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COMMON ASPIRATIONS AND AIMS LINK US IN WORK AND IN STRUGGLE

An Enthusiastic Meeting of Bulgaro-Algerian Friendship

Speech Delivered at the Meeting by Comrade TODOR ZHIVKOV, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

Dear Comrade Ahmed Ben Bella,
Dear Algerian friends,
Comrades,

Today we have gathered here at our historical Ninth of September Square, which remembers the revolutionary battles of the past, as well as enthusiastic popular celebrations, to give expression to the warm sympathies of the Bulgarian people for the heroic Algerian people, to give a most cordial greeting to our welcome guests, Comrade Ahmed Ben Bella, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Secretary General of the Party of the Front of National Liberation, and his comrades-in-arms (*Prolonged applause and shouts of 'Greetings to Ben Bella' and cheers*).

In the person of Comrade Ben Bella we welcome the loyal son of the Algerian people, the fearless revolutionary and the irreconcilable fighter against imperialism and colonialism, for freedom and national independence, for peace, fraternity and social progress (*Stormy and prolonged applause*).

In his person we welcome the Lenin Peace Prize laureate. We sincerely rejoice at Comrade Ben Bella's having been awarded this, the greatest international prize.

In his person we greet the bearer of the highest Bulgarian

medal, the Georgi Dimitrov Order, which the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has awarded him. Allow me to congratulate President Ben Bella with all my heart and soul on his being awarded such a high Bulgarian order, and to wish him good health and strength to make his contribution, in the future, too, to the struggle for the final abolition of colonialism, for the consolidation of world peace, for the development of friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and the Algerian nations (*Prolonged applause and shouts: 'Eternal Friendship!' Cheers*).

In the persons of the emissaries of Algeria we cordially welcome the peoples of renascent Africa, who are proudly raising the banner of freedom and national independence, of peace and social progress. We cordially greet the ardent patriots of Angola and Mozambique, of so-called Portuguese Guinea and South Africa, who are waging a holy struggle against the colonizers and the racists, so that freedom, national independence and social justice may triumph in these regions of the African continent, too (*Prolonged applause*).

Comrades,

The gains of the Algerian people, their feelings and aspirations are close and comprehensible to the Bulgarian people, who have experienced the bitterness of many centuries of foreign bondage, have passed through the fire of cruel class battles and have known the joy of building a new social order.

The history of the Algerian people is the history of struggle for freedom and independence, for the right of self-determination and to dispose of the wealth of their country. A span of 132 years of cruel colonial bondage, more than seven years of a hard but selfless war against the colonizers, the loss of thousands of worthy sons and daughters of the people who fell in the grim battle for the freedom and independence of their country — truly the life of the Algerian people is hard and heroic, it is a life that is a feat which arouses a feeling of admiration (*Applause*).

Today, now that all this is history, we may say with satisfaction that the Bulgarian people and their Government have made their modest contribution to the struggle of the Algerian people for national independence. Beside moral support, we have given the Algerian revolution material assistance, in

accordance with our possibilities, placing weapons and medicines at the disposal of the Algerian patriots. In this activity of ours we were guided by the popular saw that a friend in need is a friend in deed, by the principles of internationalism, which command us, as a socialist country, actively to help the peoples who are fighting for freedom and social progress (*Burst of applause*).

We welcomed the triumph of the Algerian revolution, which is a revolution of the people and for the people. It triumphed because it relied on the heroism and courage of the masses, because it had the support of the socialist countries, of the international communist and workers' movement, of the national liberation movement in all continents. And the example of Algeria has shown that a people who have risen up to fight for freedom and independence, who have the support of the masses in the whole world, a people of this kind is invincible (*Burst of applause*).

We welcomed with sincere joy the day on which the freedom and independence of Algeria were proclaimed, and we expressed our fraternal readiness to help strengthen the emergent Algerian state, in its independent economic, political and cultural development.

Not even two years have elapsed since the Algerian people broke the chains of colonial bondage. Algeria is now successfully overcoming economic ruin. The Government of Ben Bella is implementing measures to restrict the domination of foreign capital, gradually to wrest the main wealth of the country from the clutches of the monopolists. The most fertile land, which had been seized by the colonizers, has now become the property of the Algerian people. The people have become the masters of the railway lines, of the ports, of many industrial and commercial enterprises and of housing blocks in the towns. Major social and economic changes are indeed taking place in the country, which are of essential importance for the development of the Algerian Republic, and which mark the beginning of the creation of new relations among the people. In a short time the Algerian people have performed great feats, and have shown the sweep with which the creative forces of a people develop, when it is not colonialists and imperialists but they themselves who are the masters in their country.

We Bulgarian communists and working people rejoice from the bottom of our hearts at each success of the Algerian people in the development of the economy and of culture (*Applause*).

We Bulgarian communists and working people welcome with satisfaction the words of Comrade Ben Bella, when he says that the Algerian people will build life on socialist principles, that in their construction they will be guided by scientific socialism. We welcome the decisions of the recent Congress of the National-Liberation Front to build socialism in Algeria. We rejoice because the Algerian people have made their choice in favour of socialism and have chosen the correct road of development (*Burst of applause*). It is precisely along the road of socialism that they can successfully overcome their centuries-old backwardness — a sad heritage of colonial bondage. A really rapid flowering of the national economy and culture can only be secured when the exploitation of man by man is destroyed, when a country passes over to the socialist mode of production, when the factories, plants, the land and its bowels belong to society (*Prolonged applause*).

We know that this road is not an easy one, that one difficulty or another, one obstacle or another may appear along it. We know that it is not easy to stabilize a national economy, to create and develop one's own industry, including heavy industry, to create modern large-scale agriculture in the interest of the peasants, to raise the prosperity and culture of the people. But this is absolutely necessary, as otherwise there can be no genuine national independence. The imperialists and domestic reaction will undoubtedly create difficulties and obstacles, for they would give much to recapture their lost rule. But the Algerian people have proved that they do not fear difficulties, that they know how to overcome them. In the struggle against difficulties, for the construction of a new way of life, the Algerian people are not alone. They have true and promising friends in the Soviet Union, in the great community of socialist countries who are ready, today as in the past, to lend them fraternal assistance (*Stormy and very prolonged applause, shouts of 'Eternal Friendship' and cheers*).

I want to express our confidence that the Algerian people who manifested such revolutionary heroism and self-denial, will implement with their creative labour the programme ap-

proved by the Congress of the National-Liberation Front (*Prolonged applause*).

I want to express our confidence that the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria will develop and consolidate as a key factor for peace and progress in Africa, that with its consistent anti-imperialist policy it will play an ever more positive role in the struggle for the final elimination of the vestiges of the colonial system in Africa and in the world, for the creation of Arab and African unity on an anti-imperialist basis, for the consolidation of world peace (*Stormy applause, shouts of 'Friendship — Peace!'*).

Comrades,

The example of Algeria's liberation struggle inspires the peoples of Africa, who are fighting for their freedom and independence. The struggle against imperialism and its colonial system, for peace, independence and freedom is a sacred struggle and it will triumph. The imperialists are losing battle after battle, but they do not surrender. They are trying to preserve the colonial regime. Like a wounded wild beast colonialism is writhing in the death throes. The blood of the colonial peoples is being shed, of these peoples who still groan under the weight of bondage. The present-day slave-owners shoot at the peaceful population, destroy towns and villages. The troops of the fascist dictator Salazar, assisted by NATO, brutally slaughter the patriots of Angola, Mozambique and so-called Portuguese Guinea who are fighting for their liberation. The colonizers commit outrages on the peoples of South Africa. Mankind's conscience can no longer condone this.

Our position is crystal clear: The will of the people, expressed in the UN Declaration on giving independence to the colonial countries and peoples, must finally be implemented. Neither in Africa, nor in Asia, nor in Latin America should there be a people bound in the chains of colonial bondage; colonialism in all its forms must be abolished once for all in all continents (*Stormy applause and shouts 'Shame on the colonizers!'*).

Experience has unequivocally confirmed that the unity of the great revolutionary forces of our day, the cohesion and unity of action of the world socialist system, of the international revolutionary worker's movement, the national-liberation move-

ment, the democratic movement for peace and progress is the token for new successes in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

Unfortunately, however, some persons are now trying to undermine this alliance and this unity, to separate the national-liberation movement from the world socialist community, from the working class and from the democratic movement in the capitalist countries. Prompted by narrow nationalistic interests, they artificially fan the spectre of racialism and racial differences. Instead of the class principle they raise the racial spectre. According to them, people the colour of whose skin is different cannot get on together and act together, even when they have common aims and the same enemies.

It is true that there are different races. It is true that there are black people as well as white and yellow people on earth, but the same blood flows in all of them — the red blood of life. The black as well as the white and the yellow people want to live in peace, they want to be free and happy, and not to have the enslaver's whip whistle over their heads, they do not want their strength sucked out of them by an exploiter, they want the material and cultural benefits which they create to be for them and their children. Black as well as white and yellow — all peoples want to strengthen friendship among themselves, to help one another for the common good (*Applause*).

For whom is it necessary to have people opposed to each other by a racial sign, to have the black, the yellow and the white opposed to each other? To whose advantage is it to propagate such racist ideas and theories?

This leads to one thing only — to the undermining of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonial front. It is fatal to the cause of the national-liberation movement, it weakens the pressure of the peoples who are fighting to consolidate their national independence. Whoever tries today to place the national-liberation struggle in opposition to the world socialist community, to the international revolutionary workers' movement, whoever tries to separate the interests of the peoples by races and continents, actually betrays the cause of the working class, betrays the liberation of the oppressed peoples (*Applause*).

We know who in the past created and fanned the racist

theories, who built their policy on this foundation — those were the greatest man-haters who wanted to enslave the world with the sword and with racist ideas, who brought untold suffering to mankind.

But history avenges itself frightfully on those who neglect its lessons, and do not conform to the requirements of the objective laws of social development.

In vain do the imperialists hope that the great alliance of revolutionary forces in the present day will be destroyed. The peoples are more clearly conscious than ever of the necessity of the cohesion of all the anti-imperialist forces, which are capable of restraining the imperialists, of securing the complete success of the national-liberation struggle, of the struggle for democracy and socialism, and of ensuring the peaceful development of mankind (*Prolonged applause*).

We are profoundly convinced that in the present circumstances the sole correct policy, which corresponds to the interests of all the peoples, is the policy of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems. It is no accident that this policy enjoys such great popularity and wins more and more new adherents (*Applause*).

Reality shows that in the conditions of peaceful coexistence the socialist countries have achieved remarkable successes in economy, culture, science and technology. Reality shows that in the conditions of peaceful coexistence the national-liberation struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America has developed with unprecedented sweep, scores of countries have broken the chains of colonial rule and won their freedom and national independence. Every day, life confirms the fact that in the conditions of peaceful coexistence there are opportunities of developing ever more widely the struggle of the peoples for the peaceful settlement of disputed international issues, of achieving complete and general disarmament, of averting the danger of a new war and of consolidating world peace.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria does all that is possible to make its contribution to the common efforts of peaceable mankind, for the easing of tension in international relations.

I avail myself of this occasion to declare once more on behalf

of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria that the creation of a rocket and atom-free zone in the Balkans and the Mediterranean would play a great and positive role in establishing confidence, understanding and peace in the Balkans (*Applause*).

We reaffirm our endeavour to live in peace and friendship with the neighbouring Balkan countries of Greece and Turkey. Is it against the interests of Greece and Turkey, of the Greek and Turkish peoples, if we live in understanding, if we develop mutually advantageous trade, if we extend cultural and scientific and technical exchanges, if we intensify the all-round relations between our neighbouring nations? We have said time and again that there are no questions between our nations which, with good will, cannot be settled by means of negotiations and with mutual consideration of the interests of the parties.

But the imperialists are trying again to fan enmities, to create a threat to the peace and calm of our nations in the Balkans and in the eastern part of the Mediterranean.

Look at what is happening in the Republic of Cyprus. The imperialists and reaction are now artificially opposing two communities — the Greek and the Turkish — to each other, causing armed clashes between them. Against the will and interests of the people of Cyprus, the imperialists want to eternalize the turning of the Island of Cyprus into an armed NATO springboard for aggression against the socialist countries, against the Arab and other peaceable peoples. This causes deep disquiet in our country.

The interests of peace, the interests of the people of Cyprus themselves, demand that all outside intervention in the domestic affairs of Cyprus should cease, that an end should be put to the bloodshed. The people of Cyprus must decide their own fate themselves. We proclaim our full solidarity with the just struggle of the people of Cyprus and wish the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus that they may unite their efforts in defence of the national independence of their youthful republic (*Applause*).

The imperialists and reactionary circles, which have hurled the Greek and Turkish population in Cyprus into internecine clashes against each other, constantly concoct intrigues

in order to intensify the mistrust and worsen the relations between the Balkan nations.

In recent days, as is apparent from certain Greek and Turkish newspapers, pressure is being exerted on Greek public opinion and ruling circles to abandon their stand on the settlement of the Cyprus problem lest Bulgaria avail herself of the contradictions and attack Greece. It turned out that the inspirer of the monstrous inventions was none other than the Secretary General of NATO, Stikker. In this case, too, NATO revealed its nature as an aggressive anti-popular bloc, which uses all means — falsifications, threats, economic and military pressure — in its attempts to subject the smaller and weaker countries to the interests of the big imperialist powers.

Indeed, the treachery of the imperialists and the reactionaries knows no bounds — they themselves fan the contradictions and enmities among the nations, and then try to ascribe their own baseness to others.

We have more than once declared — the problem of Cyprus must not be an apple of discord and create a danger to peace in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean. The problem of Cyprus will cease to cause dissensions as soon as the imperialists take their finger out of Cyprus and allow the population to settle its internal affairs by itself (*Prolonged applause*).

As to the slander that the People's Republic of Bulgaria is preparing to attack another country, that, as even the children in Greece have already realized, is an obvious concoction. This slander has as its aim not to improve, but to worsen the climate in the Balkans, to sow mistrust and estrangement among the Bulgarian and Greek peoples. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is a socialist and peaceable state, and she is not preparing to attack anyone. She wishes to live only in peace, friendship and all-round mutual collaboration with all her neighbours. We are profoundly convinced that the Greek people have enough sense to judge for themselves what aim certain of their 'friends' beyond their frontiers and domestic reactionary circles have in trying again to scare them with the 'danger from the North'.

We note with joy that the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria stand on the same positions on such fundamental questions as present-day

international life, as the struggle to abolish colonialism and neo-colonialism, the fight for peace and the easing of international tension, for general and complete disarmament and a ban on atom weapons, for peaceful coexistence among states with differing social systems (*Applause*).

Dear Algerian friends,

You are visiting the People's Republic of Bulgaria for the first time. Your stay in our country coincides with the loveliest season — spring. This will enable you to see the scenic beauty with which nature has blessed our country. But you will also have the opportunity of seeing and feeling the beauty created by the Bulgarian people, the fruits of their labour and creative genius, created in the course of 20 years of free life.

Which are these fine deeds, worthy of admiration, of which our people are deservedly proud?

They are the numerous plants, factories, power stations and dams, which have created a new industrial landscape in our country, and have turned formerly poor and backward agricultural Bulgaria into an advanced industrial and agricultural state. The Kremikovtsi Iron and Steel Works which you have just seen is a striking expression of these fine deeds. It was born and has grown up at the foot of the legendary Balkan Mountains, like an impressive monument to the selfless creative labour of our working class and technical experts, an impressive monument to Bulgaro-Soviet friendship (*Prolonged applause*).

They are the spacious cooperative farm fields and the stockbreeding farms in which the joint labour of our farmers is at its height, in which highly-productive agricultural technology is at work, easing the labour of men, increasing their incomes and making their life happier.

They are the towns renewed and the villages with lovely sunny homes, which correspond ever more to the requirements of present-day architecture, in which electricity, radio, television, the cinema and many more cultural amenities and gains are penetrating.

They are the numerous cultural and educational institutes in which the Bulgarian people, our industrious young men and women are mastering the achievements of science and technology in order to apply them in practice in socialist construction, and constantly to multiply the wealth of our country.

They are the new men, the men of free labour, of the triumphant socialist system who, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, are building a happy and joyful life, and a socialist society.

Yet only 20 years ago Bulgaria was a backward poor peasant country. In the statistics of the former League of Nations she was pointed out as one of the most backward countries in Europe. The imperialists exploited her most ruthlessly, robbed the labour of the people, and kept back her economic development. The triumph of the socialist revolution on September 9, 1944, overthrew the monarcho-fascist dictatorship and put an end to the domination of foreign capital and to imperialist dependence. Bulgaria set out along a new road — along the road of socialism. In fraternal and indissoluble friendship with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries she has made a big stride forward in a short time (*Applause*).

Just one fact. Today, in 18 days socialist Bulgaria's industry produces as much as bourgeois Bulgaria's produced in 365 days. Or $18=365$. Mathematicians may object to this equation. But from the viewpoint of facts, that equation truly reflects the possibilities of our socialist reality as compared with those of former bourgeois Bulgaria. One workday in socialist Bulgaria is worth 20 workdays in bourgeois Bulgaria, one step of new Bulgaria is equal to 20 steps of old Bulgaria. Judge for yourselves which system is more dynamic — the socialist or the capitalist system.

Of course, our people did not get all this the easy way. The past 20 years since the socialist revolution in Bulgaria were hard years of struggle and work. In those years of struggle and work for the triumph of socialism in our country the Bulgarian Communist Party marched hand in hand with its true ally, the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, as it had done in the struggle against fascism and capitalism (*Prolonged applause*).

A struggle, a consistent and irreconcilable struggle against domestic reaction, against the exploiting classes, overthrown from power, against the former factory owners and bankers, village rich, usurers and extortionists of the people, whose wealth the People's Government took away and turned over to the people.

A struggle, an unflinching struggle against international

imperialism and its plots against new Bulgaria, against its attempts to overthrow the People's Government by hook or by crook and to restore the bourgeois order, to trouble the labour and the upsurge of the people towards the bright heights of socialism.

A struggle and work to drag Bulgaria out of the backwardness of centuries, for the socialist industrialization of the country, for introducing the cooperative system in agriculture, for carrying out the cultural revolution, for the triumph of socialism in town and country.

A struggle beset with natural difficulties, with difficulties in the economic and cultural life, a struggle involving the inevitable difficulties in the construction of a new way of life.

Our people never flinched at the difficulties, were never frightened by them, did not kneel to them. Under the leadership of their own Communist Party, relying on the fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union and the mutual cooperation with the other socialist countries, the Bulgarian people successfully overcame the difficulties encountered on their way. And there are no difficulties which the people cannot overcome, if people, Party and Government are united, if they have dedicated themselves to honest constructive work, if they rely on the support of true friends and comrades (*Stormy and very prolonged applause and scanning 'Eternal Friendship — Eternal Friendship!' Cheers*).

And today, when our people are about to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the socialist revolution, they address warm thanks and gratitude to the USSR for the great and unstinted assistance which the Soviet peoples have constantly given us. Every Bulgarian patriot is perfectly aware that without the Soviet Union, without its great experience and assistance, without the fraternal cooperation with the socialist countries we should not have been able to exist as an independent socialist state and to achieve these great successes. That is why the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian people steadfastly fight for the further consolidation and development of Bulgaro-Soviet friendship. That is why we steadily follow the line of a constant extension of the international socialist division of labour, of an ever closer cooperation and

rapprochement among the socialist countries. That is why our Party is fighting to consolidate the unity of the family of socialist countries (*Prolonged applause*).

Comrades,

Fraternal friendship and cooperation link the Bulgarian and Algerian people, Bulgaria and Algeria. They were born in the years of the hard, prolonged and bloody national-liberation struggle of the Algerian people. The first inter-state treaty was signed between our countries as early as 1960. Since the independence of the Algerian Republic our friendship and cooperation have developed still further. The economic, cultural and other agreements signed have created favourable conditions for the expansion of mutual economic, technical and cultural cooperation. Hundreds of Bulgarian experts, medical workers, engineers and mechanics cooperate under the leadership of the Algerian authorities in the construction of independent Algeria. Trade relations are also developing favourably.

We are confident that the friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and the Algerian peoples will develop and grow stronger ever more, because they are based on our common aspirations and aims, because they are dictated by the interests of our peoples, by the interests of world peace and social progress (*Prolonged applause*).

I want to assure you, Comrade Ben Bella, that in the People's Republic of Bulgaria your country and your people have a true friend and comrade in work and struggle. In the past, when the Algerian people were fighting for their freedom and independence, the Bulgarian people were together with them. And today, too, the Bulgarian people are and will be together with the Algerian people in their lofty efforts to do away with the hard consequences of colonial bondage, to develop their national economy and culture and to build the new socialist life. (*Stormy and prolonged applause and scanning 'Eternal Friendship — Eternal Friendship!' and cheers*).

During your stay we shall show you everything that may be of interest to you. We shall be very happy if, depending on the concrete conditions prevailing in Algeria, you are able to utilize anything of our modest experience in socialist construction. On our part, we are also ready to study and take all

that is of value in the experience of the Algerian people, which is suitable to our conditions. For, as our leader and teacher Georgi Dimitrov said, every nation, great or small, makes its contribution to the treasure-store of mankind's civilization (*Prolonged applause*).

Dear Algerian friends,
Comrades,

Once Marx, the great founder of scientific socialism, wrote that in the socialist society the laws of peace and labour would rule. We are now turning this behest into a living reality.

May we strengthen the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and the Algerian nations in peace and work, the friendship among all nations in the world! (*Stormy and prolonged applause and scanning 'Eternal Friendship — Eternal Friendship!' and cheers*).

Long live the heroic Algerian people and their Government, headed by President Ahmed Ben Bella! (*Stormy ovations and scanning 'Greetings to Ben Bella!' and cheers*).

Long live socialism! (*Unending applause, scanning 'BCP — BCP!' 'Forwards with the BCP!' and prolonged cheering*).

Long live peace the world over! (*Stormy, very prolonged applause, scanning 'Eternal Friendship — Eternal Friendship!' and loud cheering*).

Speech Delivered by Comrade AHMED BEN BELLA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is a particular pleasure to me to convey to you all the fraternal friendly greetings of the Algerian people, of its vanguard Party, the Front of National Liberation, and of its Government. Algerian-Bulgarian friendship has its roots in our common hatred of exploitation, our common love of freedom, our common will to work for the construction of a new world, forever freed of the horrible spectre of war, a world in which progress will become the basic concern of men. Proof of the friendship between our two peoples is also the warm welcome which you give us everywhere (*Prolonged applause*).

Glory to all those whose struggle brings closer the hour in

which peaceful work will secure the welfare and happiness of all in a world of harmony.

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

In the course of seven and a half years you followed the long struggle of our people for freedom, you shared our joys and woes, you took part with your effective solidarity in our triumph over colonialism. Your country gave us arms so that we might impose peace on the colonizer, and make him recognize our independence. The name of your ship 'Bulgaria', which brought those arms, has remained in the history of the resistance movement of our people against foreign rule. Is there anything finer than the creation and development of friendly relations between two nations? There are men who maintain that there is something finer, but never prove it in fact. And how could they do so? You know those men, as you too have had to clash with them in your country. They are those who appropriate the fruits created by the sweat and blood of others, they are the external and internal enemies of our revolution, the imperialists and their agents — the counter-revolutionaries.

Our people, our Party and our Government have made their choice. They have chosen the road of socialist development and friendship with those who, without ulterior motives and without any strings attached, stretched out their fraternal hands to us (*Burst of applause*). We have already defended this road despite numerous obstacles. We shall defend it firmly in the future, too (*Prolonged applause*).

The world has changed. The road travelled since the end of the Second World War is a long one. Everywhere the enslaved peoples rise up against imperialism. Everywhere the newly-liberated peoples are fighting to consolidate their national and international sovereignty, against the new forms of domination, against neocolonialism. The successes of the socialist countries in the building of a new way of life have become obvious everywhere. The time of ostracism and of besieged citadels, of blackmail and pressure on the countries which want to determine their fate freely is already running out (*Applause*). We must finish it:

— by pursuing a correct policy of support for all the peoples

who are fighting against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism;

— by isolating the bellicose circles and mobilizing all peaceful and democratic forces, taking part in the struggle for freedom;

— by means of an indefatigable struggle for an easing of international tension, general disarmament and coexistence among differing social and economic systems (*Prolonged applause*).

Every step forward towards peace must be supported, because progress is not an end in itself. Our Government was guided by this indisputable truth in approving the Moscow Treaty (*Applause*).

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

Having passed through severe trials, our people are profoundly peaceable. Algeria is one of the few countries which have endured great perturbations in its most recent history. A glimpse at these perturbations will show their magnitude: 1 1/2 million killed, 500,000 widows, 350,000 orphans, over 2 million displaced persons, taken from their normal life and imprisoned in concentration camps, 300,000 partisans, 400,000 men thrown into prison, 300,000 refugees in Tunisia and Morocco, 700,000 settlers from the villages to the towns, 8,000 ruined villages, millions of hectares of burnt forests, to leave the partisans without shelter. Our sheep and goats have fallen from seven million to three million, our cattle have disappeared in general, vast stretches on the frontiers of Tunisia and Morocco were mined, and the peasants were left without land.

Despite these terrible wounds, our people have resolutely set about reconstructing the country on new foundations. You have travelled along this road and are well familiar with it.

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

Today the situation of Algeria is good. After deciding to direct the country along the road to socialism, after preventing the bourgeoisie from appropriating the riches left by the colonizers, and after entrusting their management to teams of working people, our Party and Government realized that they were remaining true to the ideals of the heroes of the resistance movement, who stemmed primarily from among the

hard-working peasant and workers' masses (*Stormy and prolonged applause*).

Since Algeria acquired her independence, three million hectares, which belonged to the colonizers, as well as 450 industrial enterprises, have been socialized (*Applause*). The newly-created enterprises are under state management. Together with these measures, the foundations of transferring foreign trade to the hands of the state were laid.

In the sphere of public life particular efforts were made in combatting ignorance, in defence of old people, beggars, boot-blacks, war orphans and widows, whose support the state undertook. The slogans 'Culture for all' and 'No more people on their knees in Algeria!' put forward by the Government, aroused an unusual enthusiasm among the masses. Is not this eloquent proof of the inexhaustible energy, of the hopes which socialism lets loose (*Prolonged applause*).

During the National Front's campaign for solidarity we collected 6,000 million francs and tons of gold. For, if it is true that a socialist society is characterized by the equitable distribution of wealth, of cultural gains, and by handing power over to the producer, it is also true that there is no socialism without internal and international solidarity. During the drive for the restoration of the forests, which had been destroyed, the Party succeeded in mobilizing 500,000 persons. That is how in our country the tree became the symbol of life and of reconstruction.

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

In our struggle to build a new society we know that we are not alone. But for Algeria this finding would be incomplete if somewhere, in one of the enslaved countries, a voice were to be raised, saying 'We are alone.'

The cause of the peoples in the world is one. It is sacred. If cooperation among the peoples without exception is an immediate necessity for the preservation of world peace, unconditional support for the various forms of struggle for national liberation, for the establishment of a just peace is also unconditionally necessary. That is why Algeria supports with arms and funds the struggles of the African peoples, particularly in Angola, in so-called Portuguese Guinea, in Rhodesia, in Mozambique and in South Africa. So far over 1,500 persons

have been trained in our country in the methods of partisan warfare (*Applause*). Our struggle is inseparable from the struggle of the other peoples. It is directed not only against political and economic oppression, but also against artificially created communities which, like Israel, aim at raising obstacles to the seething upsurge of the revolutionary forces in the Arab world.

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

Our nation is a nation of young people, a young nation which has a good memory. It knows and will never forget that the assistance which is given us strengthens the anti-imperialist movement and assists the economic development of the country. That is why we highly value your support, the support of your Party and your Government, and the masses of our people feel real friendship for you (*Stormy applause. Scanning 'Eternal Friendship — Eternal Friendship!'*).

By extending your relations with the newly-liberated countries, you contribute to establishing relations between the nations, founded on mutual advantage. But in your relations with these countries you also bear in mind their still poorly developed economy.

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters,

The presence in our country of Bulgarian doctors, mechanics and other experts is the finest honour to the memory of Georgi Dimitrov, to the tireless struggle which he waged for solidarity and friendship among the peoples (*Prolonged applause*).

You will soon be celebrating the twentieth anniversary of your revolution. I can assure you that even far from here we shall be with you with all our hearts (*Burst of applause*).

I wish you that, under the leadership of your Party and Government, headed by my good friend Todor Zhivkov, you may win new still more brilliant successes (*Much stormy applause, scanning 'Eternal Friendship!'*).

Long live Bulgaro-Algerian friendship! (*Prolonged applause*).

Long live the struggle of the peoples for independence! (*Stormy applause*).

Long live socialism! (*Unending applause*).

Long live world peace! (*Stormy very prolonged applause, scanning 'Friendship — Peace' and cheering*).

Dear Brothers, dear Sisters!

I want to add a few more words. Although I have only been among you for a few hours, I feel very close to you. I feel quite at home here. Standing now before you, it seems to me that I am on a platform in Algeria and am speaking to my Algerian brothers (*Stormy applause*).

I want to thank you again for the firm and unshakeable position of your country in support of Algeria, both at the time of our struggle and after our liberation (*Applause*).

I particularly want to express my thanks for the firm position taken up by Comrade Todor Zhivkov after the liberation of Algeria (*Applause*).

I shall not explain here what that position consisted in. I shall only say that it will never be forgotten by the Algerian people (*Prolonged applause*).

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

I want to add something more. Now that we are here, the Western press pours fire and brimstone over us. They want to scare us, because we are following a road which does not please them.

From the height of this rostrum I want to tell the organs of the press, which are waging this campaign, and also to tell the financial and political circles which stand behind them, because this campaign is being carried on with a lot of money, that they are wasting their time. I want to tell them that Algeria will never abandon her friends, that neither force nor gold will make them fall on their knees (*Applause. Scanning 'Eternal Friendship!'*).

Algeria has made her choice on the basis of her own experience and her own sufferings. Our choice is final. It concerns the abolition of privileges, the elimination of exploitation of man by man. In the name of this ideal we have fought and, if it should be necessary, in order to root out the vestiges of colonialism and exploitation, we are ready to take up arms again (*Applause and cheers*).

We have always been and will always be to the end with the just struggle of Cuba (*Prolonged applause*), with the liberation movements the world over. And if any of the fighting

peoples turn to us for help, we shall break off some of our bread and give it to them, we shall be with them with all our might (*Prolonged applause*).

Such is the answer which we can give to those who are trying to frighten us. We have chosen the bright road of socialism, we have chosen it finally, irrevocably and we shall follow it (*Applause*).

And most of all — and I want to end with this — there is no force on earth which can cloud the friendship between the Algerian and the Bulgarian peoples (*Prolonged applause. Scanning 'Eternal Friendship!'*).

The struggle for independence, the struggle for socialism is sacred!

May our friendship endure down the ages! (*Stormy and prolonged applause and cheers*).

FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE BULGARIAN AND THE ALGERIAN NATIONS

Answers, given by Comrade TODOR ZHIVKOV*, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to the questions of Belkassam Benyahya, Director of 'El Moudjahid', organ of the Front of National Liberation in Algeria.

COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV,
FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY
AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Your Excellency and Dear Friend,
Algerian-Bulgarian friendship, created in the days of our great struggle for national liberation, in the course of which the fraternal Bulgarian people and their leaders always gave assistance to the Algerian people, is growing stronger with every passing day, for the good of our two nations. Cooperation between our peoples, linked by such similarity and common aspirations, has developed favourably in all spheres, since Algeria won her independence, and freely joined the great family of nations, which are working for the peace and happiness of mankind.

In response to the invitation of the Union of Bulgarian Journalists, I have the honour and the great pleasure of find-

*The answers of Comrade Todor Zhivkov are reprinted from 'El Moudjahid', Organ of the Front of National Liberation in Algeria, No. 169 of February 29, 1964.

ing myself in the noble and generous land of Bulgaria, the homeland of Georgi Dimitrov, the great revolutionary and friend of all peoples. The joy I feel in making the acquaintance of your country is all the greater because I feel particularly flattered to be the first Algerian journalist to visit Bulgaria, whose heroism and courage, manifested in the anti-fascist struggle, as well as in the new constructive battle for prosperity and social justice, we all admire.

Before returning to my country, may I request Your Excellency to grant an interview to *El Moudjahid*, the central organ of the Front of National Liberation, by answering the enclosed questions, which deal with problems of particular interest to the men who made the Algerian revolution.

Please accept, Your Excellency and Dear Comrade, the expression of my feelings of greatest respect and honour.

BELKASSEM BENYAHYA
Director of *El Moudjahid*,
Central Organ of the Front
of National Liberation

Sofia, February 1, 1964

Question: Development and planning problems are of major concern to new Algeria, which has resolutely set out along the road of socialism, and is most attentive to the numerous visual experiences, at present taking place in various parts of the world.

Would you mind, Comrade Zhivkov, directing the attention of the Algerians, mobilized in the drive for the abolition of all colonial vestiges, for the consolidation and triumph of the socialist revolution, to the basic features of the Bulgarian plan for 1964, recently examined at the Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party?

Answer: Before answering the questions you ask me in your cordial letter, allow me to thank you warmly for the fraternal and moving words with which you address our country, the homeland, as you say, of Georgi Dimitrov, the great revolutionary and friend of all peoples. Allow me to thank you also for the respect which you show for the long years of epic struggle waged by the working people in our country

against capitalism and fascism, for freedom and national independence, for the Bulgarian people's struggle for socialism and communism.

I am glad to hear that your country pays great attention to the problem of planning the national economy. Planning has stood a severe test in the experience of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries. It has shown its vitality and that is why it has such a force of attraction, particularly for countries like yours, which have done away with alien imperialist domination and set out along the road of independent development and the construction of socialism.

The example of the People's Republic of Bulgaria convincingly shows that planning, under the conditions of socialism, plays a key role in the rapid development of the country's economy and culture. This year we shall celebrate the 20th anniversary of our socialist revolution. And I must tell you that in this period the revolutionary enthusiasm of the people, who had cast off the chains of capitalism and fascism and were firmly resolved to build socialism, was most correctly channelled by means of the economic plans. If Bulgaria, formerly a backward agricultural country with a poorly developed industry, with small-scale, fragmented and unprofitable agriculture, has become in so short a time a nation of rapidly developing industry and up-to-date socialist farming, much of the credit for this achievement goes to planning.

I should like to mention just a few figures, so that you may see how much the Bulgarian people have achieved as a result of fulfilling the economic plans. In 1963 industrial output was eight times as high as in 1948, the year in which the rehabilitation of the national economy was completed, and 17 times as high as in the last pre-war year of 1939. In the period of 1948-64, the national income more than trebled. Poverty and unemployment are but a memory of the past. Our people, in town and country, live far better than they did before the war.

We are now successfully implementing the directives for the development of the country in the period of 1961-80, which were approved by the Eighth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. These directives are our concrete programme for completing the construction of the material and technical

foundations of communism in our country. The national income is envisaged to increase between 4.5 and 5 times in this period and, on the basis of the rapid development of the productive forces, possibilities are to be created for the ever fuller satisfaction of the population's basic needs of food, clothing, housing and other consumer goods, in accordance with the rational norms of man's consumption.

Is not this one more proof that economic plans are, indeed, a powerful instrument in the hands of the state for securing the rapid and steady construction of socialism?

The Soviet experience in planning, that of the other socialist countries and our own experience show that the chief conditions for a planned development of the economy are: the conquest of political power by the working people; the establishment of public ownership over the means of production; the study and application of the economic laws of socialism. As you see, there is a particular combination here: the state directs the planning of the national economy in the interest of the working people; public ownership of the means of production creates the material basis for planning and does away with the contradiction between the public character of production and the private-capitalist manner of appropriation, while the application of economic laws, and first of all, of the law of the planned, proportional development of the national economy, makes it possible, by means of the plan, correctly to direct the advance of all sectors of the economy.

This is the crux of the matter, for the attempts of the capitalist states to organize their economy on planned principles suffer failure. This is so, because these attempts obviously run counter to the economic laws of capitalism. Under capitalism, attempts at state regulation of the economy sometimes yield temporary results but, owing to the preservation of capitalist ownership, they cannot overcome the contradiction, do away with the capitalist crises in production, with unemployment, the unpredictability of the market, and, in the final count, with the waste of means and forces and the sufferings of the working people.

In our country planning is inherent in socialist production. It ensues of necessity from the character of the people's state, from the action of the economic laws of socialism. It may cate-

gorically be said that when the means of production are public property the national economy cannot develop at all without state centralized planning. This is an objective law of publicly-owned socialist production, already discovered by Marx.

With the aid of the economic plans our state organizes the planned process of public production and, in accordance with the needs of society, maps out and implements the best utilization of the nation's natural, labour, material and financial resources, thereby attaining maximum rates and effectiveness in the development of the national economy.

In drafting and fulfilling the economic plans, our Party and state always rely on the working people — the main productive force of society and the creator of goods. The economic plans express the interests of the people, clearly reveal the aim and perspectives of our development, and indicate the means of achieving them.

We pay constant attention to planning, and this is quite natural. The rates and scales of production increase very rapidly. Economic relations grow more complex. And this requires a steady perfecting of planning, so that it may answer to the growing demands made upon it.

What are the salient features of the plan for the development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in 1964?

In the first place, I want to emphasize that the current plan is an inseparable part of our Fourth Five-Year Plan, which we are now implementing. All the enterprises and all the working people took part in drafting it. That is why it is close to the heart of the working people who will carry it out. This is proof of its feasibility.

The main task set by the 1964 plan is the further development of the country's productive forces, and upon this basis a rise in the people's living standards. By fulfilling the plan our country will take a new step forward in its industrialization. The volume of industrial output is expected to increase by 8.8 per cent in comparison with 1963. The output which is to be obtained from this increase alone will amount to about two-thirds of the entire annual industrial output in 1948.

The plan secures the further rapid development of the

country's power-generating base — the basis for the development of the other sectors. The production of electric power and thermal energy is expected to increase by 19.9 per cent and of the fuel industry by 45.8 per cent. The power to be produced in 1964 is to be 16 times greater than that produced in 1948, and almost 34 times that produced before the war. There will be 1,096 kWh per capita in 1964 as against 42 kWh in 1939. Bulgaria thereby approaches in power production a number of advanced countries, behind which she lagged considerably in the past.

Special attention is paid to the rapid development of machine-building and the chemical industry, which play an exceptional part in accelerating technical progress. Machine-building, which in 1964 will account for 15.9 per cent of the volume of total industrial output, is assuming ever greater importance in our economy. The export of machines and installations in our total exports shows a steady increase. In 1964 its percentage will be 30 per cent as against 2.6 per cent in 1955.

Together with the rapid development of the branches of heavy industry, the branches of the light and food industry are also to be further developed. Total output of agriculture is to increase by 8.6 per cent. In this connection an increase in the mechanization of farm operations is provided for, as well as an increased use of chemical fertilizers, an extension of irrigated areas and an improvement in the organization of farm labour.

A particularly important task, which we now have to tackle with the plan, is to create extensive commodity stocks for the supply of the population, and to improve their structure. This is another typical feature of our plan for 1964. The retail trade turnover is to increase by 7 per cent as compared with 1963. Together with an increase in sales of foods, those of non-foods are to increase considerably, too: clothing, footwear and furniture, radio and TV sets, etc.

The plan for 1964 provides for a further development of our foreign trade. Our trade with the newly liberated countries is to expand considerably, including that with the Algerian People's Democratic Republic. In 1964 trade between our country and Algeria is envisaged to increase by about

47 per cent as compared with 1963. This should further consolidate our economic relations and bring our nations still closer together.

These are the fundamental tasks and features of the plan for the development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in 1964. As I said, it is the work of all the working people, of the entire people. And this is the chief guarantee that it will be fulfilled and overfulfilled. Our people will welcome the 20th anniversary of their liberation from fascism and capitalism with honour.

Q.: The Algerians take a great interest in the great efforts made by the Soviet Union and the people's democracies in the economic field, the coordination of their plans and the socialist division of labour.

Would you tell us what the creation of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance answers to and what Bulgaria's role is in this organ?

A.: The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was created 15 years ago in April 1949. It is the child of the objective requirements of the economic development of the European socialist countries, of the far-reaching social and economic changes which have been brought about, and of the building of a planned socialist economy in each of them.

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, in contrast to the closed economic groups of the imperialist states, is an open international economic organization. Other countries besides the socialist countries may join it, provided they accept the aims of the CMEA and agree to assume the obligations set down in its statutes.

By means of the united efforts of its member-states, CMEA contributes to the planned development of their economies and the acceleration of technical progress. By its activity CMEA creates the prerequisites for a rapid increase in labour productivity and a rising standard of life in its member-states. It also helps gradually to iron out the historically-caused differences in the economic levels of the individual countries. To this end, its efforts are directed towards intensifying the rates of industrialization in the countries where industry is less well developed. By means of a purposeful division of labour among the socialist countries, the fullest mobilization of all

their internal resources is achieved on scales which were impossible on a 'purely national basis'. Our own experience increasingly convinces us that the success achieved in the development of each individual socialist country and the general advance of the world socialist economy depend on the consolidation and broadening of cooperation and mutual assistance among us.

It is clear, therefore, that the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance sets itself the most humane and the loftiest tasks which an international economic organization can set itself. In the past 15 years the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has successfully fulfilled its tasks.

The relations between the CMEA member-states are based on equal rights, mutual advantage and full respect for each other's sovereignty. The states belonging to the CMEA help each other fraternally in solving the fundamental problems of their economies, and in the building of a raw-material and power-generating base, in the first place, in the supply of complete plant, equipment, raw and prime materials, in the exchange of scientific and technical experience, in the training of specialists, and so on. The advanced socialist countries and the Soviet Union, first and foremost, lend all-round assistance to the less developed countries for the advance of their economy and culture. Among the CMEA member-states the international socialist division of labour is carried out on an ever wider basis. The international socialist division of labour is quite different from the international capitalist division of labour. The international capitalist division of labour expresses the relation of exploitation of the weak by the strong, it emerges haphazardly in the course of intense competition and exploitation by the capitalist monopolies, it intensifies inequality in the level of economic development, and leads to the formation of a deformed, lopsided structure of the economy of the less developed countries. The international socialist division of labour, on the other hand, is implemented consciously and in a planned manner, in accordance with the vital interests and tasks for the harmonious and all-round development of all socialist countries; it leads to the consolidation of their unity. The coordination of economic plans, carried out within the CMEA framework, is a voluntary joint planned acti-

vity of the socialist states, directed to the utmost utilization of the political and economic advantages of the socialist system in the interest of the more rapid triumph of socialism and communism.

The creation of an international bank for economic cooperation, a common railway rolling-stock, a unified grid, a ship-chartering bureau, and the passing over to a multilateral clearing system on the basis of the free rouble, and so on, are all the result of the ever more far-reaching cooperation among the socialist states, members of the CMEA.

I should like to emphasize that these states are ready to develop and are developing economic relations with all countries, regardless of their social and state systems, on a basis of equality, mutual advantage and non-interference in domestic affairs. The socialist countries do not shut themselves up in the framework of their own economic shells. The international socialist division of labour takes into account the world division of labour. We, member-states of the CMEA, pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence, we strive to expand our economic ties with all interested countries.

Our economic relations with the emergent nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America are growing particularly fast. Relations between the socialist countries and the emergent national states are based upon a community of interests in the common struggle against colonialism and imperialism, for the establishment of a lasting peace and cooperation on an equal footing among the nations, to secure a free and happy life for the masses. That is why the CMEA member-states intensify their economic and technical assistance to the liberated countries; they grant them long-term credits on most favourable terms; they lend them technical assistance in the construction of important industrial projects and other installations, necessary for the development of the national economy; they help them in the training of national cadres of workers, mechanics and engineers; they secure a steady market for the traditional export goods of the emergent nations, and so on. The assistance of the CMEA member-states makes a maximum contribution to transforming the structure of the national economy of the liberated countries, to their industrialization, to the development of agriculture and to raising the

living standards of the working people. We are convinced that economic cooperation between the socialist and the liberated countries will continue steadily to broaden in the future and will assume new and more efficient forms.

You ask what part Bulgaria plays in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Our country is one of the founders of this organization and for the past fifteen years has taken an active part in its work to the best of her possibilities, and has also participated in the practical solution of the problems which face the CMEA. We are specializing in the field of machine-building, in the output of a number of modern machines, by means of which we meet the needs of the other countries, too. Along the lines of the CMEA Bulgaria is specializing in the production of over 100 types of machines, some of which we shall, in the future, be the only ones to produce for all the CMEA member-states. As a result of this specialization, we have organized big enterprises for the large-scale series production of electric trucks, electric hoists, tractors for vineyards, self-propelled chassis, various kinds of farm machines, lathes, medical electrical equipment, and so on. By 1965 we shall export over 95 per cent of the electric hoists and electric trucks we produce, over 50 per cent of the lathes and ships, over 40 per cent of the tractors and self-propelled chassis and so on to the fraternal socialist countries and to other nations. In this connection I should like to note that whereas in 1950 we exported almost no engineering products, in 1963 no less than 21.5 per cent of our total exports fell to machine-building. By 1970 machine-building will account for over 40 per cent of the total volume of our exports. On the basis of economic cooperation, other important branches of industry are developing successfully, such as metallurgy, chemistry and so on. International socialist division of labour enables Bulgaria most fully to utilize her favourable climatic and soil conditions for the development of market-gardening, fruit-growing, viticulture and certain other crops. A large part of this output we export to the other socialist countries on terms most advantageous to us.

I should say here that, to the best of her ability, Bulgaria, too, lends scientific and technical assistance to certain of the

fraternal socialist countries and to a number of underdeveloped states, in those fields in which she has achieved more considerable success and has accumulated a measure of experience. She has considerably extended her economic, scientific and technical cooperation with Cuba, Algeria, the UAR, Syria, Iraq, Ghana, Mali, Guinea, Tunisia, India, Indonesia, Brazil and various other countries. More than 1,500 specialists: doctors, dentists, engineers, architects, mechanics, agronomists, economists, and so on, are selflessly working in various countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria is a striking example of what a small country is capable of when it builds its economy with the joint efforts of the family of socialist countries, members of the CMEA, on the basis of fraternal cooperation and mutual assistance.

Q.: The year 1963 was marked by an event of exceptional importance for the development of our African continent and the abolition of alien domination in this entire region of the earth: the Addis Ababa Conference of African Heads of States, which set up the Organization of African Unity. A second event, also of indisputable importance, was the Conference of Arab State Leaders, recently held in Cairo, and whose aim was to defeat the aggressive attempts of imperialism and its agents against the Arab nations.

What is Bulgaria's attitude towards these events?

A.: Our nation follows with sympathy the struggle of the African and Arab peoples against imperialism and colonialism, for the elimination of alien domination, and for the consolidation of their national independence. That is why it welcomes every initiative in this direction.

The imperialists and the colonizers are fighting tooth and nail to stop the irresistible process of disintegration of the colonial system, to retain what they can and, if they succeed, to place the harness of bondage in a new form on the former colonies and dependent countries. To this end, they circulate theories, claiming that colonialism has become 'refined', that the colonial peoples have already turned into 'allied nations', that the old relations between enslaved and enslavers 'are a thing of the past', that 'a natural community' exists between the interests of the former metropolises and the former

colonies and similar inanities. They strive to enmesh certain sovereign states in the poisonous net of unequal agreements. While attempting to hide behind various new methods, forms and organizations for the preservation and even the extension of their rights and privileges in the countries, formerly conquered by their ancestors, the colonizers continue also to practise the old methods of enslaving and despoiling the peoples of these countries. They have again let loose the old colonizers' version of the supposed 'political immaturity of the African peoples', and of 'their having prematurely been given independence', and so on. They organize plots and assassinations of outstanding fighters for national liberation; they fan international rivalries and enmities, such as was, for instance, the Algerian-Moroccan frontier incident they provoked; they wreck the fulfilment of national programmes for the economic and cultural development of the emergent nations; they wage wars of annihilation against peoples who are fighting for their freedom, as is the case in Angola, Southern Arabia, and so on. The imperialists may change their tactics, but the essence of their policy remains unchanged, just as the very nature of imperialism is unchanging.

The Conference of African Heads of States in Addis Ababa, which took place last year, is a remarkable international event. Its significance is determined by its broadly representative character, as well as by the questions that were discussed, and the decisions taken. We welcome the agreement reached to create an Organization of African Unity and the unanimously adopted charter of this organization. The Conference approved concrete decisions for the real support of the national-liberation movements in those African countries which are still enslaved, for the elimination of any kind of military occupation and of imperialist military bases on African soil. It made an undoubted contribution to the consolidation of the unity, solidarity and mutual assistance among the recently liberated African peoples in their struggle against the policy of economic and military pressure and blackmail on the part of the imperialists, for political and economic independence, for progress and prosperity. These ideas are close and comprehensible to us.

The news that agreement was reached for re-establishing diplomatic relations between Tunisia and Morocco, between the

UAR and Jordan, the steps taken to eliminate the disagreement between the UAR and Saudi Arabia on the Yemen question are undoubtedly good news.

We are confident that the Arab nations will never yield to the threats of imperialism, and will never give up their dream of true Arab unity in the interests of the peoples themselves.

The Conference of state leaders of the Arab countries, which took place in Cairo in January 1964, resolutely condemned colonialism and welcomed the steps taken to ease international tension, and more particularly the Moscow Test Ban Treaty. Participants in the Conference expressed their faith in the possibilities of settling international issues by peaceful means through negotiations in accordance with the UN Charter. They emphasized their attachment to the principle of peaceful coexistence. The decisions, which are contained in the communiqué of the Conference and particularly those parts concerning the struggle of peoples still in bondage, give complete grounds for a positive appraisal of this Conference.

The anti-imperialist and anti-colonial character of the decisions made the Conferences in Addis Ababa and Cairo an important stage in the struggle of the African and Arab peoples against foreign domination. We are well aware of the positive and active role of the Algerian Government and of President Ben Bella in person in taking these decisions and giving an anti-imperialist and anti-colonial trend to the African solidarity and unity now being built.

Q.: Algeria and Bulgaria maintain friendly relations, founded on understanding and mutual interest. I avail myself of this happy occasion, which our meeting offers me, to do honour in the name of the Algerian people and their President, Brother Ahmed Ben Bella, to the friendly Bulgarian people, their leading Party and their Government, for the sympathy and solidarity which they continue to manifest to my liberated country.

Would you mind, Your Excellency, telling us how you look upon the development of relations between Algeria and Bulgaria?

A.: I thank you from the bottom of my heart once more for your kind words, and beg you to transmit to President Ben Bella, and to the Government of the People's Democratic

Republic of Algeria, and to the freedom-loving Algerian people my sincerest thanks for the warm feelings they entertain for socialist Bulgaria, for our people and for the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The Bulgarian people followed with fraternal sympathy the long years of struggle of the heroic Algerian people for freedom and national independence. We bow before the memory of the numerous victims whom Algeria lost in this courageous struggle.

From the very first moment of Algeria's war of national liberation the People's Republic of Bulgaria took her stand resolutely on the side of the Algerian people's armed struggle and, to the best of her ability, gave the necessary moral, political and material assistance. This helped for the creation at that time of sound friendly relations between our two peoples.

The favourable situation after the liberation of your country made it possible to expand and deepen these relations. Thus, for instance, the People's Republic of Bulgaria was one of the first to sign an agreement on trade, payments and scientific and technical cooperation with the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. A financial agreement for a long-term loan, an agreement for cultural cooperation, for air transport, as well as a number of other concrete agreements were also signed. On this basis hundreds of Bulgarian experts — doctors, engineers, mechanics and nurses — now work in the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, contributing to the more rapid rehabilitation and construction of the country's economy.

In my opinion excellent conditions exist for the further successful development of all-round relations between our two nations. Our mutually advantageous economic cooperation is yet to be developed. I hope that this year official economic delegations will meet, to discuss the questions of the future all-round and lasting economic cooperation between our two countries. You probably also know that on the basis of the agreement already signed and the credit granted by us this year, Bulgaria is to build a textile mill and a leather factory in Algeria, equipped with machinery and installations from our plants. Although the People's Republic of Bulgaria occupies one of the first places among the socialist countries in her trade

with Algeria, I look upon this merely as a start and expect that mutual trade relations will extend still further in the future.

The possibilities of expanding scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries are also not yet exhausted. Thus, for instance, our country could well place farm experts at the disposal of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, such as agronomists, veterinary surgeons, tractor-drivers, combine-operators and mechanics to keep the farm machinery in proper shape, as well as engineers and geologists for a geological survey of Algeria's subsoil wealth.

We are well aware of the efforts of the Algerian Government and the Algerian people finally to abolish the colonial system in Africa and in other parts of the world, and to consolidate world peace. This is another important field in which we could reach fruitful cooperation in the UN and the other international organizations.

There are good prospects for the further development of cultural cooperation between our two countries, and for the exchange of delegations and representatives in the various spheres of culture and the press, as well as of sports teams. The Bulgarian people have accumulated considerable experience, for instance, in the work of reviving national culture and folklore. Algerian specialists might well avail themselves of our experience. They might also utilize our experience in other spheres of art and culture.

We know that the Algerian people, too, have a centuries-old culture and a rich folklore heritage in which our people manifest a justifiable interest. The extension of mutual economic relations, the exchange of experience and cultural values will be of use to both the Bulgarian and the Algerian nations.

At the time of your brief stay in our country, you probably felt the special sympathies and great interest with which the Bulgarian people follow the efforts of the Algerian people to build up their country economically and culturally, and to consolidate its independence. We are convinced that the Algerian people, in cooperation with all friendly countries, and particularly with the socialist states, will find the most correct road to the construction of socialism in their country.

I may assure you that in the person of the Bulgarian people the Algerian people have a true friend and comrade who will always cooperate with them to the best of their ability.

Please transmit to the Government, and to President Ben Bella in person, as well as to the freedom-loving Algerian people my most cordial good wishes for still greater successes along the road of the economic and cultural construction of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Sofia, February 14, 1964

**FOR UNITY OF THE WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT,
AGAINST THE SPLITTING ACTIVITIES OF THE
LEADERSHIP OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY***

The decision of the February 1964 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU and the report of Comrade M. A. Suslov, entitled 'Struggle of the CPSU for Unity of the World Communist Movement' were published in the beginning of April, 1964.

For more than a month the attention of all communists and of world public opinion have been focused on these documents. A great number of communist and workers' parties have already expressed their complete approval and support of the assessments and conclusions made in Comrade Suslov's report.

The decision of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party was also published. As a true Marxist-Leninist Party, educated in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the Bulgarian Communist Party expressed its profound concern for the preservation of the unity and cohesion of the international communist movement and condemned the splitting and factional activities of the Chinese leaders.

In submitting their particular ideological and political programme, which runs counter to the Declaration and Statement of the 1957 and 1960 Moscow conferences, the Chinese leaders are causing great damage to the socialist countries, the international communist and workers' movement and the entire anti-imperialist front. They do so at a moment when the en-

**Novo Vreme* (New Times) magazine, issue No. 5, 1964 (leader).

ture course of world development confirms the correctness of the general line of the international communist movement, the cogency of the conclusions and decisions of the historic 20th and 22nd Congresses of the CPSU and the programme documents of the world communist movement. The world socialist system is scoring new and ever greater successes, the struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries is gaining momentum, the national-liberation movement of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America is spreading. These successes, however, might have been still greater had it not been for the difficulties which the leadership of the CPC has been creating for the countries of the socialist camp, for the world communist movement. That is why the February Plenary Meeting of the CC of the CPSU was fully justified in declaring that '... the vital interests of the world socialist system, of the communist movement, and defence of the purity of Marxism-Leninism call for the ideological exposure of the anti-Leninist position of the CPC leadership and for a resolute rebuff to their splitting activities'.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal parties arrived at this conclusion after prolonged efforts to overcome the existing differences with the leadership of the CPC. The CPSU and the other fraternal parties, among which the Bulgarian Communist Party, aware of the historic necessity of communist unity throughout the world, time and again came out with proposals to put an end to public polemics, to call bilateral and multilateral meetings, at which practical steps could be mapped out towards overcoming the differences and consolidating unity. In this connection, Comrade N. S. Khrushchov's proposals of October 25 and November 7, 1963, the letter of the CC of the CPSU of November 29 and the great number of proposals made by almost all central committees of the fraternal parties are known to all.

The Chinese leaders, blinded by nationalist arrogance, did not heed the voice of the overwhelming majority of communist parties. They interpreted the readiness of the Marxist-Leninist parties to do all that was necessary for the preservation of unity as a manifestation of weakness, and placed their nationalistic and hegemonic aspirations and aims above the interests of the whole communist movement, striving to impose

on it their neo-Trotskyist line, which is diametrically opposed to the jointly worked out general policy of a fight for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. All their declarations in defence of the socialist revolution, the national-liberation movement, the people's struggle against imperialism and their assurances of fidelity to Marxism-Leninism are only an attempt to take advantage of the natural desire of communists for unity, only a cover to prevent their ideological retreat and their splitting and factional activities from being exposed.

The documents of the February Plenary Meeting of the CC of the CPSU lay bare the anti-Marxist, adventurist and neo-Trotskyist stand of the Chinese leaders and the damage which they inflict on the world socialist system, the communist and workers' movement and the national-liberation struggle of the peoples. These documents constitute an effective defence of creative Marxism-Leninism, of the general line of the international communist and workers' movement. The Chinese leaders distort and actually reject the new assessments and conclusions, made through the joint efforts of the communist parties on the basis of a creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the conditions obtaining in our epoch, on the role of the world socialist system, the roads of building communism and socialism, the possibility of averting a world war, peaceful co-existence, the necessity of combatting the ideology and practices of the personality cult, the forms of transition to socialism in the advanced capitalist countries and in the nations that have shaken off colonialism.

Until not very long ago the Chinese leaders screened their departure from the general line of the international communist movement with countless assurances and declarations of fidelity to the principles of proletarian internationalism, to the unity of the movement and to the principles and conclusions contained in the Declaration and Statement. Now, however, passing over to overt factional action, they completely reveal their duplicity, and maintain that these programme documents of the international communist movement contain many revisionist and opportunist ideas and views and erroneous practical conclusions on the strategy and tactics of the Marxist-Leninist parties. Virtually rejecting the Declaration and Statement,

the fundamental guiding principles in the general line of the international communist movement, the leaders of the CPC are trying to impose on the fraternal parties their notorious '25-point programme', their nationalistic and neo-Trotskyist line. This line is at complete variance with Marxism-Leninism and with the conclusions contained in the Declaration and Statement, and in essence boils down to denying the ever more decisive impact of the socialist system on the course of world developments, to playing down the struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries, to opposing the national-liberation movement to the world socialist system and the international workers' movement, to rejecting the fight for peace, to adventurism in inter-state relations, to sectarianism and subjectivism on questions regarding the socialist revolution, and to upholding methods and practices from the time of the personality cult, which have been condemned by the communist movement. In their departure from Marxism-Leninism the leaders of the Chinese Communist Party have come forth with the absurd assertion that a split and the formation of factional groups are a 'necessity' and a 'law-governed phenomenon' in the development of the world communist movement and the different communist parties. With every passing day they increasingly deepen their departure from the jointly worked out general line. At first they started polemics only on certain issues of present-day world developments, then transferred their ideological differences to relations between the socialist states, and in the end embarked on the road of shaking the unity of the world socialist community and came out with a 'general line' of their own, whose ideological content has nothing in common with Marxism-Leninism and is in flagrant contradiction with the fundamental tasks, which the world communist movement at present is called upon to solve. 'There can no longer be any doubt today,' declared N. S. Khrushchov, 'that the Chinese leaders are aiming at bringing about a split in the communist movement, a split in the socialist camp by resorting for this purpose to methods borrowed from the arsenal of the Trotskyites. No, on their part this is not merely a theoretical controversy, not only ideological polemics, but a far-reaching attempt at a split, by means of which

they are trying to impose their hegemony on the socialist camp and on the world communist movement.'

In the fire of the class battles and in their joint fight for the cause of socialism and peace, the communist and socialist parties have worked out the revolutionary principles on which their mutual relations are based: international unity and cohesion — fidelity to the principles of creative Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism, complete equality and sovereignty in resolving domestic problems, discipline and responsibility in observing the collectively worked-out line, avoidance of actions capable of infringing upon the unity and fighting capacity of the movement. This is precisely why the Statement of the Moscow Conference stresses: 'The care constantly to strengthen the unity of the international communist movement is the supreme international duty of every Marxist-Leninist party.'

'A resolute defence of the unity of the international communist movement on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism, which admits of no actions liable to undermine this unity, is a mandatory precondition for victory in the struggle for national liberation, democracy and peace, for a successful tackling of the tasks of the socialist revolution, and for the building of socialism and communism. A violation of these principles would lead to a weakening of the forces of communism.'

The Chinese leaders by their entire line of conduct, and more particularly by their blatant splitting activities and revision of the general line of the world communist movement, have grossly violated all norms of mutual relations between communist parties and socialist countries, and are inflicting definite damage on the unity of all progressive, anti-imperialist forces.

The signatures of the representatives of the Chinese Communist Party are to be found under the Moscow documents — the 1957 Declaration and the 1960 Statement. It has now become clear that even then the Chinese leaders had no sincere intention of carrying out the jointly elaborated decisions. Having proclaimed themselves as the sole and most consistent Marxists, the Chinese leaders began arrogantly to declare that the CPSU and the other communist and workers' parties had

departed from Marxism, from the line traced by the Declaration and Statement. Dogmatism became the theoretical foundation of their left opportunism, of their sectarian and adventurist policy. Alien to any concrete historical approach, to the spirit and content of the theory of Marxism-Leninism, the leaders of the CPC seek their main arguments in support of their schemes and incorrect conclusions not in an analysis of real life, in an assessment of the actual balance of class forces, in the new experiences gained by the international communist movement, but in isolated quotations from Marx, Engels and Lenin, divorced from the time and the concrete setup in which they were made. From the articles that have appeared so far it has become clear that the Chinese leaders are trying to forge 'theoretical' arguments buttressing their splitting activities. Every line in these materials shows that they falsify and distort the basic principles of Marxist-Leninist theory, resuscitate Trotskyist conceptions long since refuted by life, and endeavour completely to revise the line of the 20th and 22nd Congresses of the CPSU universally recognized by the communist parties, as well as the Declaration and Statement of the communist and workers' parties, that they strive to lend their own experience absolute value and to replace the great Marxist-Leninist teaching by their own botched up pseudo-revolutionary theories, to present Peking as the centre of the world revolutionary movement and Mao Tse-tung as the infallible and sole creator of the strategy and tactics of the world communist movement.

The communist and workers' parties carry on their activities under different conditions, stemming from the particular historical, political, economic and social development of the different countries, from the consciousness and organization of the working class and their national peculiarities and traditions. In creatively applying the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions in its country, every communist party has made a smaller or greater contribution to the enrichment of our revolutionary theory.

The present general line of the world communist movement is the result of the collective wisdom and experience of all fraternal parties. This was proved by the experience of the two Moscow conferences and the documents adopted by them.

In hammering out the general line, all parties, great and small, are equal. There are no and there can be no 'superior' and 'inferior' parties, faultless teachers and obedient pupils. Every party has the exclusive right, alone, at its own congresses and plenary sessions, to work out its political line, to formulate its concrete tasks and the ways and means for their implementation.

These principles are perfectly well known to the Chinese leaders. They know that when differences arise or controversial issues spring up, these questions should be discussed in a friendly and creative atmosphere, in a spirit of adherence to principle and solely on the basis of Marxism-Leninism.

At the 1960 Conference the representatives of the CPC tried to exclude from the Statement the question about the necessity of compulsory international discipline in the communist movement, and deliberately strove also to exclude the paragraph prohibiting factional activities. All fraternal parties unanimously rejected these attempts and included the following stipulation in the text of the Statement: 'The interests of the communist movement hold every communist party bound to abide by the assessment and conclusions, referring to the common tasks in the struggle against imperialism, for peace, democracy and socialism, which were jointly worked out at conferences by the fraternal parties.'

Lenin has repeatedly underlined the significance of international discipline for the workers' parties, the need for every party to be an integral section of the international revolutionary movement, and not a separate national detachment isolated from the rest. Naturally, international communist discipline is not a mechanical fulfilment of orders given from a centre. It is a number of voluntarily assumed obligations between each other and before the entire movement, in the fulfilment of an international duty.

The Chinese leaders reject this fundamental Leninist principle in the mutual relations of communist parties, grossly violate this unity and try to cover up their splitting activities with a new conception about a 'revolutionary majority' and an 'opportunist minority'.

V. I. Lenin taught that '... only the subordination of the minority to the majority can be a principle of the workers'

movement'. The Chinese leaders maintain something quite different. 'Inside a party it is necessary to abide by the principle that the minority should be subordinated to the majority, the inferior institutions to be subordinated to the superior institutions. But in relations between fraternal parties, we should not resort to this principle.' The Chinese leaders wish to appropriate the right to determine which party should have what kind of leadership, what line it should follow, who from among the communist leaders are outstanding Marxists and who 'modern revisionists'. Moreover, their yardstick is quite unique, and simple: those who agree with the Chinese leaders, with their dogmatic views and splitting activities, are revolutionary Marxists, while all the rest are 'modern revisionists'.

The Chinese leaders direct all the fire of their slanderous campaign against the CPSU and its Leninist leadership, headed by Comrade Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov. With their writings they try to create the impression that today there is no greater enemy to the revolutionary struggle of the working class, to the liberation movement of the peoples in the working class, to the liberation movement of the peoples in the colonial and dependent countries, to the struggle of the masses for peace, democracy and social progress than the present leadership of the Leninist party and the course adopted at the 20th Congress of the CPSU. The slanders and insults, falsifications and unfounded accusations which the leadership of the CPC hurls against the Soviet Union, the CPSU and its leaders, vie with practically everything world reaction has been capable of inventing in more than 40 years since the October Revolution. For every honest communist it is absolutely incompatible with the principles of proletarian internationalism to slander and curse the USSR and the CPSU, Lenin's great party which was the first in the world to smash the chains of imperialism and build a socialist society, and which is today holding aloft the banner of communism, is the hope and support of all fighters for the triumph of peace, social progress and friendship among nations. It is under the favourable influence of the CPSU that all communist parties of a new, Leninist type have developed and gained strength, and from it they continue to draw knowledge and experience.

The role of a given party in the international communist movement is determined not by the subjective wishes of one or another worker, but by the objectively existing concrete conditions, by the course of the socialist revolution, by the contribution made by that party to the development of revolutionary theory and practice, by the wealth of its experience, by the degree to which it adheres to principle in defending its fidelity to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The vanguard role and maturity of the CPSU are determined by the objective fact that a socialist society with very highly developed material and technical foundations and the most mature socialist production relations has been set up in the USSR, and that it blazes the trail to socialism and communism for all mankind. In the last decade the CPSU made a new invaluable contribution to the creative development of Marxism-Leninism at its 20th and 22nd Congresses. Its fight for the elimination of the Stalin personality cult, and the harmful consequences connected with it is of great historic significance, not only for the CPSU, but for the entire world communist movement as well. The CPSU programme represents a creative development of Marxism-Leninism; here the most topical questions of our time have been elaborated, such as that of the role of the world socialist system, of the roads of building socialism and communism, of the possibility of averting a new world war, of peaceful coexistence of nations with differing social systems, of the peaceful and non-peaceful forms of transition to socialism in the capitalist and newly liberated countries, etc. All these achievements of creative Marxist thought, the vanguard role of the CPSU in the world communist movement were highly assessed in the Statement, signed by 81 communist parties, including the CPC.

At first the Chinese leaders were unable to foresee the consequences to which the implementation of the ideas of the 20th Congress of the CPSU would lead, and did not take an open stand against them. When they saw that these ideas found great support and became highly popular in the world communist movement, that the authority of the CPSU was still further enhanced, that the achievements of the USSR in the field of industrial production, science and technology received

a tremendous impetus, that after the wiping out of Stalin's personality cult socialist democracy still more vividly revealed the magnetic force of the communist ideal, the Chinese leaders realized that their dogmas and schemes would never find recognition. Then they came out openly against the CPSU and launched a monstrous campaign against the Soviet Union. They even went so far as to make the absurd accusations that the CPSU has become a 'champion of imperialism' and had embarked on the road of revisionism. Yet only a few years ago the very opposite was pointed out as a generally accepted truth for all communist parties in the Statement signed by the representatives of the CPC: 'The communist and workers' parties unanimously declare that the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the most experienced and steeled detachment of the international communist movement, has been and will continue to be in future the generally recognized vanguard of the world communist movement. The experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union accumulated in the struggle for the victory of the working class, in the building of socialism and the implementation of the all-out construction of communism is of significance in principle for the entire international communist movement. The example of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its fraternal solidarity inspire all communist parties in their struggle for peace and socialism and are a manifestation of the practical application of the revolutionary principles of proletarian internationalism.'

Poisoned and blinded by their dogmatism, petty-bourgeois nationalism and chauvinism, the Chinese leaders, departing from the principles of internationalism, have mobilized all their forces to fight, not imperialism, but the CPSU and the other fraternal parties. Thus they found themselves in the same trenches from which the imperialists are shooting against the USSR and the CPSU. V. I. Lenin said that the class instinct of the enemies of the revolution can serve as criterion in determining the main revolutionary force. Where the enemy directs his main blow, there is the main force of the revolution. It is a well known fact against whom imperialism in our days is directing its main attack — against the USSR, against the CPSU, because it is precisely they that are pushing the revolution forward and are undermining the foundations of

capitalism. That is why today it is absolutely clear for the communists as well as for all honest people that he who attacks Lenin's Party is hitting at the prestige of the most powerful socialist state and is giving aid and comfort to the enemies of socialism.

In their factional and splitting struggle the Chinese leaders are not particular about the means: they break relations with whole parties, proclaim the establishment of pseudo-communist parties, lend moral and material support to dissenting groups, gather and organize Trotskyites and other faction members who have been expelled from the parties, and proclaim as 'genuine communists' people who never belonged to the communist movement.

Unlike all former opportunists, the Chinese leaders were the first to put forth a new anti-Leninist thesis that two and more communist parties can simultaneously exist in one and the same country. Anti-Leninist conceptions naturally lead to anti-communist practices.

Thus, as early as December 1963, a group expelled from the Belgian Communist Party, headed by Jacques Grippa, summoned a self-styled 'national conference' which, without taking the opinion of the working class and the existing party, proclaimed 'the restoration of the Belgian Communist Party on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. This gathering adopted a programme which reflects the Chinese views in assessing our period and contemporary international relations. In Peru, taking advantage of the situation that almost all CC members were arrested in connection with the peasant revolts, a small group of sectarian-minded members of the CC called the Fourth Annual Conference of the Peruvian Communist Party on January 18 and 19, 1964, at which all present party leaders were 'expelled' from the party, including its general secretary and the Politbureau members who were in jail. The Sinhua News Agency hastened to spread throughout the world the false information that the leadership of the Peruvian communist party had been changed. The dissenters are trying to organize similar actions in Ecuador, where the general secretary of the party and almost all members of the CC are imprisoned. Such dissenting groups of renegades, Trotskyites and traitors of every kind are trying to create difficulties for the

regularly elected party leading bodies and to complicate the situation in certain parties.

Although the leadership and members of these parties condemned the splitters, the Chinese Sinhua News Agency and Radio Peking have dinned it into the ears of the world that 'new, truly revolutionary parties' were being created. In an article of February 4, 1964, the Chinese leaders officially came out in defence of the splitters.

Where their conspiratorial activities fail to set up a 'new party', the Chinese leaders try to organize factional groups, as in Austria, Switzerland, Brazil and other countries.

The undermining activities of the Chinese leaders are also directed against the strong and authoritative parties in the capitalist countries, against their tried leaderships. Chinese propaganda does not seem to be ashamed of belching forth slanders and accusations against such tried and steered parties like the French, Italian, that of the USA, etc., against such old fighters for the cause of the working class as M. Thorez, P. Togliatti and M. Reimann. According to Peking, these workers are 'cowards' who determine their conduct in the struggle in compliance with instructions received from the 'Moscow sceptre' and this for just one 'sin' that they committed in their lifetime by not seeing eye to eye with the Chinese leaders.

The Chinese leaders are out to win over the leaderships of the parties and thereby the whole parties, and where this is impossible, to set up 'new parties', to organize factional groups, even to recruit individuals, most often former members of a given party (expelled for violations of discipline, morals, etc.), and if even such are not available, to find people outside the workers' movement — various adventurers, careerists and unstable elements.

The Chinese leaders develop a particularly lively splitting and separatist activity in the international democratic organizations of the trade unions, the youth, women, students, journalists, scientists, and so on. Not long ago, those who took part at the sittings of the leadership of the International Student Union in Budapest, of the World Peace Council in Warsaw, of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Sofia and the Organization for Solidarity with the peoples of Asia and Africa in Algiers had the opportunity of witnessing new shameful

intrigues and unprincipled actions on the part of the Chinese delegates. From a criticism of certain aspects in the work of the leaderships of these organizations, they passed on to the formation of groups, and lately to the establishment of new parallel organizations and unions.

The Chinese leaders have been attempting, not without some measure of success, to influence the work of some Afro-Asian organizations and are striving to secure for themselves the right to act as they see fit in them. This is the result of the erroneous and reactionary slogan for unity based on colour of the skin, race and continent. They endeavour to unite the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, to knock together a bloc out of them by severing the national-liberation movement from the revolutionary struggle of the working class. Such views and practices lead to disunity of the revolutionary forces. Practical experience has long shown that the severance of the national-liberation movement from the communist movement and the socialist countries only retards and complicates the process of the liberation struggle.

The Chinese leaders have already transferred the existing ideological differences to the inter-state relations of the socialist countries and refused to take part in coordinated actions in defence of world peace, thus inflicting great harm on the unity of the socialist camp, the mainstay of the people in their fight against imperialism and of the cohesion of all forces working for peace.

The principles on which the mutual relations between socialist states are based are well known: equality, cooperation and mutual assistance, independence and national sovereignty, non-interference in home affairs, unity in the struggle for the defence of the gains of the socialist revolution and the cause of world peace. The Chinese statesmen violated all these principles and are pursuing a policy of isolating the CPC from the socialist countries, of restricting their mutually advantageous economic relations, trade and scientific and technical cooperation. Their efforts are, moreover, directed not at strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the CPR and USSR and the other socialist countries but at fanning nationalist passions, enmity and distrust.

Despite the anti-Soviet line pursued by the Chinese leader-

ship, the Soviet Union, cognizant of its international duty, has rendered and will continue to render all-round fraternal assistance to the Chinese people. The experience gained in socialist construction, the objective trend of internationalization of the economies of the socialist countries, their cooperation and specialization lay bare the inconsistency and harmfulness of the theory propounded by the Chinese leaders about the construction of socialism by 'relying on one's own forces'. Would it have been at all possible for Bulgaria, for the Chinese People's Republic, and for any other socialist country, within such short historical terms, to build a modern industry and collective farming and to reorganize the entire social and cultural life, had it not been for the Soviet Union with its tremendous economic might and rich experience tested in life? The Chinese leaders, in flagrant contradiction with the vital interests of the Chinese people themselves, are breaking the naturally established and necessary economic relations within the framework of the entire socialist system. In their slanders they go so far as to shamelessly declare that according to them the Soviet Union transferred 'the lupine laws of the capitalist world to the field of mutual relations between the socialist countries'. This slander is obviously meant to justify the unilateral reduction of trade and economic ties, the mistrust in and removal of the Soviet specialists and so forth.

Behind this political line one can discern a desire to shatter socialist unity and to oppose individual socialist countries to the Soviet Union, one can discern the petty bourgeois nationalism of the Chinese leaders.

At the same time, relations between China and some capitalist countries, such as Japan, Great Britain, the Federal German Republic and France, are expanding. There would be no harm in this, if it did not take place at the expense of the constantly worsening relations with the socialist countries. When the USSR or some other socialist country, pursuing a consistent policy of peaceful coexistence, starts negotiations with the USA or some other capitalist country, the Chinese leaders brand it as 'treason', 'collision', 'service to imperialism'. But when they establish diplomatic relation, conclude big trade transactions or receive parliamentary and government delegations from the capitalist countries, their yardstick is quite

different, and these actions are termed 'correct', 'wise' and 'revolutionary'. Let us point out just a single fact: at the beginning of last year, the Chinese leaders criticized the French communists, accusing them of failure to show the necessary energy in combatting General De Gaulle's imperialist and colonial policy. On January 21 the *Jenminjhpao* included France of the same General De Gaulle in an anti-imperialist bloc with China. And to justify their relations with France, the Federal German Republic and the other imperialist countries, they also invented a whole theory about the so-called 'intermediary zone'. According to it, the American imperialists are those who constitute a danger to peace, whereas the West German revanchists, Japanese militarists and French extremists are almost peaceful, anti-imperialist forces.

The CPC leadership is setting aside vast sums of money for the pursuance of its splitting and factional activities, setting in motion the whole state propaganda apparatus. It has lately resorted to opening publishing houses in other countries, and publishing its own papers and magazines. Not long ago, a magazine called *Revolution* made its appearance in Paris, in English, French and Spanish; in Switzerland, a de luxe magazine called *Asia, Africa and Latin America* — also in three languages; in Belgium there is a printing house and a special bookstore for the publication and distribution of Chinese 'Marxist' literature. It is interesting to note that the literature with which Peking is flooding the world of late is freely distributed (and with the cooperation of the police) even in countries like the Federal German Republic, the USA, Spain, Pakistan, where every leaflet from the other socialist countries is censored and confiscated. Not very long ago the police of Franco published a counterfeit issue of the *Mundo Obrero*, organ of the Spanish Communist Party, full of Chinese materials, for the purpose of misleading the Spanish communists. Chinese materials, published in Bulgarian in the USA, arrive in our country. There can be no better assessment of the content and goals of Chinese propaganda than the fact that the enemy likes it and is ready to spread it.

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In their relations with the CPC leaders, the Marxist-Leninist parties manifested a lofty adherence to principle, comradely concern, a maximum of tact and patience. Time and again the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal parties pointed out to the Chinese leaders the erroneousness and danger of their position, exerting great efforts to avoid complicating the situation in the international communist movement, going beyond the limits of party-mindedness and the collectively elaborated line and turning this ideological controversy into a political fight. Nevertheless, in fanning the ideological differences and in their departure from Marxism-Leninism, in their nationalism the Chinese leaders have gone pretty far and undertaken actions which imperil the unity of the world communist movement and of some Marxist parties. To continue keeping quiet would mean to encourage the dissidents of the CPC leadership, to go back on our international duty and the interests of unity. That is why the overwhelming majority of the communist parties condemned the factional and splitting activities of the Chinese leaders.

The danger arising from the factional activities of the Chinese leaders, however, should not be underestimated. Millions of people are drawn to active political work in our times, among whom many who are unable at once to tell the real revolutionaries from those speculating with revolutionary phraseology. This is particularly true of countries in which the industrial proletariat is not so numerous, where the influence of petty-bourgeois ideology is strong and the political maturity of the revolutionary cadres is still on a pretty low level. Only an uncompromising struggle against the dangerous divisive course adopted by the CPC leadership can mobilize the communists of the whole world for putting up resistance to the dissidents and consolidating the unity of all Marxist-Leninist parties.

The anti-Leninist, neo-Trotskyist platform, the sectarianism and dogmatism, the splitting and factional activities of the leadership of the Communist Party of China now constitute the main threat to the unity of the international communist movement. A consistent fight should be waged in defence of the gen-

eral line of the world communist movement, and for strengthening the unity of all revolutionary forces in our times, in order to avert this threat.

The Bulgarian Communist Party, true to proletarian internationalism, hand in hand with the CPSU and all Marxist-Leninist parties, condemned the retreat of the Chinese leaders from our revolutionary theory, their nationalistic views and actions and firmly defends the Leninist line pursued by the international communist movement. The decision of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party stresses that 'a relentless struggle must be waged against the anti-Marxist splitting activities of the Chinese leaders, their dogmatic, nationalistic and Trotskyist views, their factional and undermining actions must be completely laid bare'. It was no accident that the world communist press noted this passage in the decision of our Central Committee. The Bulgarian communists will not allow the world revolutionary movement to be hampered by the adventurism of the Chinese leaders.

In the years after the historic 20th Congress of the CPSU the communist movement has scored remarkable successes. The communist parties have grown in number from 75 in 1954 to more than 90 today, while the number of communists has increased from 24 to 42 million. The great capitalist countries, such as Italy, France, Spain, Belgium and the countries of Latin America are being shaken by big anti-capitalist strikes and demonstrations. In the last 10 years alone some 40 countries were liberated from capitalism. The socialist revolution triumphed also in Cuba. The world revolutionary process is gaining in breadth and depth. There can be no doubt that the world communist movement will overcome the difficulties which the Chinese splitters put up in its path, and will emerge from the struggle against the left opportunists, splitters and factionists still stronger and still more united.

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS

TO THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OF THE SOVIET UNION AND PRIME MINISTER
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
COMRADE NIKITA SERGEYEVICH
KHRUSHCHOV

Dear Nikita Sergeyevich,

On the day of your 70th anniversary, the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Presidium of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, expressing the sentiments and thoughts of all Bulgarian communists and the entire Bulgarian nation, send you most cordial fraternal greetings.

Hand in hand with the fraternal Soviet-people, we wholeheartedly greet the beloved party and state leader of the Soviet Union, the outstanding worker in the international communist movement, the great fighter for peace and friendship among nations.

We are happy that on this day you are so cheerful, bubbling over with energy and creative forces, which for more than half a century you have been devoting to the triumph of the just communist cause.

During the last crucial decade, on your initiative and under the leadership of the Central Committee, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union launched and consummated the fight against the personality cult, restored and further developed the Leninist principles and norms of work and leadership, mapped out a stupendous programme for the building of communism, and scored tremendous successes in the development of the Soviet country. In our days you have made and are continuing to make a remarkable contribution to the creative development of Marxism-Leninism.

With your characteristic inexhaustible energy you are passionately fighting for the preservation and consolidation of world peace, for warding off a new world war, for the peaceful coexistence of nations with differing social systems, for general and complete disarmament, for the total abolition of colonial slavery. Progressive mankind will forever be boundlessly grateful to the Soviet Union, the Soviet Government and personally to you for this titanic struggle in defence of the cause of peace.

In your person today we see the most consistent and ardent internationalist, an unflinching fighter for the consolidation of the unity and cohesion of the world socialist system and the international communist movement, for the purity of the great Marxist-Leninist teaching. That is why the love and respect cherished for you by the communists and working people throughout the world will be growing still stronger.

In all fields of your all-round activities you have given us a model of the Leninist style of work, of a bolshevik, daring and constructive approach to the solution of the burning questions. Your great political experience, wisdom and adherence to principle, your close links and contacts with the people are an inexhaustible source of knowledge and inspiration for every Party and state worker, for every communist.

Dear Nikita Sergeyevich,

On the day of your glorious 70th anniversary the Bulgarian communists and all working people in our country still more strongly express their boundless affection for and gratitude to you. We are proud of such a great and true friend, comrade and brother, who knows our country intimately and renders us invaluable fraternal assistance. With your active cooperation the life-giving Bulgaro-Soviet friendship has been raised to a new and higher stage of development, still closer contact has been established between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union. Unforgettable will remain for every Bulgarian your visits to our country, your warm words and high assessment of the Bulgarian people, the Bulgarian Communist Party, its struggles and victories, its fidelity to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. For us, Bulgarian communists, for all Bulgarian patriots the foremost duty and honour is to march shoulder to shoulder with the mighty Soviet

Union, with Lenin's great Party, the universally recognized and irreplaceable vanguard of the international communist movement.

In greeting you once more, our dear Nikita Sergeyevich, we embrace you fraternally and with all our heart wish you good health and plenty of energy for the happiness of the Soviet people, the triumph of peace and communism in the world.

**Central Committee of the
Bulgarian Communist Party
Presidium of the National Assembly
of the People's Republic of Bulgaria
Council of Ministers of the
People's Republic of Bulgaria**

Sofia, April 16, 1964

**COMRADE N. S. KHRUSHCHOV AWARDED THE TITLE OF
'HERO OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA'**

D E C R E E

The Presidium of the National Assembly, after examining the proposal of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and expressing the love and gratitude of the Bulgarian people for the great Soviet Union and our excellent comrade and friend Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, in virtue of Art. 35, paragraph 7 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 49 and 50 of the Decree on Orders, Medals and Honorary Titles

Resolves:

Bestows on Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Prime Minister of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the title of 'Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria', and decorates him with the Gold Star and the Georgi

Dimitrov Order on the occasion of his 70th anniversary and for his great contribution to the rout of the Nazi Army and the liberation of the peoples from fascism, for his remarkable activity for the triumph of socialism and communism, his tremendous contribution to the development of Bulgaro-Soviet friendship and the fraternal assistance rendered to the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the building of socialism, and his tireless and consistent fight in defence of world peace.

**President of the Presidium
of the National Assembly
D. GANEV**

**Secretary of the Presidium
of the National Assembly
M. MINCHEV**

Sofia, April 16, 1964

JOINT BULGARO-ALGERIAN COMMUNIQUE

Responding to the invitation of the Presidium of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Ahmed Ben Bella, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Secretary General of the National Liberation Front, visited Bulgaria from May 7 to 11, 1964.

President Ben Bella and the delegation which accompanied him showed great interest in the life and achievements of the Bulgarian people. They visited industrial enterprises, cooperative farms, resorts, and other places. Wherever they went the Algerian visitors were given a rousing welcome, an expression of the warm fraternal feelings of the Bulgarian working people for the representatives of the heroic Algerian nation.

During their stay in Bulgaria the Algerian government delegation, headed by Ahmed Ben Bella, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Secretary General of the National Liberation Front, had talks with a Bulgarian government delegation, headed by Todor Zhivkov, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. Other

participants in the talks were: on behalf of Bulgaria — Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly; Mitko Grigorov, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister; Stanko Todorov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Vice-President of the Council of Ministers; Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister; Colonel General Dobri Djurov, Minister of National Defense; Ivan Bashev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Kiril Ignatov, Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare; Boris Tsvetkov, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to Algeria; and on behalf of Algeria — Abdel Aziz Bouteflika, member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mohammed Seghir Nekkache, member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front, Minister of Social Welfare; Colonel Tahar Zbiri, member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front and Chief-of-staff of the National Liberation Army; Hocine-Zahouane, member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front; Amar Ouzegane, Minister of State; Omar Oussedik, Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to Bulgaria.

The talks were conducted in a warm, friendly atmosphere and in the spirit of complete understanding which characterizes relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

I.

The two parties noted with satisfaction the favourable development of Bulgaro-Algerian relations, the foundations of which were laid during the difficult years of the Algerian people's armed struggle for liberation and national independence and for the building of a new society. They expressed their confidence that the close ties established between the two friendly nations will continue to develop and grow strong on the basis of their common struggle against imperialism and colonialism, and for peace and socialism.

The two parties consider the implementation of the economic, trade, cultural and other agreements which have been concluded so far, as an important contribution to the development of bilateral relations based on mutual advantage. They also agreed that there exist possibilities of considerably broadening their all-round cooperation and mutual relations, and expressed their readiness to take concrete steps for their further still greater and more fruitful development in the future. The People's Republic of Bulgaria agreed in particular to assist the Algerian People's Democratic Republic in the commissioning and fuller exploitation of Algerian industrial enterprises.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria highly values the victory of the Algerian people, who won their national independence by means of a courageous revolutionary struggle. Consistently developing in the interest of the broad masses, the Algerian revolution is a major contribution to the struggle of the oppressed colonial peoples. The revolutionary measures, carried out by the Algerian government under the leadership of President Ben Bella since March 1963, fully established the chosen road to socialism, reinforced the nation's economic independence and opened up new prospects for Algeria's socialist development. Their implementation consolidated the independence of the Algerian Republic, and their significance has transcended its national boundaries.

The Algerian party expressed its admiration for the great achievements scored by the Bulgarian people in the building of socialism under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party and its Central Committee, headed by Todor Zhivkov.

II.

The two parties exchanged opinions which to their mutual satisfaction showed unanimity of views on the major issues in international affairs.

The two parties fully agree that one of the foremost problems in the present international situation is how to preserve peace, and that the only correct policy for the realization of this aim is the policy of peaceful coexistence among states

with differing social and political systems. Convinced that the settlement of the outstanding international issues can and should be arrived at by peaceful means and through negotiations, the two parties reaffirmed their resolve to support by all possible means the just struggle of the peoples for freedom and for consolidating their national independence.

They consider it imperative to reach an agreement on general and complete disarmament in order to achieve lasting peace and security for all nations. The two parties express their hope that the 18-Nation Committee on Disarmament will do everything in its power to find a prompt solution to the responsible task set to it by the UN General Assembly. They are convinced that, with good will on the part of all interested states for reaching an agreement, all difficulties now facing the Geneva Disarmament Conference can be overcome. At that, the two parties consider that the problem of removing the threat of nuclear war is the crux of general and complete disarmament and should rate top priority in the disarmament talks.

The two parties welcome the Moscow Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the understanding unanimously approved by the UN General Assembly not to put engines carrying nuclear heads into orbit, as well as the recent declarations of the governments of the USSR, USA and Great Britain to restrict the production of fissionable material for military purposes.

They consider that these steps must be followed by other agreements which will contribute to the further lessening of international tension, and to the checking of the armament race, and will pave the way for the settlement of the most important and urgent problem of our times, that of general and complete disarmament. The two parties recognize the important bearing in this connection of reaching an agreement on such concrete problems as a reduction of military budgets, the withdrawal of foreign troops and the dismantling of foreign military bases on the territory of other countries. They agree that the problem of checking the proliferation of nuclear weapons should be resolved without further delay. The great danger arising from a further proliferation of nuclear weapons and the urgent necessity of taking measures to check this spreading were unanimously acknowledged by the UN General As-

sembly. The two parties consider that it is imperative to take prompt and efficient measures to block the access of other countries to nuclear weapons. They agree that the plans for setting up multilateral nuclear forces within the framework of NATO present a serious obstacle to reaching an agreement on this key problem, and gravely endanger the cause of peace and disarmament.

The two parties support the proposal of the Soviet government to conclude an international agreement binding the states not to use force in resolving territorial disputes and frontier issues. The Algerian delegation acquainted the Bulgarian party with its stand on this particular question, expressed in the answer to the note of Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, Prime Minister of the USSR.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria greatly values the policy of positive neutrality and non-alignment and the efforts of the Algerian Government and personally of President Ben Bella for the consolidation of peace in Africa and in the whole world.

The two parties attach very great importance to the problem of setting up atom-free zones in different parts of the world in the interest of world peace and security.

The Bulgarian party reaffirmed its high appraisal of the struggle of the African nations to turn Africa into an atom-free zone, and to do away with all foreign military bases on the African continent, and particularly stressed Algeria's contribution in this struggle. The Algerian party declared that it welcomes Bulgaria's efforts to turn the Balkans into an atom-free zone and make the Peninsula an area of lasting peace and security and good-neighbourly relations among all Balkan states.

Both parties fully support the fight of the Cypriot people for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and are opposed to any foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic are convinced that the peoples of Europe and the whole world are interested in the immediate removal of the consequences of the Second World War in Central Europe and in the peaceful settlement of the German problem. The

settlement of the problem of West Berlin in the interest of the German people is also long overdue. This will eliminate a dangerous focal point of conflicts and tensions in international relations.

Both parties reviewed the progress of the national liberation struggles, and the efforts to do away with the last vestiges of colonialism. They demand that the declaration of the UN General Assembly on granting independence to all colonial states and peoples should be promptly and fully implemented, as they are convinced that the vestiges of colonialism are a constant source of conflict and tension, threatening world peace. The two parties sharply condemn the policy of racial discrimination practised by the government of the Union of South Africa, and demand that the UN take sanctions against this country in accordance with the UN Charter and the decisions adopted by this organization. They consider it their duty to continue to render assistance to the African population of the Union of South Africa, fighting for its lawful rights. The two parties note with satisfaction that the liberation struggle of the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Southern Rhodesia and the so-called Portuguese Guinea is gaining in momentum and express their readiness to give them all-round support for their final liberation.

The Bulgarian party states its positive appraisal of the decisions of the Addis Ababa Conference, and the creation of the Organization of African Unity. The rallying of the efforts of all African states in defence of their continent from the colonizers, from neo-colonialism and imperialism, is an important factor in the fight of the African peoples for complete political and economic independence. In this connection, the People's Republic of Bulgaria greatly appreciates the contribution of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic and its President to the building of African unity on an objective and realistic foundation and in the interest of the African nations and of the consolidation of their national independence.

The Bulgarian government notes the major importance of the conference of the heads of the Arab countries in Cairo and approves the decisions it has adopted for the peaceful solution of international issues. Both parties consider that the recognition of the legitimate and indisputable rights of the Palestine

Arabs, in accordance with the respective UN resolutions and the principles of its Charter, is imperative for the consolidation of peace in that part of the world. The Bulgarian party backs up the efforts of the Arab states to achieve unity and to foil the attempts of imperialism to increase tension in the Middle East.

Both parties give their support to the freedom- and peace-loving Yemeni people and condemn the aggressive acts of the British imperialists against the Yemeni Arab Republic. They express their solidarity with and full support for the peoples of Oman and Aden fighting for national independence.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic firmly support the heroic Cuban people, who are building socialism and defending their freedom and national independence. They condemn the attempts of the imperialists to violate the sovereignty of the Republic of Cuba.

Both parties support the heroic struggle of the people of South Vietnam against imperialism, and for freedom and national independence.

They express their serious anxiety in connection with the latest events in Laos, and declare that they support the Geneva agreements of 1962, which are the sole guarantee for the free development of Laos along the road to peace and neutrality.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic consider that the legitimate rights of the Chinese People's Republic in the UN should be re-established. They recognize and support the legitimate rights of the Chinese People's Republic over Taiwan.

Both parties back up the just demands of the Korean people for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea, and for the reunification of Korea by peaceful means and along democratic lines.

The two parties note that the friendship, cooperation and unity between the nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the socialist countries are an important factor in the fight against colonialism and imperialism, and for national independence, peace and progress.

They are convinced that the calling of a conference of the

non-aligned nations will serve the cause of world peace and will help ease international tension.

The Algerian party also considers that the Conference of Afro-Asian countries will contribute to stepping up the struggle against imperialism and colonialism, and will help promote the development of the participating countries. The Bulgarian party states that it will support the calling of a second Afro-Asian conference if its aim is the rallying of all forces fighting against imperialism and colonialism.

Both parties express their hope that the Geneva UN Conference on Trade and Development will contribute to eliminating discrimination in international trade and to furthering economic cooperation to the benefit of all nations and in the interest of world peace.

III.

The Bulgarian Communist Party welcomes the National Liberation Front as the unifying centre of all revolutionary and democratic forces in Algeria in their fight for the progressive development of the Algerian state. It wishes the National Liberation Front success in implementing the decisions adopted by its Congress which are a programme for the building of socialism in the Algerian People's Democratic Republic.

In the course of the talks, the wish was expressed to broaden relations between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the National Liberation Front so that there might be a regular exchange of opinions on problems of mutual interest, as well as of experience in socialist construction.

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The two parties consider the visit of the President of the Algerian Republic, Ben Bella, and the delegation accompanying him as an important contribution to the consolidation of Bulgaro-Algerian friendship.

President Ben Bella extended an invitation to Premier Todor Zhivkov to visit Algeria at the head of a Party and Govern-

ment delegation. Comrade Todor Zhivkov accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later by mutual consent.

Sofia, May 11, 1964

TODOR ZHIVKOV
First Secretary of the Central
Committee of the Bulgarian
Communist Party and Premier
of the People's Republic of
Bulgaria

BEN BELLA
President of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic
and General Secretary of the
National Liberation Front of
Algeria

JOINT BULGARO-YEMENI COMMUNIQUE

At the invitation of the Presidium of the National Assembly and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Marshal Abdala al-Sallal, President of the Yemeni Arab Republic, Chairman of the Political Bureau and Commander-in-chief of the Yemeni armed forces, paid an official visit to Bulgaria from April 4 to 9, 1964.

During their stay in Bulgaria the President of the Yemeni Arab Republic and the official persons accompanying him visited industrial enterprises, state farms, resorts, scientific and cultural institutes and got acquainted with the life of the Bulgarian people and with their achievements in socialist construction and cultural life. Everywhere the delegates of the freedom-loving Yemeni people were accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the Bulgarian working people.

Talks were held between Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria's Prime Minister and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and Abdala al-Sallal, President of the Yemeni Arab Republic, which were attended by: on behalf of Bulgaria — Army General Ivan Mihailov, Vice-Premier; Nikolai Georgiev, Vice-President of the Presidium of the National Assembly; Ivan Bashev, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Ivan Boudinov, Minister of Foreign Trade; and Georgi Tanev, Minister Plenipotentiary, head of department at the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs; and on behalf of Yemen — Messrs Hassan Maki, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Abdel Gani Ali Ahmed, Minister of Finance; Hussein ad-Dafei, Minister of National Defence; Mohammed al-Kaid Seif, Minister of Presidential Problems, and Kassim al-Uazir, Adviser of the President.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and in a spirit of complete understanding.

As a result of these talks, the delegates of the two governments signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, a trade and payments agreement as well as a cultural agreement. The two parties exchanged opinions on the development of scientific and technical cooperation between Bulgaria and Yemen. Bulgaria expressed her readiness to help Yemen train its own cadres. Both parties were of the opinion that these agreements were an important factor for the all-round development of Bulgaro-Yemeni relations based on sincere friendship, full equality, mutual understanding, mutual advantage and non-interference in internal affairs, in the interest of both the Bulgarian and Yemeni peoples.

The two parties are gratified to note that friendly relations link the Bulgarian and Yemeni nations and that the victory of the Yemeni revolution and the proclamation of the Yemeni Arab Republic further strengthens and develops these relations.

The Bulgarian people and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria follow with sympathy the heroic struggle of the Yemeni people for national independence and progress. Bulgaria welcomes the revolution of September 26, 1962, which put an end to feudal and monarchic oppression, liberated the Yemeni people from the fetters of imperialism and opened the road towards the country's independent development.

Bulgaria stresses the importance of the Yemeni revolution for the development of the national-liberation fight in the Arab Peninsula and wholeheartedly upholds the struggle of the people of South Yemen against colonialism.

Both parties are gratified to note that they have common views on major international problems.

They consider the preservation and consolidation of peace to be the foremost problem in the present international situation. To achieve this noble and humane aim, and guided by

the will of their peoples, the Governments of Bulgaria and Yemen are consistently pursuing a policy of peace and peaceful coexistence among states with differing social systems, of friendship and cooperation with all nations.

The two parties are of the opinion that the preservation and consolidation of peace require general and complete disarmament, the signing of a non-aggression pact between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member-states, settling the German problem by peaceful means and establishing atom-free zones in different parts of the world.

The two parties declare that they unanimously uphold the Moscow Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, as well as the proposal of the leader of the Soviet Government, N. S. Khrushchov, of December 31, 1963, for signing an agreement on desisting from the use of force in settling territorial and border disputes.

The Bulgarian people and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria highly appraise the policy of positive neutrality and non-commitment pursued by the Yemeni Government, for averting a new nuclear war, for wiping out the last vestiges of the colonial system, for the dismantling of all military bases on foreign territory, for peace and peaceful coexistence.

The Yemeni delegates declare that they appreciate the Bulgarian Government's noble efforts aimed at the establishment of a lasting peace between nations, and particularly between the Balkan states, and at turning the Balkans and the Mediterranean into an atom-free zone.

The two parties uphold the Cypriots' fight against foreign interference in Cyprus' internal affairs.

The two parties consider that the early application of the declaration on granting independence to the colonial countries and peoples, adopted by the UN, is an indispensable condition for consolidating peace, because the vestiges of the colonial system are a constant source of conflicts and tension in international affairs.

The two parties are of the opinion that friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America and those of the socialist countries are an important factor in the fight against colonialism and imperialism, for peace and social progress in the world.

Bulgaria stresses the great importance of the decisions taken at the Cairo Conference of the Arab Heads of States, supports the decision for a peaceful settlement of international issues and for the realization of the rights of the Palestine Arabs, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and the respective UN resolutions.

The two parties condemn the latest aggressive British actions against the Yemeni town of Harib and call upon the Security Council to take the necessary measures against a possible repetition of such actions. They declare that the dismantling of the foreign base in Aden is indispensable for eliminating the colonial system in that region.

The two parties resolutely condemn the policy and actions of the racist government of the South African Republic, which are in flagrant contradiction to the UN Charter and trample upon elementary human rights. In conformity with the UN declaration on granting independence to the colonial countries and peoples, they consider that the African population of South Rhodesia should be granted the right to self-determination. The two governments uphold the heroic struggle of the Angola patriots and all the other peoples fighting for their freedom and national independence.

The two parties welcome the UN Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva and express the hope that it will propose concrete measures for the development of international trade on terms of perfect equality, by doing away with discrimination and safeguarding the interests of the developing countries in the world. The establishment of an international trade organization would be highly useful for the attainment of these aims.

The two parties expressed their conviction that the visit of Marshal Abdala al-Sallal, President of the Yemeni Arab Republic, to Bulgaria will contribute to the further all-round development and consolidation of friendly relations between the two countries, to strengthening peace and friendship among all nations in the world.

For the People's Republic of
Bulgaria
Prime Minister
TODOR ZHIVKOV

For the Yemeni Arab
Republic
President
ABDALA AL-SALLAL

NEW TIMES

Theoretical organ of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian
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Review

*Loyal Disciple of Lenin and
Continuer of His Work* — editorial.

This article, written on the occasion of the 70th birthday of N. S. Khrushchov, traces the historic activity of the leader of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Soviet state as the man who headed the fight against the personality cult and for the triumph of the Leninist principles in Party and state leadership. His political career from a mining worker to Prime Minister of the USSR, from a secretary of a Party cell to the universally acknowledged leader of the CPSU and an outstanding figure in the international communist movement is reviewed here. N. S. Khrushchov's merits in constructively resolving the problems of management in agriculture and industry and of the all-out construction of communism are brought out cogently.

The article devotes considerable space to the role of N. S. Khrushchov in the fight for peace and friendship among nations, and for the triumph of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

Light is thrown on the role of N. S. Khrushchov as a creative Marxist-Leninist and indomitable fighter against dogmatism, revisionism and bourgeois ideology, on the background of the creative development of Marxism-Leninism at the 20th, 21st and 22nd CPSU congresses, the historical significance of the Programme of the CPSU and their impact on the development of the Soviet Union and the world communist movement.

In conclusion, reviewing the latest stage in the development of Bulgaro-Soviet friendship, the article describes N. S. Khrushchov as a warm friend of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people, and stresses his great role in the development and consolidation of friendship and collaboration between our two countries and peoples.

*A New and Higher Stage in
the Development of Bulgaro-
Soviet Friendship* — leader, which reviews the new stage in bringing closer the economies of Bulgaria and the USSR, as well as their culture, science and technology.

The first part of the article points out how conditions have been created for the solution of one of the most complex non-antagonistic contradictions in Bulgaria's advance toward socialism and communism: the limited raw material resources and market characteristic of a small country, on the one hand, and the necessity of launching series production dictated by the laws of the modern process of labour, on the other. In this respect a key role has been assigned to a newly established inter-governmental Bulgaro-Soviet commission. Its function will be to draft proposals for the effective solution of the foremost problems of the coordinated development of the basic sectors of the Bulgarian and Soviet economies and submit them to the governments of both countries.

The second part of the article is devoted to the effect which the new stage in the rapprochement between the Bulgarian and Soviet economies will have on the new solution of another non-antagonistic contradiction in Bulgaria's further advance towards socialism and communism; the contradiction between the existing internal potentialities of accelerating the growth rate (which is determined by the size of accumulation and the effectiveness of capital investments) and the necessity of catching up with the economic and cultural development of the most advanced socialist countries, so that the gradual passing over to communism may be achieved almost simultaneously within the same historical period.

The last part of the article examines the political, cultural and other characteristic features of the new stage of rapprochement

between Bulgaria and the USSR, the development of Bulgaro-Soviet friendship, and friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

The answers of Premier Todor Zhivkov to questions put to him by Belkassam Benyahya, director of the newspaper *El Moudjahid*, of the National Liberation Front in Algeria, have been published under the title *Friendship and Cooperation to the Advantage of the Bulgarian and the Algerian Peoples*. They contain a thorough analysis of the tasks set by the 1964 plan, with an emphasis on the advantages of socialist planning; the role and essence of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is discussed in detail in contrast to the closed imperialist associations and the role and place of Bulgaria in the organization is described; the attitude of our country to the national-liberation struggles of the peoples, as well as to the decisions of the conference held in Addis Ababa, and the recent Cairo Conference of Arab Heads of States is defined; the positive attitude of the Bulgarian people to the prolonged struggle of the Algerian people for freedom and national independence is also underlined, as well as important considerations for broadening the friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and the Algerian nations.

Law-Governed Phenomena in the Building of Bulgaria's Socialist Economy, by Professor Krustyu Dobrev.

Proceeding from the actual building of socialism and communism in the Soviet Union and the people's democracies, the writer sees three

stages in the building of the communist society. (1) A transition period from capitalism to socialism, in which socialist relations of production become predominant. (2) The completion of the building of the socialist society. (3) The all-out construction of communism. Proceeding from these basic theses, Professor Dobrev discusses in great detail the first stage of development in Bulgaria, and dwells *in extenso* on the problems solved during the second stage which is now in progress in Bulgaria. He makes a thorough analysis of the character and special features of the building of the material and technical foundations of socialism, underlining the important role of the Soviet Union and the international socialist cooperation for our country, as well as the law-governed phenomena of the socialist economy and the prospects of the further development of Bulgaria.

Truth and Dogmatism, by Ivan Kirilov.

In this article, which examines important philosophical problems of the fight against contemporary dogmatism, the author sets out to show, from the point of view of Marxist-Leninist theory on truth, the profound scientific and vital foundation of the great contribution of creative Marxism-Leninism and to reveal the futility of the dogmatists' attempt to deny this contribution.

In the first part of the article Kirilov dwells on the problem of defining truth and explains that it is the subjective image of objective phenomena, reflecting the sum total and the interrelation of their different aspects, i.e. their essence. The definition of our period, expounded in the new pro-

gramme of the CPSU, is of precisely such a nature, and is therefore the truth. The author points out that the dogmatic definition of our period is not the truth, because it does not reveal its sum total and the interrelation of its different aspects, i.e. it fails to reveal its essence.

In the second part of this article Kirilov discusses the problem of the interrelation between absolute and relative truth, and makes a special analysis of the dogmatists' views on absolute truth. Dogmatism, the writer points out, rejects relative truth and only recognizes absolute truth. Moreover, even this absolute truth it conceives as something rigid, petrified, and divorced from space and time.

For a New Upsurge of the Communist Labour Movement, by Alexander Manolov.

The author analyzes the development and present state of the communist labour movement, and stresses the main objective which faces the participants in this drive as a higher stage of participation in socialist emulation. The relation of the communist labour movement and the other forms of socialist emulation is also discussed: how to combine it with the other initiatives of the working people for the fulfilment of plans and pledges ahead of schedule, and for a more rational use of all reserves and potentialities of production enterprises and farms. The participants in the communist labour movement, the author concludes, set themselves most exacting tasks and obligations of a complex character, the fulfilment of which makes it possible to achieve greater advance

both in production and in the training and education of the working people.

On the National Character of Our New Literature, by Professor Pantalei Zarev.

Professor Zarev discusses the process of our contemporary literature's growing ties with the life of the people, its ideological purposefulness and its quest for novel methods, based on the new phenomena in our life. The power of literature, the author stresses, lies not only in its imagery and its ideology, but also in the national features of the psychology, morals and typical human qualities with which it is imbued.

Any estrangement from the life of the people, the author concludes, checks the creative élan of imagination, stunts the style and genre variety of literature, and reduces its educational value.

Work with the Propagandists, by Dimitar Byanov.

The article is devoted to the basic problems in the decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of our Party on the re-organization and further improvement of Party education. The role and importance of the Party's ideological work inculcating a scientific and materialistic world outlook in communists and the working people and their education in the spirit of communist consciousness are discussed, and in this connection the necessity of enhancing the ideological and theoretical level of Marxist-Leninist propaganda is pointed out, as well as the general improvement of the organization and forms of political mass education.

The author also discusses the

main tasks and trends in the re-organization of Party education so as to raise its ideological content and impact, and to link it with the economic tasks and organizational work of all Party organs and organizations. In this connection the task of the selection and training of propagandists is also discussed, and a number of concrete questions of elaborating scientific problems in propaganda work are reviewed.

The following articles are included in *Economic Problems of Agriculture*:

Effect of Investments in the Mechanization of Stockbreeding, by Maria Maximova.

On the basis of ample material and practical experience, Maria Maximova discusses some methodological problems of the economic effect of capital investments in the mechanization of stockbreeding and the effect of the funds so far expended for this purpose. More particularly, she analyzes the effect of investments in the mechanization of cattle-breeding, pig and poultry farming, and discusses the achievements and shortcomings in this field. She also makes a number of valuable proposals for raising the effectiveness of mechanization in these important sectors of the nation's economy.

Seasonal Purchasing, Prices of Farm Produce, by Totyu Angarski.

Proceeding from the fact that more labour is expended in winter for the production and preservation of products of animal and plant origin, and with a view to stimulating their production in winter, the author proposes the introduction of seasonal prices for these products.

The column *'The Common Market — A Collective Exploiter of the Peoples'* carries an article entitled *'Euro-Africa'*, by Avram Melamed. The article discusses the associating of 18 underdeveloped African countries to the Common Market of the six most developed West-European capitalist countries. Characterizing Euro-Africa as a new form of the attempts to redistribute the African markets and raw material resources, to control the economic development of some of the newly-liberated countries, and to keep them within the capitalist economic system, the author points out that the customs union with the six European countries will have the most serious consequences for the future of the 18 African states. This union, he points out, creates unsurmountable difficulties in building up their national industries, legalizes non-equivalent commodity exchanges, preserves the international division of labour established under colonialism and, in the final count, perpetuates the economic backwardness of the young nations.

The author further discusses the Common Market's special funds 'in aid' of the associated African countries, and shows that they are an important means of keeping them in a state of economic and political dependence and of consolidating the old and winning new positions for the imperialists in the newly-liberated countries.

In conclusion, A. Melamed dwells on the conditions under which Euro-Africa has been created and is acting. He points out that today when the power of imperialism is on the wane and the economic and political might and impact of the world socialist system are growing, more favour-

able conditions are created to oppose the domination drive of the imperialists, and ultimately to resolve the problem of the national liberation movement in Africa.

The column *'Pages of the Correspondent'* contains an article entitled *Unity of the Democratic Forces in France*, by Vlado Kostov. The article discusses the problem of forging the unity of the democratic forces in France, especially between the French Communist Party and the French Socialist Party. Reviewing a number of facts from the past, and analyzing France's present political situation, the author convincingly proves the necessity and possibility of such a unity. He devotes special place to the efforts of the French Communist Party to achieve this unity among the democratic forces in France and the waverings of the present leadership of the French Socialist Party, which are an obstacle in the way of this unity.

The column *'Criticism and Book Review'* contains the following reviews: *Widely Popularizing and Studying the Problems of Moral Education*, by Totyu Botev on the collection *'Talks on Communist Morals'*, published by Narodna Mladezh, 1963, pp. 310.

'Criticism of the Bourgeois Critics of Marxism', by Pavel Pissarev, on the book of K. I. Grigorov *'New Trends in the Bourgeois Criticism of Marxist Political Economy'*, published by Nauka i Izkoustvo, 1963, pp. 167.

'An Important Problem of Party Work', by Alexander Mitev, on the book of I. Zhoukov *'Concern for Men — Prime Obligation of the Communist'*, published by the Bulgarian Communist Party Publishing House, 1963, pp. 163.

NEWS ITEMS

April, 1964

1—12. As a result of the negotiations carried out between a Bulgarian Government Delegation, headed by Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the CC of the BCP and Minister of Foreign Trade, and an Algerian Government Delegation, headed by Abdelkader Zaibek, Minister of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones, on April 11, 1964, in the city of Algiers, the following new agreements were signed between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic: 1. Agreement on Expanding Trade Cooperation; 2. Agreement on Establishment of a Bulgaro-Algerian Economic Committee; 3. A Credit Agreement; 4. Agreement on Tourism; 5. A Protocol on Setting up a Mixed Bulgaro-Algerian Drug Factory; 6. A Protocol on the Establishment of a Mixed Bulgaro-Algerian Enterprise for the production of cognac distillate; 7. A Protocol on Mining and Geological Survey; 8. A Protocol on Extending the Payment Agreement. The negotiations were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation.

2—10. As a result of negotiations held between the Government Trade Delegations of Bulgaria and Sweden, a trade agreement was signed on April 10, 1964 between the two countries.

Bulgaria will export to Sweden machines, textiles, fresh and processed farm produce and other goods, and will import machinery and equipment, steel, ball bearings, paper, etc.

3—9. On the invitation of the Presidium of the National Assembly and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the President of the Arab Republic of Yemen, chairman of the Political Bureau and commander-in-chief, Marshal Abdala al-Sallal, paid an official visit to Bulgaria from April 4 to 9, 1964.

During his stay in Bulgaria the President of the YAR and the persons who accompanied him, visited a number of industrial enterprises, state farms, resorts, research and cultural institutions, and familiarized themselves with the life of the Bulgarian people

and their achievements in socialist and cultural construction.

Negotiations were carried on between the Prime Minister of Bulgaria and First Secretary of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Todor Zhivkov, and the President of the Yemeni Arab Republic, Abdala al-Sallal.

As a result of the negotiations, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship and complete understanding, the representatives of the two governments signed a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, a Trade and Payment Agreement, and an Agreement on Cultural Collaboration. The two parties exchanged views on the development of scientific and technical cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the YAR, Bulgaria expressing her readiness to help the YAR in the training of cadres.

6—11. In fulfilment of the decisions of the 18th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, an economic delegation from the Mongolian People's Republic visited Bulgaria for the purpose of coordinating plans for the development of the economies of the two countries for the period of 1966-70.

The talks between the two countries were held in a spirit of friendship, fraternal cooperation and complete mutual understanding.

Pursuant to the negotiations, the possibilities of collaborating in the field of industry, agriculture, construction and geological research were mapped out.

Bulgaria will build for the Mongolian People's Republic on credit a number of enterprises for the processing of farm produce, will assist it in geological prospect-

ing, cooperate with it in the setting up of state farms, and render gratuitous assistance in combating diseases in animals.

9. The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party sent a message of greetings to the Fifth Congress of the Bulgarian Red Cross.

14. Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov received Dr. Rafaele Girotti, General Director of the Italian concern ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi), who visited our country.

12. Stoyan Stoyanov, member of the CC of the Bulgarian Communists Party, left for Ceylon to take part in the work of the Seventh Congress of the Ceylonese Communist Party.

15—18. A Bulgarian delegation consisting of the First Secretary of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov, General Ivan Mikhailov, member of the Politbureau of the CC of the BCP and Deputy Prime Minister, Minister Stoyan Tonchev, member of the Standing Committee of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, Vladimir Videnov, member of the CC of the BCP and First Secretary of the Sofia City Committee of the BCP, and Nikolai Boyadjiev, president of the Varna City Council, visited the Soviet Union and took part in the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the First Secretary of the CC of the CPSU and Prime Minister of the USSR, Comrade Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov.

15. A group of officials of the All-Polish National Unity Front arrived in Sofia to familiarize themselves with the political, edu-

cational and propaganda work among the masses of the Fatherland Front. The group is headed by the Secretary of the All-Polish People's Unity Front, Zofia Tomchik.

16. The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Presidium of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Prime Minister of the USSR, on the occasion of his 70th anniversary.

● On the proposal of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and in testimony of the love and gratitude of the Bulgarian people to the great Soviet Union and our great comrade and friend, Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, the Presidium of the National Assembly issued a Decree in virtue of which Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Prime Minister of the USSR, an outstanding figure in the international communist and workers' movement, was awarded the title of 'Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria' and was decorated with the Gold Star and the Georgi Dimitrov Order on the occasion of his 70th anniversary and for his great contribution to the rout of the Nazi army and the liberation of the peoples from fascism, for his remarkable activity for the triumph of socialism and communism, for his tre-

mendous contribution to the development of Bulgaro-Soviet friendship and the fraternal assistance rendered to the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the building of socialism and his tireless and consistent fight in defence of world peace.

17. A trade agreement and an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Congo (Leopoldville) were signed in Sofia.

In accordance with the terms of the trade agreement, Bulgaria will supply the Republic of Congo with machinery and equipment, complete plant, textiles and ready-made clothes, chemicals and drugs, tinned fruit and vegetables, and other commodities, in exchange for coffee, cocoa, rubber, tin, copper, sunflower cake and other goods.

18. The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party sent a message of greetings to the First Congress of the National Liberation Front in Algeria.

● In Havana, pursuant to negotiation, which lasted several days and were held in an atmosphere of perfect understanding and cordiality, a plan for the implementation, of the cultural agreement between the two countries in 1964 and 1965 was signed.

The plan provides for a further development of cultural exchanges between Bulgaria and Cuba.

20. After a prolonged illness, one of the most prominent organizers and leaders of the Bulgarian revolutionary movement, outstanding worker of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the People's Re-

public of Bulgaria, Dimitar Ganeyev, member of the Politbureau of the CC of the BCP and President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, passed away in Sofia.

22. A delegation arrived in Sofia from the Soviet Union to attend the funeral of the President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, Dimitar Ganeyev. The delegation was composed of: Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR and Secretary of the CC of the CPSU and V. I. Kozlov, Deputy-President of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

● Official foreign delegations of Hungary, Rumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Yugosla-

via, Greece, Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Israel arrived in Sofia to attend the funeral of Dimitar Ganeyev, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

23. The Sixth Session of the Fourth National Assembly was opened in Sofia. On behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Executive Committee of the National Council of the Fatherland Front and the parliamentary groups of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, Comrade Todor Zhivkov proposed and the National Assembly unanimously elected Comrade Georgi Traikov, secretary and outstanding functionary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, as President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.