

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

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## The First Worker-Peasant State in German History

The German Democratic Republic is the first truly peaceable and democratic state in the history of Germany, a state in which power belongs to the working class and the peasantry.

October 7 marks the sixth anniversary of the proclamation of the German Democratic Republic. The formation of the German Democratic Republic ushered in a new historical era in Germany's development; after many years of struggle the German people have found a true path to democracy and freedom, a path to peace, friendship and co-operation with other peoples. In celebrating this anniversary the German people are joined by the peoples of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, by all progressive mankind.

Under the guidance of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany profound revolutionary changes have been brought about in the German Democratic Republic: the roots of fascism and militarism have been destroyed, the rule of the industrial and Junker land-monopolies abolished and Junker land-ownership done away with. These revolutionary changes were made possible by the fact that the advanced forces of action working class achieved unity of action which was crowned by the merger of the two workers' parties—the Communist and Socialist Democratic Parties—on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. In indestructible alliance with the working peasantry, the working class, with its glorious traditions and immense fighting experience, rallied all the democratic and patriotic forces of the country in a united national front and headed their struggle against the danger of a resurrection of German militarism, the struggle for the unification of the country, for a democratic and peaceful path of development for Germany.

Great, highly-talented and industrious German people have firmly taken the path of building the foundations of Socialism in the GDR along planned lines. Their guiding star is the immortal teaching of Marxism-Leninism.

confidence and taken a worthy place among the peace-loving states. Its economic and political achievements have a strong appeal for the working people of Western Germany, who see the GDR as a reliable bulwark in the struggle for the formation of a unified, independent, democratic country. The German Democratic Republic represents the future of the German people.

The German Democratic Republic is working perseveringly for the strengthening of peace, the easing of international tension and the creation of a system of collective security in Europe. It is making determined efforts for a speedy solution of the German question in accordance with the national aspirations of the German people and the interests of all other European peoples. The Government of the GDR has repeatedly advanced concrete proposals for a rapprochement and the establishment of a mutual understanding between the two states—each having a different social system—now in existence on the territory of Germany.

Certain Western elements, however, still stubbornly refuse to reckon with the ties and are trying to resuscitate the bankrupt "positions of strength" policy in solving the German problem. They are pursuing a plainly unrealistic aim—that of absorbing the German Democratic Republic into the Federal Republic and incorporating the whole of Germany in the North Atlantic military bloc and the West European military union, which constitute a grave barrier to the solution of the German question.

The democratic and patriotic forces of Germany protest vigorously against this policy. They are demanding recognition of the GDR and the opening of negotiations between the two states.

The Soviet Union and all the countries in the camp of Socialism are giving all-round help to the German people in their efforts to restore the unity of their country on a democratic and peaceable basis. Between the Soviet Union and the GDR good and friendly relations have been established and are becoming stronger year by year. This fact is of immense significance for the further economic and cultural development of the two countries and for strengthening world peace. The Treaty on relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic, recently concluded, is based on the principles of equality and friendship between the two states and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

## Sixth Anniversary of the German Democratic Republic Anniversary Meeting in Berlin

A meeting to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic was held in Berlin on October 6.

Present in the German State Opera House were members of the C.C. of the SUPG, deputies of the People's Chamber and the Laender Chamber of the GDR, leaders of the National Front of Democratic Germany, representatives of democratic parties and mass organisations, leading workers, National Prize winners, workers in the realm of science, culture and the arts, representatives of the Berlin working people and members of the diplomatic corps.

The hall of the Opera House was in festive array. The state emblem of the German Democratic Republic and, beneath it, a screen decorated with black, red and golden banners, red flags and flowers could be seen at the back of the stage. The inscription on the screen read: "Worker-peasant power in the German Democratic Republic is the basis for a new, peaceful and democratic Germany."

Those present enthusiastically welcomed the well-known leaders of the German Democratic Republic, the foreign delegations

and the visitors from Western Germany. O. Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the GDR; W. Ulbricht, First Secretary of the C.C., SUPG, and Deputy Prime Minister; H. Matern, First Deputy Chairman of the People's Chamber; W. Stoph, L. Bolz, O. Nuschke, P. Scholz, H. Loch, Deputy Prime Ministers of the GDR; Ministers K. Schirdewan and F. Oelssner, members of the Political Bureau of the C.C., SUPG; M. Reimann, First Secretary of the Central Board of the CPG; Professor E. Correns, Chairman of the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany; Doctor J. Wirth, former German Reich Chancellor; H. Warnke, Chairman of the Federation of Free German Trade Unions, and heads and members of foreign delegations were in the presidium.

Stormy applause greeted the arrival of the government delegation of the Soviet Union headed by M. A. Suslov, member of the Presidium and Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU.

The meeting heartily cheered Tseng Yung-chuan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Chinese People's Republic to the GDR who attended the

meeting on behalf of the CPR; the government delegations of the Polish People's Republic headed by J. Cyrankiewicz, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic; of the Czechoslovak Republic headed by R. Barak, Minister of Internal Affairs, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., Communist Party of Czechoslovakia; of the Rumanian People's Republic headed by P. Borilă, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the RWP; of the People's Republic of Bulgaria headed by A. Yugov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., Communist Party of Bulgaria; of the Hungarian People's Republic headed by B. Szalai, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., Hungarian Working People's Party; of the People's Republic of Albania headed by M. Muftiu, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, alternate member of the Political Bureau, C.C., Albanian Party of Labour; of the Korean People's Democratic Republic headed by Yun Chon Hym, Minister of Home Trade; of the Mongolian People's Republic headed by D. Maidar, Deputy Prime Minister, member of C.C., Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, as well

as representatives from the fraternal Communist and Workers' Parties of France, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and a number of other European countries.

The meeting was attended by Wilhelm Pieck, President of the German Democratic Republic.

W. Ulbricht, First Secretary of the C.C., SUPG, Deputy Prime Minister of the GDR, opened the meeting.

Amid enthusiastic applause he welcomed President Pieck, Prime Minister Grotewohl, the heads and members of foreign delegations and the guests from Western Germany who had arrived to join in the celebrations of the sixth anniversary of the GDR.

Then, Ulbricht gave the floor to Prime Minister Grotewohl, whom the audience greeted with tumultuous applause as he appeared on the rostrum.

The Chairman next gave the floor to M. A. Suslov, head of the Soviet government delegation.

M. A. Suslov was followed by the heads of other foreign delegations.

After the meeting a gala concert took place.

## Comrade Otto Grotewohl's Speech

Tomorrow we shall for the sixth time be celebrating the date on which our German Democratic Republic was founded, said Otto Grotewohl. The past six years have been years of serious and arduous work. At the same time they have been years of achievement in the struggle for peace, for building a new and better life, and for laying the foundations of Socialism. Year by year, step by step, we have been successfully marching towards a new life. Our economic base is strengthening and broadening. Cultural and social construction continues. Our trade relations are expanding, friendly relations are developing and there is growing confidence in the German Demo-

Conference of the heads of government of the Four Powers the question of safeguarding security was characterised as a decisive one for the Foreign Ministers' conference, attempts are already being made in New York to return to the pre-Geneva positions. Attempts are being made to include the whole of Germany in the Paris agreements and the Atlantic pact.

In this connection Grotewohl stressed the fact that the Paris agreements and Western Germany's membership of NATO were obstacles to the reunification of Germany on a democratic and peaceful basis. The extension of these agreements to the whole of Germany, he emphasized, was utterly impossible. The New York negotiations between the three Western Foreign Ministers

Republic and building Socialism, he continued:

We all know that great mutual understanding is required to bring people in Germany closer to each other again, and for this reason the slogan "Germans around one table!" must remain the focal point of inner-German policy for a long time to come. The reunifying of Germans is impossible without the decisive participation of the Germans themselves. A divided people cannot be reunified as simply as one can join together the two halves of a torn sheet of paper. We know that this will call for prolonged and patient work, particularly in view of the fact that on the other side this work is being hindered by the forces that brought about the division of Germany. We know that in this matter

Pending the creation of a single, peace-loving and democratic Germany, we are prepared to be a party to such a security pact. We wish and expect the German Federal Republic to be willing to change its policy and likewise agree to join the general European security pact proposed by the Soviet Union. That would provide the prerequisites for the formation of a peace-loving, democratic, unified Germany. At the same time we must achieve understanding between Germans on the question of abolishing the rule of monopolies in Western Germany, in conformity with the principles laid down in the Potsdam Agreement, and this, too, would make it possible to create the prerequisites for a democratic Germany.

When these prerequisites are present,



Communist and Democratic Parties—on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. In indestructible alliance with the working peasantry, the working class, with its glorious traditions and immense fighting experience, rallied all the democratic and patriotic forces of the country in a united national front and headed their struggle against the danger of a resurrection of German militarism, the struggle for the unification of the country, for a democratic and peaceful path of development for Germany.

The great, highly-talented and industrious German people have firmly taken the path of building the foundations of Socialism in the GDR along planned lines. Their guiding star is the immortal teaching of Marxism-Leninism.

Surmounting inevitable temporary difficulties, the workers, peasants and intellectuals of the GDR are steadily strengthening their state system and democratic social system and making ever more progress in developing their economy and national culture. This year, the last year of the country's first Five-Year Plan, industrial output will be approximately 90% greater than in 1950 and double the 1936 figure. Important new branches of industry have come into existence. A metallurgical base has been built, the production capacity of the heavy machine-building and shipbuilding industries has been increased, many new types of modern farm machines are being produced. Considerable progress has been made in agriculture, too: the herd of livestock has increased and harvest yields have risen; 605 machine and tractor stations have been set up and the leading peasants are uniting in producer co-operatives.

Successful economic development has made it possible to increase the output of consumer goods and expand the trading network. The living standards of the working people are steadily rising. In 1954 the income of the population was 12% higher than in 1953, with the increase in the income of factory and office workers amounting to 14%.

Factors of great importance to the economic consolidation of the GDR and the improvement of the life of its working people are the expansion and strengthening of its economic relations with all the countries of the socialist camp and the disinterested and all-round assistance it receives from the USSR. Within the past five years the volume of its foreign trade has nearly trebled.

All these achievements offer striking evidence of the great vital force of the new system built up in the GDR. They show what truly historic advances have been achieved within a short space of time by the people, who have taken their destinies into their own hands.

The German Democratic Republic—an independent, sovereign state—exists and is developing successfully because it is deeply rooted in the entire history and life of the German people. Thanks to its policy of peace and friendship among peoples, the GDR has won international prestige and

the whole of Germany in the North Atlantic military bloc and the West European military union, which constitute a grave barrier to the solution of the German question.

The democratic and patriotic forces of Germany protest vigorously against this policy. They are demanding recognition of the GDR and the opening of negotiations between the two states.

The Soviet Union and all the countries in the camp of Socialism are giving all-round help to the German people in their efforts to restore the unity of their country on a democratic and peaceable basis. Between the Soviet Union and the GDR good and friendly relations have been established and are becoming stronger year by year. This fact is of immense significance for the further economic and cultural development of the two countries and for strengthening world peace. The Treaty on relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic, recently concluded in Moscow, is based on the principles of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. It grants the GDR complete freedom to settle questions relating to its internal and foreign policy, including its relations with the German Federal Republic. This will in no small measure contribute to the solution of the national problems facing the German people as a whole.

The agreement concluded a short while ago between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two states will likewise play a very important part in the solution of outstanding issues affecting the whole of Germany. This agreement should promote the easing of international tension and the restoration of unity to a German democratic state.

The Soviet Union and all the countries of people's democracy have always stood for the re-establishment of Germany's unity. However, now that Western Germany has ratified the Paris agreements, specific conditions have been created which demand that a strict and realistic assessment be made of how things stand, both on the international and the internal arena, with regard to Germany's reunification. In these conditions the solution of the German problem should be sought through the establishment of an all-European system of collective security and through the rapprochement of the two German states. The question of restoring Germany's unity is primarily the concern of the Germans themselves. It is impossible to achieve the unification of Germany if the interests of the GDR and its internal and external positions are ignored. Only people entirely devoid of any understanding of the real state of affairs can calculate on the possibility of reunifying Germany at the expense of the interests of the working people of the GDR, who will never surrender their gains.

On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the German Democratic Republic all sincere champions of peace and relaxation of international tension wholeheartedly wish its workers, peasants and intellectuals new successes in building up a new, free, peace-loving and democratic Germany, in the struggle for peace and security in Europe and the whole world.

## REPLY OF N. S. KHRUSHCHEV TO PRAVDA CORRESPONDENT'S QUESTION

**Question:** In view of the varied reports that have appeared in some of the French newspapers concerning your statement on North Africa in a talk with the French parliamentary delegation, could you state the gist of the matter?

**Reply:** In referring to events in North Africa I had and still have in mind, above all, the fact that the USSR does not interfere in the internal affairs of other states and that a correct solution of the given question can be found, with due regard, naturally, for the legitimate rights and national interests of the peoples of the French Union.

The attitude of the Soviet people—one of moral support and sympathy for the national liberation aspirations of peoples—has long been known and, it seems to me, does not require any particular explanation.

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Tomorrow we shall for the sixth time be celebrating the date on which our German Democratic Republic was founded, said Otto Grotewohl. The past six years have been years of serious and arduous work. At the same time they have been years of achievement in the struggle for peace, for building a new and better life and for laying the foundations of Socialism. Year by year, step by step, we have been successfully marching towards a new life. Our economic base is strengthening and broadening. Cultural and social construction continues. Our trade relations are expanding, friendly relations are developing and there is growing confidence in the German Democratic Republic.

The negotiations conducted by our government delegation in Moscow from September 17 to 20 and their results are still further evidence of the confidence of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the peoples of the Soviet Union. The Moscow Treaty is a historic document aimed at strengthening peace. It is of great significance. Such a Treaty could only have been concluded between states in which power is held by the working people. This Treaty accords with the progressive social development of the present period, in which the defence of the peoples' interests has passed to the working class as the leading force.

Otto Grotewohl emphasized that the main desire of the two signatories to the Moscow Treaty was to achieve a peaceful settlement for the whole of Germany. This Treaty, he said, served the cause of easing international tension, a process that began at Geneva, the cause of mutual understanding.

The necessary efforts had to be made to restore Germany's unity on a peaceable and democratic basis, he said. It would be illusory, however, to assume that the reunification of Germany could be a quick and easy task.

We would be unrealistic politicians, he said, if, for instance, we did not see the difficulties that arise from the Geneva Foreign Ministers' conference from the preliminary negotiations held in New York the other day between the three Western Foreign Ministers and Herr von Brentano, negotiations which hamper the achievement of mutual understanding. Despite the fact that in the final communique of the Geneva

Dear Comrades, Friends!

On behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, allow me to greet you and through you the working class, peasantry and working intelligentsia of the German Democratic Republic, on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the foundation of your Republic, and to convey to the entire German people the cordial and friendly congratulations of the Soviet people. (Applause.)

The foundation of the German Democratic Republic was an important event in the life of the German people. It signified that, after many years of struggle, they had found the true path to democracy and freedom, the correct path to peace, friendship and co-operation with other peoples.

The establishment of the German Democratic Republic marked the beginning of a new historical era in the development

of the Presidium and Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU.

The meeting heartily cheered Tseng Yung-chuan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Chinese People's Republic to the GDR who attended the

## Comrade Otto Grotewohl's Speech

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In this connection Grotewohl stressed the fact that the Paris agreements and Western Germany's membership of NATO were obstacles to the reunification of Germany on a democratic and peaceful basis. The extension of these agreements to the whole of Germany, he emphasized, was utterly impossible. The New York negotiations between the three Western Foreign Ministers and Herr von Brentano show that the forces that brought about the division of Germany are again becoming active.

Further Grotewohl stated: "We want to create a peaceable, democratic, unified German state. For it to become democratic Germany must be free from the rule of militarists and monopolists. All elements of the economy, social co-operation and culture in our Republic accord with these requirements. That is why the German Democratic Republic is the only state in Germany that is really defending the vital interests of the German nation and peace. The German Democratic Republic provides the basis for a peaceful and democratic Germany."

Grotewohl then dwelt in detail on the achievements of the German Democratic Republic since its foundation. Touching on economic development, he pointed out that the economy was planned, a fact that had become possible only under a worker-peasant state. Today, on the sixth anniversary of our Republic, said Grotewohl, we can say that we have succeeded in doubling industrial output. He then went on to speak of the establishment of branches of industry new to the Republic and the construction of major publicly-owned enterprises, equipped with the most up-to-date machinery. He stated that by August 31 last, 5,980 producer co-operatives had been set up in the Republic.

Having stressed further that the working people of the GDR must defend their peaceful life, their well-being and culture by strengthening the German Democratic

Republic and building Socialism, he continued:

We all know that great mutual understanding is required to bring people in Germany closer to each other again, and for this reason the slogan "Germans around one table!" must remain the focal point of inner-German policy for a long time to come. The reuniting of Germans is impossible without the decisive participation of the Germans themselves. A divided people cannot be reunified as simply as one can join together the two halves of a torn sheet of paper. We know that this will call for prolonged and patient work, particularly in view of the fact that on the other side this work is being hindered by the forces that brought about the division of Germany. We know that in this matter we cannot refuse the help of the countries around us, and so we shall try to strengthen our relations, including diplomatic relations, with all peoples, proceeding in this from principles of mutual recognition, respect of sovereignty, equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. We shall follow this course, irrespective of whether Herr Adenauer regards it as an "unfriendly act". In particular, we shall continue to develop and expand our cordial, fraternal relations with the Soviet Union, the great Chinese people and all the People's Democracies. This is a guarantee that the vital question of the German nation will be settled. That is why today too we express our gratitude to all our friends in the camp of democracy and Socialism who have invariably accorded us fraternal help in our fight.

The existence and continued development of the German Democratic Republic is fully guaranteed by its own forces, the Warsaw Treaty and the Moscow Treaty on relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic.

We do not forget, however, that the other half of Germany is a party to a military pact. By its nature NATO is an aggressive bloc fraught with fresh sufferings for mankind. It is not good to live in conditions marked by the existence of two military pacts. That is why we heartily welcome the Soviet Union's proposal to establish a general system of European security, a pact embracing all the peoples of Europe for the sole purpose of ensuring peace.

The Chairman next gave the floor to M. A. Suslov, head of the Soviet government delegation.

M. A. Suslov was followed by the heads of other foreign delegations.

After the meeting a gala concert took place.

Pending the creation of a single, peace-loving and democratic Germany, we are prepared to be a party to such a security pact. We wish and expect the German Federal Republic to be willing to change its policy and likewise agree to join the general European security pact proposed by the Soviet Union. That would provide the prerequisites for the formation of a peace-loving, democratic, unified Germany. At the same time we must achieve understanding between Germans on the question of abolishing the rule of monopolies in Western Germany, in conformity with the principles laid down in the Potsdam Agreement, and this, too, would make it possible to create the prerequisites for a democratic Germany.

When these prerequisites are present, successful negotiations on the unity of a peace-loving and democratic Germany will be possible; then Germany will be able to be peace-loving, for she will be free of the Paris agreements and of militarism; then Germany will be able to become democratic, for she will be free of the dictatorship of monopolists and Junkers; then Germany will be able to enter upon a lasting period of peace, for she will be living under the protection of a general system of European security; then Germany will be able to advance to a happy future, for she will be living in an atmosphere of good-neighbourly relations with other peoples, in conditions of peaceful commerce with them in the interests of mutual well-being; then Germany will be able to live freely and happily in the midst of a family of nations.

Long live the German Democratic Republic!

Long live our workers' and peasants' power—the cornerstone of the new, peace-loving and democratic Germany!

Long live fraternal co-operation with the countries of the socialist and democratic camp!

Long live lasting friendship between the entire German people and the peoples of the Soviet Union!

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Prime Minister Grotewohl's speech, which those present at the anniversary meeting listened to with close attention, was repeatedly interrupted by tumultuous, prolonged applause.

## Comrade M. A. Suslov's Speech

of Germany—an era that embodies the results of prolonged and courageous struggle, embodies the aspirations of the working people and all progressive people in Germany.

In the German Democratic Republic, for the first time in Germany's history, the German people, under the leadership of the working class, have taken power into their own hands and charged their representatives—workers, peasants and progressive intellectuals—with the task of running the state.

The working class of the German Democratic Republic, in alliance with the working peasantry and in co-operation with the intelligentsia, have effected profound social and economic transformations and, in a planned way, have begun to lay the foundations of Socialism. In the GDR the economic and political basis of German militarism has been liquidated and a new, democratic social system set up, one that has opened

up boundless possibilities for Germany's political, economic and cultural advance, for the all-round development of the creative powers of the great, highly-talented and industrious German people. (Applause.)

The Government of the German Democratic Republic is truly representative of the German people. Under its guidance representatives of the workers and peasants are, on behalf of their people, themselves directing the economy, the factories and mills. As a result of the land reform the peasants have received more than three million hectares of land and have begun to reorganise agriculture on democratic lines; the number of agricultural producer co-operatives and machine and tractor stations is increasing in the countryside, and this is making the work of the peasants very much easier and raising their material and cultural standards.

In its advance along the path of socialist construction the German Democratic Re-

public has already made considerable progress. The gross output of the people's sector in industry amounts to 85% of the total. The Republic's total industrial output will be more than 180% the prewar figure. Under the first Five-Year Plan the state invested about 22,000 million marks in the national economy. The volume of the Republic's foreign trade is growing rapidly, and at the present moment it carries on commerce with more than 70 countries.

The workers' and peasants' Government displays constant concern for the well-being of the people. Prices of foodstuffs and manufactured consumer goods have been drastically reduced 15 times between 1950 and 1954. The living standards of the working masses are steadily rising. Construction for housing and cultural purposes is taking place on an increasing scale.

(Continued on page 2)



## SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

## Comrade M. A. Suslov's Speech

(Continued from page 1)

Progressive forces all over the world are watching the working people of the German Democratic Republic build up their democratic state with keen interest and sympathy. The building of Socialism, which aims at ensuring a happy life for all workers by hand and brain, for the entire people, is not an easy matter. It requires the all-round development of productive forces and a steady increase in labour productivity. All the more gratifying and joyful is it to see how, surmounting inevitable temporary difficulties, the workers, peasants and intellectuals of the GDR are by their own devoted constructive labour continually achieving fresh successes in all branches of the economy and in the development of their national culture. The knowledge that their labour does not go to enrich capitalists and landlords, as is the case in the capitalist countries, but to benefit their state, to ensure the satisfaction of their requirements, is an inspiration to all honest working men.

The progress made by the German Democratic Republic is the result of the correct policy of the Government and of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the result of the co-operation of all democratic forces, united around the programme of the National Front of Democratic Germany, in the struggle for peace and freedom, for advancing the economy and developing culture in the interests of the working people. The joint activity of the parties and organisations united in the National Front has contributed greatly to the progress made by the German Democratic Republic and to the establishment of friendly relations between the German and other peoples. There can be no doubt that the fruitful activity of the National Front will continue to be of immense significance to the German Democratic Republic.

The foreign policy of the Government of the German Democratic Republic—a policy of peace and friendship among nations—fully accords with the vital interests of the entire German people. Thanks to this policy the German Democratic Republic has, in the past six years, won firm international prestige and the confidence of the peoples. Countries with nearly 1,000 million inhabitants now recognise the German Democratic Republic as a sovereign and independent state and maintain relations with it on the basis of equality and respect for mutual interests.

Especially close relations have developed between the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has always been the sincere friend of the German Democratic Republic and has accorded it unflinching help in its economic and cultural development. (Applause.) This is explained by the fact that the Soviet Union has profound faith in the German Democratic Republic and its democratic development in the interests of the German people, in the interests of peace and international security. (Applause.)

The recent talks between the Governments of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, which were conducted in an atmosphere of sincere friendship and cordiality, led to the conclusion of the "Treaty on Relations Between the USSR and the GDR". This Treaty signifies a new historic stage in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, relations based on complete equality, mutual respect

are of concern to the peoples of all countries, include above all those of disarmament, a ban on atomic and other weapons of mass destruction and the establishment of a system of collective security in Europe.

In view of the forthcoming conference in Geneva, certain Western politicians are insistently putting over the point of view that the success of this conference depends on the solution of the question of German reunification.

With due regard for the full importance of this question, which has always been stressed by the Soviet Government, we cannot consider this point of view a correct one.

Every sensible person realises that in conditions when Western Germany has become a party to aggressive military groupings such as the North Atlantic bloc and West European Union, and has embarked on remilitarisation, the problem of German reunification is seriously aggravated and cannot now be solved in a simple way.

The nature and aims of NATO and West European Union are well-known. They have not been set up for the purpose of strengthening peace. They are directed against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy, and also against the national liberation movements. In these circumstances would it be reasonable to expect that the Soviet Union would contribute to the further strengthening of NATO, that it would promote the inclusion in NATO not only of the German Federal Republic but also the whole of a united and remilitarised Germany, as is planned by the NATO organisers?

In Geneva the Foreign Ministers must not look for differences; they must seek a rapprochement of viewpoints on such major problems of present-day international affairs as disarmament, a ban on atomic and hydrogen weapons, the ensuring of European security. The Soviet Union holds that, provided good will is displayed and efforts are made by all the participants in the conference, there can and must be found solutions directed towards a further détente, towards the cause of peace for all peoples, including the German people themselves, who are interested in peace and security no less than any other people. (Applause.)

As for the problem of German reunification, its correct settlement, one that would correspond to the interests of safeguarding peace and security in Europe and also to the interests of the German people, requires time; it also requires that the actual conditions that exist be taken into account.

What is the realistic way of solving the problem of German reunification on a democratic and peaceful basis in the present conditions?

This realistic way lies in the creation of a system of collective security in Europe which would lead to the abolition of military groupings and the ensuring of stable peace and security in Europe, to the establishment of confidence between states, the development and strengthening of co-operation between the two existing German states—the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic.

The Soviet Union has always proceeded from the premise that the restoration of Germany's unity is primarily the affair of the Germans themselves. Broad co-operation, on the basis of full equality, between

"The future", said Comrade Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, during the talks with the government delegation of the German Federal Republic, "lies with the German Democratic Republic. And not the future of the German people alone."

The working people of Germany are realising to an ever-increasing extent that a break with the policy of military aggressive blocs can be achieved and the division of the country ended, above all, by the efforts of the German people themselves.

The German Democratic Republic has an important part to play in the German people's struggle for peace and national unity, a struggle in which it receives unflinching support from the Soviet Union. The working people of the GDR are in favour of establishing unity of action of all peace-loving, democratic forces in Eastern and Western Germany, mindful of the fact that in the face of the combined efforts of the German people the militarists' attempts to impose a remilitarised Germany on them and to preserve the partition of the country will fall through.

The German working class, which, including families, makes up nearly half the population of the country, undoubtedly has a special rôle to play in this. In the history of the German working class there are quite a number of splendid examples of its having courageously opposed the forces of reaction. In November 1918 it came out with united forces and overthrew the monarchy of the Kaiser; a year or so later it took only a few days to put an end to the monarchist Kappist putsch, and in 1923 the nation-wide struggle of the workers brought matters to a point where the German working class stood on the verge of taking the destinies of the nation into its own hands. These are examples of selfless, united struggle on the part of the German working class for the democratic development of Germany, for peace and freedom.

Seeking to prove that the defeat of the German working class in the Weimar and Nazi periods was inevitable, certain opportunist elements now assert that it was not strong enough to get the better of Germany's reactionary forces. This is not true. It was by no means because it was too weak that the German working class failed to get the better of the reactionary forces in Germany, but because it was divided and was therefore forcibly ousted from the political life of the country. That was why, in the past few decades, it was unable to play the rôle for which history had cast it in the struggle for the democratic development of Germany.

Now the German working class sees for itself what this policy has brought it to. It has cost it tremendous sacrifices in the war, it has led to material privation and the division of the country. Had the German working class, aware of its responsibility for the fate of its people, acted in an organised and unified manner, no force on earth could have prevented it from realising its democratic aims.

How strong a united working class is has been proved by the example of the workers in the German Democratic Republic who, after the defeat of fascism, drew lessons from the past and, under the leadership of their splendid vanguard, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, have brought to

## UNDER THE BANNER OF NATIONAL FREEDOM AND STATE INDEPENDENCE

\* Wilhelm Pieck

President, German Democratic Republic  
Member, Political Bureau, C.C., SUPG

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The sixth anniversary of the formation of the German Democratic Republic has as its keynote the conclusion of the Treaty on relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. This Treaty and the whole of the talks in Moscow are indeed of tremendous historical importance to the German people. It ushers in a new phase in the development of the first German worker-peasant state and in its position in the international arena. The Treaty between the GDR and the USSR gave legal expression, on the international plane, and affirmation to our national freedom and state independence.

The peoples of the Soviet Union suffered most from the inhuman barbarity of German imperialism. All the weightier and more splendidly striking is the proof of confidence offered by the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR in our new democratic and peaceable German state—a state of workers and peasants—to which, N. S. Khrushchev said during the talks between the government delegations, the future belongs.

## I.

The Treaty on relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is based on the principles of complete equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. In accordance with these solemnly affirmed principles the German Democratic Republic is free to settle questions relating to its internal and foreign policy, including its relations with the German Federal Republic, and also to develop relations with other states. A logical supplement to this national freedom and state independence of the GDR—which are guaranteed in Article 1 of the Treaty—is the decision of the Soviet Government to terminate the operation on GDR territory of the relevant laws, directives, decrees and other regulations issued by the Control Council in Germany and to abolish the office of High Commissioner of the USSR in Germany. Hence, the existing legislation of the GDR and its state sovereignty are no longer restricted in any way.

Nevertheless, there is still a dark cloud that casts a shadow on the bright and broad prospects opened up to the German people by the results of the Moscow conference. The second of the two German states—the German Federal Republic—is still bound up with the Paris agreements, which are utterly incompatible with the national liberty and state independence of the German people.

From the national point of view it is highly indicative that in his report on the talks concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between the GFR and the USSR Adenauer emphatically assured the Bundestag that despite everything he was fully determined to continue his former foreign policy "in all circumstances". He said nothing about the fact that the diplomatic relations of the two German states with the Soviet Union would facilitate rapprochement and the establishment of mutual understanding between the GFR and the

By the terms of the Paris agreements the Western powers retain the right—even in the event of reunification—to make the final decision as to whether Germany will remain committed to military pacts or not. In the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR, on the contrary, it is clearly set forth that the Treaty will remain in force only until the restoration of Germany's unity as a peaceable and democratic state.

This comparison of only some of the major points brings out in bold relief the exceptionally great, historic significance of the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR for the carrying out of a policy of peace in Germany and throughout Europe. The results of the Moscow negotiations show the entire German people how the consequences of the second world war, which was unleashed by German imperialism, can really be blotted out and the national liberty and state independence of a democratic and peaceable German state ensured. With this the authority and prestige of the German Democratic Republic among the German people and all the peoples of the world will inevitably be enhanced and strengthened.

The Soviet Government was able to show this great confidence in the German Democratic Republic because the democratic reforms and changes introduced in this workers' and peasants' state have deprived the forces of imperialism and militarism of power, because by its very nature this state follows the policy of peace and friendship with all peoples. The Treaty between the GDR and the USSR is a product of the peace policy supported by the National Front of Democratic Germany, in which the parties and mass organisations of the GDR are united. Under the leadership of the working class, headed by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the establishment of the worker-peasant power in the GDR has laid a firm foundation for an active peace policy.

It is now becoming apparent—and this is coming to be increasingly understood in Western Germany as well—that only on the basis of such an active peace policy is the restoration of Germany's unity possible. The foes of a détente and of mutual understanding, however, are trying to put the cart before the horse. Before European security is ensured, they assert, Germany must be reunited. The course of history and the present international situation both prove them wrong.

The facts show that the division of Germany, the perpetuation of its occupation, the support given to reactionary imperialist and militarist forces in Western Germany—all these have been the means and weapons of the "cold war". Consequently, to restore the unity of Germany on a peaceful and democratic basis, it is necessary to remove the causes of the division, of which the "cold war" is unquestionably one of the most important. It is perfectly logical, therefore, that the

Year Plan period, during which we have had to overcome the profound economic consequences of a divided Germany and rebuff unceasing subversive activities of all kinds on the part of West German and foreign monopoly capital.

In the specific conditions prevailing in our part of Germany, we have, without doubt, made considerable headway, as is testified by the fact that in the last year of the Five-Year Plan the volume of industrial output is expected to be approximately 90% higher than in 1950 and nearly double the 1936 figure. Compared with 1936 coal output has doubled and twice as much electricity has been generated. Thanks to the ore and fuel deliveries from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, we have established a metallurgical base, and steel output has doubled as against 1936.

The machine-building industry, which is particularly important for our economy, has embarked on the production of heavy machinery, ships, motor-vehicles and modern machine tools during the plan period. The machine-building industry has provided equipment for heavy industry and agriculture and also played an important part in expanding foreign trade. The extensive construction programme meant that twice as much building work had to be carried out.

The volume of output in some branches of light and food industry has more than doubled. Production capacities have been well utilised and we have begun to expand them.

The cattle herd has grown substantially and the yields per hectare have become higher. In the countryside 605 machine and tractor stations have now become technical and cultural centres, easing the peasants' labour and helping him to go over to large-scale farming, to the establishment of agricultural producer co-operatives.

Because we have a high level of industrial development and an inadequate raw materials base foreign trade is of extreme importance to the development of the national economy. And it is particularly gratifying that our trade with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies has almost trebled in the years covered by the plan.

The successes on the industrial, agricultural and handicrafts fronts, as well as the rise in imports, have made it possible to increase retail trade to 178%, which likewise bears witness to the improved living standards of the working people.

Some one million people more than in 1950 are now engaged in the national economy. Labour productivity at plants and factories of the socialist sector has risen approximately 54% and production costs of goods produced for the market by publicly-owned enterprises have come down by more than 19%. Now, towards the close of the first Five-Year Plan period, 63% of the entire national income is coming from enterprises of the socialist sector.

These few general figures and other data give some idea of the achievements of the working people in the GDR in the course of the first Five-Year Plan. But it must be noted that we have many problems which are still unsolved or are in the process of being solved. The big tasks set by the IVth Congress of the SUPG in developing the



Especially close relations have developed between the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has always been the sincere friend of the German Democratic Republic and has accorded it unflinching help in its economic and cultural development. (Applause.) This is explained by the fact that the Soviet Union has profound faith in the German Democratic Republic and its democratic development in the interests of the German people, in the interests of peace and international security. (Applause.)

The recent talks between the Governments of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, which were conducted in an atmosphere of sincere friendship and cordiality, led to the conclusion of the "Treaty on Relations Between the USSR and the GDR". This Treaty signifies a new historic stage in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, relations based on complete equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. (Applause.)

The German Democratic Republic is celebrating its sixth anniversary free to settle questions of home and foreign policy and to develop relations with other peoples and states, including relations with the German Federal Republic. We fully share and welcome the view of Comrade Wilhelm Pieck, President of the German Democratic Republic, as expressed by him on September 22 at a reception for the GDR government delegation: "The free German state of workers and peasants will make use of the freedom of action it now enjoys both in home and foreign policy in order to do all it can to contribute to ensuring peace in Europe and achieving mutual understanding between the Germans." (Applause.)

The Treaty signed in Moscow will undoubtedly contribute to strengthening and further developing the existing good friendly relations and all-round close co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic.

The Treaty is an important factor for maintaining and strengthening peace and security in Europe; it will contribute to the further relaxation of international tension and thus also to the restoration of Germany's unity as a peaceful, democratic state and to a peaceful contractual settlement with Germany.

It is common knowledge that the Geneva Conference of heads of government of the Four Powers has resulted in a certain détente, which has been welcomed with deep satisfaction by all peoples throughout the world. All the actions of the Soviet Union since Geneva have furthered the consolidation and development of the easing of international tension which has already been achieved. In this connection one must note such major acts of great international significance as the decision taken by the Soviet Government to reduce the strength of the Soviet armed forces by 640,000 men, and the Soviet-Finnish agreement on the abolition of the Porkkala Udd military base on Finnish territory, which was concluded on the initiative of the Soviet Government. The peoples expect the other participants in the Geneva Conference to take similar measures towards easing international tension. (Applause.)

The Foreign Ministers of the Four Powers are due to meet in Geneva shortly so that, in accordance with the instructions of the heads of government, they can continue the examination of major international problems and adopt decisions aimed at strengthening peace and the security of the peoples. The international problems in question, which

correspond to the interests of safeguarding peace and security in Europe and also to the interests of the German people, requires time; it also requires that the actual conditions that exist be taken into account.

What is the realistic way of solving the problem of German reunification on a democratic and peaceful basis in the present conditions?

This realistic way lies in the creation of a system of collective security in Europe which would lead to the abolition of military groupings and the ensuring of stable peace and security in Europe, to the establishment of confidence between states, the development and strengthening of co-operation between the two existing German states—the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic.

The Soviet Union has always proceeded from the premise that the restoration of Germany's unity is primarily the affair of the Germans themselves. Broad co-operation, on the basis of full equality, between the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic in all spheres of inner-German affairs would greatly facilitate the solution of this problem.

It is perfectly obvious that without agreement between the Germans in the Western and Eastern parts of the country, without the establishment of contacts and ties, without co-operation and joint efforts on the part of the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic on the basis of a peaceful, democratic policy, the problem of German reunion cannot be solved.

This is well understood in the German Democratic Republic. It is necessary that the ruling circles of the German Federal Republic also come to understand it well. The sooner that happens, the better it will be for the reunification of Germany on a peaceful and democratic basis.

Certain elements in the West must understand once and for all that in present conditions any attempts to resuscitate the bankrupt "positions of strength" policy in solving the German problem are particularly unrealistic. It is time it was understood that the question of the unification of Germany cannot be solved "from a position of strength", nor can it be settled at the expense of the German Democratic Republic, as it is clear that the working people of the GDR will not surrender their democratic gains and will not wish to find themselves in bondage to the capitalists and landowners once more. (Prolonged applause.) Anyone who thinks differently is hopelessly mistaken. There is no return to the past! (Prolonged applause.)

The Soviet people strive to establish cordial, good-neighbourly and friendly relations with the German people as a whole. They welcomed the conclusion of the agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic. We honestly believe that the establishment of these relations will be to the advantage of the German and Soviet peoples, to the benefit of world peace. It is understood, of course, that the German Federal Republic's claims to represent the whole of Germany can have no weight whatsoever. During the negotiations in Moscow, the representatives of the GFR were told this clearly and definitely: The German Federal Republic is only a part of Germany and exercises jurisdiction on the territory under its sovereignty. The other part of Germany is the German Democratic Republic. The German Democratic Republic is by no means a sort of "geographical concept". On the contrary, it is an objective and extremely substantial reality, which firmly exists, one that is developing, flourishing and has a great future. (Stormy applause.)

political life of the country. That was why, in the past few decades, it was unable to play the role for which history had cast it in the struggle for the democratic development of Germany.

Now the German working class sees for itself what this policy has brought it to. It has cost it tremendous sacrifices in the war, it has led to material privation and the division of the country. Had the German working class, aware of its responsibility for the fate of its people, acted in an organised and unified manner, no force on earth could have prevented it from realising its democratic aims.

How strong a united working class is has been proved by the example of the workers in the German Democratic Republic who, after the defeat of fascism, drew lessons from the past and, under the leadership of their splendid vanguard, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, have brought to fruition the finest hopes of the German proletariat in the building of a new, democratic Germany. (Applause.)

Comrades! We are living in a history-making epoch, at a time when the popular masses are becoming more and more conscious of their role, of their significance, when they are taking their destiny into their own hands, when it is precisely the people and, primarily the working class in alliance with the working peasantry, that determine the nature of social development. The past few decades have been particularly remarkable in this respect.

Backward, tsarist Russia is no more. In its place the people have created a great and mighty socialist power. There is no longer an enslaved China. There is the great Chinese People's Republic where a new socialist state is being created. The efforts of the popular masses have established people's-democratic states in a number of countries in Europe and Asia. All these countries, too, are successfully advancing along the path of powerful economic and cultural development, along the path of democracy and Socialism.

The immortal teaching of Marxism-Leninism was and remains the guiding star of the masses in the struggle for their vital and urgent interests. Armed with Marxist-Leninist theory, and consistently translating it into action, the masses constitute an all-conquering force, capable of performing miracles.

Can there be any vestige of doubt that the German working class, which gave the world Marx and Engels, and possesses glorious traditions and immense experience of struggle, also has everything necessary to ensure the peace-loving, democratic development of Germany.

As far as the Soviet people are concerned, they have profound faith in the German working class, they look upon it as a reliable and loyal ally. The path traversed by the German Democratic Republic, which has taken a firm place in the family of democratic, peace-loving countries, convinces us of this. The creative labour of the German people convinces us of this. And the leading role in the GDR of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and the fruitful activities of the National Front are a guarantee of this.

Permit me to wish you, and through you the entire German people, further great successes in the struggle for peace, democracy and the unity of Germany, for Socialism.

May the German Democratic Republic live and grow stronger!

Long live friendship and co-operation between the German and Soviet peoples! (Stormy, prolonged applause.)

Nevertheless, there is still a dark shadow that casts a shadow on the bright and broad prospects opened up to the German people by the results of the Moscow conference. The second of the two German states—the German Federal Republic—is still bound up with the Paris agreements, which are utterly incompatible with the national liberty and state independence of the German people.

From the national point of view it is highly indicative that in his report on the talks concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between the GFR and the USSR Adenauer emphatically assured the Bundestag that despite everything he was fully determined to continue his former foreign policy "in all circumstances". He said nothing about the fact that the diplomatic relations of the two German states with the Soviet Union would facilitate rapprochement and the establishment of mutual understanding between the GFR and the GDR. Consequently, he wants to preserve the Federal Republic's affiliation to the aggressive Western military blocs. Hence, he has no wish to give up the resurrection of German militarism, which cannot but become a grave danger to the West German population itself and to the cause of peace in Europe. It is for just this reason that the Paris agreements and the inclusion of Western Germany in NATO are incompatible with the peaceful reunification of Germany. It is for just this reason that a policy serving the interests of "the West alone" cannot but prolong the division of Europe and of Germany.

In direct contrast to this, the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR testifies to the determination of both these states to serve the cause of peace in Europe and in Germany. In Article 2 of the Treaty it is clearly stated that the contracting parties are prepared to take part, in a spirit of genuine co-operation, in all international acts designed to safeguard peace and security in Europe and throughout the world. The negotiations between the two states and the measures arising therefrom have the purpose of preventing any violation of peace. That is why the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR is a genuine contribution to the cause of peace.

The Paris agreements envisage the occupation of the Federal Republic by foreign troops for no less than half a century and grant these troops extraordinary powers that are incompatible with the national independence and state sovereignty of the GFR. Unlike this, the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR establishes that Soviet troops will remain on the territory of the GDR only temporarily and that, moreover, they will not interfere in the internal affairs or the public and political life of the country. The Soviet troops will not enjoy any extraordinary rights. In the best sense of the term, they stand guard over peace. One cannot discuss this Article of the Treaty without mentioning the fact that the Soviet Government has repeatedly made the most concrete proposals to the Western powers to withdraw all forces of occupation from Germany and that, as was confirmed during the Moscow talks, this solution of the question is as acceptable to the Soviet Government as ever.

Whereas the Paris agreements, which provide for the remilitarisation of Western Germany and its inclusion in the aggressive North Atlantic bloc, make the reunification of Germany impossible, the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR makes achievement of a peaceful settlement for all Germany through appropriate negotiations its main aim. Both states affirm that they will make the efforts necessary to conclude a peace treaty and to restore Germany's unity by peaceful and democratic means.

Some one million people more than in 1950 are now engaged in the national economy. Labour productivity at plants and factories of the socialist sector has risen approximately 54%, and production costs of goods produced for the market by publicly owned enterprises have come down by more than 19%. Now, towards the close of the first Five-Year Plan period, 65% of the entire national income is coming from enterprises of the socialist sector.

The facts show that the division of Germany, the perpetuation of its occupation, the support given to reactionary imperialist and militarist forces in Western Germany—all these have been the means and weapons of the "cold war". Consequently, to restore the unity of Germany on a peaceful and democratic basis, it is necessary to remove the causes of the division, of which the "cold war" is unquestionably one of the most important. It is perfectly logical, therefore, that the German Democratic Republic emphatically favours a system of collective security in Europe, seeing in this, at the same time, a way to the future reunification of Germany. Abolishing all military blocs and ensuring collective security would make it possible to put an end to militarism in Western Germany, which today constitutes an insurmountable obstacle to the restoration of Germany's unity.

As things stand today peace cannot be ensured in Europe by spreading over the whole of Germany the domination of the West German militarists and those West German and foreign imperialist sections who back them. The peoples of Europe have not yet forgotten that every concession to the German imperialists and militarists merely encouraged them to make new demands and undertake new acts of aggression. And the sufferers were the peoples of Europe and, not least of all, the German people themselves.

It is in view of this that, following the conclusion of the Treaty on relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the German people are even more energetically demanding a change in the policy of Bonn, which, by virtue of the inclusion of Western Germany in the military North Atlantic pact and her remilitarisation, has set up a barrier to the reunification of our country.

The fact that the German Democratic Republic has been granted complete freedom to settle all questions of internal and external policy quite naturally enhances the responsibility of its working class and all working people for safeguarding peace in Germany. This calls for the further strengthening and reinforcement of the first worker-peasant state in the history of Germany. With this aim in view, the People's Chamber has adopted a decision to make an addendum to the Constitution of the GDR to the effect that military service in defence of the homeland and the working people's gains is the honourable national duty of citizens of the German Democratic Republic.

## II.

During the Moscow talks N. S. Khrushchev spoke of the immense importance of laying the foundations of Socialism in the GDR. The building of Socialism in the German Democratic Republic accords with the interests of all the working people of Germany.

The workers, peasants and intellectuals celebrate the sixth anniversary of their Republic just when the last quarter of the final year of the first Five-Year Plan is beginning. Preliminary results show that vast construction work has been conducted in the GDR in the course of the first Five-

Some one million people more than in 1950 are now engaged in the national economy. Labour productivity at plants and factories of the socialist sector has risen approximately 54%, and production costs of goods produced for the market by publicly owned enterprises have come down by more than 19%. Now, towards the close of the first Five-Year Plan period, 65% of the entire national income is coming from enterprises of the socialist sector.

These few general figures and other data give some idea of the achievements of the working people in the GDR in the course of the first Five-Year Plan. But must be noted that we have many problems which are still unsolved or are in the process of being solved. The big tasks set by the IVth Congress of the SUPG in developing the coal industry, metallurgy, the chemical and building-materials industries, and, particularly, the task of fully meeting electricity requirements, have not yet been fulfilled. This, quite naturally, retards the development of many other branches of the economy. One of the most important assignments of the second Five-Year Plan must be the elimination of these disproportions in our economy.

Gaining momentum among the workers of our Republic is the movement for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the first Five-Year Plan, for raising labour productivity, reducing production costs, increasing accumulation and for creating in this way the most favourable conditions for working out the second Five-Year Plan in our Republic. The news of the Moscow talks and the conclusion of the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR was a further great stimulus to the development of this movement.

It is with a full realisation of their achievements and gains—which are not confined to the economy alone—that the working people celebrate the sixth anniversary of the GDR. These are particularly notable in the most varied fields of culture, public health and social security. Twenty-five new institutes of higher learning have been established since 1950, and while in that year there were 16 students per 10,000 inhabitants, this year the number has risen to 44, the proportion who are of worker and peasant parentage having risen from 38.6% to about 60%. The number of secondary schools has increased from 386 to 636, and that of pupils from 94,000 to 128,000.

No less remarkable are our achievements in the theatre, the cinema and various other spheres of art.

★

The working people are celebrating the sixth anniversary of the GDR fully conscious that their immense political, economic, social and cultural gains are guaranteed forever in a free and independent worker-peasant state. They are doubly certain of this since the conclusion in Moscow of the Treaty between the GDR and the USSR. This Treaty envisages the continued development and consolidation of economic, scientific, technical and cultural ties between the GDR and the USSR, which will accord each other every possible economic assistance and necessary co-operation in the economic, scientific and technical fields.

The Treaty between the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union is therefore, a great document of friendship and co-operation between the two states. It serves the cause of safeguarding and consolidating peace in Europe and of Germany's peaceful reunification on a genuinely democratic basis; it helps the working people of the first German worker-peasant state to safeguard and develop their gains.



## Sixth Anniversary Celebrations in the Chinese People's Republic

The great Chinese people celebrated the sixth anniversary of the Chinese People's Republic with great enthusiasm and joy. Many cabled messages and greetings from other countries were received by the Communist Party and the Government on this great occasion.

Below is the message sent by K. Voroshilov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR; N. Bulganin,

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; V. Molotov, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, to Comrades Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Liu Shao-chi, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"We send you, dear Comrades, and through you, the fraternal Chinese people, our warm congratulations on the sixth anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

"In the six years that have elapsed since the formation of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese people have made outstanding progress in the development of all branches of the national economy and culture of their country and are successfully building Socialism.

"The People's Republic of China is a mighty force for strengthening peace and friendship among all peoples. It has played an important part in ending the war in Korea, restoring peace in Indo-China, maintaining peace in the Far East and developing friendly co-operation between countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The efforts made by the People's Republic of China to ease international tension have earned it the great esteem and warm gratitude of all the peoples of the world.

"The achievements of the Chinese people are a cause of sincere rejoicing to all Soviet people; the Soviet people wish the great People's Republic of China still greater well-being.

"The past year has witnessed the further strengthening of the friendship between the Soviet and Chinese peoples, which provides a reliable safeguard for the peaceful labour of our fraternal peoples and is exerting a steadily increasing influence upon the entire course of mankind's historical development.

"May the fraternal friendship of the Chinese and Soviet peoples grow and flourish."

On October 1, a military parade and demonstration of the working people took place on Tien An Men Square in Peking. The stands overlooking the square were occupied by leading industrial and agricultural workers, people prominent in the world of culture, science and art, representatives of the numerous nationalities of China and generals and officers of the People's Liberation Army. More than 1,600 delegates from 55 countries were present, among them guests from the USSR, the People's Democracies, France, Japan, the U.S.A. and other countries, and also members of the diplomatic corps.

Tumultuous applause greeted the appearance on the government tribune of Mao Tse-tung, leader of the Chinese people and Chairman of the Chinese People's Republic; Marshal Chu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the CPR; Liu Shao-chi, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Chou En-lai, Premier of

the State Council, and other leaders of the Communist Party and the People's Government.

The military parade demonstrated the increased might and skill of the men of the People's Liberation Army, an army that stands guard over the peace and security of the Republic's frontiers.

The gala demonstration of the working people of Peking, in which 500,000 people took part, lasted several hours. In the evening, Tien An Men Square was the scene of mass festivities.

The anniversary was celebrated throughout the country. Some 600,000 people took part in the demonstration in Shanghai, 120,000 in Tientsin, 170,000 in Wuhan, 400,000 in Mukden.

With warm fraternal feelings, the people of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the whole of peaceful mankind, also celebrated this red-letter day.

## Sixteenth Congress of Communist Party of Uruguay

The Communist Party of Uruguay held its Sixteenth Congress in Montevideo from September 30 to October 5. The Congress discussed the following questions:

1. Report of the National Committee on the activity of the Party, the tasks in the struggle for peace, national liberation, democracy, the well-being of the workers and peasants and the strengthening and development of the Party (given by Comrade Rodney Arismendi, General Secretary).

2. Report of the Control Commission.

3. Convening a special Congress of the Party to give final consideration to the Party Programme and Rules.

4. Election of National Committee.

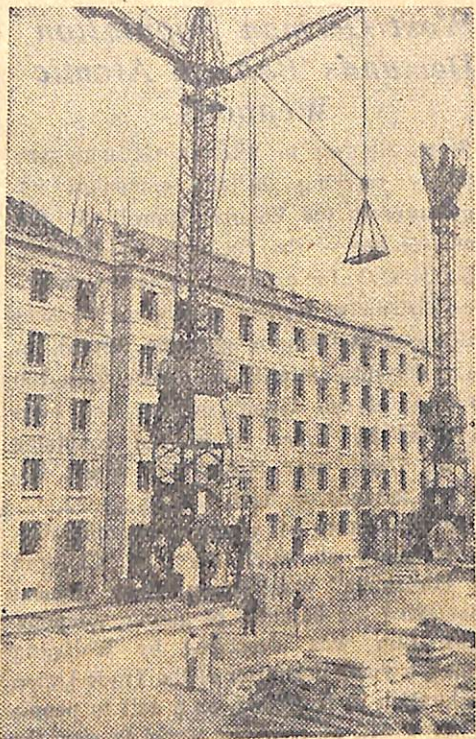
The Congress was held in the midst of a struggle for preserving the purity of

Marxist-Leninist theory, for raising the ideological and political level of Party members and eliminating the consequences of the incorrect line followed by the fractional grouping led by Gomez, whose members have now been expelled from the Party. The people of Uruguay displayed keen interest in the Congress.

Attending the Congress were 200 delegates from Party organisations all over the country. Telegrams of greeting were read out from the Communist and Workers' Parties of the Soviet Union, China, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Korea, Italy, the United States, France, Argentina, Britain and many other countries.

The greetings from the Central Committee of the CPSU, hailed with prolonged and tumultuous applause, read:

CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY



Warsaw, the capital of People's Poland, is steadily growing more and more beautiful. Handsome new buildings are being erected in this city every month. Above is a new apartment house going up in the Solec district of the city.

## MEETING, C.C., RUMANIAN WORKERS' PARTY

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party took place on September 30 and October 1. The meeting discussed the following questions: 1. Party organisation; 2. Convening of the Second Congress of the Rumanian Workers' Party and adoption of its agenda; 3. Progress in agricultural work this year.

Having released Comrade Gh. Apostol from the post of First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, the meeting unanimously elected Comrade Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej in his place. Comrade I. Chisinevski was unanimously elected Secretary of the C.C. The Central Council of the Rumanian Trade Unions elected Comrade Gh. Apostol its Chairman.

The meeting decided to convene the Second Congress of the Rumanian Workers' Party on December 23, 1955, and confirmed the following agenda:

1. Report of the C.C. of the RWP—Comrade Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej.
2. Report of the Central Auditing Commission—Comrade Guina Nicolae.
3. Report on Directives of the Second Congress for the Second Five-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy (1956-1960)—Comrade Chivu Stoica.
4. Report on Amendments to the Rules of the RWP—Comrade Ceausescu Nicolae.
5. Elections to the Central Party bodies.

The meeting worked out practical measures for successfully completing the autumn field work this year.

On October 3 a session of the Grand National Assembly of the Rumanian People's Republic elected Comrade Chivu Stoica Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the RPR.

## LA VOZ DE MEXICO ISSUED DAILY

On September 15—the 145th anniversary of the struggle for Mexico's national independence and the 36th anniversary of its Communist Party—La Voz de Mexico, the weekly paper of the C.C. of the Party, became a daily one.

# Significance of Relaxation of International Tension\*

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Palmiro Togliatti  
General Secretary  
of the Italian Communist Party  
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The leaders of the world's greatest powers met some time ago; they found ways and means of initiating discussions and negotiations in a new spirit, in a spirit of mutual understanding, and they made efforts to achieve a rapprochement. And immediately the horrible spectre of war receded. This is the new and important fact of the present moment, one on which we must concentrate our attention in order to understand how this new situation arose, what it signifies and, consequently, what new tasks it throws up for us, for the Communist and Socialist working people, all who fight for liberty and peace.

We must, therefore, try to find the answers to two questions. Why has this change in the international situation taken place and what does it signify? That is the first question. The second question—one that affects us more directly—is: How and to what extent is our homeland, Italy, playing its part in this process of relaxing international tension?

### I.

It would be a mistake to think that the only reason for these changes is that some statesman or other in the West has begun to think differently. Undoubtedly there are statesmen of the Western world who have changed their way of thinking and acting, but they were forced to do this by reason of the profound changes in public opinion in Europe and throughout the world.

The hearts of millions upon hundreds of millions of people have revolted against the menace for the future of the peoples arising from the war which flared up in the East and the "cold war" waged against the socialist world. That is the primary and fundamental reason for what has been taking place in the world. It is precisely because of this that the fight developed for a relaxation of world tension and for peace, a struggle in which great masses of working people and whole peoples and governments have been participating.

We are proud of the fact that by our ceaseless campaigning for peace, our demands for a ban on atomic weapons and for a meeting of the heads of the greatest powers in the world, we, as Communists and fighters for peace, have made a considerable contribution to the battle for the changes now taking place on the world scene. Millions upon tens of millions of men and women listened to and understood the words of those who fought in defence of peace, of those who denounced the elements preparing ugly adventures against the human race. This has occurred not only in Italy, but throughout the world.

We do not forget, however, that while this new orientation of public opinion was maturing, an orientation to which we, as the vanguard of the working class, made a powerful contribution, a conscious force came to the fore, a force which paved the way to the new, the present changes in the international situation. This conscious force is the great socialist state, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; it is the Chinese People's Republic, the democratic states of Eastern Europe. The leaders in these countries were able to do everything necessary to make it possible to take concrete steps along the path of easing world tension, the path of a new international policy of peace, and to advance along it. When it appeared that all paths were closed, then the leaders of the great Soviet Union, of the Chinese People's Republic and the democratic countries in

the world—no one can deny this any longer; a recognition of the fact of the existence and advance of the countries who have broken away from the old, capitalist system and are marching victoriously along the new path. There is no going back! We can now travel from the Elbe, a river flowing through the heart of Germany, to the far-away Pacific Ocean, and not leave the socialist world. On this boundless territory live hundreds of different peoples: they have different languages, habits and religions, they are at different levels of economic and political development, but they all understand one another, they co-operate among themselves, help each other. The chief thing that unites them is the fact that they have freed themselves from capitalist exploitation and the imperialist yoke.

This is a new world, the socialist world, one that is gaining in strength, marching forward and illuminating the whole globe with a new brightness.

We know very well that these peoples can also have difficulties, that serious problems, which require solution, can confront them. But we know, too, that Socialism opens up possibilities for the settlement of these problems and difficulties with a minimum amount of pain and sacrifice for the peoples.

The socialist world is infinite, inhabited by hundreds of millions of people. It is open for the establishment of contact and intercourse, it favours mutual understanding and co-operation with all other peoples, inasmuch as this contact, mutual understanding and co-operation can bring nothing but mutual advantage. The working people, who have for many years now held power in their hands, can always find something to learn from those countries where power still belongs to the privileged classes; but the working people of the whole of Europe and the colonial countries, the working people of even the most developed capitalist countries have everything to learn from the experience accumulated in the countries where the working people have at last become free, as these hold the power, decide the destiny of their nation and lead it along the path of progress and freedom. It is therefore essential that the change that has taken place in the international situation not only should not be allowed to come to nothing; it must be consolidated, extended and made permanent. To achieve this requires serious work not only from the Communists and Socialists, but also from all honest democrats, all who are the friends of progress and peace.

### II.

Since the triumph of the October Revolution, the victory over fascist Germany, the establishment of the people's-democratic system in the countries of Eastern Europe, and the victory of the people's revolution in China, our cause has not as yet achieved so great a victory, there has been no such outstanding advance by our vanguard—which throughout the world is fighting for freedom, fraternity among peoples and for peace.

But what part is our homeland, Italy,

troops withdrawn from Austria were being demobilised and when the Soviet Union was announcing a reduction in its armed forces and calling upon all the states in the world to follow its example—at such a time our Government agreed to allow the U.S. troops stationed in Austria to be transferred to Italy and be stationed in one of its regions.

The same may be said about relations with the great Chinese People's Republic. Why must Italy be the last country to understand the new state of affairs in the Far East and to establish normal relations with the great, free Chinese people?

Finally, as regards relations with the Soviet Union. A few months ago the Supreme Soviet of the USSR extended an invitation to the parliaments of all European and other states to send delegations to the Soviet Union with the object of establishing contacts, mutual understanding and co-operation. In response to this invitation the parliamentary delegations of a number of big European states have already visited the Soviet Union.

In Italy the authorities have ignored this invitation. Nothing has been said about it, nothing is being said about it. They are afraid to talk about it. They are afraid to make a single gesture of rapprochement with the great land of Socialism.

### III.

Reactionary groups are predominant in the country; important questions that need to be decided in the interests of the people remain unsettled. Compared with previous years, unemployment in these past weeks has reached the highest point yet. Whole branches of our industry are in the grip of a grave crisis. And the crisis has spread to agriculture as well. Everywhere, in industry and on the fields, relations between employers and workers, and, similarly, between workers and government authorities, are strained. Sometimes they even show a tendency to grow worse, for there is becoming manifest, on the one hand, an open and hidden desire to undermine, to restrict or suppress the elementary freedoms of citizens and, on the other hand, the resistance and struggle of those who want their liberty to be guaranteed for all time. Thus, at the very moment when international tension is going through a process of relaxation, in Italy the threat of tension being preserved continues to hang over us, a threat that remains grave.

But is there any connection between the détente developing in international relations and the political situation within a country—ours, for instance? And if there is, what sort of connection ought it to be? We have to go into this question not only because it is a very important one, but also because we must answer some of the questions that have been and are repeatedly being raised in regard to this. We must do this in order to clarify the matter.

The most reactionary groups, for instance, have begun to say that the day a true relaxation of international tension is achieved will necessarily mark the end of the Communist movement and of that Socialist movement which refuses to submit itself to the control of reactionary parties and groups. The Communist Parties, it has been said, will first of all have to break the bonds between them; the prestige of the socialist countries and their influence upon the broad masses of working people in the Western world, in all the countries



# Congress of Communist Party of Uruguay

The Communist Party of Uruguay held its Sixteenth Congress in Montevideo from September 30 to October 5. The Congress discussed the following questions:

1. Report of the National Committee on the activity of the Party, the tasks in the struggle for peace, national liberation, democracy, the well-being of the workers and peasants and the strengthening and development of the Party (given by Comrade Rodney Arismendi, General Secretary).
  2. Report of the Control Commission.
  3. Convening a special Congress of the Party to give final consideration to the Party Programme and Rules.
  4. Election of National Committee.
- The Congress was held in the midst of a struggle for preserving the purity of

Marxist-Leninist theory, for raising the ideological and political level of Party members and eliminating the consequences of the incorrect line followed by the fractional grouping led by Gomez, whose members have now been expelled from the Party. The people of Uruguay displayed keen interest in the Congress.

Attending the Congress were 200 delegates from Party organisations all over the country. Telegrams of greeting were read out from the Communist and Workers' Parties of the Soviet Union, China, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Korea, Italy, the United States, France, Argentina, Britain and many other countries. The greetings from the Central Committee of the CPSU, hailed with prolonged and tumultuous applause, read:

## "TO THE SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY"

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends its fraternal greetings to the Sixteenth Congress of the Communist Party of Uruguay. We wish the Communist Party of Uruguay success in its efforts to strengthen its ranks and in the struggle for the unity of the working class, for peace, national independence and the vital interests of the Uruguayan people.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

Fraternal delegates from the Communist Parties of Brazil, Chile and Spain addressed the Congress. The Congress elected a new National Committee of the Party.

2. Report of the Central Auditing Commission—Comrade Guinã Nicolae.

3. Report on Directives of the Second Congress for the Second Five-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy (1956-1960)—Comrade Chivu Stoica.

4. Report on Amendments to the Rules of the RWP—Comrade Ceausescu Nicolae.

5. Elections to the Central Party bodies. The meeting worked out practical measures for successfully completing the autumn field work this year.

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The resolution of the Central Committee's Political Commission and the editorial of the paper both point out that this is a big step forward and an important victory not only for the Communist Party of Mexico but for the entire working class and the people of the country. Within the last three years the newspaper has become larger and its circulation has increased.

# Guatemalans Will Not be Forced to Their Knees!

(Letter from Guatemala)

When the dictatorship of Castillo Armas, minion of the United Fruit Company and the big latifundists, was established in our country more than a year ago, there began a dark period in the history of Guatemala. The quetzal, the proud bird that symbolizes Guatemalan liberties, cannot be made to serve as the emblem of the tyrannical regime imposed upon our people with the aid of the bayonet. Today the men who have benefited from the Armas regime—foreign and local exploiters of all kinds who resemble the "adroit flies learned in tyranny" of which Pablo Neruda wrote—are greedily sucking the blood of the working people of Guatemala.

The gains won by the Guatemalan working people under the democratic regime have been buried to the accompaniment of gun-fire.

Brutal repression, massacres, the "preventive" imprisonment of tens of thousands of people—these are what the venal Castillo Armas clique, which sees a potential enemy in every son of the people, has brought the Guatemalans. By means of terror and repression the Government seeks to stifle the indignation with which the people react to each of its anti-democratic and anti-national measures.

As a result of the repressive measures taken by the employers and the police, thousands of workers have been discharged from state and private enterprises since July 1954, bringing the total number of unemployed in the country up to more than 30,000. For those workers who were lucky enough to keep their jobs, the Government has cancelled payment for overtime, lengthened the working day and drastically cut wages. Describing this situation, the U.S. journalist Carleton Beals recently wrote: "General unemployment and the destruction of labor unions have depressed wages from the approximate dollar a day achieved in recent years toward the 15 cent level prevailing under the Ubico dictatorship... At the same time, inflation and food shortages have sky-rocketed living costs..."

In the countryside "anti-Communist" repression has taken the form, primarily, of throwing the peasants off the land en masse and forcibly expropriating the plots of land received by thousands of farm labourers under the agrarian reform law introduced by the democratic government, and also of a sharp worsening of their material position.

The difficult conditions of the greater part of the population are becoming aggravated, more and more, as a result of the constantly rising prices of prime necessities. On top of this, the Castillo Armas clique is forcing the people to pay a "liberation tax" totalling 6,500,000 quetzales, the whole burden of which falls on the shoulders of the working people.

In the course of this year a drop in the price of coffee on the world market, brought about by the big U.S. monopolies, has aggravated the already critical situation in our country. This drop is having a grave effect upon our entire economy, since coffee accounts for more than 75% of the value of the country's total exports.

Although ever-wider sections of the Guatemalan public are demanding the expansion of our foreign trade without any discrimination, the Government has this June signed a decree strictly prohibiting trade with the countries of the socialist camp. This reactionary policy, that deprives our country of any possibility of putting its economy on a sounder footing, colours all the activities of the dictatorial cabinet. Under the pretext of "a struggle against Communism", Castillo Armas and his hirelings have banned the legal activity of political parties, workers' and peasants' organisations, cultural centres and so on.

The suffocating atmosphere created by these inquisitorial measures widens the chasm between the Government and the people. And whenever the Government tries to pretend that it expresses the interests of the people, its attempts fail miserably. That is what happened, for example, at the time of the so-called elections, when, despite the

many forms of compulsion employed, the bulk of the electors followed the suggestion of the progressive forces and boycotted the elections.

Our people, headed by the battle-stepped Guatemalan Party of Labour and other democratic forces, do not surrender. This is evidenced by the protest demonstrations against the Government's concessions to the United Fruit Company, by the anti-imperialist slogans which frequently appear on the walls of houses, by the militant actions of the working people and their growing struggle to win their vital demands. It is also evidenced by the growing campaign for the liberation of Bernardo Alvarado Monzón, General Secretary of the C.C. of the Guatemalan Party of Labour, who was recently arrested by Castillo Armas' hirelings, and of all the other patriots now languishing in gaol.

Our people look with profound hope to the Guatemalan Party of Labour, which urges them to fight vigorously against the anti-national and anti-democratic Government of Castillo Armas and for a programme of national salvation. This programme calls for the release of all political prisoners, for the cessation of repressive measures, discharging of workers and eviction of peasants from the land, and the abolition of unemployment; for struggle against sharply rising prices and profiteering and the domination of foreign capital, for a reduction in the price of coffee, and against a policy leading to devaluation of the national currency; it calls for trade without discrimination and for the active defence of world peace.

Such, at the present moment, is the foundation on which the national unity of our people is being built—the unity indispensable for victory. The growing solidarity of the peoples of other countries, and above all of Latin America, with our patriotic struggle, gives a powerful impetus to the Guatemalan people in their efforts to achieve democracy, peace and national independence.

Lorenzo GALVEZ  
Guatemala, September

the world, we, as Communists and fighters for peace, have made a considerable contribution to the battle for the changes now taking place on the world scene. Millions upon tens of millions of men and women listened to and understood the words of those who fought in defence of peace, of those who denounced the elements preparing ugly adventures against the human race. This has occurred not only in Italy, but throughout the world.

We do not forget, however, that while this new orientation of public opinion was maturing, an orientation to which we, as the vanguard of the working class, made a powerful contribution, a conscious force came to the fore, a force which paved the way to the new, the present changes in the international situation. This conscious force is the great socialist state, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; it is the Chinese People's Republic, the democratic states of Eastern Europe. The leaders in these countries were able to do everything necessary to make it possible to take concrete steps along the path of easing world tension, the path of a new international policy of peace, and to advance along it. When it appeared that all paths were closed, then the leaders of the great Soviet Union, of the Chinese People's Republic and the democratic countries in Eastern Europe put forward fresh and decisive proposals for a détente, co-operation and peace.

It was thanks to this that the Austrian State Treaty was concluded, creating a neutral zone in Europe, a highly important factor for security. It was thanks to this that it became possible to liquidate the strained relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. Thanks to this, too, the leaders of the Indian people were able to establish closer relations with the leaders of the Soviet Union and other countries raising an authoritative voice in defence of the policy of peace. And, finally, a few days ago, direct diplomatic relations were established between Western Germany—which is still a member of an aggressive imperialist-military bloc—and the Soviet Union. The leaders of these two big countries also found the path to rapprochement. This new fact profoundly changes the general situation in Europe and creates a new area of contact and mutual understanding between the peoples, a new area which will undoubtedly be extended through the solution of grave problems, problems which have to be solved in the interests of peace and of Europe.

We, as representatives of the Italian people, feel we must express our gratitude for what the leaders of the Soviet Union, People's China and the democratic countries of Eastern Europe have done to achieve this end. They have once again proved to the peoples that a country that is no longer capitalist, that is marching along the path of Socialism, is, by its very nature, a country that defends the interests of peace, one that is always prepared to establish mutual understanding and co-operation with all peoples, including those who still live under a different system, since a difference in systems cannot, and should not, preclude coexistence and co-operation.

What, in fact, is the significance of what has taken place? The beginning of the end of a great fear that has clutched at people's hearts and held them in its grip; the beginning of a great hope and of a great change in the methods of international politics, which in the past few years have been based on the "positions of strength" policy, on intimidation and fear. By creating ever new barriers between the peoples, these methods have made the danger of new armed conflicts a real one.

Behind the change that has begun is a recognition of the fact of the existence and the advance of Socialism in

\* From a speech at the L'Unita National Festival in Genoa on September 18, 1955.

of Europe and the colonial countries, the working people of even the most developed capitalist countries have everything to learn from the experience accumulated in the countries where the working people have at last become free, as these hold the power, decide the destiny of their nation and lead it along the path of progress and freedom. It is therefore essential that the change that has taken place in the international situation not only should not be allowed to come to nothing; it must be consolidated, extended and made permanent. To achieve this requires serious work not only from the Communists and Socialists, but also from all honest democrats, all who are the friends of progress and peace.

## II.

Since the triumph of the October Revolution, the victory over fascist Germany, the establishment of the people's-democratic system in the countries of Eastern Europe, and the victory of the people's revolution in China, our cause has not as yet achieved so great a victory, there has been no such outstanding advance by our vanguard—which throughout the world is fighting for freedom, fraternity among peoples and for peace.

But what part is our homeland, Italy, playing in this great process of relaxing international tension? It is with profound regret that we must say that as yet it is taking no part in it at all. Of all the big parties in our country, it is only the left-wing parties—the Communist and Socialist Parties—that have shown that they understand what is happening in the world and are ready to make their contribution so that further progress is made in the matter of relaxing world tension and of peace. Nothing new has so far been observed in other parties.

It is true that outside the left-wing parties there are also people who understand these new facts. From time to time one can come across the grudging recognition of these facts in the press. But organised efforts are actually being made to keep the Italian public in ignorance, to render it indifferent, even hostile to the great success of the international détente and co-operation that have begun to develop. And this is happening, despite the fact that it is in the interests of Italy—a country which has not yet completed its reconstruction and has still to resolve basic problems, for which the resolute mobilisation of huge material and moral forces is necessary—that there be a long period of peace, so that thousands of billions of lire no longer go on military needs, that a new atmosphere of mutual understanding among all the working people be created within the country and that our national independence no longer be trampled underfoot by big foreign powers.

The facts are that our country is still too much under the heavy heel of foreign and domestic reactionary elements, who are inimical to and oppose a consistent peaceable policy. It is not for nothing that at a time when the first steps were being made to relieve international tension the leaders of the Christian Democratic Party began to occupy themselves exclusively with "purging" their party of people who, along with our friends, had joined the ranks of those demanding peace, the relaxation of international tension and co-operation among all peoples. Perhaps, in doing so, the leaders of the Christian Democratic Party wanted to demonstrate their intention to hold aloof from the developing détente and remain hostile to it? If this was their aim, they have attained it. Undoubtedly our Government, in which this party forms the major and dominant part, has so far not only given no sign of supporting the détente and of being prepared to contribute to it, but has, on the contrary, made certain overt moves against it. It is precisely thus that we should evaluate the fact that, at a moment when foreign troops, who had been occupying Austria since the end of the last war, began to withdraw from it, at a moment when the Soviet

citizens and, on the other hand, the resistance and struggle of those who want their liberty to be guaranteed for all time. Thus, at the very moment when international tension is going through a process of relaxation, in Italy the threat of tension being preserved continues to hang over us, a threat that remains grave.

But is there any connection between the détente developing in international relations and the political situation within a country—ours, for instance? And if there is, what sort of connection ought it to be? We have to go into this question not only because it is a very important one, but also because we must answer some of the questions that have been and are repeatedly being raised in regard to this. We must do this in order to clarify the matter.

The most reactionary groups, for instance, have begun to say that the day a true relaxation of international tension is achieved will necessarily mark the end of the Communist movement and of that Socialist movement which refuses to submit itself to the control of reactionary parties and groups. The Communist Parties, it has been said, will first of all have to break the bonds between them; the prestige of the socialist countries and their influence upon the broad masses of working people in the Western world, in all the capitalist countries, will have to disappear, and so on. Then, presumably, a new era will begin and there will no longer be any talk about Communists. But how can they imagine this would happen, when relaxation of international tension signifies the triumph of that policy of coexistence and peace that none other than the socialist countries have been proclaiming and upholding throughout their entire existence?

Only some few days ago Signor Fanfani, Secretary of the Christian Democratic Party, went to Western Germany to attend a broad meeting of representatives of analogous parties from the whole of Western Europe. Its participants included political leaders in the parliamentary opposition in their countries and political leaders who are members of governments and direct those governments. They discussed policy and mapped out the lines to be followed by the individual parties, lines which in Italy Fanfani, too, will follow in his concrete activity. And so I, who am every bit as much an Italian citizen as Fanfani, and the Secretary of the Italian Communist Party—have I or have I not the same rights as Fanfani? Are the parties of the working class and the working people as worthy as any other party or are they not? Therefore do they or do they not have the right to establish among themselves all those ties which the Liberals, the Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats and others establish among themselves in order to co-ordinate their activities or, at least, to discuss their affairs?

But this same Signor Fanfani has thought out a still more curious thing. He has discovered just who the Communists and Socialists are, who do not wish to follow the orders of the ruling party, just who are those working people with more advanced political and social ideas. Do you know who they are? They are parachutists who are dropped all over the world, and especially into our country, by the Soviet Union. In other words, two and a half million, and perhaps even more, parachutists have been dropped amongst us! These parachute jumpers began to land on our territory not only a few years ago but also a few decades ago, even before the victory of the October Revolution and the coming to power of the working class of the Soviet Union. They descended upon cities and fields in all the regions of Italy, kindled the flame of social demands in the hearts of the working people, set up our first trade union and political organisations and earned the love of all working people as pioneers of a great movement and heralds of the triumph of a new world.

(Continued on page 4)



# Communist Party of Japan Fights to Strengthen the Unity and Solidarity of Its Ranks

Akahata—Central Organ of the Communist Party of Japan

The Communist Party of Japan, representing the interests of the working class and the whole nation, is waging an unceasing struggle for the liberation of its country from the occupation regime and for an independent, peaceful, democratic and free Japan. The resolutions adopted by the VIII National Conference of the Party, published in Akahata, on "The Activities of the Party and its Immediate Tasks" and on "The Unity of the Party" have immense significance for the still greater intensification of the struggle and the reinforcement of the unity and cohesion of the Party ranks. They draw general conclusions from the experience accumulated by the Party, boldly bring to light the errors and weaknesses in its activities and outline effective measures for broadening the Party's links with the masses and transforming it into a strong, united and closely-knit party.

Four years ago the Communist Party of Japan adopted its new programme which, like a powerful searchlight, illumines the Party's and the people's path of struggle. Guided by this programme, the Communist Party rallies the broad masses for the fight for national independence, against rearmament, and the reactionary law on so-called "subversive activities", for the release of convicted patriots, for the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, the prohibition of atomic weapons and the defence of peace. The Party has begun to overcome the differences within its ranks, to consolidate its political and organisational unity and broaden its connections with the masses.

As was underlined at the National Conference, however, the Communist Party is still far from being up to the level of the demands made on it by the situation that has developed. To a great extent this is explained by the grave errors and shortcomings of the Party. Exactly what are these?

The National Conference pinpointed, first of all, the errors in the work of strengthening the Party's unity. The VII Party Conference in 1951 decided to eradicate the differences within the Party and restore the unity of its ranks. These decisions pointed to the necessity of giving all-round help to all comrades who acknowledged the new programme and were striving to re-establish the unity of the Party. The VIII National Conference recognised that the Party's Central Executive Board had not thoroughly carried out these decisions and had been unable to fully cement the unity of the entire Party. The result was that many honest comrades, who wholeheartedly supported the new programme and wanted to return to the Party, found themselves in an abnormal situation.

Grave mistakes were also made on a number of tactical questions. In assessing the country's internal political situation, the Party overestimated its own forces and underrated those of the enemy. This caused the Party to direct its main forces along an erroneous path. These mistakes in tactics, undermined its prestige among the masses and greatly impeded the work of rallying all forces of the people into a united national liberation democratic front.

Despite the people's growing dissatisfaction, the Party failed to strengthen its links with the masses and organise them for struggle around the new programme. This was due to deeply-rooted sectarianism. Mistakes of a sectarian nature were made in relation to the trade unions (for instance, the establishment of unity com-

mands on the masses, demands that are not in keeping with the situation. As a result of these mistakes there arose a danger of the Party becoming alienated and isolated from the masses.

Even before the National Conference, the Party had already begun to rectify its errors. Only the first steps in this direction have been made, however. The National Conference urged all Party members to set about rectifying the mistakes that had been made and showed the way to improve the Party's work.

In its decisions the Conference stressed that the Party's main line remains that



of continuing, on the basis of the new programme, the struggle for uniting the people in order to achieve national independence and establish a democratic, peaceable Japan. The present international situation and the growing desire among the broadest sections of the Japanese people for national independence and for unity of their forces are factors conducive to the success of this just fight. In order to implement the new programme, as the Conference resolutions state, the Party's task is to ideologically win over the majority of the working class to its side, achieve its class unity, assume leadership of the peasantry, strengthen the alliance between the working class and the peasantry and, on this basis, to unite all patriotic, progressive forces into a united front.

Summing up the experience that has been accumulated and drawing lessons from the mistakes that have been made, the Conference formulated the main tasks in the struggle to establish a united national liberation democratic front. These are:

The united national liberation democratic front cannot arise spontaneously; the united front can only be established through sustained and persistent political and organisational work by the Party among the broad masses. The basis for establishing this front, therefore, is above all a strong Party and better Party work among the masses.

The united national liberation democratic front signifies the uniting of all progressive forces in favour of national independence and democracy, irrespective of any divergence of views on individual questions of ideology, politics and religious beliefs. The Party must, therefore, seek for unity on the basis of common demands, leaving aside for a time questions on which views differ and upon which unity cannot be reached immediately. These common demands must be extended and raised to a new plane as conditions and the situation change.

While working for a broader united national liberation democratic front, the Party must not allow itself to be dissolved in this front, but must always conduct independent work among the masses. In order to gradually widen out the general questions of struggle, it must reserve to itself the right of free criticism, which is essential for strengthening the cohesion of the united front. On the basis of the new programme, the Party must constantly conduct independent political propaganda among the masses for the establishment of a peace-

must be taken into account. Hence, the Party must have close contact with the masses, it must support their immediate and vital demands, organise their activities and thus, step by step, convince them that the Party's programme is correct, raise their ideological level and lead them to unity.

The Conference resolutions point the way to winning over the trade unions, the peasant masses and youth and to strengthening the Party's work among the intellectuals and women; they outline the principles to be followed in relations with other parties. The Party, emphasizes the resolution on "The Activities of the Party and its Immediate Tasks", must fight for the establishment of a worker-peasant alliance, conducting vigorous activity among the workers and combating the petty-bourgeois ideology of collaboration which still firmly persists among the working class; it must imbue the working class with a correct, revolutionary ideology.

The National Conference gave much of its attention to questions of Party building, of achieving unity and cohesion within the Party ranks. It stressed the need for remedying the low level of Marxist-Leninist training of Party members and overcoming the Party's ideological weakness. Practically all the Party's major errors in the past stemmed from this weakness. All Party members, from the leaders to the rank-and-file members, must make the systematic study of Marxist-Leninist theory one of their main tasks, emphasize the resolutions.

Under present conditions in Japan the Party is able to act openly. That is why the Conference urged Party organisations to increase their legal activities to the utmost and improve agitation and propaganda—all of which is of great importance in strengthening ties with the masses.

At the same time the Conference called on Party members to enhance their vigilance. The Conference found that a careful review of the Party's ranks was necessary and urged members to take active steps to draw staunch people from among the workers into the Party. This would make it possible to increase the proportion of workers in Party organisations and to heighten the militancy of these organisations.

The resolutions strongly emphasize the fact that one of the most important ways of strengthening the Party is strict adherence to the Leninist standards of Party life: thorough observance of the Party Rules, and the principles of democratic centralism; development of business-like and principled criticism and self-criticism; elimination of the cult of the individual; implementation of collective leadership in all Party bodies. It is most essential, reads the resolution on "The Activities of the Party and its Immediate Tasks", that we knit together the central leading core of the Party by observance of the principle of collective leadership. It is not on personal prestige that we should rely, but on the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism and on the collective experience of the entire Central Committee, drawing extensively on the experience and abilities of Party cadres. It is only in this way that we can ensure rectification of our former mistakes, ensure correct leadership of the Party, strengthen the unity and solidarity of its ranks and improve its entire work.

Akahata gives wide publicity to the resolutions of the National Conference and the demands made by the draft of the new Party Rules, which the Con-

## West German Population Demands Ban on Atomic Weapons

Peace fighters in Western Germany are actively carrying on the campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal. At the gates of one of the factories in Pullach, near Munich, for example, signature collectors distributed leaflets among the workers calling upon them to sign the Appeal. In spite of police interference, more than 100 of them did so. Great success has been achieved by collectors in the commune of St. Ilgen, near Heidelberg, where 900 of the inhabitants have signed.

At a meeting of young trade unionists in Duisburg at which the film "Children of Hiroshima" was shown, those present demanded the banning of atomic weapons. This film was described by Wolfgang Linka, a youth organiser of the Trade Union Federation in Duisburg, as a call to people of good will all over the world to sign the Appeal.

## Latin American Writers Oppose Atomic War Preparations

A statement against atomic war preparations and in support of the Vienna Appeal, signed by many novelists, poets, playwrights, essayists and critics, is being widely circulated in Latin America. In Brazil it has been signed by some 50 writers of different political views and convictions, among them members of the Brazilian Academy of Philology and heads of cultural societies. It also bears the signatures of outstanding literary figures of Ecuador, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, Paraguay, Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua, Haiti and of writers who have had to flee from Guatemala.

The statement reads:

"We Latin American writers are deeply disturbed by the reports of preparations for atomic warfare, which would bring untold suffering to the peoples...

"We also know that the situation that has arisen from the threat of atomic war makes for a heightening of the pressure being brought to bear on the Latin American countries and facilitates attacks upon their sovereignty, their liberties, well-being and national culture.

"That is why we urge all Latin American writers, all artists and scientists, all teachers and other intellectuals to join us in signing the Appeal of the World Peace Council."

## Singapore Transport Workers Strike

On September 27, 2,800 tram drivers, conductors and other employees of the Singapore Transport Company struck work for higher wages and better working conditions.

As many as 409 of the company's trams and buses are standing idle. The workers of 12 other autobus companies serving the suburbs are giving the strikers moral and material support.

While the thoughts of all peace-loving peoples, the American people included, turn to the struggle to reduce armaments and ban the means of mass destruction, U.S. Major General Creasy, in articles which are featured in certain U.S. newspapers, is continually urging the use of biological weapons for the mass extermination of human beings.

(Press item)



CO-AUTHORS

Drawing by J. Novak

## POLITICAL NOTES

# Colonisers Up to Their Tricks Again in South-East Asia

The recent meeting of SEATO military and civil experts in Manila justifiably aroused anxiety among the broad public in Asia. It spent its time drawing up plans for suppressing the national liberation movements in South-East Asia, for direct interference in the domestic affairs of the countries of this area.

The meeting is over, but the anxiety has not died down. Barely a week later there was a meeting of representatives of the ANZUS member-states—a regional military bloc comprising as it does the U.S.A., Australia and New Zealand—this time in Washington. The questions discussed had nothing in common with relaxation of international tension and the strengthening of confidence among states. It soon leaked out that the ANZUS representatives had gathered in Washington to facilitate the building up of forces and the strengthening of the system of Pacific military measures. The speakers indulged in any amount of demagogic verbiage about combating "subversive activities", in the effort to cover up their real aggressive intentions somehow or other. Even *The New York Times* considered it necessary to stress, however, that they had not gone to Washington solely for the

question of Pakistan's part in "defence measures" in South-East Asia. And at precisely the same time the Pakistan reactionary newspapers were extolling Pakistan's action in joining the military Iraq-Turkey pact, depicting it as a "manifestation of the supreme excellence of the foreign policy" of Pakistan.

Foreign press agencies also reported that the SEATO military advisers had assembled in Karachi in order to outline measures for "heightening the efficiency" of this military bloc, to "put some sharper teeth" into the SEATO pact and to take steps to draw into it Ngo Dinh Diem's clique in South Viet Nam.

The communique issued on September 30 at the close of this six-day conference stated outright that special attention had been given to the search for ways and means to hold joint military manoeuvres and to arrange for the reciprocal use of military training bases on the NATO pattern.

Most illustrative is the fact that just at that particular time it had been arranged for U.S. military brass hats to inspect U.S. bases and strategic areas of the SEATO



comrades, who wholeheartedly supported the new programme and wanted to return to the Party, found themselves in an abnormal situation.

Grave mistakes were also made on a number of tactical questions. In assessing the country's internal political situation, the Party overestimated its own forces and underrated those of the enemy. This caused the Party to direct its main forces along an erroneous path. These mistakes in tactics undermined its prestige among the masses and greatly impeded the work of rallying all forces of the people into a united national liberation democratic front.

Despite the people's growing dissatisfaction, the Party failed to strengthen its links with the masses and organise them for struggle around the new programme. This was due to deeply-rooted sectarianism. Mistakes of a sectarian nature were made in relation to the trade unions (for instance, the establishment of unity committees of Communists and their sympathisers within the unions) and in the work among peasants and intellectuals.

The Party failed to use such a tried and tested method as struggle for the day-to-day demands advanced by the masses themselves to organise broad sections of the Japanese people. Nor has it yet overcome the tendency to impose political de-

divergence of views on individual questions of ideology, politics and religious beliefs. The Party must, therefore, seek for unity on the basis of common demands, leaving aside for a time questions on which views differ and upon which unity cannot be reached immediately. These common demands must be extended and raised to a new plane as conditions and the situation change.

While working for a broader united national liberation democratic front, the Party must not allow itself to be dissolved in this front, but must always conduct independent work among the masses. In order to gradually widen out the general questions of struggle, it must reserve to itself the right of free criticism, which is essential for strengthening the cohesion of the united front. On the basis of the new programme, the Party must constantly conduct independent political propaganda among the masses for the establishment of a peace-loving, independent and democratic Japan. It is only in this way that the development of the Party and the united front can be properly combined.

In working to raise the ideological level of the masses and win them over ideologically to the Party, the political experience of the masses and their conditions

centralism; development of business-like and principled criticism and self-criticism; elimination of the cult of the individual; implementation of collective leadership in all Party bodies. It is most essential, reads the resolution on "The Activities of the Party and its Immediate Tasks", that we knit together the central leading core of the Party by observance of the principle of collective leadership. It is not on personal prestige that we should rely, but on the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism and on the collective experience of the entire Central Committee, drawing extensively on the experience and abilities of Party cadres. It is only in this way that we can ensure rectification of our former mistakes, ensure correct leadership of the Party, strengthen the unity and solidarity of its ranks and improve its entire work.

Akahata gives wide publicity to the resolutions of the National Conference and the demands made by the draft of the new Party Rules, which the Conference has approved. It shows the efforts Japanese Communists are making to carry out the Conference resolutions, to transform their Party into a really mass and cohesive Party of the working class, one capable of uniting all the sound, progressive and patriotic forces of Japan into a united national liberation democratic front and of fulfilling its programme.

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## Singapore Transport Workers Strike

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Within only five months of this year—between mid-April and mid-September—there were 213 strikes in Singapore, whereas during the whole of the previous two years there were only 14.

## IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

### Terror in Kenya

In an attempt to suppress the growing national liberation movement in Kenya, British troops are increasing their brutal repressive measures against the Africans. The British command in Nairobi reports that since the introduction of a state of emergency in October 1952 about 10,000 Africans have been killed in Kenya.

This July the so-called "security troops" killed 213 people. Bloody repressions and murders continued throughout August. Hundreds of "suspects" were "detained" for questioning. Within a single week in September, 58 Kenyan patriots were slain.

At present there are 83,000 people languishing in the prisons and concentration camps of Kenya, guarded by 14,300 warders. The colonial authorities are making an additional allocation of hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling "for the needs of prison administration".

## FACTS EXPOSE...

### "Generosity" of Oil Kings

The heads of the International Oil Consortium recently doubled the wages of their workers in the Khuzistan oilfields of Iran. This "generosity" of the oil kings greatly surprised the workers, but the consortium's motives became clear immediately afterwards, when the price of rice and other necessities went up from three to five times. Rents were also raised. Thus 30,000 oil workers, not to mention tens of thousands of other Abadan residents, suffered as a result of this "generosity".

### A Corner of the "Free World"

According to the Brazilian *Jornal do Povo* peasants are still being openly sold to big latifundists in the states of Minas Gerais and Goiás, the custom also being widespread in the town of Patos, round Belo Horizonte and in other places.

## Significance of Relaxation of International Tension

(Continued from page 3)

The October Revolution, the victory of Socialism in the Soviet Union and the fact that a number of other countries have taken the same road and are advancing along it set a great example to the workers and the working people of the whole world. It is an example that can neither be forgotten, crossed out nor minimised. The experience gained in building Socialism in the USSR is experience gained in the interests of the working people, in the interests of the peoples of all Europe and the whole world. That is why we and all who stand for the profound socialist transformation of our society cannot but look in that direction, just as in the past those who wanted a liberal national revolution in our country looked to the countries where such a revolution had already been victorious. These are elementary things that everyone should be able to understand; there is nothing about them that can offend anyone. It is equally clear, elementary and self-evident that when speaking of Italian problems we examine and discuss them solely on the basis of a consideration of the conditions obtaining in our country, of the living conditions of our working class, our working people, and settle them solely in the interests of our country. We have proved this by all our activity, by the whole life of our Party and the life of each Communist. We know that in the great movement that is now impelling the whole civilised world towards Socialism, each country goes forward with its own peculiar features and can therefore advance in a different manner from others. Far from denying these peculiarities, we seek to understand them to the full and to take them into account so as to be able to be the party that is the most thoroughly imbued with socialist ideas—and at the same time the most Italian—of all the parties that ever existed in our country.

Fanfani may have spoken in jest, but there are others who seriously think it

possible to assert that consolidation of the détente means that the Communist and Socialist movement has to retreat, that it has to allow itself to be swept aside, and that it has even to abandon some of its positions. They say, for example, that so-called "free elections" have to be organised in the People's Democracies. These should be like the elections conducted by Scelba, with some sort of fraudulent electoral law, with the use of those methods of intimidation and corruption to which the privileged sections resort in order to prevent the people from giving free expression at the ballot boxes to their desire for a new and better world. Clearly, such things can be said only for the purpose of sowing confusion, only for purposes of provocation.

But there are also those who declare that there will no longer be any necessity to talk of revolutions, that there should no longer be any revolutionary movements—and all this will be the result, presumably, of the relaxation of international tension. I hold that these opinions, too, are wholly erroneous. Revolutions are not decided and not brought about by individuals, nor even by any single party. They are profound upheavals produced by the inevitable operation of the laws of social development, when the prolonged rule of reactionary forces blocks the path of economic and political progress to the masses.

When this is due to happen in any part of the world no one can prevent the masses, if they have a vanguard party at their head and constitute the majority of the nation, from destroying these obstacles and marching forward. But the peoples' paths of civil and political progress are varied and numerous.

How do things stand in this regard in Italy? Despite everything, a certain revolution has, in actual fact, taken place in Italy. It was brought about in the years when, with arms in hand, we rose against foreign invaders, when the workers, peasants, democrats and intellectuals with more progressive ideas took their place at

the head of the entire nation and led it to the conquest of its freedom and independence. As a result, the politically conscious and advanced forces of Italian democracy opened a way for themselves, a way charted in the Republic's Constitution, born of that historic victory and of the popular elections and approved by an Assembly made up of representatives of the entire nation.

Relaxation of international tension cannot be a process isolated from what is going on in the individual countries, and in ours in particular. In the sphere of international relations a détente means the end of the "cold war". The same thing should happen within the individual countries; the same thing should happen in Italy.

Or perhaps we think that our domestic problems should be settled at international conferences? One would not even dream of this. On the contrary, one of the conclusions which follows from the new situation is that our national independence has to be defended even more zealously and restored in full. Our problems have to be examined and solved by us Italians, on the basis of the conviction that the end of the "cold war" within the country accords with our vital interests.

★

What, then, does the end of the "cold war" mean for our country? It means the establishment of international relations based on peace and co-operation with all peoples, the resumption of close relations—both economic and cultural—with all the countries of the world; within the country it means, first and foremost, observance of the letter and the spirit of the Constitution of the Republic. It means, hence, a return to the atmosphere of the great victory we won when we freed our country from fascist tyranny; it means the development of all aspects of that victory, which have intentionally been recorded in our Constitution and which indicate to the Italian people the path of political, civil and social progress.

Now a new path has been opened up in the world. Italy can and must take that path. By relying on the strength and unity of the working masses, we can see to it that she does.

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The Asian peoples were no less worried by the Karachi conference of 35 high-ranking officers of the SEATO countries, two days after the Washington meeting of ANZUS members. As United Press reported, military advisers from the U.S.A., Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan held behind closed doors at a training base of the Pakistan air force. Officials who went to Karachi were unwilling to say anything about the object of their visit to Pakistan's capital.

The United Press correspondent reported, nevertheless, that the military meeting in Karachi gave special attention to the

policy" of Foreign press agencies also reported that the SEATO military advisers had assembled in Karachi in order to outline measures for "heightening the efficiency" of this military bloc, to "put some sharper teeth" into the SEATO pact and to take steps to draw into it Ngo Dinh Diem's clique in South Viet Nam.

The communique issued on September 30 at the close of this six-day conference stated outright that special attention had been given to the search for ways and means to hold joint military manoeuvres and to arrange for the reciprocal use of military training bases on the NATO pattern.

Most illustrative is the fact that just at that particular time it had been arranged for U.S. military brass hats to inspect U.S. bases and strategic areas of the SEATO member-countries. Lieutenant-General Bruce Clark, chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific, went off to Manila, while Rear-Admiral Dudley, Commander of the U.S. Navy in the Middle East, turned up in Karachi on a "visit"...

All these "meetings" and visits of inspection are intended to aggravate the situation, to sow confusion and undermine the unity achieved by the Asian countries at the Bandung Conference. Deliberately closing their eyes to reality and ignoring the vital interests of the peoples in South-East Asia, who are fighting for their national independence, peace and security, certain elements of the colonial powers persist in their bankrupt "positions of strength" policy, hoping thereby to prevent the solution of international problems in the spirit of Geneva.

Jan MAREK

## In Defence of Victims of Legal Outrages in Iran

Brutal legal and police outrages against patriots and democrats continue in Iran. In the past few months 27 army officers have been shot by verdict of courts-martial. In the same period 192 other officers have been condemned to life imprisonment, 190 given 15-year sentences, 78 given 10 years and 7 sentenced for 8 years.

A new wave of terror swept through the country in August. A few weeks later, Dr. Morteza Yazdi, one of the founders of the People's Party of Iran and a member of the Political Bureau of its C.C., was sentenced to death. Dr. Yazdi is a well-known surgeon, ex-Minister of Public Health and a professor at Teheran University. The only charge brought against him is one of fidelity to his party and tireless activity for national independence, peace and democracy. He was "tried" in camera by a military tribunal. None of the juridical standards were observed and he was given no facilities for defence. Immediately after his arrest Dr. Yazdi was subjected to torture so savage that after a few days his whole appearance was changed beyond recognition.

The C.C. of the People's Party of Iran has issued an appeal to all democratic parties and organisations throughout the world to exert every effort to save the life of Dr. Morteza Yazdi, worthy son of the Iranian people.

The latest reports from Iran indicate that many other Iranian patriots have also fallen victim to the tyranny of the courts and the police. Comrade Sarvat Sharmini, member

of the C.C. of the People's Party, is undergoing brutal torture. Comrade Galoost Zakharian, member of the Teheran regional committee of the People's Party, is reported to have died in prison under horrible torture. The General Prosecutor has demanded the death penalty for 14 leaders of the People's Youth Organisation.

The newspaper *Etelaat* recently reported that another 72 officers had been condemned to death but that their sentences were subsequently commuted to life imprisonment. At present thousands of imprisoned Iranian patriots stand in the shadow of death in the terrible concentration camps on the islands of the Persian Gulf, in the military prison of the Teheran Second Armoured Division and in the prisons of Ghezal Ghaheh and Ghasr. They are gradually being exterminated. Brutal torture has become a commonplace in these prisons.

The execution of Iranian officers and the legal and police outrages against the country's patriots are arousing deep indignation among broad sections of Iranian and world democratic opinion. Progressive circles in many countries are emphatically protesting against this monstrous persecution, against the brutal repression and unlawful trials of Iranian democrats who are fighting for the independence and happiness of their country. Peace-loving people who condemn the inhuman actions of the Iranian reactionaries are raising their voices in ever-louder protest.

## EDITORIAL BOARD