arrange festive lunches for the women, while at home husbands, fathers, and brothers will present modest but heartfelt gifts to the women folk.

Naturally, the growth of the women's movement in Italy and the successful celebration of Women's Day are closely linked with extending the activity of the women members of the Communist Party, whose number has now reached 550,000. We shall see to it that women play a bigger part in the political life of the country and especially more women workers from industry, agriculture and other spheres are won for the Party. Raising the political and ideological level of the women members of the Party must be our everyday concern so that in the difficult conditions of their work they will be able to utilise all the opportunities for establishing contact and firm unity with all other women, bringing into the struggle the majority of women striving for a better life and who want to live and work in peace.

Among other short study courses relating to Party ideology and policy the leadership of the Italian Communist Party recently issued a short course on the

women's movement to which it has given the name of Clara Zetkin, outstanding fighter for the emancipation of women. This course includes four lectures: women's emancipation; women in socialist society; the women's movement in Italy; the struggle and the tasks of the women's movement in Italy. We aim at enrolling in the study of the Clara Zetkin short course 25,000 women members active in the Party and in the mass organisations, especially working women. We plan to launch a broad campaign, both inside and outside the Party, aimed at circulating and studying the Clara Zetkin short course and the collection of Palmiro Togliatti's speeches devoted to the women's movement.

In our work we must be guided by the directives of the Central Committee as outlined by Comrade Togliatti at the recent plenum the Central-Committee. "The old habit still persists", he said, "of some of us adhering to the view that work among the women means only the setting up of women's commissions and then the adding of feminine endings to the general measures undertaken by the Party. The trade unions hold a conference in defence of industry—why then, cannot the women do likewise. And so it should be in every case. But this in itself will not suffice to ensure the development of effective work among the women. There are, of course, common problems, but the women must be particularly interested in the problem of their emancipation as women. Advancing in all cases this vital need of emancipating women we shall always meet with genuine support. The daily problems of women's life in the factory, office, family, shop and in the fields must be regarded in the light of this basic necessity of emancipating women, which is one of the aims of

Socialism and the key to the solution of the problems facing women”.

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