



CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

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**ADDRESS
OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY
TO THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE ON THE 21st
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION
IN BULGARIA.**

Comrades,
Citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party warmly greets you on the occasion of our greatest national holiday, the Ninth of September, the Day of our liberation from fascism and capitalism, the Day of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

For 21 years we have now been marching along the road of socialism. And the farther away time takes us from the armed people's rising of September 9, the more brightly shines forth the greatness and momentous significance of the popular triumph for the development of Bulgaria and the happiness and prosperity of our people.

Under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, united under the banner of the Fatherland Front, and relying on the crucial fraternal assistance of the Soviet Army of Liberation, on September 9, 1944, the Bulgarian people swept away the venal monarcho-fascist dictatorship and laid the foundations of the socialist revolution in our country, thus becoming the masters of their destiny. Therein lie the roots of the profound revolutionary changes which have encompassed all spheres of our life.

The triumph of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria was no gift from heaven. It was won the hard way, over long years

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and Spanish.

of heroic struggle at the price of many precious lives. In celebrating the 21st anniversary of the Ninth of September, Party and people pay tribute to the great feat and the self-sacrifice of those who fell in the struggle against fascism and capitalism. At the same time, they do well-deserved honour to all revolutionary fighters, to the former partisans, political prisoners and helpers, to all progressive workers who passed through the fire of this struggle, and since the Ninth of September have been taking an active part in socialist construction.

Dear fellow-countrymen,

In the years of people's rule our country has changed beyond recognition. Far-reaching transformations have taken place in the nation's economy, the structure of society and the life of the working people, and socialism has come to stay for good.

At the Eighth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party an impressive programme for the completion of socialist construction in our country and for the gradual transition to the building of the material and technical foundations of communism was mapped out. This programme is now being successfully implemented.

Under the domination of capitalism and fascism Bulgaria was a poor and backward agricultural country, but today it is a socialist state with a rapidly expanding economy and prosperous co-operative farming. This can be seen and sensed by all the working people in our country, by all who visit it. Even many of the enemies of socialism, who once prophesied that our plans were doomed to failure, are now compelled to recognize our remarkable successes.

What are the facts, what do the data on the nation's economic development show? These data are particularly striking and indicative. They are the best yardstick of the big stride which the People's Republic of Bulgaria has made in the brief historical period from September 9, 1944 to the present.

The national income, which is the most synthesizing indicator of a nation's development, has increased several times over in this period. This increase has been most pronounced in recent years. Taking 1939 as 100, the national income climbed to 179 in 1956 and to 364 in 1964.

In 1964 industrial output was 19 times as high as in 1939. Almost half of all industrial capital was created after 1956.

The sectors, which are of key importance for the construction of the material and technical foundations of socialism, were or are now being built up at rapid rates. We are deservedly proud of such industrial giants as the Kremikovtsi iron and steel works, the Maritsa-East power complex, the petrochemical works at Bourgas, the nitrogen fertilizer works at Stara Zagora, and the Medet copper smelter and refinery. This year alone a number of new enterprises and extensions of existing ones have been put into operation, such as the steel mill and blast furnace in Kremikovtsi, the first extension of the petrochemical works at Bourgas, the extension of the Georgi Damyanov copper smelter and refinery at Pirdop, the glass-packaging materials plant, the first extension for the terra cotta pipe factory in Pleven, the semi-cellulose, cardboard and corrugated pasteboard plant at Isker Station, and many more. Other enterprises are to be built and put into operation in the next few years, including a chemical works at Vratsa, a steam power plant at Varna, the Maritsa-East-2 steam power plant, the Troyanovo-2 and Troyanovo-3 open-cast mines, the chemical fibre plants at Svishtov and Yambol, Vidin and Bourgas, a synthetic rubber plant, an automobile tyre factory and many more.

After the Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Party in April 1956, our machine-building has developed apace.

Power output has increased from 266 million kWh in 1939 to 2,393 million kWh in 1956, and this year will top the 10,000 million mark, i. e. a 37.5-fold increase over 1939. In the pre-war past Bulgaria produced practically no pig iron, steel, lead, zinc, copper, lathes, nitrogen fertilizers and other heavy industry staples, while now these have a big share in our nation's economy. Today Bulgaria ranks among the first in the world in the production of non-ferrous metals a head. In the world socialist economy our country is one of the foremost producers of hoisting and hauling equipment, as well as of electrical engineering products. Among the Comecon member-states Bulgaria accounts for 98 per cent of exports of electric trucks, 96 per cent of electric hoists, 50 per cent of a.c. electric motors, and so on, of the total mutual exports.

The consumer goods industry is developing at rapid rates. The output of cotton fabrics has jumped from 34.1 million metres in 1939 to 268.8 million metres in 1964, of woollens —

from 5.3 million metres to 18.7 million metres, of sugar — from 25,000 tons to 225,000 tons, and of shoes — from 3,983,000 pairs in 1956 to 9,920,000 pairs in 1964. The output of fridges, washing machines, radio and television sets, electric cookers and so on is ever more increasing and broadening in range.

The development of socialist agriculture, which has achieved new brilliant successes since the Plenary Session of April 1956, is the pride of Bulgaria. Our countryside has been transformed today. Under the care of the Party and the People's Government, owing to the tireless and persistent work of our peasants, the co-operative farms are being increasingly stabilized. Most of the key farming operations have been mechanized. Irrigated areas are augmenting steadily. Production of artificial fertilizers is growing quickly. Regardless of the inclement weather conditions, average yields have increased and been stabilized in recent years. Work is also improving in stock-breeding. Annual averages for the 1957-64 period were as follows, with corresponding 1934-39 averages in brackets: wheat — 2,205,000 tons (1,867,000 tons); maize — 1,519,000 tons (922,000 tons); Oriental tobacco — 87,000 tons (33,000 tons); sugar beet — 1,403,000 tons (137,000 tons); tomatoes — 607,000 tons (42,000 tons); and grapes 804,000 tons (474,000 tons).

The secret of these great achievements is to be sought in the nature, the stability and vitality of the co-operative system, in the correct policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and in the industriousness of the farmers.

In recent years substantial successes were achieved in the development of transport, communications, trade and other sectors of the nation's economy. New electric railway lines were put into operation, diesel engines and other improvements were introduced. Bulgaria now has good roads, kept in proper shape.

Today there is a nation-wide labour upsurge all over the country for the fulfilment of the historical decisions of the Eighth Congress of the Party, of the stupendous programme for the nation's development in the period of 1967-80. By the end of this year our Fourth Five-Year Plan will have been fulfilled and along many lines overfulfilled. Progress was particularly pronounced last year, our jubilee year. In honour of

the 21st anniversary of the Ninth of September, socialist emulation developed a new momentum. This year's economic plan is being successfully fulfilled and over-fulfilled. Over-plan production in industry alone during the first half of the current year amounted to 140 million leva. Our agriculture is making good progress. High yields of wheat and other autumn crops have been obtained all over the country. This will enable us to secure the necessary food for the population and also to set aside state reserves.

The Bulgarian Communist Party is making great efforts and doing much to steadily improve economic management. After the April 1956 Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party a number of important measures were implemented to overcome subjectivism in economic management and to make fuller and better use of the objectively operating economic laws.

The socialist cultural revolution, as an integral part of the revolutionary reorganization of society, is also being realized at extremely rapid rates. In the years of people's rule science and education, culture and art have been flourishing. Scientific achievements are being increasingly applied in socialist construction, education is being reorganized in accordance with the needs of life. The rapid development of university and vocational education is an important gain for our nation. Today every fifth citizen of socialist Bulgaria is studying. The cinema, radio and television now take an important place in the people's life. A number of fine works of socialist realism have been produced in art and literature. Bulgarian architecture has achieved great successes. An entire generation of artists, musicians and singers, who have carried the fame of their country the world over, has grown up under the care of the Party and the People's Government. Folk art, which found striking expression this year in the First National Festival in Koprivshitsa, is coming ever more to the fore and developing.

In the drive for the socialist reorganization of society, the social, political and ideological unity of the people, and their unity around the Bulgarian Communist Party, have been cemented. Our working people are taking an ever more active part in the government of the country, in discussing all the major questions of social development. Socialist legality has been

consolidated in the country. The role of the people's councils and the other state organs is growing steadily.

Comrades,

The successes achieved in socialist construction rejoice our entire people, and all our numerous friends.

Our working people have every right to be proud of the heroic road they have travelled in this period. It was no bed of roses. Many difficulties had to be overcome, and a number of shortcomings in our work had to be eliminated. Future generations will always be grateful to all the working people who are successfully erecting the impressive and wonderful building of socialism in our country.

Armed with a clear programme for the nation's development, the Party is now concentrating the efforts of the entire people on solving the main tasks, on the development of those sectors which are of key importance for the further advance of the nation's economy.

Now that Bulgaria has become an industrial-cum-agricultural country, we are faced with a new and most important task: to turn Bulgaria into a highly industrialized and, above all, engineering nation within a short time.

The Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the BCP, held last June, after a detailed discussion, decided to step up the development of machine-building and secure an up-to-date technical level for it.

The accelerated development of machine-building will contribute to the most rational utilization of the country's manpower and natural resources, to increasing the national income, speeding up technical progress and achieving a steady rise in the people's living standards. The rapid build-up of our own machine-building must be a prime militant task, a nation-wide cause.

The Central Committee of the Party is also preparing an extensive discussion and solution of other important problems, linked with the further development of the country. The directives for the Fifth Five-Year Plan are about to be published.

The decisive factor for new successes in socialist construction is the inspired and persevering labour of the people and the correct Marxist-Leninist policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party. The Bulgarian people, closing ranks around their own

Party, will overcome all difficulties and obstacles along their road, and will win new victories on the road of socialism and communism.

Bulgaria's triumphant socialist development will proceed, as heretofore, under the beneficent influence of the live-giving Bulgaro-Soviet friendship, of the fraternal assistance of the great Soviet Union and in co-operation with the other socialist countries.

Comrades,

The Party knows of no greater care than care for man, for the ever fuller satisfaction of his material and cultural requirements. The measures which the Central Committee and the Government have taken in recent years for the rapid improvement of the general living standards are a striking and indisputable proof of this.

In 1964, as compared with 1952, the real incomes of the working people more than doubled. In comparison with 1952, last year trade was nearly quadrupled. Consumption of such prime necessities as meat and meat products, milk and dairy products, eggs, sugar, fruit, vegetables, cottons and woollens, shoes and so on, has increased considerably. Last year savings in the State Savings Bank totalled over 1,300 million leva. More and more sums are set aside to increase public consumption funds, which are an important factor in raising living standards; in the 1952-64 period they more than quadrupled, while this year they will amount to 1,265 million leva, i. e. nearly one-fifth of the national income. This means that there is more money available for free education and public health work, for the upkeep of kindergartens and nurseries, for the working people's vacations, and so on. Pensions alone required the sum of 351 million leva in 1964, a more than fourfold increase over 1952. Every single family, every single citizen avails himself of the public funds, thus considerably swelling their real incomes. The Party and the Government will continue to take great care to speed up housing construction, urban and rural town-planning, improvement of trade and services, development of transport and communications and growth of the working people's real incomes. Many of these questions will be resolved within the framework of the Fifth Five-Year Plan, in accordance with the country's real economic potentialities, the growth of the national income and labour productivity.

Comrades,

We are celebrating the 21st anniversary of our socialist revolution amid an active fight of the peoples and the progressive forces of the world for peace and for peaceful coexistence of states with differing social systems, against the aggressive policy of imperialism. In recent times the most reactionary imperialist circles, and particularly the American imperialists, have been resorting ever more frequently to provocations, threats of force and aggression, thus hoping to obstruct the fight for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism, and to put a brake on the advance of the world revolutionary process.

The USA imperialists launched a flagrant aggression against the Vietnamese people. They continue to escalate the war in South Vietnam, and to carry out piratical air-raids against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Grossly violating the rights and vital interests of the people, the USA invaded the Dominican Republic, and bombarded Laos; it has been intervening in the domestic affairs of the newly-liberated nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Abetted and backed by them, the West German monopolies are trying to get hold of atomic weapons and are scheming for new wars.

All this considerably increases the tension in international relations and the danger of a new world war.

But the imperialist warmongers and war-lovers will never achieve their ends — to bring the peoples to their knees. The forces of progress and socialism are advancing in the whole world, and no matter what they do, the reactionaries cannot stop them.

The world socialist system, the decisive factor in world developments, grows more powerful with every passing year. The remarkable successes of the Soviet people in building communism, in the development of science and technology, of culture and art, arouse admiration and joy among all progressive people. Never before has the lodestar of communism, lit by the Great October Socialist Revolution, shone so brightly on our horizon, lighting mankind's road so brilliantly as in our day. The land of the Soviets and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will win new and still greater triumphs in the coming years along the road mapped out by the Pro-

gramme of the CPSU, the 20th and 22nd Congresses, and the October and November Plenary Sessions of the CPSU.

We wholeheartedly rejoice at the successes achieved by the other fraternal socialist countries as well. These successes increase the might of the entire world socialist community, and make the attraction of socialism still greater.

As an integral part of the world socialist system, the People's Republic of Bulgaria makes unceasing efforts to consolidate and broaden friendship and fraternal co-operation with the other socialist countries, and takes an active part in the international socialist division of labour, striving for the closest co-operation with the socialist countries. Under the leadership of their Party, the Bulgarian people will continue to march shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union and the fraternal peoples of the remaining socialist countries.

The flame of the Great October Revolution burns today in the hearts of hundreds of millions of people in all continents, of all races and nationalities. The world communist movement now unites in its ranks over 46 million fearless fighters against capitalism and leads hundreds of millions of working people from all over the world under its banners. The struggle of the working class and the other working strata for freedom and democracy, in defence of their rights, for socialism and communism, is continuously gaining in scope and vigour. The national liberation movement of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America is recording an unprecedented advance.

The aggressive policy adopted by the American imperialists demands of the peaceable peoples that they should intensify the struggle to preserve and strengthen world peace. In order to bar the road of war, all the peaceable and progressive forces in the world must rise in a resolute struggle. These forces are capable of frustrating the treacherous plans of imperialism and of all war-lovers and adventurers, and of preserving and strengthening world peace.

The struggle against the aggressive policy of imperialism, against war and tensions in the world, for peace, democracy and national independence, for the triumph of socialism and communism, urgently sets forth the historical imperative to strengthen the unity of the international communist and workers' movement under the banner of Marxism-Leninism,

of the world socialist system, of all progressive and democratic forces. The proletarian internationalism and unity of these forces are the chief condition for barring the road to American aggression, upsetting the plans of militarism and revanchism, and giving a new impetus to the world revolutionary process. The Bulgarian Communist Party and the People's Republic of Bulgaria are doing their level best to cement this unity, to overcome all differences of opinion in the international communist movement and the world socialist community.

The whole Bulgarian nation is profoundly indignant at the bloody crimes of the American imperialists, and firmly insists on an immediate cessation of their aggression against the people of Vietnam. With all our heart and soul we support the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people, and give them and shall continue to give them selfless support and fraternal assistance.

The aspirations of our people to live in peace and understanding with other nations is most strikingly manifested in the policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the Balkans. Bulgaria continues to broaden and strengthen its fraternal relations with the neighbouring socialist countries. The Central Committee of the Party and the People's Government make constant efforts for the further development of good-neighbourly relations with Greece and Turkey. In this respect a good start has been made already. The first successes in normalizing Bulgaria's relations with its southern neighbours will undoubtedly be conducive to a further improvement of the climate in the Balkans, and to transforming our Peninsula into a region of peace, good neighbourliness and friendly collaboration.

Comrades,

The foremost nation-wide task now is to fulfil and overfulfil the economic plan for 1965 — the final year of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. This will be a great economic and political triumph for our people. The results achieved in the present year will be the foundation of the further development of the productive forces in the new Five-Year Plan. Up to the end of the year — every branch, every enterprise and co-operative farm must fulfil its plan! Such is the slogan of Party and country.

In the drive for plan fulfilment still greater efforts must be made to produce more net output and net income, to increase the national income. The chief condition for this is steadily

to raise labour productivity, to economize power, prime and raw materials as much as possible. More, less expensive and higher-quality production — that is the main task for every manager, worker, co-operative farmer and specialist today.

In industry and agriculture, as well as in all the other sectors of production the drive to make up for the damage and losses caused by this year's drought must be still further intensified.

Working people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria!

The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party calls upon you to join in nation-wide socialist emulation and tireless work to implement the 1965 plan ahead of schedule along all lines, in order to fulfil the Fourth Five-Year Plan with honour.

Workers, engineers, technicians and experts!

The great task of steadily developing and perfecting production, and increasing public wealth faces you.

All efforts must be directed to fulfilling the task set by the June Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party — to turn the People's Republic of Bulgaria into an advanced engineering nation.

Bulgarian builders!

Capital construction is of crucial importance in building the material and technical foundations of socialism and communism.

Fight for a model organization of work and assembly-line methods in construction, for the extension of work on stable contract value, for the introduction of new effective materials and for high-quality work in construction and assembly! Build rapidly, inexpensively and see to it that your work is first-grade! Your militant slogan is now: Put high-grade new projects into operation ahead of schedule!

Co-operative farmers, tractor-drivers and combine-operators, farm workers and specialists! Work tirelessly to harvest in time the spring crops, tobaccos, second crops, fruits and vegetables! Do your deep ploughing and autumn sowing, the pledge for high yields next year, in time in the most favourable agrotechnical seasons, and see to it that it is well done! Let us make all efforts to secure the necessary fodder for the cattle — the chief prerequisite for increasing the productivity of farm animals!

Workers, specialists and clerks in transport and communications!

The rapid progress of our economy and culture places important tasks before you.

Fight for the accelerated reorganization of transport and communications! Preserve and utilize most effectively all means of transport, machines and equipment! Constantly improve the services! Secure the rapid transport of farm produce without damage and losses!

Workers and assistants in trade and public catering!

Work perseveringly for the extension of the trade system and stocks! See to the improvement of stocks and better service in the shops! Secure the prompt purchase of farm produce! Introduce progressive methods of work more extensively in the trade institutions! Protect socialist property!

Schoolmasters and mistresses!

Constantly perfect the teaching of the schoolchildren, make them mentally and physically fit! Educate the growing generation in the spirit of communism, of love of work and devotion to their country and the cause of socialism!

Work tirelessly for the further advance of science and technical progress, for the introduction of scientific achievements in production! Train highly-qualified young specialists, inspired builders of socialism and communism!

Workers in art and literature! Create highly ideological and highly artistic works of art and literature! Fight against bourgeois ideology, for the communist education of the working people!

Honoured Bulgarian women — mothers, wives and sisters!

Take a still more active part in the nation's political, economic and cultural life! Inculcate the communist virtues in your sons and daughters, make ardent patriots of them!

Boys and girls, Komsomol members!

Be in the vanguard of socialist construction, unfurl your labour banners more extensively than ever over the most important projects! Stubbornly and perseveringly master science! Learn to work and live the communist way! Be ardent patriots and enthusiastic builders of socialism and communism!

Bulgarian soldiers, workers of the State Security and organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs!

Tirelessly increase your military and political knowledge,

perfect your fighting skill! Intensify your revolutionary vigilance! Zealously protect the people's peaceful work and the sacred frontiers of our socialist country!

Under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party — forward to new triumphs along the road of socialism and communism!

Long live the heroic Bulgarian people, masters of their destiny, creators of their happy future!

Long live the Bulgarian Communist Party, the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

Long live the granite unity of Party and people!

Long live the Soviet Union, our liberator and brother, the invincible mainstay of the peoples in the fight for peace and democracy, for socialism and communism! Glory to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the generally recognized and irreplaceable vanguard of the international communist and workers' movement!

Long live the unity of the international communist movement, of the world socialist system under the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism!

Fraternal greetings to the courageous Vietnamese people, who are heroically and selflessly fighting against the armed intervention of the American imperialists, for the peaceful unification of their country!

Fraternal greetings to all peoples fighting for peace, freedom, national independence and social progress!

May the cause of peace, good-neighbourly relations and understanding among the Balkan peoples live long, and be strengthened!

Long live peace the world over!

Long live the glorious 21st anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria! May the great cause of the Ninth of September abide for ever!

**THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST
PARTY**

THE RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S GAINS — A VIVID CONFIRMATION OF THE SUPERIORITY OF SOCIALISM

Speech of Greetings by Comrade Todor Zhivkov at the Ninth Congress of the Rumanian Communist Party

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, on behalf of our whole Party and the Bulgarian people, I extend to the Ninth Congress of the Rumanian Communist Party, to all Rumanian Communists and to the industrious Rumanian people most cordial fraternal greetings and best wishes for success in the work of the Congress.

We warmly greet the Rumanian Communist Party, the militant vanguard of the working class and the working people in socialist Rumania.

We warmly greet the fraternal Rumanian people — a builder of socialism, with whom we are linked by centuries-long fraternal ties and indissoluble friendship, steeled in our common struggle against foreign oppressors, for national and social liberation. Today this friendship is developing and growing stronger on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, in our common struggle for the construction of socialism in our countries.

The Bulgarian communists and the working people in the People's Republic of Bulgaria sincerely rejoice at the great successes which your country has achieved in the construction of a socialist society. We attach great value to the revolutionary enthusiasm and constructive efforts of the Rumanian people who within a short historical period accomplished deep-going political, social, economic and cultural changes in the country.

Your gains in socialist industrialization, in the co-operation and upsurge in agriculture, the triumph of socialism in town

and countryside and the complete abolition of exploitation of man by man, your achievements in education, science and culture, and in raising the material and cultural standards of the people—all this is a striking confirmation of the superiority of the socialist social system, of the creative faculties of the Rumanian people, a confirmation of the vital force of the fraternal co-operation among the socialist nations.

As a representative of the Bulgarian Communist Party, I had the honour of successively attending three congresses of your Party after Rumania's liberation from fascism and capitalism. I would like to express here also my personal satisfaction at the great progress achieved by the Rumanian communists and the Rumanian people during these years.

The fruits of your creative labour in the struggle for progress and the blossoming of the Rumanian People's Republic are gratifying. They are convincingly pointed out in the report delivered by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and in the reports and statements of the other comrades.

We are sure that the Rumanian working class, peasants and intelligentsia, inspired by ardent socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism, will honourably fulfil the national development programme during the coming period, mapped out at the Ninth Congress. This will be a fresh contribution by your people to strengthening the might of the world socialist system and to the attainment of our great common goal — the triumph of socialism and communism.

Dear Comrades, the Bulgarian communists, too, as well as our entire people, are tirelessly working for the victory of our great common cause. The People's Republic of Bulgaria, as an integral part of the socialist family, is successfully developing its economy and culture. I wish to assure you that in future, too, the Bulgarian people, under the leadership of their Party, will continue to build the new life together with the Soviet Union and with the countries of the socialist camp, and will unswervingly march shoulder to shoulder with them come rain or shine.

Dear Comrades, the achievements of our two countries, Bulgaria and Rumania, in socialist construction, the achievements of all countries of the socialist camp, are a component part of the developing world revolutionary process, of the development and consolidation of the forces fighting for peace, democracy

and socialism. These forces are irrepressibly growing and their fight against imperialism and for social progress is assuming an ever wider scope. The balance sheet of the world's entire development during the past decade most categorically confirms the correctness of the line of the international communist movement on the world arena, which was worked out at the 1957 and 1960 Moscow Conferences.

Recently, international reaction, and especially the USA imperialists, has been heating up the international atmosphere, kindling wars in different parts of the globe, undertaking aggressive actions to stifle the people's liberation struggle. Our Party and people wholeheartedly support the dauntless struggle of the Vietnamese people, insist on the immediate discontinuance of imperialist aggression in South-East Asia and on the withdrawal of the American forces from that region. Our country is rendering fraternal assistance to the heroic Vietnamese people and will continue to do so.

We wholeheartedly support the struggle of the peoples in Laos, the Congo, the Dominican Republic and in other countries for freedom and democracy and against colonial and social oppression.

We are profoundly convinced that the adventurers will be bridled. But for this purpose now, more than ever, unity and united action on the part of the world socialist community, the great army of communists, the international working class and the national-liberation movement is most vitally needed.

We once again declare from this rostrum that the Bulgarian Communist Party, which for decades has been educated as a fighting Marxist-Leninist Party will do its best to help cement the unity of the world socialist system and the international communist and workers' movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and the unity of all revolutionary forces in the world.

Loyal to the principles of socialist internationalism, we shall continue to strengthen the fraternal friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian people and will spare no effort to develop all-round co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Rumanian People's Republic for our common good, and the good of the socialist camp.

Our two countries are active factors working for peace and understanding in the Balkans. We are gratified to note that the joint efforts of the socialist states to improve the climate in

this part of the world are yielding positive results. In future, too, we shall pursue a policy of peace, of good-neighbourly relations and mutual co-operation among the Balkan states, because this policy corresponds to the vital interests of the peoples of the Balkan Peninsula and to the interests of all peaceful nations.

The attempts of the imperialists to check the progressive development of the world are doomed to failure by history. There can be no doubt that the noble cause in defence of peace, for freedom and independence and for socialism, for which millions and millions of people are selflessly fighting, will triumph.

We wish you, dear comrades and friends, fresh and still greater successes in socialist construction and in the struggle for peace and friendship among nations.

Long live the Rumanian Communist Party, the tested leader of the Rumanian people!

Long live the indissoluble friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian people and may it grow ever stronger!

May the unity and solidarity of the world socialist community, the unity and solidarity of the international communist and workers' movement grow ever stronger under the invincible banner of Marxism-Leninism!

IN STAUNCH FRIENDSHIP — FOR PEACE AND SOCIALISM

SPEECH 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,
at a meeting held in Universiade Hall,
September 18, 1965

Comrades,
Citizens of Sofia,

At today's meeting devoted to Bulgaro-Rumanian friendship, we are welcoming dear guests, the envoys of the Rumanian people, the Rumanian Communist Party and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Rumania. Allow me, on behalf of all of you, on behalf of the citizens of our capital and the Bulgarian people, warmly to greet the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, Comrade Ion Gheorghe Maurer, Comrades Alexandru Barladeanu, Alexandru Draghici, Virgil Trofin and Ion Beldian, as well as the comrades accompanying the delegation.

The Bulgarian people have always welcomed their guests cordially, with respect and an open heart, especially when they are close friends, comrades-in-arms in ideas and struggle. We are sure that during their stay in our country the Rumanian guests have had the opportunity of immediately sensing the cordial and sincere feelings which our people harbour for the neighbourly and friendly Rumanian people, for their Communist Party and Government, and for the state and Party leaders of socialist Rumania.

Such a welcome is natural between friends and neighbours, between peoples linked by a friendship of long standing. The

friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian people is a friendship hammered out in our common struggle against foreign invaders and oppressors, in our battles for national and social liberation. It is steeled in the joint struggle of the working people in our countries against capitalism and fascism, for freedom, national independence and progress.

The memory that our enlighteners and fighters for national liberation found a warm welcome, sympathy and support among the Rumanian people is still alive in the hearts and minds of our people. The titans of our national-liberation movement, Rakovski, Karavelov, Levski and Botev, lived and worked in Rumania. Thousands of sons of the Rumanian people mixed their blood with that of Russian soldiers and Bulgarian patriots at Grivitsa for Bulgaria's liberation from five centuries of foreign oppression.

With the comrades of the Rumanian Party and Government delegation we visited the places where during the War of Liberation fierce battles were fought and the destiny of our nation's freedom was decided. It was there that Bulgaro-Russian friendship was sealed with our blood, which under socialism has turned into an indissoluble friendship between the Bulgarian and the Soviet peoples. It was there that our friendship with the Rumanian people was also sealed with our blood. Our people deeply honour and respect the self-sacrifice of the brave soldiers who gave their life for our freedom.

At present we, Bulgarians and Rumanians, are linked and united by the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism, the principles of proletarian internationalism, the common goals and tasks in the construction of socialism and communism in our two countries, in the defence of the cause of peace. Our friendship is cemented by the fact that we belong to the world socialist system.

The present visit of the Party and state leaders of socialist Rumania is a fresh manifestation of the friendship and comradeship between two neighbouring peoples, between two socialist countries. I am glad to inform you that our meetings and conversations with the Rumanian comrades, which were held in a spirit of genuine friendship and cordiality, have borne fruit. The results of these meetings and conversations are reflected in the communiqué signed today. This document expresses the views of the two Parties and Governments on the

main issues of the present international situation and of the international communist and workers' movement as well as on questions regarding the mutual relations between our two countries and Parties.

In our conversations, naturally, the questions of the mutual co-operation between the two countries occupied an important place. In the conditions of a rapid development of the productive forces in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, our co-operation is expanding and getting consolidated on the basis of friendly mutual assistance and mutual respect, and a proper coordination of the interests of the two countries on the basis of socialist internationalism. In the past five years alone, our trade has increased by about 80 per cent. According to the trade and payment agreement signed today, in the period of 1966-70 trade between the two countries will increase by almost 50 per cent over that of the last five years. It is a positive fact that, side by side with the development of trade, its pattern is also changing, the products of Bulgarian and Rumanian machine-building occupying an ever greater share. Moreover, the signed agreement provides for the respective bodies in the two countries to seek ways and means for a further expansion of our economic co-operation, especially in the field of machine-building and the chemical industry.

Our Parties and Governments, as was unanimously reaffirmed during the conversations, are resolved in future, too, consistently to expand and consolidate Bulgaro-Rumanian friendship and to develop a fruitful political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural co-operation for the good of the two nations, in the interest of socialism and peace.

The more the socialist economy in our countries develops and the more far-reaching the cultural revolution, the better the prospects of expanding mutual co-operation. We are happy to note that both in the Socialist Republic of Rumania and in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, as well as in all the socialist countries, the mighty vital force of the socialist system is becoming manifest ever more vividly. The example set by both Bulgaria and Rumania, which in historically brief periods have achieved stupendous successes in the sphere of their material and spiritual development, is very significant and has great attractive power. Our two peoples, having rejected

capitalist oppression and imperialist dependence, are confidently marching along the road which they have chosen — the road of socialism and communism, securing all-round progress in their development.

Not long ago a delegation of our Party attended the Ninth Congress of the Rumanian Communist Party. During our visit we had once again the opportunity of seeing the achievements of the Rumanian working people, the deep-going changes which they have accomplished under the leadership of the Rumanian Communist Party.

At the Congress we familiarized ourselves with the new five-year plan for the development of Rumania's national economy and with the ten-year plan for the development of its power production. A broad programme has been mapped out in these documents for the further progress of socialist Rumania.

We are sincerely happy at the achievements of the Rumanian people in socialist industrialization, in the upsurge of agriculture, in the development of culture and in raising the people's living standards. Our people are convinced that the working people in the Socialist Republic of Rumania will successfully resolve the new tasks which the Ninth Congress has set to them.

The achievements of the Rumanian people and of all peoples of the socialist community are a great gain of socialism. They are, at the same time, an eloquent proof of the efficient co-operation among the socialist countries and of the creative force of their mutual relations. These inter-relations are of a new type, hitherto unknown in history, relations imbued with a spirit of mutual aid and proletarian internationalism.

Even a cursory comparison of the inter-relations predominating in the capitalist countries with those of the countries belonging to the world socialist system reveals the profound difference in principle existing between them.

What is the nature of inter-relations among countries in the capitalist world?

It is no secret to anyone that they are relations in which the lupine laws of capitalism are in action. Inequality, exploitation, cut-throat competition, gross intervention in the home affairs of the individual states — such are the typical features of capitalist inter-relations.

It is plain that such inter-relations lead to the domination of the strong over the weak, to inhibiting and checking the development of the national economy, to subordinating the economy of individual states to the interests of the imperialist monopolies and, in this way, to undermining the national independence of these states.

What more expressive illustration of the nature of these inter-relations do we need than the facts of gross interference of the imperialist states in the home affairs of a number of countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and their efforts to maintain their economic and political stranglehold over those countries and to restore the old colonial order in a new form?

It is clear that such inter-relations turn the national independence and sovereignty of a state into hollow phrases, devoid of content. A case in point is capitalist Bulgaria, which was once a pawn in the hands of the imperialist powers.

Entirely different are the inter-relations among states in the socialist world. The inter-relations among the socialist countries, based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, are relations of friendly co-operation and fraternal mutual assistance, of mutual respect and common aspirations to move ahead together. They are inter-relations among genuinely free, equal and sovereign socialist states. That is just why socialist inter-relations presuppose respect for the independence and sovereignty of every state of the socialist community, a proper blending of patriotism with internationalism, of the national interests of every socialist country with the common interests of the entire socialist system. It is precisely thanks to these inter-relations that the socialist countries have an opportunity to make better and fuller use of their natural and manpower resources, rapidly to develop their economy, including the branches of heavy industry, and to take an ever more effective part in the international socialist division of labour. All this constitutes a reliable material basis on which the national independence and state sovereignty of every one of our countries develop, and the socialist nations and their culture are growing and flourishing.

If the People's Republic of Bulgaria is developing its economy at rapid rates, if it is successfully raising its material and spiritual culture, our co-operation with the Soviet Union, with the other socialist states and the new type of inter-relations

among our countries have played and continue to play a tremendous role to this end. How could our country in so short periods of time possibly have set up and developed a modern industry — power production, its own metallurgy, machine-building and chemical industry — without this mutual assistance and co-operation? Of course, it could never have achieved it and can never achieve it. It is precisely in the big family of socialist countries, on the solid basis of the new socialist inter-relations and by actively participating in the international socialist division of labour that our country has attained genuine national independence and state sovereignty and has enhanced its international prestige.

In the relations between individual socialist countries, as well as in the world socialist system as a whole, there are, of course, and it cannot be otherwise, differences of opinion, of approach, of ways and means of resolving one task or another in the revolutionary struggle and in socialist construction. Contradictions, too, may arise. There is nothing strange in this. Every country has its specific conditions and every fraternal party is working in a different concrete set-up.

These differences and contradictions, however, are being overcome and resolved with joint efforts on the basis of the unity and community of the radical interests of the socialist countries. Their overcoming and solution objectively lead to a further consolidation of our unity of purpose, to the development and perfection of our inter-relations. And the stronger our unity, the more developed our co-operation and the more perfect our inter-relations, the less differences and contradictions will arise, the more rapidly and effectively shall we overcome them, and the more rapid will be our socialist development and the general progress of the entire world socialist system. Such is the dialectical connexion between these phenomena.

The main, law-governed feature of the inter-relations among socialist states, which stems directly from their identical political and social system, its socialist nature and the Marxist-Leninist ideology common to us, is the community and unity of our interests. In our unity and the fraternal inter-relations among the socialist countries we see the guarantee of our might and invincibility, of the triumph of socialism and communism, and of peace in the world.

We, the Bulgarian communists, and the Bulgarian people,

consider it our international duty in future, too, vigilantly to guard and observe the Leninist principles on which inter-relations among the socialist countries are based, to develop all-round co-operation with the Comecon member-states and with the other socialist nations, in a spirit of socialist internationalism, friendly mutual assistance, equality and mutual respect.

Guided by the principles of peaceful coexistence, the socialist nations, including the People's Republic of Bulgaria, are developing economic relations with the capitalist and emergent nations and are thus taking part in the international division of labour. We are endeavouring to establish broad economic and trade relations with these countries on the principles of mutual advantage, on terms of equality, without any discrimination and without any political strings attached.

Comrades,

Our conversations with the Rumanian comrades have confirmed the resolve of our Parties to work for the consolidation of the unity of the international communist movement and the world socialist system. Our unity and solidarity are a *sine qua non* for the successful development of the world revolutionary process, for bridling the dark forces of reaction and imperialism, for the triumph of the communist ideas and the victory of peace.

The imperialist forces of the USA are resorting ever more frequently to aggressive and reckless actions. In the present setup it is the duty of communists the world over to close our fighting ranks, to work with might and main for the consolidation of the united anti-imperialist front and to offer staunch resistance to the forces of reaction and aggression.

The armed intervention in the Congo and the Dominican Republic, the war in South Vietnam, the barbarous air-raids over the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the provocative actions in a number of other regions in the world — these are all acts of flagrant aggression on the part of American imperialism which is endeavouring, by force of arms, to strangle the liberation struggle of the peoples.

The United States has committed itself very deeply in the war in South-East Asia, which was kindled by it, and is steadily increasing its military contingents and arms on Vietnamese soil, trampling underfoot international norms and laws. During the conversations with the Rumanian comrades

we manifested complete unanimity in connexion with the situation in South-East Asia, we condemned the USA aggression, and expressed our full support for the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people. Our country unreservedly backs the proposals of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam for settling the situation in that region.

Loyal to socialist internationalism, the People's Republic of Bulgaria is rendering moral, economic and other support to the heroic Vietnamese people and will continue to do so.

The interests of peace demand that we do not allow the situation in Europe to grow worse, that we foil all attempts at placing lethal nuclear weapons at the disposal of the West German militarists in any form, that the military bases be removed and nuclear-free zones be established in the different parts of the world and, above all, in Europe. Together with the other Warsaw Pact member-states and with all socialist and peaceful countries, the People's Republic of Bulgaria stands squarely and unshakeably against the warmongering plans of the aggressors, in defence of peace and the nation's security.

Our two governments devote great and constant attention to the situation in the Balkans, sparing no effort to turn the Balkans and the Black Sea region into a zone of peace and friendship among nations. The Balkan socialist states are an active factor making for peace, inspired by a policy of understanding and good-neighbourly relations. This policy is pursued by our countries not for temporary and conjunctural reasons, but because it corresponds to the vital national interests of all Balkan peoples and to the interests of peace in Europe and the world, because it is in harmony with the present and future of the Balkan peoples.

It is gratifying that the policy of understanding, co-operation and good-neighbourly relations finds an ever more favourable response among the governments and peoples of our southern neighbours, Greece and Turkey. The agreements signed last year between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Kingdom of Greece put an end to the many years of abnormal relations between the two neighbouring states and opened a new page in these relations. We are satisfied with the way the agreements are being implemented and Bulgaro-Greek relations are developing.

Useful and fruitful are the contacts and measures taken for expanding co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Turkey. We are sure that with good will on the part of both our and the Turkish government, Bulgaro-Turkish relations will develop ever more favourably in the interest of the two states. In this connexion we cannot fail to note the contribution which the Government of the Socialist Republic of Rumania is making to the pacification of the Balkans, and to the development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan states.

Of course, we do not think that all has been done to improve relations among the Balkan countries. On the contrary, according to us, there are still quite a few possibilities of expanding economic and cultural co-operation among the Balkan states and of further improving the political climate in the Balkans. As heretofore we shall spare no efforts to translate these possibilities into a living reality.

Our country is resolved, shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union — the greatest bulwark of peace and socialism in the world — and shoulder to shoulder with the other socialist countries, to pursue a policy of peace and peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, persistently to fight for the rallying of all anti-imperialist and democratic forces; against all forms of colonialism and neo-colonialism, and against every imperialist aggression!

Comrades,

I wish to express here the general certitude that the visit of the Rumanian Party and Government delegation to our country will contribute to the further development and consolidation of friendship and all-round co-operation between our two Parties and countries and, at the same time, will help to establish unity in the international communist and workers' movement and the world socialist system.

Dear Rumanian comrades and friends, please convey our fraternal greetings to the Rumanian Communist Party and its Central Committee, to the State Council and Government of the Socialist Republic of Rumania and to the Rumanian people — builders of socialism. From the bottom of our hearts, we wish socialist Rumania further all-round progress!

Georgi Dimitrov used to say: 'At the very birth of a child in Sofia or Bucharest, in Bulgaria or in Rumania, its mother

who gives it its first drops of milk should tell it that Rumanians and Bulgarians are brothers for ever.'

Long live the friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian people and may it grow ever stronger!

May this friendship develop and become enriched, may it become as full as the Danube which links our two countries!

Long live and flourish the Socialist Republic of Rumania and the People's Republic of Bulgaria!

Long live the unity and cohesion of the socialist community, the unity and cohesion of the international communist and workers' movement!

Forward to fresh victories in the fight for socialism and peace!

SPEECH BY COMRADE NICOLAE CEAUSESCU

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,
Comrades,

Allow me first to extend to the Bulgarian communists, to you dear citizens of Sofia, and to the entire Bulgarian people warm greetings from the Rumanian communists and all our people. On behalf of the Party and Government delegation of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, I wholeheartedly thank comrades Todor Zhivkov, Georgi Traikov, Zhivko Zhivkov, the other Bulgarian Party and state leaders and the whole Bulgarian nation for the warm welcome which was accorded to us everywhere in Bulgaria and for the cordiality with which we were surrounded throughout our stay.

During our tour of the country we visited its capital — Sofia, Plovdiv, Pleven, Botevgrad, Kremikovtsi, Grivitsa, Pordim and other localities, as well as plants and factories, co-operative farms and cultural institutions. Everywhere the Bulgarian population surrounded us with fraternal cordiality, with sincere and moving friendship. These manifestations reflect the profound friendship which links our countries and peoples. Our meetings with the working people and conversations with the Bulgarian Party and state leaders have reaffirmed the stability of the ties of solidarity in the struggle for

the great cause of socialism and peace, established between our Parties and peoples.

Rumanian-Bulgarian friendship has deep roots in our historical past, in the struggle waged by our peoples shoulder to shoulder for our national freedom. The Rumanian and the Bulgarian people time and again shed their blood together to overthrow national oppression and win national independence and sovereignty from the same oppressor. During our visit to Plevna and Grivitsa we respectfully paid tribute to the memory of the Rumanian and Russian soldiers and the Bulgarian volunteers, who gave their life in the war against the Ottoman oppressors in 1877 and wrote a glorious page into the history of Rumanian-Bulgarian brotherhood. The destinies of our peoples have been in many respects alike: they had common enemies and were inspired by the same ideals and aspirations. Under these historical circumstances, and living as neighbours, they are now bound by profound feelings of mutual respect and consideration and by relations of friendly understanding and fraternal friendship.

The Rumanian Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party continued the traditions of solidarity of the progressive revolutionary workers of Rumania and Bulgaria, fighting against the policy of the exploiter classes and for friendly relations between the two peoples ever since their foundation. After the working class took political power in its hands, Rumanian-Bulgarian friendship developed and acquired a new meaning. The similarity of our social systems and the Marxist-Leninist ideology underly the relations between our countries.

Dear comrades,

Our people are well acquainted with and rejoice over the successes scored by the Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Communist Party in the development of socialist industry and the socialist reconstruction of agriculture, in the development of culture, and in raising their living standards.

During our tour of the country we saw part of these achievements. Everywhere we marvelled at the scenic beauty of your country and were at the same time impressed by the enthusiasm and industriousness of the Bulgarian workers, farmers and intellectuals who are working for the prosperity of their socialist country.

Socialist industry, which plays a leading role in your en-

tire economy, has made remarkable progress and brought about profound changes in the nation's social and economic life. The towns and industrial centres which we visited vividly manifested the creative élan of socialist Bulgaria. They reveal the feverish constructive activity of the Bulgarian people.

We were gratified to note that the new socialist way of life has also transformed the Bulgarian villages. It is reflected in the activity of the socialist farms, in the farmers' higher standards of life, as evidenced by the new houses, schools, cultural and public health institutions, all built during the years of people's rule.

The results achieved in the development of industry and agriculture, in increasing the national income, in raising the material and cultural standards of the working people, in the progress of science, education and culture, vividly confirm the superiority of socialism and the creative faculties of the Bulgarian people who, free and masters of their own destinies, are now building their happy life under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

We convey to you the cordial congratulations of the Rumanian people on your achievements and wholeheartedly wish you fresh and still greater labour achievements for the blossoming of socialist Bulgaria and the completion of the construction of the new social system in your country!

Dear comrades,

Our visit to Bulgaria is taking place soon after events of historic significance occurred in the life of our Party and the Rumanian people. The Ninth Congress of the Rumanian Communist Party struck a balance of an important stage in our nation's history and adopted a programme for Rumania's all-round development in the next five years with a view to continuing the process of the completion of socialist construction at a higher stage. The recent session of the Grand National Assembly supplied the country with a new Constitution — the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, which consolidates the historic gains of the Rumanian people and the complete and final triumph of socialism in town and countryside.

Rumania today is a country in full upswing with a many-sided and developing socialist economy. The Party has focused its policy on the country's socialist industrialization which,

as the experience of our state, of the other socialist countries and of the entire development of modern society shows, constitutes the only road along which we can secure the progress and civilization of a nation, a rise in its living standards and its national independence and sovereignty. Rumanian industry is in a steady process of development, improvement and adaptation to the demands of modern technical progress. At the end of this year total industrial output will be 2.24 times greater than in 1959, and the tasks under the national economic development plan during the 1960-65 period are being successfully fulfilled.

During the years of socialist rule, new branches of production were created and developed in our country, the output of which has become well-known beyond the country's boundaries: factories for oil equipment, ball bearings, machine tools and complex aggregates, trunk-line electric and diesel locomotives, tractors and lorries, electrical equipment, equipment for the chemical and wood-processing industry and for the food and light industries.

The completion of the process of setting up co-operative farms in agriculture, the particular attention which is devoted to the consolidation of its material base and the wide application of agrotechnical science have created conditions for increasing farm output, which made it possible to meet the needs of the population for foods and those of industry for agricultural raw materials, and to create a state reserve as well as some surpluses for export.

The steady economic development has led to an increase in the national income, to the blossoming of science and culture, to a systematic rise in the general living-standards.

The directives for the development of the national economy during the 1966-70 period, adopted not long ago by our Party Congress, again laid stress on our economic policy, on the country's socialist industrialization, on the priority development of our heavy industry, and more particularly of machine-building. Under the provisions of our future five-year plan the high rates of the country's industrial development are to be further maintained; in 1970 the total value of industrial production will be about 65 per cent higher than in 1965.

A series of undertakings will be implemented for the intensive development of many agricultural branches. The material

and technical base of this important sector of the national economy will be expanded, so that at the end of the five-year plan the questions connected with the complex mechanization and chemization of agriculture will in the main be resolved.

In the construction of socialism and the all-round development of the national economy, our Party attaches particular importance to the role of science and culture as an active factor making for progress and civilization. The implementation of the Congress directives will secure a rise in the people's living standards and the many-sided progress of our whole socialist society.

Socialist democracy has developed and the role of the state as an organizer of socialist construction has been enhanced. Our socialist nation is steadily developing and getting ever more stabilized and will continue for a long time to come to serve as basis for the development of our socialist society.

All victories scored in socialist construction are the fruit of the selfless labour of workers, farmers and intellectuals regardless of nationality, of the implementation of the policy of the Rumanian Communist Party, which is applying the universal principles of Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions existing in our country.

The realization that the nation's progress, the utilization of all its resources and riches, and the prosperity of the working people depend upon their efforts, are a powerful mobilizing factor in our people's struggle for the building of socialism; it increases their confidence in their own forces and their faith in their bright future.

The more powerful each socialist country becomes, the more it develops its economy, science, culture and its social life in general, the more firmly the world socialist system becomes consolidated and the greater grows the prestige and influence of socialism in the world.

Comrades,

Our delegations were gratified to note that economic, scientific, technical and cultural co-operation between the Socialist Republic of Rumania and the People's Republic of Bulgaria is making good progress. In 1965 trade was 80 per cent higher than in 1959. The achievements of the two countries in developing and diversifying their economies make it ever more easy for them to expand their many-sided co-operation on the basis

of mutual advantage. A case in point is the joint study and drafting of designs for a hydro-electric power station to be built on the Danube River in the Islaz-Scmovit region with common efforts in the next few years. The signed treaty for co-operation for the period of 1966-70 provides for a stepping up of trade between the two countries. We are sure that the development of economic, scientific and cultural co-operation will help to still further consolidate Rumanian-Bulgarian friendship.

It is an indisputable fact that the process of socialist construction develops under particularly complex conditions, differing in every country. This makes it necessary for every Party, proceeding from the Marxist-Leninist teaching, to set down its own political line, the stages, forms and methods of socialist constructions, in accordance with the concrete conditions prevailing in each country, with its historical and national peculiarities, and with the degree of its development, thus making its contribution to the creative development of the ideology of the working class, and to enriching the common experience of the nations which are building a new social system. Differences in approach to certain problems of socialist construction, as well as differences of opinion in the interpretation of certain questions of principle pertaining to international affairs and the communist movement should never impair the fraternal co-operation among socialist states and their international solidarity in the struggle for the triumph of the cause of socialism and peace in the world. Practice has shown that the unswerving abidance by the principles of socialist internationalism, respect for national independence and sovereignty, equality, non-interference in home affairs, mutual advantage, friendly mutual assistance, and the analysis in an amicable spirit of all questions of common interest, constitute an unshakable basis capable of securing the unity and solidarity of the countries of the world socialist system.

As is known, inter-state relations in the capitalist world are dominated by economic and political inequality, dependence upon the great powers, gross interference in the home affairs of other nations, flagrant violation of national independence and sovereignty. Various thecries, expressing the monopolistic interests, proclaim the nation to be a historically outdated social category, which should be replaced by super-state

organizations, by 'super-governments', under the guise of which the imperialists would be able to dictate untrammelled the life of the nations.

In contrast to what is current under capitalism, relations of a new type have sprung up among the socialist countries. These are designed to secure the development of every single socialist state and the fraternal co-operation between equal, sovereign and independent socialist nations; they promote the progress of each one of them and the consolidation of the socialist system as a whole.

In our days, when national independence and sovereignty constitute one of the most profound aspirations of the oppressed, when the people rise in struggle to gain and defend their right to exist as nations against imperialist and colonial domination, the maintenance of internationalist relations among the socialist nations produces a great impact on the development of society as a whole, on social progress.

Our epoch confronts the communist parties with many responsible tasks in connexion with the organization of the people's struggle for national and social liberation, for a better life.

Life has shown that the differences existing under the concrete conditions in which every communist party carries on its activity give rise to domestic problems and political goals differing from country to country. As a result, the universal laws of the socialist revolution assume many different concrete forms and methods. This is a natural and objective phenomenon, which should not affect the normal, friendly relations between the parties and their class solidarity. In the opinion of our Party, all differences arising in the communist movement can be elucidated in a principled, comradely climate of mutual respect, trust and consideration, by way of direct conversations between the different parties and leaderships. The normal development of relations between our parties can be secured only on the basis of the principles of independence, equality, non-interference in domestic affairs and recognition of each party's right to take its own decisions on policy and practical affairs. We consider that what unites the communist parties is essential and predominating — their common struggle for the triumph of socialism in the world, for democracy and social progress, for the preservation of peace among nations.

Our Party is resolved to continue to militate in defence and for the consolidation of the unity of the international communist movement, the most precious asset of the working people throughout the world.

Dear comrades,

The defence of peace is one of the foremost tasks of our times. In the present period of deep-going social changes, when the influence of the communist parties and their role in public affairs is steadily growing and the anti-imperialist front is broadening, it becomes much easier to thwart the attempts of the imperialist circles to plunge mankind into a new world war, and to preserve and consolidate peace. Under these circumstances, each nation, big or small, bears responsibility for the preservation of world peace, and can and must make its active contribution to easing international tension and to the development of relations of confidence among nations.

The alliance and fraternal co-operation with all the socialist nations — an expression of the will of the Rumanian people — underlie the international policy of the Socialist Republic of Rumania. At the same time, our state develops relations of co-operation with all states, regardless of their social system, in a spirit of peaceful coexistence. The Party and Government of our country proceed from the consideration that relations among states can develop normally only on the unshakeable foundation of the principles of respect for national independence and sovereignty, equality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage.

International life, however, shows that the existence of imperialism is a constant source of tension in international affairs, of a systematic violation of the norms of coexistence between nations; that it nurtures new hotbeds which jeopardize world peace and maintains an atmosphere conducive to the kindling of a new war. Side by side with the other socialist states and the peace-loving forces, the Socialist Republic of Rumania is actively striving to foil the aggressive actions of the imperialists, and to preserve world peace.

Firmly condemning the imperialist intervention of the USA in Vietnam, the Rumanian people have repeatedly expressed their wholehearted solidarity with the just cause of the Vietnamese people. Our country has been rendering assistance to

the people of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in their heroic struggle, and will continue to do so. Rumania insistently demands a strict application of the Geneva Agreements, the discontinuance of American aggression and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Vietnam; it supports the proposals of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, the only basis on which the Vietnamese problem can be settled.

In combating staunchly the aggressive policy of the imperialists, all attempts to undermine the independence and sovereignty of nations, Rumania manifests its solidarity with all peoples fighting for national and social liberation, for peace and progress. Every nation must be allowed to decide its own destiny, to settle its home affairs in accordance with its own will. Any interference in the life of the peoples checks social progress, arouses mistrust between the states, harms international co-operation and threatens world peace.

The intensified aggressive actions of the imperialist circles of late make it imperative now more than ever to increase the vigilance of the people and to strengthen the fighting unity of all peaceful forces, so that they may bar the road to war and save mankind from a thermonuclear holocaust which would cause untold harm to human civilization. United in a single front, the socialist nations, the international working class, the new independent states, the national-liberation movement and the world peace movement are in a position effectively to preserve peace and the peoples' security.

Rumania has consistently stood for perfecting the structure and activity of the UN, so that this international forum might reflect the actual state of the world of today, guaranteeing a just representation of the new independent states. We have consistently stood for making this organization universal and for restoring at the UN the rights of the great Chinese nation, whose sole legal representative is the Chinese People's Republic. We also think that the conclusion of a German peace treaty, proceeding from the objective historical fact of the existence of two German states, will play an important role in relaxing international tension in Europe and in the whole world.

Rumania advocates an end to the arms race, the setting up of nuclear-free zones, the banning of nuclear weapons and

annihilation of all existing stockpiles, and the dissolution of all military blocs.

Our two countries are acting consistently in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding among the nations of Europe and in the Balkan region. We consider it necessary and possible to establish good-neighbourly relations of peaceful co-operation in this region, which would help strengthen international relations.

The Rumanian Communist Party and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Rumania express their certitude that if the forces of socialism, democracy, social progress and peace act in close unity on the great front of the anti-imperialist struggle, world peace can be preserved and consolidated. Our country is resolved to continue to fight with might and main, in order to make its contribution to this great cause.

Dear comrades and friends,

We are sure that our visit to Bulgaria will help consolidate good-neighbourly relations and fraternal friendship between the Rumanian and Bulgarian people. We once again express our warmest thanks to the leaders of the Communist Party and the Government, the local Party and state bodies and the Bulgarian working people for the attention and hospitality they accorded to our delegation during our visit, and for the friendship they manifested to the Rumanian people — builders of socialism.

The Rumanian communists, our entire nation, wish the Bulgarian communists and the fraternal Bulgarian nation ever greater achievements in their drive to complete the construction of socialism.

Long live the fraternal Bulgarian people and their leader, the Bulgarian Communist Party!

Long live Rumanian-Bulgarian friendship!

May the unity of the socialist nations develop incessantly, may the cohesion of the international communist and workers' movement grow ever stronger!

May the cause of peace and social progress triumph throughout the world!

COMMUNIQUE

ON THE VISIT OF THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF RUMANIA TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

On the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, a Party and Government Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, headed by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, paid an official visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria from September 13 to 18, 1965.

During its stay in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the delegation visited industrial enterprises, co-operative farms, cultural and research institutes, and historical monuments in Sofia, Plovdiv, Pleven, Botevgrad, Kremikovtsi and Grivitsa, meeting workers, co-operative farmers, representatives of the intelligentsia, leaders of local Party and state organs, and acquainting itself with the achievements of the Bulgarian people in the construction of socialism.

Everywhere the representatives of the Rumanian people were most cordially welcomed by the Bulgarian population. The delegation expressed its sincere satisfaction at the warm and fraternal reception which was given it in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and which is an expression of lasting Bulgaro-Rumanian friendship.

During its stay the Party and Government Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Rumania had meetings with Comrades Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and with other Bulgarian Party and state leaders.

The Party and Government delegations of both countries had talks in which the following persons took part:

On behalf of Bulgaria — Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Zhivko Zhivkov, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee

of the Bulgarian Communist Party and First Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Encho Staikov, member of the Politbureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, Boris Velchev, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Secretary of the Central Committee, Pencho Koubadinski, candidate-member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Minister of Transport and Communications, Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister, Ivan Bachev, member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Georgi Bogdanov, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Bucharest, member of the Central Auditing Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

On the part of the Socialist Republic of Rumania — Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Ion Gheorghe Maurer, member of the Executive Committee and of the Permanent Presidium of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, Alexandru Barladeanu, member of the Executive Committee and of the Permanent Presidium of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, Alexandru Draghici, member of the Executive Committee of the Permanent Presidium of the Rumanian Communist Party, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, and Ion Beldian, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Rumania in Sofia.

During the talks, which took place in a friendly atmosphere and mutual understanding, the delegations informed each other of the progress of socialist construction in both countries, discussed the questions of the continuous development and strengthening of the friendship and all-round co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, the friendly relations between the Bul-

garian Communist Party and the Rumanian Communist Party, and exchanged views on topical issues of the international situation and the international communist and workers' movement.

I

The Party and Government Delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria sincerely rejoices at the remarkable successes of the fraternal Rumanian people in the construction of socialism. Under the leadership of the Rumanian Communist Party, profound revolutionary changes were effected in all spheres of life, expressed in the country's new Constitution. Key sectors of the economy, such as metallurgy, machine-building, modern chemistry and power production are developing at rapid rates. Great successes have been achieved in the development of socialist farming and raising the people's living standards. The cultural revolution is making good progress, so are science and education. The efforts of the Rumanian people are now being directed to implementing the decisions of the Ninth Congress of the Rumanian Communist Party.

The Party and Government Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Rumania is gratified to note the achievements of the industrious and talented Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party in the construction of a socialist society. Industry, which plays a leading role in the entire economy, has made considerable progress, bringing about profound changes in the country's social and economic life. Co-operative farming is developing, the implementation of an extensive programme of measures for the steady increase of agricultural output is under way. The renovating spirit of socialism is strongly felt in all sectors of the economy, in the social and cultural life of town and countryside, and in the rising material and cultural standards of the working people. The example of Bulgaria and Rumania proves once again the great vitalizing force of a socialist society.

The experience of the two nations once more confirms the fact that socialist industrialization is the sole road which opens up prospects of progress and civilization, of steadily rising living standards, before the countries which are building the new social system. By their successful construction of the new life,

the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania are contributing to the consolidation of the world socialist system and the triumph of socialism and peace.

II

The friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian nations has deep and lasting historical roots; it has been forged down the centuries in the heroic struggle and co-operation between the two peoples for liberation and national independence. Since olden times the Bulgarian and the Rumanian peoples have been linked by geographical proximity, a similar historical fate and a joint struggle against alien oppressors.

The Rumanian people offered shelter and fraternal support to the patriots who were fighting for Bulgaria's national liberation.

The Bulgarian people cherish the memory of the sons of the Rumanian people who fell in the War of Liberation in 1877-78, together with Russian soldiers and Bulgarian volunteers, for the freedom of Bulgaria.

After achieving national independence, the Bulgarian and the Rumanian peoples continued to strengthen their friendship, despite the policy of the exploiting classes in Bulgaria and Rumania. This friendship was tempered still more in the struggle of the peoples of these neighbouring countries, headed by the Communist Parties, against the bourgeois-landlord fascist yoke, for complete national independence, freedom and social progress.

After the liberation of Bulgaria and Rumania from fascist bondage, relations of a new socialist type were established between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian people, and consecrated by the Pact of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, signed on January 16, 1948.

The two delegations note with satisfaction that the friendship between the Bulgarian and the Rumanian peoples, as well as the political, economic and cultural relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, are being strengthened and are developing successfully on the basis of the inviolable principles of Marxism-Leninism, socialist internationalism, co-operation and friendly mutual assistance under strict observance of equality of rights,

independence, and sovereignty, non-intervention in domestic affairs and, on this basis, the harmonizing of the interests of each party with the common interests of the world socialist system.

The broadening of trade relations between the two countries finds expression in an increase in the volume of trade, which in 1964 was 80 p. c. higher than in 1959. The mixed Bulgaro-Rumanian Government Committee on Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation plays an important part in this development.

The two delegations noted with satisfaction that the Bulgarian and the Rumanian experts are successfully carrying out the work of designing the hydrotechnical complex in the region of Somovit-Islaz on the River Danube, a project of great importance for the economies of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania.

The successes achieved by the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania in the economic field, and more particularly in the accelerated development of industry, open up new possibilities of expanding mutual economic relations.

A trade and payment agreement for the period of 1966-70 was signed during the visit, providing for an increase of about 50 per cent in the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries during the period of 1966-70, in comparison with the last five years. Agreement was reached that the competent organs of both countries should study new possibilities of expanding trade, particularly in the field of machine-building and the chemical industry.

The delegations expressed the desire of both countries to develop economic, scientific and technical co-operation with the Comecon member-states and with all socialist countries within the framework of the world socialist division of labour. The two countries stress that the relations of economic co-operation between sovereign socialist states on an equal footing, on the basis of mutual advantage and friendly mutual aid, of non-intervention in domestic affairs and of socialist internationalism, contribute to the development and prosperity of every socialist country, to the consolidation of the socialist system as a whole, and increase the magnetic attraction of socialism.

III

The exchange of views showed the unity of purpose of the two nations in the appraisal of the foremost international issues.

Both parties find that the development of the international situation in the present period is characterized by the consolidation of the forces of socialism, which are to an increasing degree directing the trend of society's all-round development, by the advance of the national liberation and the international workers' movement, and the growth of the forces fighting to preserve and consolidate peace the world over.

At the same time, the delegations unanimously emphasize that, as the international situation shows, so long as imperialism exists the foci of tension in the world will be maintained, and the danger of a new world war will continue to exist. The forces of international reaction, which are striving to hinder historical progress, resort to aggressive actions against the socialist states, against the revolutionary movements, the peoples and the countries who are fighting colonial domination.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania consider that the aggressive actions of American imperialism are rendering the situation in South-East Asia more acute. They resolutely condemn the armed actions of the USA against the people of South Vietnam who are fighting for the free and independent development of their country. The aggressive policy of the United States against Vietnam is a gross violation of the Geneva Agreements of 1954, and a serious threat to peace not only in South-East Asia but in the whole world. The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania declare that they wholeheartedly support the positions of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Front of National Liberation in South Vietnam on the ways and means of settling the question of Vietnam on the basis of the Geneva Agreements of 1954, of discontinuing air-raids over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, withdrawing all foreign troops from South Vietnam, respecting the right of the Vietnamese people to settle their own domestic affairs themselves in accordance with their will and interests.

Both parties declare that they are ready to continue to assist the Vietnamese people in their just and selfless struggle against the American aggressors.

They consider that the Front of National Liberation of South Vietnam truly expresses the will and aspirations of the people of South Vietnam, and is their sole legitimate representative.

Both parties condemn the invasion of the Dominican Republic by American troops, and insist upon the United States of America immediately withdrawing its armies from the territory of this sovereign state.

The two parties firmly condemn any suppression of the independence and sovereignty of nations on the part of the imperialist forces, all intervention and pressure on the part of these forces on one country or another; they consider that the supreme interests of the preservation of mankind's peace and progress make it imperative to respect the sacred right of every nation, great or small, to decide its own fate, and freely to choose the road of its social, political and economic development in conformity with its will and vital interests.

The Bulgarian and the Rumanian parties resolutely condemn all actions of colonialism and neo-colonialism, and reassert their solidarity with the peoples still in bondage, who are fighting for their freedom and independence, with the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, who are fighting for the complete abolition of colonialism, and for the consolidation of their independence and their national sovereignty.

The world socialist system is the chief force in present-day social progress and in the preservation of peace and security. That is why the two delegations consider that, in the present international conditions, the cementing of its unity and the closing of its ranks acquire particular importance. The two parties will steadily fight for the constant strengthening of the unity of the world socialist system.

In their foreign policy the Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania strive simultaneously to develop co-operation with all states, regardless of their social systems, on the basis of a strict observance of the principles of independence and national sovereignty, equal rights, non-intervention in domestic affairs and mutual advantage.

The two parties consider that the current political climate is conducive to the broadening of economic and cultural co-operation among the Balkan countries, and that a number of positive steps have been taken in this direction in recent years. The struggle waged by the peoples of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania for peace and peaceful co-operation among the Balkan countries is a contribution to the common cause in the defence of peace.

The two delegations declare that the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania will continue to fight in order to turn the Balkans and the region of the Black Sea into a zone of peace and friendship among the Balkan peoples.

Steadfastly pursuing their policy in the service of peace and international security, the two nations will continue to advocate general disarmament and the cessation of the armaments race, an unconditional ban on the use of atomic weapons, and the total destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons, the liquidation of military blocs, the removal of military bases and the withdrawal of foreign troops now on the territory of other states, and to oppose plans for the creation of multilateral or Atlantic nuclear forces of NATO, and all attempts to give the Federal German Republic access to atomic weapons. The two parties support the proposal to call a world conference on disarmament.

The two parties declare that they are in favour of creating an effective system of European security. They consider that the signing of a German peace treaty, based on objective reality — the existence of the two German states — would contribute to the easing of tension in Europe and in the whole world.

As members of the UN, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania declare in favour of reinforcing the activity and strengthening the efficacy of this international forum in the preservation of peace and security the world over, on the basis of the principles of the UN Charter, of universalizing this organization, and of having the newly-independent countries justly represented in it. The two parties are in favour of immediately restoring the legitimate rights of the Chinese People's Republic in the UN.

The two parties are firmly resolved to continue implement-

ing a policy of peace and peaceful coexistence, to persistently fight for rallying all anti-imperialist forces, against any aggression and encroachment upon the freedom and independence of the nations, and the preservation of peace and security in the world.

IV

The representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the Rumanian Communist Party informed one another of the activity of both parties and exchanged views on the relations between them, as well as on the present situation in the world communist and workers' movement. The exchange of views revealed unity on the main questions of the development of present-day society.

The two delegations emphasized that the present international situation imperatively demands unity of the communist and workers' movement, it being necessary for efforts to be made by all fraternal parties.

The representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the Rumanian Communist Party consider that, in conformity with proletarian internationalism, and creatively applying the Marxist-Leninist teaching to the concrete conditions and different stages of development in their country, each party has the right to determine its own political line, the forms and methods of the struggle both in obtaining political power and in the vast and complex activity of building up a socialist society. Every party thus makes its contribution in enriching the common treasure-store of Marxism-Leninism.

The two delegations consider that when differences arise in the views of individual parties in connexion with the problems of present-day social development, of the international communist and workers' movement, as well as on questions of common interest, these should be discussed among the leaderships, sincerely and in a friendly manner, in an atmosphere of mutual confidence and respect, persistent efforts being made to reach mutual agreement, with a view to achieving unity of action. The delegations rest on the principle that differences in views should not be extended to friendly international relations between the states of the world socialist system.

Unity of the communist and workers' parties is built up solely on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and

proletarian internationalism, on respecting the principles of independence, equality of rights and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other parties.

The Bulgarian Communist Party and the Rumanian Communist party express the conviction that the communist and Workers' parties will consolidate the unity of the international communist and workers' movement by placing in the forefront all that unites them, and that predominates — the struggle for democracy and social progress, for socialism and peace. The two parties consider it to be their supreme international duty consistently and undeviatingly to fight for the consolidation of the communist and workers' movement, for the rallying of all revolutionary forces in the struggle against imperialism, for social progress and peace, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, of the Declaration of 1957 and the Statement of 1960.

The Delegations emphasized the necessity of further broadening the relations between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Rumanian Communist Party. The two parties consider it useful more extensively to utilize such forms of co-operation between the parties as exchanges of delegations and of informative matter, official and unofficial visits, and consultations on problems of common interest.

* * *

The visit of the Party and Government Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Rumania to the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the talks between representatives of both parties and Governments, as well as the meetings with the Bulgarian working people, will contribute to the development and further intensification of the traditional friendship and fraternal co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, to the consolidation of the unity of the countries of the socialist camp, to the cause of socialism and peace in the world.

The Rumanian Delegation transmitted an invitation from the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Rumania for a Party and Government Delegation, headed 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 pay an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Rumania at the convenience of the Bulgarian party. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

First Secretary of the Central
Committee of the Bulgarian
Communist Party
Prime Minister
TODOR ZHIVKOV

General Secretary of the Central
Committee of the Rumanian
Communist Party
NICOLAE CEAUSESCU

Prime Minister of the Socialist
Republic of Rumania
ION GHEORGHE MAURER

Sofia, September 17, 1965

**FOR PEACE AND SOCIALISM — FOR
ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP**

SPEECH BY COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV

Comrades,
Citizens,

At today's rally of the working people of Sofia, dedicated to Bulgaro-Yugoslav friendship, we are meeting dear guests and friends from fraternal socialist Yugoslavia.

From this rostrum of friendship I should like to express our feelings of respect and satisfaction and once again, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Presidium of the National Assembly, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the working people of Sofia and of the Bulgarian people, to welcome most cordially the President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, Comrade Iosip Broz Tito, and the state and Party leaders who are accompanying him.

In the person of our guests we warmly greet the courageous peoples of Yugoslavia who, under the leadership of the Yugoslav Communist Party, its Central Committee, and Comrade Tito, rose to heroic and selfless armed struggle against the Nazi occupiers and made their contribution to the victory over fascism. In their person we warmly greet the working people of Yugoslavia who, under the leadership of the Yugoslav Communist League, overcoming the heavy casualties and destructions of the war years, are now rapidly and successfully building their new socialist life.

Comrades,

This is not our first meeting or conversation with Comrade Tito and with Yugoslav state and Party leaders. Every meeting of ours so far has been fruitful for the development of mutual

relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. There is no doubt that our present meeting and talks with Comrade Tito and the state and Party leaders who are accompanying him, will give a new impetus to the further development of friendship and cooperation between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Today, in an atmosphere of frankness, comradeship and confidence, we are able to discuss major problems of vital interest to us. This is an important condition for the proper solution of many of the principal problems facing the two countries and Parties. It should help us to work out jointly common stands on the current problems of the world socialist community and on the mutual relations among the socialist states, the international communist and working class movement, the struggle for national liberation and the present-day international situation. No doubt, this should help us to strengthen our mutual understanding and to take, side by side with the other socialist countries, an even more active part on the same front in the struggle for the triumph of peace, socialism and communism.

All this is the result of premises created in the past and which have turned into permanent factors in our mutual relations, in the life and the destinies of the Bulgarian and Yugoslav peoples.

The friendship between the peoples of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia is, if I may say so, a natural product of historical necessity and revolutionary consciousness. Our friendship dates far back in history. Its roots are embedded in the distant past. It is measured on the scales of centuries. It is a coeval of our lands, of our very nations. Bulgaro-Yugoslav friendship draws its sources from geographical proximity, a similar historical fate through the centuries, kindred working habits, way of life and morals, linguistic and ethnical affinities of Bulgarians and Yugoslavs.

Prominent fighters in the struggle of the Bulgarian people for national liberation against Ottoman bondage such as Rakovski, Karavelov, Levski and others found hospitality and conditions for their activities in fraternal Serbia. The first socialists in Bulgaria and Yugoslavia bequeathed to us beautiful traditions of joint revolutionary work and struggle, enthusiastically welcoming the Great October Socialist Revolution which opened a new era in the development of mankind and

expressing their joint readiness to follow its example. The partisans from the Trun detachment, the Hristo Botev soldiers' battalion and the Georgi Dimitrov brigade fought side by side with the Yugoslav partisans and in close co-operation with them against the nazi invaders. Our friendship also strengthened in the joint military campaigns of the Bulgarian People's Army and the Yugoslav People's Liberation Army, which fought shoulder to shoulder with units of the Red Army of Liberation against the nazi invaders at Nishava, the Danube and Drava during the years of the Patriotic War.

Our peoples have forged, developed and cemented their fraternal relations precisely along their common revolutionary paths. Whatever the vicissitudes the relations between our two countries may have passed through, the exchange of experience and ideas between our two peoples was never interrupted, the source of our common hatred towards any and every oppressor and exploiter never dried up nor did our mutual aspiration to understand and help each other come to an end.

It is a good thing to have a friendship so deeply rooted in our history and our past and so solidly welded by revolutionary traditions. It is even better and more important that this friendship should have a real basis today and in the future. International solidarity and unity of purpose in the struggle for peace, socialism and communism provide a solid basis for the friendship and co-operation between our two peoples and our states, between our two Parties. 'Our peoples,' said Georgi Dimitrov, 'have a common historical fate. Our peoples have a common road in their future historical development'.

We have every reason to express our satisfaction at the fact that in the past few years Bulgaro-Yugoslav friendship and relations between our two countries have been growing steadily stronger and that we have outlived whatever darkened them once.

We are profoundly convinced that Bulgaro-Yugoslav friendship and co-operation, based on the principles of socialist internationalism, friendship and mutual assistance, equality, mutual benefit and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, will successfully develop and strengthen for the good of our nations.

Naturally, friendship and good friendly mutual relations do not develop on their own. They should be consciously and con-

sistently furthered. Each Party and Government is bound to do everything it can in their country to properly explain to their peoples not only the necessity but also the benefit resulting from such a friendship, so that the latter may develop in all walks of life. I can declare that our Party and Government will continue their efforts to this effect.

Comrades,

Twenty-one years of free development already constitute a sufficient historical period to correctly assess the development of our two countries. During that period we, in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and our Yugoslav comrades in their country had to overcome a centuries-old backwardness, as well as many difficulties which beset us on our road. This cost us enormous efforts, it required the heroic efforts of both our nations. I believe that at this comradesly meeting of ours we can, Comrade Tito, accept the fact that there have been and there will be difficulties and strains in construction both in our country and in yours. Yet, if we look back we can see how long a road we have already travelled. If we look around, we can convince ourselves of how much we have already achieved.

This conviction we gained on the spot during the two visits we paid to Yugoslavia in 1956 and 1963. We brought home fresh impressions of the scenic beauty, of the interesting old architectural and cultural monuments of the ancient Yugoslav lands, of the profound feelings of respect and friendship of the Yugoslav people for the Bulgarian people. But as communists we were much more impressed by the labour of the Yugoslav people who, under the leadership of their Party, have been transforming their homeland on socialist foundations; the creations of socialism are closer to our hearts — the modern industrial enterprises, the well-built houses, schools, cultural institutions and hospitals. The overthrow of capitalist bondage and the advantages of the socialist economic system have enabled Yugoslavia to achieve considerable successes in the development of its economy, science and culture. Industrial production in Yugoslavia has risen seven times and the output of agriculture by approximately forty per cent as compared with prewar years. The socialist sector in Yugoslav agriculture is growing and already accounts for a quarter of the total farm produce.

The Bulgarian people follow with great attention the so-

cialist development of Yugoslavia and rejoice at the achievements of the Yugoslav people during their twenty years of free life.

Comrades, I believe that I will be expressing your own feelings, the feelings of the Bulgarian people, when heartily congratulating from this rostrum the working people — workers, farmers and the people's intelligentsia in fraternal Yugoslavia, for their successes in the construction of a socialist society, and when wishing them new victories and further progress in the field of economy and culture.

During your tour of our country you, Yugoslav comrades, will be able to get a first-hand impression of the achievements of the Bulgarian people in the different walks of life. In the past, according to statistics on Europe, Bulgaria figured among the last in its economic development; at present it is an industrial country with a rapidly developing and modern socialist agriculture, science and culture.

Comrades,

We take pleasure in the fact that the economic ties between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are developing fruitfully and in conformity with the general trend of the development of the fraternal mutual co-operation among the socialist countries.

In 1964 our trade amounted to nearly 28 million leva, i. e. an increase of over eleven times as compared to 1955. The last session of the Bulgaro-Yugoslav committee on economic, trade, scientific and technical co-operation, held early in September this year, adopted a series of useful decisions.

In our opinion, there exist favourable opportunities for enriching the forms and content of our economic relations, for the realization of bilateral specialization and co-operation in the field of industry, for expanding our collaboration in the field of power production, transport and communications, agriculture, scientific and technical exchange and tourism.

Our two countries take part in the international division of labour, which strongly contributes to the consolidation of the economic ties and of mutual confidence between different states and constitutes an important factor in their mutual rapprochement and understanding. The international socialist division of labour is of particular importance for the socialist countries and for the development of their economies.

Our Party and our Government consider that systematic care should be taken to intensify the active economic co-operation among the socialist countries. It ought to be further improved on the basis of specialization and co-operation, always bearing in mind the national interests of each individual country and its potential and prospects for development. When tackling these problems, we endeavour to be realists. We realize perfectly well that the practical implementation of the division of labour among the socialist countries raises important and as yet unsettled problems, which might give rise to temporary difficulties. But we are profoundly convinced that if the experience of individual socialist countries is carefully studied and mutual efforts are made, difficulties can be overcome more easily and outstanding problems can be solved more quickly and wisely.

We consider that Yugoslavia's participation in the different specialized commissions of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, though of recent date, already exerts a beneficial influence upon our mutual relations and helps our co-operation. This, on the other hand, confirms once again the big and ever growing role which the Comecon is destined to play for the welfare of the peoples of all member-states.

Side by side with the development of our economic relations, which are of paramount importance, co-operation between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia is also developing in the field of science, culture and education. The exchange of visits and experience between Bulgarian and Yugoslav workers in the field of science and technology, of culture and the arts, has been growing.

We also have the first positive results of the abolition of visas between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

These are a few illustrations of the good co-operation between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, an example of the establishment of political, economic and state relations of a new type between the socialist countries.

Comrades,

In our talks we devoted an important place to the problems of the present-day international situation, the problems of peace and war, the problems of the unity of the world socialist community and of the international communist and working class movement. I am glad to inform you that our talks have

confirmed that the positions of the two delegations on the problems under discussion are either identical or very close.

Recently, we have had a number of occasions, including in this very hall, to express the positions of our Party and our Government on current international problems.

I should like to re-emphasize that the People's Republic of Bulgaria, together with the Soviet Union, the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and the other socialist countries, is sincerely striving for peace, friendship and understanding among the nations, for the settlement of outstanding issues by peaceful means, for the application of the principle of peaceful coexistence in the relations of states with different social systems.

As a result of the policy of peaceful coexistence, also supported by a number of non-aligned nations, positive steps have been taken to relax international tension. We can see a vivid incarnation of this policy in the development of world trade, in the expansion of trade and economic relations between the socialist countries and a number of countries from the capitalist world on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Unfortunately, of late, due to the aggressive activities and provocations of the American imperialists, tensions in the world have grown more acute. They are now resorting to gross interference in the internal affairs of other countries and are openly using armed force in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Congo, the Dominican Republic and other states. They want, by hook or crook, to stifle the national-liberation and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America, in order to check the struggle of the peoples for freedom, independence and social progress.

As always, we consider it our international duty to render all-round assistance to the peoples fighting for the rejection of the yoke of imperialism and of colonial oppression.

The Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and our entire nation — and we have stressed it time and again — wholeheartedly side with the heroic people of Vietnam, follow with tremendous sympathy their resistance to the American aggressors and lend moral and material support to their struggle in defence of the independence and security of Vietnam.

Our country is vitally interested in the consolidation of

peace in Europe so that the security of the European nations may be ensured. It is indeed abnormal that there should still exist vestiges of the Second World War, which represent explosive material tending to increase tension on the European continent and fraught with danger.

It is our view that continuous vigilance should be maintained and that joint steps should be taken to prevent West German militarism and revanchism from rising again to its feet and from obtaining deadly nuclear weapons. There is only one way out of it — to sign a peace treaty with the two actually existing German states and to follow the road of strengthening the security of the European nations. We share the opinion that a situation should be created in Europe in which all European states — big and small, socialist and capitalist — will have the possibility of participating in an all-European co-operation.

The armed conflict between India and Pakistan has filled us with concern. We welcome the cease-fire as well as the initiative of the Soviet Government to help towards the re-establishment of peace along the frontiers between India and Pakistan as quickly as possible and towards a peaceful settlement of the armed conflict. This is the right path and it is in the interest of both countries and peoples, in the interest of the consolidation of peace in that region of the world.

In our exchange of opinions we naturally devote major attention to the world region in which the national destinies of our two peoples are settled — the Balkan Peninsula. On the globe the Balkan Peninsula may be small in size, but its location is an important one. Our seas wash the shores of Asia and Africa, our routes link the West with the East and the North with the South, and we are neighbours of both the Central European and Arab countries and of the boundless lands of the great Soviet Union. In the Balkans, socialist and capitalist countries exist side by side. All this makes the Balkan peoples face many a problem and their Governments — big responsibilities. The stormy history of the Balkan Peninsula, which the imperialist powers turned more than once into the 'European powder keg', as well as the vital interests of our nations and of peace and progress compel us to stand up to these responsibilities.

It is our resolve not to spare any efforts in transforming the Balkan Peninsula into a region of peace, friendship, understanding and mutually profitable co-operation, in establishing a

nuclear-free zone in the Balkans and the Adriatic region. We are gratified to note that, owing to the joint efforts of the peoples and Governments of the Balkan states, the political climate in the Balkan Peninsula has been improving of late.

I should like to stress here the incontestable contribution, which the Government of fraternal Yugoslavia has been making to the relaxation of tension in the Balkans and to the consolidation of mutual trust among the Balkan nations.

Our two delegations consider that it will be of mutual benefit if the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Yugoslav Communist League undertake concrete steps to broaden their contacts and the mutual visits for the exchange of experience in Party, state and economic life. This is the right road for the comradely discussion of problems affecting relations between the two Parties and countries, of the major problems of the international communist movement and of the world we live in, as well as for the settlement of these problems on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. In this way our Parties and countries will make their contribution to the consolidation of the unity of the world socialist community and the international communist movement, to the strengthening of the militant union of all revolutionary and progressive forces of our times.

In the struggle for rallying all anti-imperialist and progressive forces, in the struggle for peace, national independence and communism, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Communist Party are marching and will always march side by side with the great Soviet Union — the most powerful bulwark of peace and socialism in the world, side by side with the other socialist countries and fraternal communist parties.

Comrades,

I should like to express our profound conviction that the visit of Comrade Tito and the other Yugoslav officials to our country, the meetings and talks we are having with them, will further cement the friendship and comradeship between our two fraternal peoples, as well as the all-round co-operation between our socialist countries and the contacts between our Parties in the interest of our two nations, of peace and socialism.

Let the sun of true friendship, fraternity and understanding, the sun of socialism always shine along our frontiers, from

the Timok to Belassitsa and along our common parallels, from the Black Sea to the Adriatic Sea.

Long live and flourish the comradeship, friendship and co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia!

Long live the Bulgarian and Yugoslav peoples, marching along a common road — the road of socialism!

Long live the unity of the socialist countries and the solidarity of the international communist and revolutionary movement!

Long live peace throughout the world!

SPEECH BY COMRADE IOSIP BROZ TITO

Dear Comrades,

Dear Friends,

Allow me first of all to thank you for this warm and cordial reception and for the friendly words which Comrade Todor Zhivkov addressed to the peoples of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia. At the same time, allow me, on behalf of us all who came to your country and to this beautiful city, warmly to thank the citizens of Sofia for their cordial welcome and for the sympathies they expressed towards us and our peoples, sympathies which were encountered wherever we went.

I am glad to have the opportunity of conveying here to the entire Bulgarian people the friendly greetings and the best wishes of the Yugoslav peoples and also of wishing you fresh successes in the building of your socialist homeland and in the creation of a better life for the working people.

We made this visit in order to exchange with the leaders of the friendly People's Republic of Bulgaria opinions on all problems which interest our two neighbouring socialist countries and to further our fruitful bilateral co-operation. Important revolutionary transformations have changed the face of our countries and have created fruitful conditions for the further development of our good-neighbourly relations and co-operation in many walks of life.

We were already able to see for ourselves that the industrious Bulgarian people, led by the Bulgarian Communist Party, have achieved considerable successes in their economic development, in the field of education, culture and science, in the development of social services. You have also achieved a lot in the industrialization and electrification of your country. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is no longer an underdeveloped agricultural country. This morning we paid a visit to the modern Kremikovtzi iron and steel works, which symbolizes these efforts and successes of the Bulgarian people. We were greatly impressed by the labour enthusiasm and the ability of your workers and we sincerely rejoice at the results which you have obtained in construction, which are a guarantee of the further development of Bulgaria.

As you know, the peoples of Yugoslavia have also passed through extremely hard times and sufferings in their history and had to endure great sacrifices to win their national liberation. Before the war, like the Bulgarians, our working people had no rights and were exploited. The anti-popular regimes and the reactionary circles fomented division, chauvinistic passions and hatred among the peoples of Yugoslavia and between them and the Bulgarian people. Yet, in spite of all these difficulties, the best sons of our nation found ways and means to establish mutual friendly contacts, understanding, rapprochement and co-operation. They were united by common goals and ideals in their liberation struggle — in the struggle for freedom and independence and for new social socialist relations.

The friendship between the Yugoslav and Bulgarian fighters for freedom also manifested itself in the international brigades in Spain. It found a further expression in the struggle against fascism, in the collaboration of the People's Liberation Army and the partisan detachments in Yugoslavia with the Bulgarian partisans and, after September 9, 1944, with Bulgaria's Fatherland Front army. The great revolutionary and glorious leader of the Bulgarian people, Comrade Georgi Dimitrov, played a prominent role in the development of friendly relations between our nations. Our young generations should be taught and educated in these fine traditions of sincere co-operation and militant comradeship in order to develop mutual respect for and understanding of each other and to further promote the friendship between the peoples of Bulgaria and

Yugoslavia. This is all the more necessary as ours are neighbouring countries. Our peoples have much in common in their culture and in their rich historical heritage and they are today united by common aspirations for the realization of the noble ideals of socialism and communism.

Comrades,

Allow me to say a few words about Yugoslavia's postwar development, and our achievements during the past twenty years. You are well aware that during the past world war our country suffered heavy material and human losses, that one million and seven hundred thousand people, i. e. almost every ninth citizen, lost their life in the struggle against the foreign invaders. This glorious four-year struggle forged the fraternity and unity of our peoples on the basis of a proper solution of the national question, and the foundations were laid of our independence, social emancipation and socialist development. Taught by past experience and proceeding from the gains of our revolution, we cherish and develop the fraternity and unity of our peoples. In our multi-national socialist community all rights and equality are ensured not only to those belonging to the Yugoslav peoples, but also to all other nationalities. In conformity with the stipulations of our Constitution all national minorities enjoy the full right to express their nationality, to their own cultural development and to the free assertion of their national individuality and, in this way, constitute a link and a bridge for our co-operation with our neighbouring countries. At the same time, this is one of the essential prerequisites for the socialist and democratic character of our society and an expression of our internationalism. Guided by these principles during the postwar period, we devoted particular attention to the development of the underdeveloped regions of our country. We are endeavouring, particularly now that our possibilities have increased, to remove, through the accelerated economic development of these regions, the disproportions which are a heavy inheritance from the past, in order to create as soon as possible equal conditions for economic activities, and along with that better living and working conditions for all peoples in Yugoslavia.

You are aware of the fact that before the war Yugoslavia was an underdeveloped country, and that during the war the few industrial and economic enterprises it possessed were

ruined. Today, however, the face of our country has changed completely: a number of modern branches of industry have been established, new towns and transport arteries have sprung up, the structure of our foreign trade has undergone a considerable change. The accelerated industrial development has brought about a change in the structure of our population, reducing the percentage of agricultural producers from about 75 before the war, to less than 50 today. During the past ten years our national income has been growing by an annual average of ten per cent and our national production — by an annual average of around twelve per cent. I do not wish to tire you with figures and shall therefore quote only a few data on Yugoslav production in 1964: our industry produced nearly 1.7 million tons of steel, nearly one million tons of fertilizers, nearly 28,000 motor cars and 9,000 trucks, nearly 2,400 buses, nearly 9,400 tractors, over 250,000 television sets, 527,000 wireless sets, 177,000 refrigerators, and so on. Although Yugoslavia started producing oil only after the war, this year its output will top the figure of two million tons of crude oil.

We achieved these results in our dynamic economic development thanks, above all, to the high degree of consciousness of the working class and of all working people in Yugoslavia who made exceptional efforts, reaching self-denial to overcome the numerous difficulties we had to face. The initiatives and efforts of our working people found full scope for expression, because they were accompanied by an intense development of the socialist social relations, by the affirmation of the rights and status of the working man within the system of labour and public administrations. This is the salient feature of the new Constitution of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia.

Within a comparatively short period we achieved important results in our economic and social development. This does not mean that today we no longer have problems and difficulties. They are even plentiful. However, our present-day problems and difficulties are by and large the result of the dynamic character of our development so far and of certain internal disproportions. The most recent measures which we carried out this summer tend to further improve our economic system, to bring about an increase in labour productivity, a more harmonious and more rapid development of our economy, its mod-

ernization and most effective participation in world trade, which should help consolidate the material basis of self-management of our working people and create better living conditions.

Comrades,
Dear friends,

Peace and peaceful international co-operation, towards which all peoples of the world strive unwaveringly, are necessary for the creative labour of our working people and for the successful development of our countries. That is why we consider that the building of socialism and the struggle for the preservation of peace cannot be separated and that peace is a historical necessity for all peoples in the world, to whom the present unprecedented progress of science, technology and technique offer vast opportunities for the greater and fuller satisfaction of all their needs.

If we examine the postwar development of international relations, we can easily notice that every increase in world tension has hindered the struggle of the progressive forces and has enabled the reactionary and imperialist circles, using various pretexts, to resort to the strangulation of the liberation movements and of the struggle of the working class for its rights. And, inversely, the gradual reduction of international tension achieved in the past period and the loosening of blocs has facilitated the struggle of the different nations to win and consolidate their political and economic independence and the process of their emancipation.

Along with the important changes in the international working class movement and the considerable acquisitions of the socialist countries, one of the landmarks of our times lies in the fact that a considerable number of newly-liberated nations in Asia and Africa have appeared on the world scene as an active factor. They rightfully demand that genuine equality be established among peoples and countries, as well as that all nations, big or small, participate in the settlement of the world's problems.

The newly-liberated peoples and the non-aligned nations, which have grown into a considerable moral and political force, have gained a prominent place with their positive influence upon world developments. This was particularly evident in their decisive stand in favour of the policy of peaceful and ac-

tive co-existence; they have contributed much to the affirmation of its principles in the world. The constructive activity of the non-aligned nations in the UN, their efforts for the convening of the UN Conference on Trade and Development and their activities during this Conference, and especially at the conferences of the non-aligned nations held in Belgrade and Cairo, confirmed the feasibility of this policy and represented a considerable contribution to the settlement of world problems.

In order to stabilize the situation in the world, it is necessary persistently to work with a view to removing from the sphere of international relations the negative manifestations and practices and the obsolete conceptions which hamper these relations. I have in mind, among other things, the necessity of the universal application and strict observance of the principles of the UN Charter which provide for the right of the peoples to self-determination and condemn the resort to a policy of force and the interference in the internal affairs of other peoples and countries. Our stand in favour of the United Nations as a factor of peaceful international co-operation and an instrument for the preservation of world peace is well known. It is of considerable importance that the present 20th Session of the UN General Assembly take the concrete, realistic and effective discussion of the existing international problems. Everything should be done to avoid last year's situation in the United Nations, which only impaired the prestige of this international organization and reduced the possibilities for effective action on the part of the peace-loving countries.

It is quite obvious that the existence of colonial vestiges, the attempts to impose neo-colonialistic relations and the rule of racial discrimination are unacceptable and incompatible with the modern principles of international relations and with the rights of men and nations. Nor can the investment of huge sums in the armaments drive, which are several times larger than the funds which the developing countries possess for their economic development, be tolerated. At present they constitute the majority of mankind, which rightfully expects to benefit from the achievements of our times.

We are still witnessing attempts on the part of the reactionary forces in the world to flagrantly interfere — under the slogan of an anti-communist struggle — in the internal affairs of

other countries, to use the methods of political and economic pressure and blackmail and even to revert to open violence and aggression. Recently the policy of cold and even of hot war has found adherents among some pseudo-revolutionaries, who are attempting in this way to realize some of their ambitions, to impose their hegemony and to divide the world along racial lines.

Comrades,

The present-day international situation is fraught with serious new threats to peace and the future of mankind. In this respect particular concern is caused by the war in Vietnam where heavy bloodshed continues; the right of the Vietnamese people to self-determination is trodden upon and obstacles are raised in the way of the realization of a peaceful and coordinated solution of the problem on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Agreements. The constant air-raids by the US Air Force on the territory of a sovereign country, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, constitute a gross violation of the UN Charter. The speedy cessation of these air-raids has become the first necessary steps towards the seeking of a peaceful settlement to the Vietnamese problem. I am confident that the sympathies of all freedom-loving and peace-loving nations are with the long-suffering Vietnamese people, though in this case too there seem to be people who would rather like an exacerbation of international relations than the realization of the just aspirations of the Vietnamese people.

The most recent conflict between Pakistan and India has worsened the situation both in this particular region and in the world at large. It must be regretted that two big developing countries are exhausting their forces in this confrontation and that attempts are being made to settle controversial and, more particularly, frontier issues through the use of force. We are concerned because of the attempts made to attribute a religious character to this conflict and to take a stand on it on the basis of this factor. But the greatest danger undoubtedly lies in the attempts to abet this conflict from the outside and in the threats to expand the scope of the armed conflict. The recent provocational threat with regard to India, which renders the possibilities of a peaceful settlement more difficult, gives rise to particular anxiety. In contrast, all responsible statesmen in the world gave their backing to the appeals,

proposals and steps undertaken by the UN General Secretary and by the Security Council to put an end to this dangerous conflict.

Bearing in mind the importance of the current events in the world, the necessity is ever more acutely felt of making the forces of peace as active as possible. That is one of the major tasks of all progressive forces, of the socialist countries and the world working class movement, through their practical policy and their concrete actions, to mobilize all forces standing for peace and progress. This is the only way to prove who really stands for peace — not only in words. This is the only way to isolate and overcome the harmful and dangerous activity of the enemies of peace and progress.

As is known, there exist important differences of view within the international working class movement with regard to the fight for peace. After it rid itself of a certain dogmatic heritage, the international working class movement achieved considerable successes during the past few years. Its dynamic development had a fruitful effect upon the practice of socialist construction and the all-sided development and successes of most socialist countries. The Soviet Union achieved important results in its economic development, in the field of science, in the conquest of space and, what is even more important, as one of the leading nuclear powers it resolutely stands for the policy of peaceful and active co-existence and in defence of peace. Characteristic of present world developments is that socialism ever more strongly affirms itself as an example of the development of modern society, as ever more countries and peoples are adopting it in one form or another. At the same time, a large part of the international working class movement finds new methods of struggle for progress and socialism, bearing in mind the changes in the world and the specific conditions prevailing in individual countries and in the world as a whole. The overwhelming part of the international working class movement is basing its activities today upon the broad, equal and friendly co-operation among all progressive forces and movements which act under different and specific conditions and enrich the development of socialism by their own experience.

But, at the same time, the adherents of dogmatic conceptions are raising an ever louder voice. Ignorant of the processes

I mentioned, also ignorant of the reality of the contemporary social developments and of the real interests of the international working class movement, without choosing their means, they want to impose their own methods and conceptions in an attempt to ensure their domination upon the international working class movement and the world as a whole. With their attacks upon the policy of peace and peaceful co-existence which are not based on any principles, with their pseudo-revolutionary positions, they would like to compel the socialist and newly-liberated countries to renounce the policy of peaceful co-existence. Their splitting activity, their acts and their unscrupulous tirades are in fact abundantly made use of by the forces of reaction and imperialism in order to justify their aggressive actions and their threats to world peace.

Naturally, differences can and actually do exist in the international working class movement, differences stemming from the objective conditions and the specific situation under which the individual parties and movements are acting. It has been proved that such differences, in so far as they are recognized and in so far as the relations between the parties are based on equality and mutual respect, do not hinder the co-operation and unity within the international working class movement. This is the only way to have a genuine unity engulfing all forces which in our present day world stand for peace, progress and socialism.

Comrades,

Dear friends,

Given this unstable situation in the world, we note with satisfaction that the Balkans are a relatively stable region. Although the situation is not an ideal one, we can say that it is considerably better than in the preceding years and that relations among most of the Balkan states have improved. Undoubtedly, through patient and persistent work for the further strengthening of these relations, through the development of equal co-operation and through the respect of our mutual interests, we can hope to promote collaboration among the Balkan countries. It can serve as an example of how, by applying the principle of peaceful and active co-existence of states with different social systems, a successful solution can be found to outstanding problems and good-neighbourly relations and co-

operation can be developed. It is indeed most gratifying that we are having at present more and more common initiatives of the Balkan states in the field of culture, sports and other fields. At present socialist Yugoslavia has very good and developed relations with all neighbouring countries with the exception — independent of our will — of Albania. We value the contribution which the People's Republic of Bulgaria, together with other countries, has made to the development of good-neighbourly co-operation in the Balkans and we consider that this line of policy should be furthered. Mutual understanding and confidence are built up through contacts in the various fields and through friendly and good-neighbourly co-operation. This offers a solid basis for the further development of relations and peace in the Balkans and also constitutes a contribution to the stabilization of the situation in Europe and to the preservation of world peace. That is why the development of friendly relations and co-operation between the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and the People's Republic of Bulgaria have a broader significance.

Comrades,

Dear friends,

In conclusion, I would like to say something about the relations between our two countries which, to our common satisfaction, have been successfully developing in the past few years. We have already succeeded in considerably expanding and even doubling our trade, although all available possibilities in the field of our economic relations have not been made use of as yet. We expect these relations to go on developing and to acquire more intensive forms of industrial co-operation and specialization. It is therefore necessary to continue direct contacts between our economic enterprises and organizations. Particularly fruitful have been the results of our co-operation in the field of transport. Cultural and scientific co-operation is also increasing and developing successfully. Our public and political organizations have established a number of useful contacts which ought to be promoted and expanded in the future as well. This year the visas for travel to and from our countries have been abolished and our citizens have thus been enabled to get travel facilities and to pay each other visits which also lead to better mutual acquaintance. Our frontiers are increasingly becoming a bridge of friendship between our

two peoples, as demonstrated by the tradition of holding mass rallies of the border population.

The conversations which we had these past few days have also shown that there exist broad possibilities of all-round co-operation and that we are determined to do everything that is necessary to expand and promote the relations between our countries and to establish closer contacts between our two fraternal peoples. We discussed with Comrade Todor Zhivkov and with other leaders of your country the development of the relations between our two countries and in an open and friendly way exchanged opinions on a number of current problems of international relations and the working class movement; we may say that we reached not only similar, but completely identical views. I can say with satisfaction that our opinions on the basic international problems are almost identical — a fact which undoubtedly will usefully serve the efforts of our countries and Parties to consolidate socialism and peace in the world.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to thank the friendly Bulgarian people for their selfless aid, rendered to the capital of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia, Skoplje, on the occasion of the disastrous earthquake. In this humanitarian action the Bulgarian people gave proof of their fine feelings of friendship and humane solidarity.

I should like to thank you once again for the warm and cordial welcome and for your attention.

Long live the friendly People's Republic of Bulgaria!

Long live the friendship and co-operation between the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and the People's Republic of Bulgaria!

Long live peace!

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THE BULGARO-YUGOSLAV TALKS

On the invitation of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Iosip Broz Tito, President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia

and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, paid an official visit to Bulgaria from September 22 to 27, 1965.

During his stay in the People's Republic of Bulgaria the President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League and his collaborators visited the capital of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Sofia, the towns of Varna and Plovdiv, and other localities. They also inspected the Kremikovtsi iron and steel works, the co-operative farm at Peroushtitsa, the seaside resorts along the Black Sea coast, certain regions in the Dobroudja, and other places. In friendly meetings and conversations with workers, co-operative farmers, cultural workers and local leaders, the Yugoslav guests acquainted themselves with the life and labour of the Bulgarian people and with their achievements in socialist construction. Wherever they went, the guests from Yugoslavia were given a cordial welcome, which is an expression of the friendly feelings between the two countries and of their desire further to develop their mutual co-operation.

The President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, Iosip Broz Tito, had meetings and conversations with Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Other participants in the conversations were:

On behalf of Bulgaria: Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party; Zhivko Zhivkov, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and First Deputy-Prime Minister; Dimiter Popov, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Minister of Finance; Ivan Bashev, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dimo Dichev, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Head of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Department at the Party's Central Committee; Groudi Ata-

nassov, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia, and Milko Balev, Candidate-Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

On behalf of Yugoslavia: Vidoe Smilevski, President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia and Member of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist League; Mika Shpilyak, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Croatia and Member of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist League; Milyan Neorichich, Secretary of State for Transport and Communications and Member of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist League; Misha Pavichevich, Deputy Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Dragoslav Markovich, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia to the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Milorad Peshich, Head of Department of the State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

During the talks, which were held in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding, a useful exchange of opinions took place on the development of co-operation and friendly relations between the two countries, on international problems, on the situation in the Balkans and on problems concerning the international communist and working class movement and the relations between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Yugoslav Communist League.

Both parties are of the opinion that during the past years relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia have been successfully developing in a spirit of friendship and co-operation, based on equality and mutual respect.

They are gratified to note that the meeting between Comrades Todor Zhivkov and Iosip Broz Tito in Belgrade in January 1963 have given an impetus to the favourable development of relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugosla-

via. Both parties consider that the meetings between leaders and officials of the two nations and the exchange of delegations from social, economic, cultural and other organizations have been useful and they stress the necessity of furthering and strengthening these links.

Economic collaboration between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia has been growing, especially during the past few years. The mixed Bulgaro-Yugoslav Committee on Economic, Commercial, Scientific and Technical Co-operation has been playing an important role in the successful development and expansion of bilateral economic collaboration. The mixed Committee as well as the economic organizations and other respective institutions should implement the existing agreements and seek new ways and means of further broadening co-operation, more particularly through co-ordination and specialization, especially in the field of industry.

Trade between the two countries has been steadily developing on the solid basis of their growing economic potential. Both parties are convinced that the results achieved so far create conditions for a further increase and expansion of their mutual trade and of the variety of goods exchanged and that manufactured goods will take an ever growing part in their trade. In this connexion, the parties stress the importance of the next long-term trade agreement covering the 1966-70 period, which is to be signed in the near future.

Successes have also been attained in other fields of bilateral economic co-operation — in transport and communications, mutual supply of electric power, etc. Scientific and technical co-operation including direct collaboration between enterprises, institutes and specialists, has also been developing successfully.

During the past few years cultural exchange between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia has been successfully developing. The exchange of workers in the field of science, culture and the arts is being extended. Co-operation has been established in the field of the cinema, radio and television, and contacts between the cultural unions and public organizations have been increasing. The two parties also stress the necessity of broader co-operation in the field of information with a view to better informing the public in both countries.

Co-operation in the field of tourism is also successfully developing. A contribution to this effect was the agreement on the abolition of visas between the two countries.

Co-operation between the public, political, cultural and sports organizations in the frontier regions is developing ever more successfully and is contributing to the establishment of a goodneighbourly and friendly climate between the border populations. Still more varied forms should be found to promote this co-operation.

The good relations already established and the achievements in this respect offer broad opportunities for the further development of political, economic and cultural relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia.

Both parties stress that they will avail themselves of the favourable conditions and the good prospects in order to cement co-operation and friendship between the Bulgarian and Yugoslav peoples, convinced that these correspond to the best interests of the peoples of the two neighbouring socialist countries and to peace and co-operation in the Balkans and the world.

II

During the exchange of opinions on the international situation, the two countries established identity or similarity of views on the major international problems.

Proceeding from the profound conviction that socialism and the progress of mankind can fully flourish in conditions of a lasting world peace, friendship and co-operation among the nations, the two parties reaffirm their unshakable resolve to work for the preservation of peace and stress their attachment to the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, which is the only positive alternative in the present-day world.

They note that a number of major international problems have not yet been settled, such as general and complete disarmament, the development of the developing countries, the elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, etc.

The foremost duty of the nations and their leaders in the present alarming situation, caused by the aggressive actions

of the reactionary and imperialist forces in different regions of the world, is to work for the preservation and consolidation of peace. All peaceloving forces in the world and the socialist countries in the first place, together with the non-aligned and other peace-loving states, should firmly oppose all attempts to use force in international affairs and contribute to the peaceful settlement of actual conflicts and controversial issues.

Both parties are of the opinion that the armed intervention of the United States in South Vietnam and the air-raids over the Democratic Republic of Vietnam are not only a violation of the fundamental principles of the UN Charter but also a serious threat to world peace. They insist that a rapid end be put to the bombing of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and support the struggle of the Vietnamese people for their freedom and national independence. Both parties stress the necessity for a peaceful settlement of the Vietnamese problem through negotiations with the participation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia welcome the acceptance by India and Pakistan of the decision of the UN Security Council for a cease-fire. They hope that the Governments of India and Pakistan will take as soon as possible practical steps for the establishment of a lasting peace in that part of the world.

Both parties fully support the peoples fighting for their freedom and national independence. The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia stand for the application of the UN Declaration on Granting Independence to the Colonial Countries and Peoples. They condemn the persistent efforts of the imperialist and colonial powers to prevent these nations — through armed intervention, neo-colonialist methods and interference in the internal affairs of individual countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America — from achieving complete independence, sovereignty and independent economic development.

Both parties value and support the efforts of the Organization of African Unity aimed at the rapprochement of the African peoples and the development of mutual solidarity in their struggle for complete freedom and rapid emancipation. They

are ready to continue their support of the just struggle of the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, the so-called Portuguese Guinea and all other countries which have not yet won their freedom. They also condemn all manifestations of racial discrimination, including the policy of apartheid pursued by the Republic of South Africa.

Co-operation on an equal basis must be established among nations so as to gradually lessen the big gap in the level of economic development of different countries. To this effect both parties will make the necessary efforts for the application of the principles and recommendations adopted by the UN Conference on Trade and Development. The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia will continue to lend, to the best of their ability, all-round aid to the new emergent nations and to promote fruitful co-operation with them.

In the course of their conversations on the situation in Europe, the two parties find that there exist encouraging trends in the development of relations in Europe, though there are still unsettled problems, inherited from the Second World War. They support all constructive proposals and initiatives aimed at creating a climate of trust and at expanding co-operation among the European nations, which would also contribute to the creation of favourable conditions for European security. Both parties are convinced that the German problem can be settled only through peaceful means, proceeding from the premise that the existence of two German states is a fact of life. The Bulgarian and Yugoslav parties stand for a normalization of the situation in West Berlin. They consider that any attempt to permit the Federal German Republic to acquire nuclear weapons or to have a say in the adoption of decisions on the use of such weapons would deal a direct blow to the cause of European peace and security.

Both sides express their concern at the fact that no results have as yet been reached in the negotiations on general and complete disarmament and consider that more concrete and decisive efforts on the part of all nations are needed for the solution of this problem. They are convinced that measures, such as the banning of the use and proliferation of nuclear weapons, the banning of all nuclear tests, the establishment of nuclear-free zones, the elimination of all foreign bases, the

withdrawal of foreign troops from the territories of other countries, etc., will contribute to the relaxation of international tension and will create a propitious climate for the future successful solution of the disarmament problem as a whole. The World Disarmament Conference, also endorsed by the UN Disarmament Commission, should give a strong impetus to the solution of the disarmament problem.

Both parties stress the role of the United Nations as an instrument of peace and its importance for the development of international co-operation based on equality and for the consistent application of the principle of peaceful coexistence. Moreover, they hope that the Jubilee Twentieth Session of the UN General Assembly, after the standstill and the difficulties, will bring the world closer to the successful implementation of its vast and responsible tasks. They will continue to pursue a policy contributing to the consolidation of the UN as an effective instrument for the preservation of peace and the security of the nations. They stand for the transformation of the UN into a truly universal organization in conformity with the new conditions and the necessities of the times.

The two parties paid particular attention to the situation in the Balkans. As socialist states in the Balkans, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia pursue a foreign policy aimed at the strengthening of peace and friendship among the Balkan states, at the expansion of economic and cultural relations and mutually beneficial co-operation with the Balkan states irrespective of their social systems, at the peaceful settlement of controversial issues. They find that relations and co-operation among the Balkan states have improved. The two parties express their readiness to continue their efforts for the further improvement and development of relations among the Balkan states.

Along with the development of bilateral relations, general contacts and joint activities of the Balkan states in the fields of culture, science, arts, sports, etc., which contribute to the establishment of a climate of confidence and co-operation in the Balkans, are conducive to the achievement of this goal.

III

The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Todor Zhivkov, and the Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, Iosip Broz Tito, and their collaborators exchanged opinions on the further development of relations and co-operation between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Yugoslav Communist League and on the state of affairs within the international communist and working class movement.

They find that in the past few years progress has been made in the development of relations between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Yugoslav Communist League. They express the readiness of both Parties to develop their contacts and their mutual visits for the exchange of experience in the field of Party, state and economic affairs and for the discussion, in friendly talks, of the problems pertaining to the relations between the two Parties, international relations and the situation within the international communist and working class movement.

The two parties agreed that the intensified aggressive activities of the imperialist circles require still greater efforts on the part of the international communist and working class movement and of all progressive forces in the fight for peace and social progress.

The representatives of the two Parties express their desire and readiness to contribute to the strengthening of the forces of socialism and of the international communist and working class movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism, socialist internationalism and equality, bearing in mind the national peculiarities and the independent status of each Party.

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Both Parties are confident that the visit of the President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, Iosip Broz Tito, to the People's Republic of Bulgaria will contribute to the further development of all-round co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and to the strengthening of friendship between the two peoples.

The President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League, Iosip Broz Tito, invited the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, and the President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Georgi Traikov, to pay an official visit to the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia; the invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Sofia, September 27, 1965

TODOR ZHIVKOV

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

GEORGI TRAIKOV

President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

IOSIP BROZ TITO

President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Yugoslav Communist League

P A P E R S A N D D O C U M E N T S

IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND FRATERNAL UNDERSTANDING

Communiqué on the Conversations between a Delegation of the French Communist Party and Representatives of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party

A delegation of the French Communist Party, consisting of comrades Roland Leroy, member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the Central Committee, Georges Gosna and Gisèle Joannès, members of the Central Committee, and Paul Rochas, Secretary of the Party Federation in the Isère department, paid a visit to Bulgaria from June 22 to 28, 1965, at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The delegation visited industrial enterprises, co-operative farms, resorts and a number of towns, familiarizing itself with the life and achievements of the Bulgarian people. During their tour around the country, the French comrades had meetings and talks with Party, trade union and state leaders and with working people in industry and agriculture. Conversations were held between the representatives of the French Communist Party and Comrade Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the BCP, Comrade Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the CC of the BCP, as well as with a delegation of the Central Committee consisting of comrades: Boyan Bulgaranov, member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the CC, Nacho Papazov, Secretary of the CC, Stoyan Stoyanov and Elena Gavrilova, members of the Central Committee, and Stefan Ganev, Secretary of the Party's City Committee in Sofia.

During the meetings, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship and fraternal understanding, the delegations of

the two parties informed each other about the situation in the two countries and the activity and tasks of the two parties. Opinions were exchanged on the main questions concerning the international situation and the international communist and workers' movement. The two delegations reaffirmed the unity of views of the two parties on the fundamental problems of our days. The representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party informed the representatives of the French Communist Party about the basic trends in the country's economic and foreign policy, certain matters of principle and the results obtained from experimenting with the new system of economic planning and management, about the successes achieved by the Bulgarian people in the last 20 years in the country's industrialization, in the socialist reconstruction of agriculture, as well as in education, public health and culture. These successes are the result of the triumph of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria, of the efforts of the Bulgarian people, of the tremendous unstinted assistance of the Soviet Union and the fraternal co-operation with the other socialist nations.

The French delegation assured the representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party that the French communists attach great value to the remarkable achievements of their Bulgarian brothers in the construction of a socialist society.

It informed the Bulgarian delegation about the struggles of the French workers for the establishment of genuine democracy in France, for a policy aimed at social progress, peace, national independence and socialism. The French Communist Party is steadfastly fighting in defence of the vital interests of the working class and of all working people in France, sparing no effort to create a united front between communists and socialists and an alliance of all the democratic forces in the country; it is continuously fighting for peace, disarmament and peaceful coexistence, supporting the peoples struggling for their complete liberation from imperialism and colonialism.

On behalf of the Central Committee and of all communists in Bulgaria, the delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party expressed its full support for the policy pursued by the French Communist Party.

The two delegations became the exponents of the profound sentiments of traditional friendship between the Bulgarian and the French peoples, inspired today by the memory of the two

unforgettable great leaders of the international communist movement — Georgi Dimitrov and Maurice Thorez.

The representatives of the two fraternal parties were gratified to note the development of economic and cultural relations between France and Bulgaria, expressing the wish that these relations might develop also in future in the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence among all nations.

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Examining the key international problems, the two delegations expressed the unanimous opinion that the main trends in the development of the international situation are the consolidation of the positions of socialism, the upswing in the world workers' movement and national-liberation struggles, as well as a growth of the forces fighting for the preservation and consolidation of peace.

The delegations expressed the solidarity of their two parties with the peoples fighting against imperialism and colonialism, and for complete economic and political independence.

The representatives of the French Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party condemned the aggressive activity of the imperialist forces and, above all, of the American imperialists who are trying to pass over to the offensive in a number of regions in the world, such as South-East Asia, Central America, Africa, etc., and with the aid of local wars to stifle the national-liberation struggle of the peoples and to precipitate a new world war.

They firmly condemned the aggression of the American imperialists against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, against the peoples of South Vietnam and the Dominican Republic.

The two delegations reaffirmed the unshakable active solidarity of their parties with the heroic Vietnamese people and with the Vietnamese Party of Labour. They greeted the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, which is the leading political force in that country, and once again insisted on the immediate discontinuance of imperialist aggression in South-East Asia, on the withdrawal of American forces from that region and on the observance of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

Surveying the latest developments in Algeria, the two delegations expressed their profound conviction that the Algerian people, in spite of all hardships and temporary obstacles, would succeed in preserving the gains of their revolution and would continue the development of their country along the road of national independence, democracy and socialism.

The delegations of the two fraternal parties expressed the unanimous opinion that fresh and still greater efforts were required to ease the tension in Europe created by the action of the West German revanchists and by the NATO plans to place nuclear weapons at their disposal and to set up a multi-lateral nuclear force. The two delegations consider these plans to be one of the main obstacles in the disarmament negotiations, as they constitute a grave threat to world peace.

They reaffirm that international differences can and should be settled by way of peaceful negotiations between the interested parties. They come out in favour of general and controlled disarmament, the establishment of atom-free zones, especially in Europe.

The two delegations welcome the forthcoming calling of the Congress of the World Peace Movement in Helsinki.

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The representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the French Communist Party expressed their unanimous view that in the newly-created setup of fresh aggressive actions on the part of the imperialists, the rallying of the revolutionary forces in the world — the socialist community, the national-liberation movement and the international workers' movement — becomes an imperative necessity. The mobilization of these forces and especially of the international workers' movement can prevent the imperialists from implementing their military plans.

Under these conditions the representatives of the French Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party express serious concern over the attacks which the leaders of the Chinese Communist Party have again levelled of late against

other communist and workers' parties and, more particularly, against the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

On behalf of their parties, the two delegations stated that they have always appreciated the front-rank experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in the liberation struggle of the peoples against capitalist oppression and in socialist construction, which experience represents an inexhaustible source of knowledge and confidence in the struggle for all communist and workers' parties.

Inspired by the jointly elaborated decisions at the 1957 and 1960 Conferences, the delegations reaffirmed their complete agreement with the Communiqué of the 19 Fraternal Parties adopted in March 1965 in Moscow, and expressed the firm resolve of the French and the Bulgarian communists to take all measures, together with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal parties, necessary for the consolidation of unity in the international workers' and communist movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism. They are convinced that the calling of a new conference of communist and workers' parties fully corresponds to the interests of the international communist movement and will contribute to closing the ranks of the communists throughout the world and to hammering out a uniform viewpoint in their struggle for the common goal.

The two delegations expressed the wish that in the current international setup the communist and workers' parties should develop united action in the struggle against imperialism, for all-round support of the liberation movements of the peoples in the fight for peace and peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, regardless whether they are big or small, in the struggle in defence of the vital interests of the working people and for the fulfilment of the historic tasks of the working class.

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The two delegations agree that more frequent contacts between representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the French Communist Party for an exchange of experience and for getting acquainted with each other will contribute to a still more deep-going co-operation and understanding between

the two fraternal parties. Measures were also mapped out for the further development of this co-operation.

The French Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party consider it their irrevocable international duty to devote all their forces to the struggle for the triumph of peace, democracy and socialism and for the happiness of their peoples and the peoples in the whole world.

IN A CORDIAL FRIENDLY CLIMATE

Communiqué on the Talks between the Delegations of the Communist Party of Great Britain and the Bulgarian Communist Party

At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, a delegation of the Communist Party of Great Britain visited the People's Republic of Bulgaria from July 27 to August 9.

During its stay in Bulgaria, the delegation visited Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Vratsa, Pernik, Tolbukhin and Botevgrad. It inspected industrial enterprises, co-operative farms, cultural institutions and resorts, and met and conversed with Party, trade union and state leaders, as well as with industrial and agricultural workers.

Talks were held between the delegation of the Communist Party of Great Britain and a delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party, in which the following persons took part:

On behalf of the Communist Party of Great Britain — comrades Peter Kerrigan, member of the Political Committee of the CPGB and head of the delegation, Samuel Taylor and Gene Stansfield, members of the Party Central Committee.

On behalf of the Bulgarian Communist Party — comrades Mitko Grigorov, member of the Politbureau, Secretary of the Central Committee of the BCP and head of the delegation, Dimo Dichev, member of the Central Committee of the BCP and head of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Dept., Goran Anghelov, candidate member of the Central Committee of the BCP and head of the Trade and Food Industry Department of the Central Committee of the BCP, and Iliana Kazakova, Secretary of the Kolarov District Committee of the BCP in Sofia.

The delegation of the Communist Party of Great Britain acquainted the representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party with the economic and political situation in their country, with the struggles of the British working people against the policy favouring the monopolies, the vast military expenditures and foreign bases on British soil. Furthermore, it stated that the Communist Party of Great Britain was fighting steadfastly for the satisfaction of the immediate needs of the broad masses, for peace, democracy and socialism.

The delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party, on its part, informed the representatives of the Communist Party of Great Britain on the Bulgarian people's achievements in the construction of socialism during the past twenty years and on the prospects of the country's further development, on the preparation of the new five-year plan. The delegation emphasized that our country's successes in all spheres of life clearly testify to the peace-loving and industrious character of the Bulgarian people, that they have scored these successes with the fraternal aid of the Soviet people and in close co-operation with the other socialist countries.

The Bulgarian delegation informed the delegation of the Communist Party of Great Britain about the concrete results of the consistent peaceable policy pursued by the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the Balkan Peninsula, which has resulted in an improvement of relations among the Balkan states and is a contribution to the consolidation of peace in the Balkans and in the world.

The talks between the two fraternal delegations took place in a cordial friendly climate, with complete unanimity on the fundamental issues discussed.

The two delegations stated that the international situation was developing in favour of socialism, of the movements for national liberation, of peace and progress the world over. At the same time, they pointed out that the reactionary circles in the imperialist countries and, above all, in the USA, had become active in various parts of the world and were trying to take the offensive, so as to check the national liberation movements and to prevent other countries from taking the path of democracy and socialism.

The delegations of the Communist Party of Great Britain and the Bulgarian Communist Party reaffirmed their parties'

solidarity with the peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America which are fighting for complete political and economic independence. They stressed that the US intervention in Vietnam had aroused the indignation and anger of the Bulgarian people and of ever wider strata of the British nation. The two delegations expressed their parties' solidarity and support of the heroic struggle waged by the Vietnamese people. They appealed for an immediate stop to the American aggression in Vietnam, for a withdrawal of American troops and those of their satellites from South Vietnam, and for an end to American air-raids. The South Vietnamese people should be the masters of their country and settle their problems without foreign intervention.

The members of the two delegations unanimously agreed that the present international situation, which is the result of the provocations and military adventures of imperialism in Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, Congo and other countries, compelled the nations of the world to take steps to crush the forces of imperialism.

The representatives of the two fraternal parties stated that the imperialist plans for creating multilateral nuclear forces represented a serious threat to world peace. The creation of multilateral nuclear forces or of their British variant — the so-called Atlantic nuclear forces — is yet another dangerous step towards the proliferation of nuclear weapons, aimed at putting them in the hands of the West German militarists, the most aggressive force in Europe. The broad masses throughout the world and quite a few governments are opposed to this.

The two delegations also believe that the present international situation calls for the consolidation of the unity of the communist and workers' parties. Of particular importance are today the joint actions of the communist parties to put an end to the US aggression in South Vietnam and to defend the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

On behalf of their parties, the delegations stated that they would do their utmost to cement the unity of the international communist movement, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, on the Declaration of 1957 and the Statement of 1960.

The two delegations agree that more frequent meetings and contacts between representatives of the Communist Party

of Great Britain and the Bulgarian Communist Party would make for a still better acquaintance between the two fraternal parties, for a still more comprehensive review of the outstanding questions between them, for consolidating their fraternal friendship and solidarity, and for achieving the broadest co-operation in the common fight for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism.

STATEMENT OF THE BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY

In connexion with the latest events in Vietnam, the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency has been authorized to make the following statement:

American imperialism has recently taken an exceedingly dangerous step in further escalating the aggressive war in Vietnam. The US government has decided to send an additional contingent of 50,000 troops and asked Congress to increase the credits for waging the Vietnamese war by 1,700 million dollars.

The US hopes that, by hurling more troops against the Vietnamese people and increasing the casualties and destructions, it will succeed in crushing their fighting spirit. But it has forgotten that a nation, which is ready to make any sacrifice for its freedom and independence and which enjoys the support of the socialist countries and of all freedom-loving peoples in the world, cannot be conquered.

The path chosen by the American imperialists, the path of gradually escalating the war in Vietnam cannot bring them anything good. With every passing day the aggressors and their Saigon puppets suffer ever more serious losses and the resistance against their reckless policy grows ever stronger.

The escalation of the American intervention in Vietnam arouses justified alarm among all peace-loving people in the world, as it further increases the threat to peace in South-East Asia and the whole world.

In connexion with the escalation of the aggression in Vietnam, the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam published declarations, in which they energetically condemned the dangerous new steps of the American

imperialists and confirmed the unshakable resolve of the Vietnamese people to fight to a victorious end.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam reaffirms that the only way to reach a proper settlement of the Vietnamese problem is to observe strictly the Geneva Agreements of 1954, immediately to discontinue the barbarous air-raids over the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, to put an end to the aggressive war in South Vietnam, with the US withdrawing all its troops from there together with their armament and letting the Vietnamese people decide their own fate.

The government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the whole Bulgarian nation are completely solidary with the fraternal Vietnamese people and firmly support their just and selfless struggle against the American aggression, for freedom and national independence.

True to the principles of fraternal solidarity and proletarian internationalism, the Bulgarian people, together with the peoples of the other socialist countries and all peace-loving nations of the world, firmly side with the heroic Vietnamese people, render it all-round assistance and will continue to do so. They firmly condemn the reckless new step of American imperialism, insist that the barbarous air-raids over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam be immediately discontinued, that the American aggression and intervention in South Vietnam be ended, and that the US withdraw its troops and military equipment from there.

The government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is convinced that a settlement of the Vietnamese problem is possible solely on the basis of a strict observance of the Geneva Agreements of 1954, on the basis of the declaration made by the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam on April 8 of this year and the declaration made by the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam on March 22 of this year. The Vietnamese people should be granted the right to independence, unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the right to settle their own fate, without any foreign intervention.

The Bulgarian people are convinced that the just cause of the Vietnamese people will prevail.

Sofia, August 17, 1965

WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE

Communiqué on the Visit of the Delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam to the People's Republic of Bulgaria

A delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam paid a visit to Bulgaria from September 3 to 13, 1965, at the invitation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front. Headed by Dang Huang Minh, member of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, the delegation also included Mat Thi Chu, representative of the South-Vietnamese Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The delegation had meetings and talks with a delegation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, headed by its President, Encho Staikov, who is also member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The delegation visited a number of towns and villages in Bulgaria, met functionaries of the Fatherland Front, various People's Councils, Party and mass public organizations and many working people, and familiarized itself with the struggles of the Bulgarian people against fascism and capitalism and their achievements in the peaceful development of the country.

The guests were received by Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister, with whom they had heart-to-heart talks. Meetings and talks were also held with leading functionaries at the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Central Trade Union Council, the Central Committee of the Fighters against Fascism and Capitalism, the Committee of Bulgarian Women and the Central Committee of the Dimitrov Young Communist League.

In the course of these meetings conversations were held on the aggressive war of the American imperialists against the people of South Vietnam.

The two parties resolutely condemn this criminal aggressive war, noting that the American imperialists are the only ones to blame for the flagrant violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

The Bulgarian people are most indignant at the shameful aggression of the American imperialists who, faced with defeat in the struggle against the South-Vietnamese patriots, adopted a policy of escalation, of spreading the war over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, carrying out barbarous air-raids on localities, hospitals, schools, killing the peaceful population — women, old people and children and using napalm and poisonous chemicals, therein surpassing their nazi predecessors. The decision of the aggressors to send yet another 50,000 American soldiers to South Vietnam and to grant new credits to the amount of 1,700 million dollars to the puppet Saigon regime is met with anger and indignation. The dirty war against the Vietnamese people completely un-masks the aggressors' false talk of peace and a peaceful settlement of the Vietnamese problem.

The two delegations consider the war against the Vietnamese people as linked with the imperialist policy in support of colonialism, of enslaving the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The spread of aggression against the South Vietnamese people over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the attempts to involve other allies of the American imperialists in it constitute a grave threat to peace not only in South-East Asia but also in the whole world.

The Fatherland Front, together with the entire Bulgarian people, side resolutely with the heroic Vietnamese people and insist on an immediate withdrawal of the USA forces from South Vietnam, on putting an end to the intervention in the home affairs of the states of Indo-China and on enabling the Vietnamese people to determine their own social system and the road of their development.

The Bulgarian people fully approve and wholeheartedly support the declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on the aggressive operations of the USA in South Vietnam. The working people in the People's Republic

of Bulgaria resolutely back the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people for freedom, national independence and unification of the country, which struggle is a great contribution to the general struggle of the peoples against imperialism and colonial oppression, for national independence, for peace in South-East Asia and in the whole world.

In expressing its complete agreement with the standpoint of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the People's Government, the Fatherland Front considers that the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam is the sole true and lawful representative of the South Vietnamese people and fully supports its declaration of March 22, 1965, as well as the declaration of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam of April 8, 1965. No decision on South Vietnam can be taken without the decisive voice of the National Liberation Front. At the same time, as was pointed out in the declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Fatherland Front, together with the entire Bulgarian people, consider it as their international duty to render all-round moral and material assistance to South Vietnam and to support all measures in defence of the security and independence of Vietnam. And if requested by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, the Bulgarian people are ready to send volunteers to fight shoulder to shoulder with their Vietnamese brothers against the aggressors.

On behalf of the South Vietnamese people the delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam expresses its deep gratitude to the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Fatherland Front and the entire Bulgarian people for the increasing assistance and support which they are rendering to the people of South Vietnam in their struggle against the American aggressors. This valuable assistance is an eloquent proof of the profound international sentiments and fraternal solidarity of the Bulgarian people; it is a source of inspiration for the South Vietnamese people in their just struggle.

The delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam expresses its joy at the remarkable successes scored by the Bulgarian people in their struggle for a happy life and all-round progress of their country. The delegation also ex-

pressed its gratitude for the warm welcome it was accorded in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the deep understanding of the just struggle which the people of South Vietnam are waging for their liberation from the shackles of imperialism.

The delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam welcomes the warmly expressed readiness on the Bulgarian side to open a permanent representation of the Front in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, which will help to further broaden and consolidate relations between the two fraternal nations.

The two delegations consider that the visit of the representatives of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam to the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the cordial and fraternal talks which were held will greatly help to further broaden cooperation and consolidate the solidarity between the two fronts, between the Bulgarian and the Vietnamese peoples in their struggle against imperialism and American aggression, and for the triumph of justice, democracy, social progress, national independence and peace throughout the world.

Yesterday the President of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, Encho Staikov, and the head of the delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam visiting our country, Dang Huang Minh, member of the CC of the National Front, signed a joint communiqué on the visit of the South Vietnamese delegation to the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Present at the signing of the Communiqué were secretaries and members of the Bureau of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, public and cultural workers and leaders of public and mass organizations. Present also was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in Sofia, Pham Van Thuen.

**TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE COLOMBIAN COMMUNIST PARTY
BOGOTA, COLOMBIA**

Dear Comrades,

The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party extends most cordial greetings to you and all communists in your country on the 35th anniversary of the foundation of the Colombian Communist Party.

Your Marxist-Leninist Party has covered an arduous but heroic path, and its revolutionary history is eventful. Legal or semilegal, it is fighting steadfastly and consistently against colonialism, the dictatorship of foreign monopolies and feudal obscurantism, against the reactionary governments in your country, for the vital rights of your working people. As a result, the Colombian Communist Party has won the confidence and support of the broad masses and become a first-rate political force which unites the progressive and democratic-minded masses in the growing struggle for national independence, social and political rights and liberties for the workers and working peasants.

The Bulgarian Communist Party wishes the fraternal Colombian Communist Party, which supports the unity of the international communist movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, fresh and still greater successes in the sacred struggle for the Colombian people's bright future and for the cause of socialism.

May the Colombian Communist Party grow and gain strength, united and solidary!

Long live the unity of the internationalist communist and workers' movement!

**CENTRAL COMMITTEE
OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST
PARTY**

IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE AND IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING

Aden Abdullah Osman, President of the Republic of Somalia, paid an official visit to Bulgaria from August 2 to August 7, 1965, at the invitation of Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

During their stay in Bulgaria, the President and the persons accompanying him, visited Sofia, Varna and Plovdiv. They inspected the *Kremikootsi* iron and steel works, the seaside resorts of *Golden Sands* and *Drouzhba*, and the cooperative farm in the village of Peroushtitsa, Plovdiv district, where they were given a warm reception and a cordial welcome by the Bulgarian people and the authorities.

The guests acquainted themselves with some aspects of the life of the Bulgarian people, with their work and their achievements in the field of economics, science and culture.

In Varna the President and the persons accompanying him met Todor Zhivkov, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The President of the Republic of Somalia, Aden Abdullah Osman, had talks with Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly. Present at the talks were:

On behalf of Bulgaria — Minister Luchezar Avramov; Ivan Bashev, Foreign Minister; Stoyan Syulemezov, Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Committee; Ognyan Tihomirov, First Deputy-Minister of Home Trade; Ivan Popov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; and Naiden Belchev, Minister Plenipotentiary and head of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also took part in the talks.

And on behalf of Somalia — Ahmed Yusuf Dualeh, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Abdulkadir Mohamed Adan, Minister

of Home Affairs; Hadji Mohamed Auale Liban, Head of the Cabinet of the Presidency of the Republic; Abdulrahman Abbi, acting Chief Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ahmed Botan, acting Director General of the Ministry of Planning; and Amir Tarmum, Director of the Political Department at the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Bulgaro-Somalian relations were discussed during the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere and in a spirit of understanding, and measures were proposed for their extension and strengthening. Some outstanding international problems were also discussed.

In the course of the exchange of opinions on current international affairs, the two parties were gratified to note a similarity of views on the assessment and ways of settling acute international problems, the consolidation of peace and international co-operation.

They reaffirmed their attachment to the UN as an important instrument of international co-operation and understanding. The two parties are in favour of a strict observance of the UN Charter, condemning the attempts of a certain states to use the organization for purposes inconsistent with the principles and the spirit of this organization. They also favour a broader composition of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council of the UN, with a view to securing a better representation of the newly-liberated African and Asian nations, whose role and importance in international affairs is constantly growing.

The two parties agreed that all outstanding international issues should be settled by means of peaceful negotiations of the parties concerned and not through the use of force.

During the talks the two parties reaffirmed their wish for the complete elimination of the vestiges of the colonial regime. They condemn and reject colonialism and neo-colonialism in any form whatever and express their solidarity with the peoples of Africa, Asia and South America, fighting for their freedom and independence.

They stated their support of the declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1960. The two parties agree that the peoples fighting for their national liberation and inde-

pendence have the irrevocable right of self-determination and of conducting their affairs as their own interests dictate.

They condemn the policy of apartheid pursued by the government of the South African Republic as a crime against humanity. It was re-affirmed that this policy is inconsistent with the UN Charter and the Declaration on Human Rights.

The establishment and consolidation of the Organization of African Unity is regarded by the two parties as a factor in the African peoples' struggle for the strengthening of their independence, against the attempts of imperialism and neo-colonialism to restore their former domination in new forms. The two parties stand for the removal of foreign military bases and for turning Africa and other parts of the world into atom-free zones.

During the talks anxiety was expressed about the dangerous turn of events in certain parts of Africa, Asia and South America, which pose a serious threat to world peace.

It was noted that some urgent and important world problems still remained unsettled, such as general and complete disarmament, banning of the production, stockpiling and proliferation of nuclear weapons. The two parties consider that in the present international situation the foremost duty of the states and their leaders is the preservation and consolidation of peace and the establishment of an atmosphere of amity and friendship among the nations of the world.

As was stressed in the talks, in their foreign relations the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Somalia have been invariably pursuing a policy of non-interference in the home affairs of other nations, on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence of countries with differing social systems.

The two parties reaffirmed their readiness to develop their political, economic and cultural collaboration. They agreed that the trade and economic relations between Bulgaria and Somalia had to be further extended.

The two parties expressed their satisfaction with the results of the Somalian President's visit and with the talks held, and they agreed that future meetings of statesmen of the two countries would contribute to the further development of friendly relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Somalia.

The President of the Republic of Somalia extended an invitation to the President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to visit Somalia at his convenience.

The invitation was gratefully accepted.

NEW TIMES

Theoretical Organ of the CC of the BCP

Review

No. 7, 1965

Development of Machine-building and Utilization of Production Reserves, by Todor Yordanov.

The article examines the causes of the formation of production reserves in the process of the development of machine-building up to this day. It dwells more particularly on the reserves connected with the existing production apparatus in this branch. On the basis of individual observations, the author comes to the conclusion that if the available production capacities were used in the most rational manner, machine-building might be just about doubled. Proceeding from this conclusion, he recommends that the extensive development of the branch should be temporarily limited and that priority should be given to its intensive development, which in practice means to make use of one of the chief factors for intensive expanded reproduction. According to the author, the scale and rates of growth of machine-building could be still further increased in this way and the effectiveness of this branch could be substantially raised. In this connexion he examines the main conditions and pre-

requisites for the practical utilization of the existing reserves.

Material and Technical Basis of Agriculture in the Socialist Countries, by Stoyan Shalamanov.

The article treats of certain general laws in the development of the material and technical basis of agriculture. Its rapid growth rate in all the socialist countries is pointed out, as well as the process of bridging the gap between them inherited from the past. At the same time, when analyzing the present state of agriculture, the necessity is emphasized of stepping up its growth rates and those of its material and technical basis. The author indicates that this can be achieved by increasing the growth rate of the industrial branches producing agricultural means of production. An important part in this connexion is played and will be played by the international socialist division of labour and co-operation among the socialist nations.

A Highlight in the History of the International Communist Movement, by Stoyko Kolev, devoted

to the 30th anniversary of the Seventh Congress of the Communist International.

The article traces the elaboration of the strategy and tactics of the world communist movement by Lenin, their sectarian and dogmatic deformation after his death and the prerequisites for the new tactics of the united and popular front hammered out at the Seventh Comintern Congress. Special attention is devoted to the historic role of the Seventh Congress and to our leader and teacher, Georgi Dimitrov, in the creative development of Marxism-Leninism in the struggle against sectarianism and adventurism and the elaboration of the tactical line of the proletariat and popular anti-fascist front.

The author then goes on to point out the tremendous successes of the communist movement scored through the application of the new tactical line of the Seventh Congress of the Comintern, the establishment of powerful popular and patriotic fronts prior to and during the Second World War and their significance for the triumph of popular democracy and socialism in a number of countries.

In conclusion, he reveals the link and continuity between the work of the Seventh Congress of the Comintern and the general line of the modern international communist movement in its fight for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism. The author rightly stresses the great significance which the struggle for the unity of the communist and workers' movement and all democratic and peaceful forces in the world assumes at present.

Methodological Problems of Linguistics, by Vladimir Georgiev.

In the beginning of his article the author underlines the importance of comparative historical, structural and mathematical methods to the development of linguistics as an exact science. In dwelling first on the methods of cognizance specific to linguistics, he proceeds from the general principle that all sciences, according to Marxism, have the same cognitive method — the method of dialectical materialism. According to him, dialectical materialism does not exclude but presupposes the existence of particular methods of investigation in every field of science, which reveal the specific nature of the examined object. This is true of all the branches of science as well as of linguistics. Linguistics has created and continues to create a number of specific methods for investigating language as a social phenomenon — methods derived from the very nature of the examined phenomenon.

Entering into polemics with bourgeois linguists and theoreticians and refuting everything which is not scientifically grounded in their theories, the author points out at the same time that a number of methods in linguistics used by them are and should be used by Marxist linguists as well. He concludes, however, that many fundamental philosophical problems of linguistics can be correctly resolved only from the viewpoint of dialectical and historical materialism, i. e. Marxism.

Problems of the Transition from a Class to a Classless Society, by Marko Markov.

The article deals with problems connected with the social transformations during the transition period from capitalism to socialism. As the author indicates, cer-

tain erroneous views have appeared of late within the ranks of the international communist movement in connexion with these problems. Some people are prone to overexpand the social limits of the transition period, mechanically including all higher stages of communist construction, denying the necessity of a socialist stage of development and developing erroneous views on the class struggle, the social structure of socialist society and on the historical role of the proletarian dictatorship.

In subjecting these erroneous views to sharp criticism, the author analyzes the social and class changes in the transition period from capitalism to socialism and maintains that these changes constitute an important and inevitable stage along the road to a classless society. It is precisely because these changes took place or are now taking place that the communist ideal of a classless society has ceased to be a distant prospect and is becoming an ever more tangible reality for socialist society in the Soviet Union, in our country and the other socialist countries.

Dwelling in detail on the problems of the gradual ironing out of social and class differences at the present stage of Bulgaria's development, the author lays stress on the principle of material incentive, the unity of material and moral stimuli and the application of the new system of planning in the progressive development of socialist society in our country.

Africa in the Plans of American Neocolonialism, by Lyuben Petrov. The article is devoted to topical problems of international developments. The author adduces and discusses a wealth of factual material, chiefly of an economic char-

acter, which reveals the aggressive aims of American imperialism in the Black Continent and its perfidious plans and attempts to reduce the African peoples again to bondage but under a new guise.

The column entitled *Criticism of Bourgeois Ideology* contains the article *Marxist Influence on Certain Theories of the Bourgeois and Petty-Bourgeois Intelligentsia*, specially written for *Novo Vremé* by the Hungarian philosopher A. Gedé.

The author notes that an ever increasing number of bourgeois ideologists are beginning to realize the power of attraction of the Marxist ideology. This process is marked by a deviation from petty-bourgeois and liberal democratic illusions and an acceptance of proletarian class conceptions and behaviour. On the other hand, the reflections and problems of the confrontation of Marxism are tinged also by ideological currents which have their roots in the opposition of liberal democratic intellectuals to monopoly capital. These people criticize the anti-democratic character of imperialism, its militarism and inhumanity, but at the same time they criticize Marxism as well, or rather they paraphrase it in their own terms. In their desire to avoid becoming apologists of capital and to find a way out of the spiritual crisis of capitalism, they regard Marxism as 'the guiding idea of modern times' and accept what they consider to be the positive elements in its criticism of bourgeois society, trying to supplement it and to blend it with various theories defending idealism. But these petty-bourgeois liberal criticisms of monopoly capital are by their very nature incapable of fully revealing its con-

traditions and vices. Hence, Marxist thinkers, although they do not deny the democratic activities of some representatives of this movement (e. g. Wright Mills, Jean-Paul Sartre and others), criticize their ideological, philosophic and sociological conceptions.

The column entitled *Discussions* includes the following articles: *On the Concrete Meaning of Abstract Metadiscussion*, by Dobrin Spassov and *Discussions and Characters* by Nikola Nikolov. Both deal with problems raised in N. Iribadjakov's article entitled *Creative Discussions — an Objective Necessity of Socialist Society*, published in this year's first issue of *Novo Vremé*. Both support the opinions expounded in this article and reject as utterly unsound the views expressed by Stoyko Popov in his article entitled *On Essential Discussions* (*Novo Vremé*, No. 5).

The column entitled *Exchange of Views*, continuing the discussion of problems connected with the work of the district Party committee, contains the items entitled *An Important Link in the Party's Organizational Structure* by Atanas Dimitrov, and *The Work of the District Party Committee in Implementing the Decisions of the May Plenum of the CC of the BCP* by Stoyan Benchev.

The column *Aid to Propagandists* contains an article entitled *Aid of Socialist Countries to Developing Nations* by Petko Petkov, which abounds in facts and data on the all-round selfless aid rendered by the USSR and the socialist countries to the emergent nations.

A commentary on foreign affairs by Georgi Konstantinov, entitled *The Dominican People in Defence of Their Freedom* is published in the column *International Review*. It reviews the events in the Republic of Santo Domingo. A wealth of factual material enables the author to appraise correctly the causes which gave rise to these events, to bring out the equitable nature of the struggle of the small Dominican nation and to unmask the American imperialists as oppressors of small nations and enemies of their freedom, as well as of peace and progress all over the world.

The column *Criticism and Book Reviews* contains a review of two important works of the eminent Marxist economist and president of the Swedish Communist Party, C. H. Hermansson, i.e. *Koncentration och storföretag* (publ. 1959) and *Monopol och storfinans* (1962). The review is written by Kiril Kotsev and is entitled *The Domination of Monopolies and of Finance Capital in Sweden*.

Number 8, 1965

The leading article, entitled *On the Road of Steady Progress*, is devoted to the 21st anniversary of the victory of the armed people's

uprising of September 9, 1944. It tells about Bulgaria's achievements in all spheres of life, adducing a wealth of facts and figures on the

progress in industry, agriculture, culture and foreign affairs. Against the background of these data, the author gives a clear and cogent exposition of the Bulgarian Communist Party's consistent policy of rapid and all-round development of the forces of production, steady spread of socialist democracy, improvement of the general living standards, preservation and consolidation of peace.

The article entitled *A Practical Programme for an Accelerated Development of Machine-building*, by Nikola Kalchev, is devoted to the decisions taken by the Plenary Session of the CC of the BCP in June 1965, on the problems of machine-building.

The author discusses the main trends in the further development of machine-building, the growing specialization, the pooling of enterprises and the further development and consolidation of its material and technical basis. Then he goes on to show what changes are going to take place in the development of the production and technical basis of machine-building in order to achieve higher growth rates. Special attention is paid to the development of metallurgy, which will create favourable conditions for carrying out the decisions of the plenary session of the Central Committee on the promotion of machine-building. As is pointed out, machine-building is one of the most labour-consuming branches, the development of which permits to absorb considerable manpower released from agriculture. Furthermore, the author adduces a number of strong arguments proving the important role of machine-building in the technical reconstruction of the entire economy and in the mechanization of production processes.

The role played by machine-building in satisfying the population's needs of durable consumer goods is given due stress. As pointed out, the development of machine-building is going to have a favourable effect on our export potential, since its output ensures the highest returns, which will help make the entire economy more remunerative.

In conclusion, N. Kalchev dwells on the vanguard role of the research institutes, designers and constructors in the further improvement in the technical standards of engineering products and in introducing more efficient methods of organization of production.

The periodical commemorates the seventieth anniversary of the death of Friedrich Engels by an article entitled *Friedrich Engels and Our Times*. The author of the article, Peter Mitev, treats certain important aspects of the theoretical works and the practical activity of Engels as leader of the international workers' movement. He stresses the decisive importance attributed by Engels to proletarian internationalism, which he calls the movement's chief force, and the conditions which Engels regards as indispensable prerequisites for international unity of action, viz. that no attempts should be made to impose a dogmatic orthodoxy and a doctrinaire supremacy. Peter Mitev also discusses Engels' principles of and his concrete approach to the problems of war, peace and revolution. According to the author, Engels' philosophic and historical conceptions preclude any mechanistic view of history as a fatal predestined chain of cause and effect. In connexion with the struggle

against the 'right-wing' and the left-wing opportunists, Peter Mitev underlines Engels' explanations of the causes which give rise to dogmatism, sectarianism and right-wing opportunism.

The article dwells at considerable length on the role played by Engels in the creation of Marxist theory. Mitev discusses more particularly Engels' philosophical works and his conception of the innovating character of Marxist philosophy. In contrast to the philosophic ideas of the past, Marxism does not represent a closed system pretending to establish immutable truths. Marxism is creative in character and therein lies its strength.

The author points out that not only Engels' work as a scholar but also his captivating personality and his whole life are of topical importance today, when a new man is being formed. Engels retains his significance as an example of a full life in which the revolutionary struggle does not detract from but increases and enriches human merits.

The article entitled *Representative Organs in the System of Socialist Democracy*, by Yaroslav Radev, deals with some important problems of the further development of socialist democracy in Bulgaria.

The author first dwells on the question of the increased number of deputies as one of the means of broadening the representative character of establishments composed of elected members. When the number of electors per deputy is decreased, the representative character of the corresponding organ is strengthened, since the same number of electors are then re-

presented by a larger number of deputies.

Another important point which the author treats is that of the range of competency. He discusses that range of the chief representative organs and shows in what way it may be widened.

Radev then deals with the question of coordinating the activities of the representative and of the executive organs. Representative institutions exert a far greater influence on the development of direct democracy than vice versa. The chief form of the direct expression of the nation's will is the plebiscite.

In conclusion, the author dwells on certain problems of the electoral system. Here, too, his chief interest centres on ways and means of improving the electoral system so that socialist democracy may further be developed and ever better conditions be created for transforming the socialist state into a communist self-government.

Zahari Staikov's article entitled *Leisure and the All-Round Development of the Personality* discusses certain major questions concerning the all-round development of the personality under socialism, on the basis of concrete sociological investigations.

The author begins by pointing out that the causes of the rapid and considerable increase of the role, importance and functions of leisure for the all-round development of the personality are rooted in the changes which have taken place in the character and form of labour and in the productive forces, the production relations and all social relations under socialism.

Then the author examines in detail the objective limits of human versatility. He points out that the

concept of a versatile personality has a well-defined content and limits. The objective criteria of these limits are the span of a man's life and the social possibilities and necessities for individual members of society performing a given activity. It is precisely these confining possibilities, along with the general tendency towards an all-round development of the personality, which lead to the tendency towards specialization, to the necessity to circumscribe man's activity.

The author then discusses the organization of leisure adducing numerous examples and other data. He stresses the role that education and culture are called upon to play in improving the organization of leisure.

In conclusion, the author examines the importance of leisure as a factor in the aesthetic, ethical and physical education of the working people.

In his article *Trends in the Changes of Production Costs in Co-operative Farms* Petko Trifonov, after thoroughly analyzing abundant factual material, states that owing to the increase in average crop yields and farm animal productivity the necessary conditions have been created to lower production costs. He discusses the changes in the system of production costs of the chief crops and their higher yields. On the basis of this analysis, he reveals the trends towards changes in the production cost of certain staples.

Analyzing the amount and character of the chief expenditures, the author reveals the causes of the trends revealed by him. He examines the steadily increasing intensification of production and the ensuing relative growth of ma-

terial expenditures and relative decrease of manpower expenditure for various crops and farm animal products.

The author ascribes these trends to a complexity of factors proceeding directly from the production process itself and independent of the activity of the co-operative farms.

In a special section Trifonov points out that co-operative farms have considerable opportunities of economizing social labour which may be utilized to lower the overly high production costs. He draws special attention to certain flaws in the organization of production and of labour, in the use of machinery and fertilizers, in irrigation, in crop distribution in accordance with soil and climatic conditions, etc. A valuable feature of the article is the fact that the various factors for lowering production costs are not discussed in a general way, but specifically for the different crops and animals.

An article by Peyo Berbenliev, entitled *Cultural Monuments as an Expression of the People's Creative Spirit*, emphasizes the great importance of cultural monuments for the ideological, aesthetic and patriotic education of the people. Architectural and other monuments have, in addition, great value as sources of knowledge. Their study and the analysis of the materials and technology of their construction, as well as of their artistic qualities, make it possible to judge almost directly of the character of social production relations, of the artistic, political and religious views and conceptions and of the economic relations prevalent at the time when they were created. In this article the author raises a number of other

questions regarding the classification of cultural monuments, their universal and national significance, the research work and the practical measures required for their maintenance, etc.

Angel Shishkov's article *Theory and Practice of Neocolonialism* represents a theoretical elucidation of an extremely topical question which has recently engaged the attention of numerous ideologists and politicians in many countries.

The author has conscientiously studied certain forms of neocolonialism, viz. constitutional reforms, economic aid, closed imperialist military blocs, the methods of their implementation and the theories justifying their existence. Among these theories he discusses those which reject the right of self-determination, the theory of a community of interest, mutual dependence and so on. On the basis of abundant and extremely interesting material, the author has succeeded from Marxist-Leninist positions in explaining and criticizing the essence of the new forms and methods applied by the imperialists in enslaving the newly-liberated countries, and to show that actually these serve bourgeois interests, which are used as a cover-up by imperialism in its policy of enslavement.

The column *Scientific News* contains an article by Stoyan Mihailov, entitled *An Interesting Discussion of Manpower Distribution and the All-Round Development of the Personality*.

The author reviews the results of the discussion now carried on in the Soviet magazine *Voprosi Filosofii*. After citing the opinions of several Soviet authors and the summarized conclusions, Mihailov ex-

presses his own original views on a number of the questions raised.

The column *Exchange of Views* contains further material on the work of district Party committees.

Tsvyatko Petkov's article *The Municipal Party Committee and the Development of Inner Co-operative Democracy* elaborates the problem of the concrete trends in the development of inner co-operative democracy and the latter's importance for the advance of agriculture and the proper education of co-operative farmers. Against this background follows an elucidation of the role, tasks and fundamental elements in the work of the municipal committee in this field.

The author draws certain practical conclusions from the experiments made in the new system of economic planning and management for developing co-operative democracy and stimulating the activity and the initiative of co-operative farmers in the organization and management of co-operative production. In this light he also discusses the question of planning, of the adoption and correct application of economic profit and of the concrete manifestations of co-operative democracy. The author also dwells on certain aspects of the style and methods of work of the Party leadership in the municipal Party committee in connection with the development of inner co-operative democracy.

Another article in this column is devoted to the question of the communist education of workers in the countryside. The author, Mihail Penev, secretary of the municipal Party committee at Vulchi Dol, Varna district, summarizes the experience of the Party organ-

izations in the district along these lines.

The third contribution is by Gospodin Zahariiev, secretary of the Municipal Party Committee at Kableskovo, Bourgas district. It deals with certain problems of the Party leadership in the cultural work among the masses in the villages.

The column *Criticism and Book Reviews* contains the following reviews: *Under the Banner of Marx-*

ism-Leninism, on the Road to Socialism by Peter Petrov on volume II and III of Comrade Todor Zhivkov's *Selected Speeches, Reports and Articles*; *A Bulgarian Book on Gorky* by Angel Todorov, on T. Tsvetkov's book *Maxim Gorky and Bulgarian Literature*; *A Valuable Book on the Experience of the Polish United Workers' Party in Socialist Construction* by Alexander Dainov on Comrade Vladislav Gomulka's *Selected Speeches, Reports and Articles*.

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Economic Problems of Transport in Agriculture, by Iliya Iliev.

The author points out that at the agricultural enterprises the transport problems, along with the intensification of farming, come to the fore. Dwelling on these problems at length, he examines the organization of transport on co-operative and state farms, the rates at which the various means of transport are increasing, the utilization of lorries and other vehicles, their efficiency, wages and material incentives. Making an economic analysis of the concrete data, the author brings out the advantages and shortcomings of the means of transport in agriculture and suggests a number of measures for raising their economic indicators.

Stefan Bakalov's article *The Uneven Development and Construction of Localities in Bulgaria* deals with an interesting problem of our country's development. The author cites a great many facts from the Plevna, Lovech, Plovdiv and other districts to show that, parallel with the rapid development of industry, a comparatively extensive

housing and cultural construction has taken place in many towns, as a result of which these have become important industrial and cultural centres. At the same time, however, as he points out, rising living and cultural standards of their inhabitants have considerably outstripped the national growth rate and numerous other towns and villages have tended to lag behind in their demographic and economic development. Explaining the reasons for this occurrence, the author proposes a number of economic, cultural and social measures to put an end to the present incongruity and achieve the necessary relative evenness in the further development and construction of localities in Bulgaria.

V. Shterbina's article *Modern Art from the Point of View of Marxist and Bourgeois Aesthetics*, translated from issue 9 of the periodical *Communist*, deals with a number of major aspects of present-day art and their diametrically opposed treatment in Marxist and

bourgeois aesthetics. Particular stress is laid on the cognitive function of art, on its indissoluble link with life, on progress in artistic creation, and on the great variety of forms in the creative process.

Yordan Milev's *Radiance of the First Russian Revolution* draws the reader's attention to the great impact of the First Russian Revolution on the class struggles of the Bulgarian working class and the extensive manifestation of solidarity with the Russian sailors, workers and peasants. The author also describes his meeting with Lenin in Geneva.

Lalyo Roussev's article *Economic Planning in the Capitalist Countries* points out that the number of capitalist countries which plan their economies has considerably increased in the last few years. In the light of these facts, the author examines and answers the questions: does the Marxist-Leninist thesis that economic planning is impossible under capitalism continue to be valid; why is it that in the last two decades the bourgeois governments have begun to plan their economies one after the other; what is the meaning of plan and planning under capitalism; what are the real aims of these plans and in how far can they be achieved; what do the progressive forces in the capitalist countries propose instead of the economic programmes of their governments.

The article *On the Newest Falsifications of Marxist-Leninist Philosophy* by the distinguished Soviet philosopher Mihail Yovchuk, printed in the column *A Critique of Bourgeois Ideology*, deals with the anti-communist views of various bourgeois ideologists who

present the Marxist ideology in socialist practice in a distorted form. The author's arguments against the attempts of the present-day anti-Marxists to oppose Marxism to Leninism, to present Marxism-Leninism as a religious ideology and ascribe an anti-human character to dialectical materialism are of particular interest.

Under the general title *The Activity of the Municipal Party Committee* the column *Exchange of Views* carries part of the statements made at the conference organized by the *Novo Vremé* periodical and the Organizing Dept. of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

P. Petrov's reportage *Under the Banner of Socialism*, printed in the column *From the Life in the Fraternal Parties*, tells about the work of the recent congress of the Rumanian Communist Party. The author cites numerous data on the economic, political and cultural development of fraternal Rumania which acquaint the reader with its significant achievements and the prospects and problems of its economic, social, political and cultural development.

V. Georgieva's article *Economic Unification — A Law of Social Development*, printed in the column *Propagandist's Aid*, is a well-grounded review of capitalist integration and economic unification under socialism, showing the differences between them and the latter's advantages. The author dwells in detail on the various forms of economic co-operation among the socialist countries and traces Bulgaria's development to illustrate in a convincing way the beneficial influence of this co-

operation on the development of the productive forces in the less advanced countries. At the same time, she points out that a policy of isolated construction of socialism and communism, apart from the general setting of the countries in the socialist community, would be unadvisable, because it would run counter to the objective laws of development of socialist society.

Dimitar Kitsevski's article, abounding in data and assessments, is an interesting and topical reply on the character, place and role of the EDA, the Unified Democratic Left-Wing Party, in the social and political life of Greece.

Aleko Golemanov's international review, entitled *A Tide of Insoluble Contradictions*, draws attention with its well-grounded arguments and generalizations to the contradictions besetting the

imperialist powers in the economic, political and military fields.

Pavel Pissarev's article *The Common Market Crisis*, printed in the column *Readers and Correspondence*, traces the main results achieved by the European Economic Community in its nearly eight years' existence and development. He estimates the advantages of this development for the Federal German Republic and France, reveals the causes of its crisis and makes an interesting forecast as to the future development of the crisis.

Reviews of Volumes IV and V of Todor Zhivkov's *Selected Speeches, Reports and Articles*, D. Kosev's book *The International Significance of the September Uprising in 1923*, Georgi Tsanev's book *Writers and Problems*, and Lyuben Georgiev's book *The Common Market* figure in No. 9 of the *Novo Vremë* magazine.

NEWS ITEMS

July 1965

2-15. A delegation of the Patriotic Front for the National Liberation of Portugal, composed of Manuel Certoio, Piteira Santos and Remos de Almeida, visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front.

The Portuguese delegates made a tour of the country, acquainted themselves with the work of the Fatherland Front and the struggles of the Bulgarian people against fascism and their successes in the construction of socialism. They met many leaders and functionaries of the Fatherland Front and discussed with them a number of issues of mutual interest.

The delegates of the National Council of the Fatherland Front and the delegates of the Patriotic Front for the National Liberation of Portugal held friendly talks on the work and tasks of the Fatherland Front and the work of the Patriotic Front for the National Liberation of Portugal. During these talks complete unity of purpose was established on the questions connected with the fight for peace, democracy and national liberation of the oppressed peoples.

The Fatherland Front in Bulgaria supports the struggle of the Patriotic Front for the National Liberation of Portugal against

the fascist dictatorial regime of Salazar and his reactionary policy of curtailing the people's rights and liberties, persecuting the democratic forces and the progressive sons of the Portuguese people, against the colonial wars which the Salazar regime has been waging, with the economic and military aid of the imperialists, against the peoples of Angola, Mozambique and so-called Portugal Guinea. The Fatherland Front shows a deep understanding of the efforts of the Patriotic Front for National Liberation to rally all patriotic anti-fascist forces in Portugal, to create conditions for a peaceful, democratic development of the country and to put an end to the colonial wars.

Both delegations expressed their unity of purpose on the fight for peace and general disarmament, against the violations of the democratic rights of the peoples. They consider it necessary to strengthen the unity of the progressive, democratic and anti-fascist movements and forces in the world against imperialism, for the ultimate wiping out of the remnants of the Second World War, for a peaceful democratic settlement of the German question, for resolving the international issues by peaceful means.

In their talks, common views were expressed on the struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism, on abolishing racial discrimination and colonial oppression on the cessation of the aggressive wars which the imperialists are waging against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, the Dominican Republic, Congo and other nations fighting for freedom, democracy and national independence. The Fatherland Front and the Front for the National Liberation of Portugal express their unity in support of the national liberation movements in these countries and in recognizing the right of nations to self-determination.

2-8. The Bulgaro-Rumanian Committee on Scientific and Technical Co-operation recently held its 16th Session in Sofia. It examined the work along these lines after the 15th Session and adopted a programme on co-operation during the forthcoming period.

Under the protocol signed the two countries are to exchange documentation, as well as visits of experts, and technical achievements are to be studied in the field of machine-building, building industry, light industry, chemical and oil industry, food industry, etc.

2-11. A delegation of the United Democratic Left Party of Greece headed by its president, Yoanis Passalidis and including Stavros Iliopoulos and Antonis Brilakis, members of its Executive Committee, recently visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front.

A delegation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front

in Bulgaria, headed by its President, Comrade Encho Staikov, had talk with the delegation of the United Democratic Left Party of Greece.

The Greek delegation was received by Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister, with whom they had a cordial and friendly talk.

During their visit to Bulgaria the delegates of the United Democratic Left Party met with leaders and prominent functionaries of the Fatherland Front, and acquainted themselves with the work of the Fatherland Front and with the life and achievements of the Bulgarian people.

During the friendly talks held between the delegations, views were exchanged on the work of the Fatherland Front and the United Democratic Left Party.

The two delegations noted with gratification that after the agreements signed a year ago between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Kingdom of Greece, good-neighbourly relations had been established between the two countries and favourable conditions had been created, permitting to achieve important positive results in the development of trade, transport, tourism, cultural and other relations. These good relations between the Bulgarian and Greek nations are consolidating and broadening.

The conviction was expressed that with mutual efforts, with more frequent meetings and co-operation between the Fatherland Front and the United Democratic Left Party the two countries would further broaden their relations and strengthen their mutual confidence in a good-neighbourly spirit.

The delegations agreed that it was necessary further to broaden their relations so as to enable the peoples better to acquaint themselves with each other in a spirit of understanding and co-operation.

The two delegations expressed their common belief that there exist excellent opportunities for further developing economic, cultural and other relations between our neighbouring countries and pledged to do their utmost to achieve this aim. The Fatherland Front and the United Democratic Left Party will continue to make their contribution to the cause of peace in the Balkans, to the triumph of the principle of peaceful coexistence in international affairs, to general and complete disarmament, to frustrating all aggressive schemes of imperialism, revanchism and colonialism, to the free development of all nations. The delegations condemned the American attack against Vietnam, the US interference in the Dominican Republic, Laos and Congo and expressed their support for the heroic struggle of these countries for freedom and independence. They also condemned all foreign interference in Cyprus, considering that the Cypriot people should be left freely to decide their own destiny.

The delegations expressed their anxiety in connexion with the activation of the revanchists in West Germany. The Bulgarian and Greek people have not forgotten the horrors which they suffered under the German occupiers during the Second World War. The Fatherland Front and the United Democratic Left Party will do their best to help the fight of the peace-loving nations to foil the aggressive plots of the West German revanchists.

The two delegations are convin-

ced that friendly co-operation between the peoples of Bulgaria and Greece is a positive factor which will help achieve better understanding and co-operation between the Balkan peoples and a peaceful development of the Balkan Peninsula.

7-12. A delegation of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Soviet Union, headed by its Secretary Mihail Georgadze, visited Bulgaria recently. The delegates acquainted themselves with the work of the Presidium of the National Assembly and the people's councils.

8. In fulfilment of the decisions of the May Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and on the initiative of the Secretariat of the Central Committee, a Conference was held at the Central Committee in Sofia with the first secretaries of the district committees of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the secretaries of the Central Committee of the Dimitrov Young Communist League, leading functionaries of the Ministry of Education, the political administration of the People's Army and public organizations. The Conference discussed the results of the check-ups made by the organizational department, the propaganda and agitation department and several other departments of the Party Central Committee in their survey of Party leadership of the Komsomol in the Haskovo, Roussé and Pernik districts.

The first secretaries of the Party district committees in Pernik, Roussé and Haskovo delivered reports at the Conference.

* The President of the Presidium of the National Assembly,

Georgi Traikov, received the delegation of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR, headed by its secretary Mihail Georgadze.

The meeting proceeded in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

9. Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister, received the delegation of the United Democratic Left Party in Greece, guest of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, headed by its President Yoanis Passalidis, and including Stavros Iliopoulos and Antonios Brilakis, members of the EDA Executive Committee.

Present at the meeting were Encho Staikov, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, Dr. Vladimir Bonev, Secretary General of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, and Dimo Dichev, in charge of the Department of Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The meeting proceeded in an exclusively cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid an official visit to Bulgaria at the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivan Bashev. Dr. Kreisky was accompanied by Dr. Karl Bobleter, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Austrian delegation included also Dr. Wilhelm Nesbeda, Austrian Ambassador to Bulgaria, Minister Plenipotentiary Dr. Heimerle, Head of the Political

Department at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Minister Plenipotentiary Dr. Kirchschläger, Chief of Cabinet at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chief of the Cultural Department Alexander Auer, as well as the Legation Secretary Dr. Il-singer, Personal Secretary of the Federal Minister.

The Federal Minister Dr. Kreisky and the State Secretary Dr. Bobleter were received by Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of Bulgaria, and by Premier Todor Zhivkov on July 12. That same day the Federal Minister Dr. Kreisky delivered a lecture on Austria's foreign policy at the Academy of Science.

During their visit the Austrian delegates visited Varna, the seaside resorts of Golden Sands and Drouzha, as well as the Kremikovtsi iron and steel works.

The talks enabled the two Foreign Ministers to continue the exchange of views begun last year. In a friendly atmosphere they discussed all problems of mutual interest, as well as topical international problems. They noted with gratification that relations between Bulgaria and Austria were developing favourably on the basis of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the other party and regardless of differences in the political systems of the two countries.

Both Ministers expressed their wish to see economic relations between the two countries consolidated, stressing that there were possibilities not only of extending trade, but also of co-operation in the field of science and technology, basing themselves on the agreements of this year's conference of

the mixed Bulgaro-Austrian committee.

Convinced that the tourist exchange between the two countries was called upon to play a particularly great role, the two Foreign Ministers agreed that it should be further promoted.

Talks were also held on cultural problems, at which the two countries expressed their wish to broaden their relations in this sphere.

During this visit the two Ministers signed a veterinary convention. Notes were also exchanged on the abolition of visas for bearers of diplomatic passports. The two parties agreed to start negotiations with a view to concluding an agreement on legal aid in civil cases.

Examining international problems, the two Foreign Ministers expressed their anxiety at the aggravation of the situation in certain parts of the world. They agreed that the outstanding issues should find a peaceful and lasting settlement, by observing the principles of the UN Charter. They stressed their wish to support, within the framework of the UN, all endeavours aimed at safeguarding peace and easing international tension. They expressed their view that the surest guarantee of preserving and consolidating peace was general and complete disarmament under effective international control. In this connexion they stressed the importance which the inclusion of underground tests in the ban on nuclear weapon tests would have, as well as an agreement on stopping the proliferation of atomic weapons.

The two Foreign Ministers outlined the important role of the UN for safeguarding peace and for international co-operation, on account of which they deemed it

necessary to co-operate to the best of their ability in overcoming the present crisis in this organization.

The Foreign Ministers of the two countries expressed their gratification at the results of the visit and noted that future meetings between state leaders of both countries would have a favourable effect on the development of friendly relations between Bulgaria and Austria.

12. Premier Todor Zhivkov received the Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria, Dr. Bruno Kreisky, and the persons accompanying him, who were on an official visit to Bulgaria, and had a talk with them. The meeting passed in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Present were also: Ivan Bashev, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Lyuben Stoyanov, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bulgaria to Austria, as well as Wilhelm Nesbeda, Austrian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Bulgaria. After the meeting journalists requested Dr. Bruno Kreisky to tell them something about the results of his talk with Premier Todor Zhivkov.

'Our talk was very interesting,' Dr. Kreisky declared. 'We discussed the political situation in the Balkan Peninsula. We received an interesting information by the Prime Minister on Bulgaria's policy in the Balkans. I have the impression that the Bulgarian Government is pursuing an independent policy, which is in the country's interests.'

Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister, received an Austrian journalistic delegation, which visited our country at the invita-

tion of the Union of Bulgarian Journalists, in connexion with the official visit of Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria. The delegation consisted of: Dr. Otto Schönherr, editor-in-chief of the Austrian Telegraph Agency; Manfred Scheusch, editor of the international section of *Arbeiter Zeitung*; Kuno Knöbel, assistant editor-in-chief of the international department of *Neues Österreich*, Peter Kaiser, editor at the Austrian Television, and Paul Landwei, special correspondent of *Die Presse*.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov had a talk with the Austrian journalists and answered in detail the questions put to him.

* The President of the Presidium of the National Assembly received Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the persons accompanying him.

* Vice-Premier Stanko Todorov received the delegation of the Bulgarian section of the London Chamber of Commerce, headed by Mr. A. N. Jackson, Director of the Stone Woolworth Ltd. firm, which recently visited Bulgaria.

Views were exchanged on the possibilities of broadening economic relations between the two countries.

19. Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, received Shafi Ahmed el Sheih, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Sudanese Communist Party, who recently visited our country.

The meeting was attended by Dimo Dichev, in charge of the

Foreign Policy and International Relations Department at the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and Stoyan Gyurov, President of the Central Trade Union Council.

Comrade Mitko Grigorov informed the Sudanese Party and trade union functionary about the work of the Bulgarian Communist Party in the construction of socialism and about its most important tasks over the next few years.

Shafi El Sheih talked about the work of the Sudanese Communist Party, the problems facing it, and the situation in Sudan.

The talks, held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, showed that there was unanimity of views between the two Marxist-Leninist parties on the international issues and on the problems of the international communist movement.

20. A delegation of the Indonesian Communist Party consisting of Anvar Kadir, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Party, and Zain Nasution, in charge of its information bureau and asst. head of its foreign department, paid an official visit to Bulgaria at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. It held talks with a Party delegation headed by Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and including Dimo Dichev, in charge of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Department at the Party Central Committee, and Sava Dulbokov, in charge of the Planning and Finance department at the Party Central Committee.

The two delegations exchanged information at the meeting held at the Central Committee of the

Bulgarian Communist Party. Comrade Luchezar Avramov acquainted the delegates of the Indonesian Communist Party with Bulgaria's successes in the construction of socialism, as well as with the foremost tasks which our people are solving today and with the views of the Bulgarian Communist Party on the topical problems of the international situation and the international communist and workers' movement.

On his part, Comrade Anvar Kadir informed the Bulgarian delegation of the work and struggles of the Indonesian Communist Party in defence of the interests of the Indonesian workers and peasants, against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, as well as of its views on the most important international events and on the problems of the international communist and workers' movement.

The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

* Shafi Ahmed El Sheih, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Sudanese Communist Party and Secretary General of the Sudanese Federation of Trade Unions, was received at the executive bureau of the Central Trade Union Council. Its President, Stoyan Gyurov, familiarized the Sudanese guest with the role and place of the Bulgarian trade unions in the construction of socialism.

21. A thousand-strong protest meeting was held in Sofia, organized by the National Council of the Fartherland Front, the Central Trades Union Council, the Central Committee of the Dimitrov Young Communist League and the Committee of Solidarity with the Afro-Asian Nations.

Those who attended the meeting expressed their angry protest against the American imperialist aggression in Vietnam.

28. A delegation of the British Communist Party, headed by Peter Kerrigan, Member of its Political Committee, and comprising Samuel Taylor and Gene Stansfield, Members of its Central Committee, visited Bulgaria recently. It held talks at the Bulgarian Communist Party Headquarters with Comrades Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Dimo Dichev, Member of the Central Committee and in charge of its Foreign Policy and International Relations Dept., Goran Anghelov, Candidate Member of the Central Committee and in charge of the Trade and Food Industry Department at the Party Central Committee, and Iliana Kazakova, Secretary of the Kolarov district Party committee in Sofia (a communiqué on the talks is published in the present issue of the Information Bulletin).

29. The Secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, Georgi Traikov, received at the Alexander Stamboliiski House Museum Arturo Orona, leading functionary of the Independent Union of Peasants in Mexico, who visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the Standing Committee of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere.

30. Comrade Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, received the Indonesian Party functionaries Anvar Kadir, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Par-

ty, and Zain Nasution, in charge of its information bureau and assistant head of the Party's foreign department.

Present at the meeting were Comrades Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Dimo Dichev, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and in charge of its Foreign Policy and International Relations Department, and Sava Dulbokov, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and in charge of its Planning and Finance Department.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov expressed the views of our Party on the most important international events, as well as on some problems of the international communist movement. He pointed out that the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian people warmly supported the just struggle

of the Vietnamese people against the aggression of American imperialism. He also stressed that in the present set-up it was particularly important to consolidate the unity and cohesion in the ranks of the international communist and workers' movement.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov expressed the resolve of the Bulgarian communists further to consolidate the traditional relations between the two fraternal parties on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

The delegates of the Indonesian Communist Party expressed their view that at the present moment it was most important to work for the consolidation of the unity and cohesion of the communist and workers' parties, as well as for the further development and strengthening of relations between our two parties.

The meeting proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

August 1965

2. On their way to the Soviet Union, the Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party, Luigi Longo, and the members of the Central Committee Agostino Novella, Secretary General of the Italian General Confederation of Labour, and Pietro Secchia, Vice-President of the Italian Senate, stopped in Varna.

After a short stay at Euxinograd, the guests, together with Comrades Todor Zhivkov, Boris Velchev, Nacho Papazov and prominent personalities from Varna, visited the seaside resorts of Drouzha and Golden Sande near Var-

na. They were familiarized with the organization of resorts and tourism in Bulgaria.

The delegates of the Italian Communist Party expressed their admiration at the construction of and prospects for the development of the Bulgarian Black Sea resorts.

* A friendly meeting took place in Sofia between a delegation of the British Communist Party and the activists of the Sofia City Party organization. The Sofia communists warmly welcomed Peter Kerrigan, member of the British

Communist Party Political Committee, and the members of the Party Central Committee, Samuel Taylor and Gene Stansfield.

Peter Kerrigan informed the Bulgarian delegates about the work of the British Communist Party and the problems it has been facing since the Labour Government came to power.

The meeting of the British Party functionaries with the Sofia communist activists was a striking manifestation of the friendship between the two fraternal parties.

2-7. His Excellency Aden Abdullah Osman, President of the Republic of Somalia, paid an official visit to Bulgaria, at the invitation of the President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, Georgi Traikov.

The Somali statesman was accompanied by Ahmed Yussuf Dialah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdulkadir Mohamed Adan, Minister of Home Affairs, and other top officials.

A communiqué on the talks between the President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of Bulgaria, Georgi Traikov, and the President of the Republic of Somalia, Aden Abdullah Osman, appears in the present issue.

2-10. The 20th regular session of the mixed Bulgaro-Greek frontier commission was held in Sofia.

No border incidents have been recorded for the period from the 19th to the 20th session. The number of violations has been reduced.

The Greek delegation visited the seaside resorts near Varna, as well as Sunny Beach.

2-11. A Soviet economic delegation headed by Victor Ivanovich Pushakov, Vice-President of the State Bank of the USSR, vis-

ited Bulgaria. It studied our experience in crediting state and co-operative farms, as well as the wage system and other forms of material incentive practised in our agriculture. During their 10-day stay, the delegates met responsible officials at the Ministry of Agricultural Production, the Ministry of Finance, and the State Planning Committee, and visited a number of state and co-operative farms.

4. His Excellency Aden Abdullah Osman, President of the Republic of Somalia, met Premier Todor Zhivkov at Euxinograd Palace near Varna. The meeting between the two state leaders was held in a friendly atmosphere.

6. Premier Todor Zhivkov received Ahmed Nuredin, State Secretary of Public Works and Housing Construction in Tunisia, who visited Bulgaria recently, at Euxinograd.

* At the Party Central Committee Headquarters comrades Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Dimo Dichev, Member of the Party Central Committee and in charge of the Foreign Policy and International Relations Department, and his assistant Konstantin Telalov, met leading functionaries of the Mexican Communist Party, who visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. The Mexican delegation consisted of comrades Manuel Terrasas, member of the Presidium and Secretary of the Central Committee, and Arturo Camps, candidate member of the Central Committee and First

Secretary of the Provincial Committee in Sinaloa.

The talks proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Information was exchanged on the work and tasks of the two fraternal parties and the situation in the respective countries. Views were also exchanged on some major world problems and on the international communist and workers' movement. Unity of views on the problems discussed was established between the two parties.

The delegates of the Mexican Communist Party and of the Bulgarian Communist Party firmly condemned the military intervention of the American imperialists in South Vietnam and their aggression against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. They expressed the complete solidarity of the two parties with the just and valiant struggle of the heroic Vietnamese people and the profound conviction that all peace-loving forces in the world would act jointly in defence of the Vietnamese people.

The representatives of the two parties greet the heroic struggle of the Dominican people against the flagrant military intervention of American imperialism and insist on an immediate withdrawal of the foreign armed forces from the Dominican Republic, so that the Dominican people might be able to settle their own internal problems. They highly appraise the popular movements, widely developed recently in the Latin American countries, against the economic and political aggression of North American imperialism.

The two parties are solidary with the heroic Cuban people, who in collaboration with the countries of the socialist camp, are boldly defending the first socialist country

on the American Continent against imperialist provocations.

Views were expressed that, regardless of the constant attempts of American imperialism to stifle the national-liberation struggle of the peoples by intensifying the international situation in one or another region of the world, the main trend in international developments today is a consolidation of the positions of socialism, an upsurge of the international workers' and national-liberation movement and the growth of the forces fighting for the preservation and consolidation of peace.

The representatives of the two parties expressed their deep conviction in the necessity of unity of the international communist and workers' movement, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, and expressed their readiness to work for closing the ranks of the communists the world over, for acting jointly in the struggle against imperialism. They stressed that they had always highly appraised the work of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, whose rich revolutionary experience for the triumph and the building up of socialism was an example for all communist and workers' parties.

The delegates reaffirmed the loyalty of both parties to the programme documents of the Moscow Conferences of 1957 and 1960, and their full support of the communiqué adopted at the Consultative Meeting of Representatives of Communist and Workers' Parties.

The Mexican Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party consider it their international duty to devote all their efforts to the triumph of peace, democracy and socialism, to the happiness of

their peoples and the peoples from all over the world.

8. Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, received a delegation of the British Communist Party, headed by Peter Kerrigan, member of the Political Committee, Samuel Taylor and Gene Stansfield, members of the Party Central Committee, at Euxinograd, and had talks with them on problems of interest to both parties. The talks were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Nachø Papazov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, was also present at the meeting.

10—18. Amilkar Kabral, Secretary General of the African Party for the Liberation of Portuguese Guinea, visited Bulgaria as a guest of the Committee of Solidarity with the Afro-Asian Nations. The guest met representatives of a number of public organizations and acquainted them with the aims of the national-liberation struggle against the colonial regime of Salazar.

11. Stoyan Gyurov, President of the Central Trade Union Council, had a meeting with over 60 trade union workers from Ghana, Mali, Kenya, Uruguay, Chile, Aden, Iraq, Rhodesia, Angola, Congo (Brazzaville), Sudan, Mauritania, Bolivia, Colombia and other countries, who have finished the one-year international trades-union course. The trade union workers expressed their warm gratitude to the President of the Trade Union Council for the help they had been given in acquiring greater knowledge and practical training

in the Bulgarian enterprises, and in learning from the experience of our trade unions.

11-17. A Bulgarian economic delegation, headed by Stanko Todorov, Deputy Prime Minister, visited Moscow to coordinate economic co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the USSR in 1966-70.

13. Halil Erkut, Mayor of Ankara, arrived in Sofia, accompanied by Mme Erkut, at the invitation of Georgi Petkov, Chairman of the Sofia City People's Council. M. Halil Erkut was also accompanied by M. Cellialetín Jozek, Deputy Mayor, and M. Erhan Kip, Chief of Protocol at the Municipality of Ankara.

14. The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party wired a message of condolence to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain on the death of William Gallacher, one of its founders and leader for many years, and an outstanding worker of the British communist and workers' movement.

* Comrades Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Ion Gheorghe Maurer, Member of the Permanent Presidium and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Prime Minister of the Rumanian Socialist Republic, Alexandru Draghici, Member of the Permanent Presidium and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, and Văsilă Vălcu, Candidate Member of the Executive Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party and First Sec-

retary of the Regional Committee in the Dobroudja, together with their ladies, visited Varna for one day at the invitation of Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

After the talks, which took place in a cordial and friendly spirit, the visitors, accompanied by Comrades Todor Zhivkov, Mitko Grigorov, Zhivko Zhivkov, Encho Staiikov and Luchezar Avramov, visited the seaside resorts of Drouzhba and Golden Sands.

18. Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov received M. Halil Erkut, Mayor of Ankara, at Euxinograd Palace, and had a cordial talk with him. Georgi Petrov, Chairman of the Sofia City People's Council, and Stefan Petrov, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic to Turkey, were present at the meeting.

20. A delegation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party left for London. It consisted of: Dimitar Dimov, Candidate-Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and Dimo Dichev, head of the Department of Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Central Committee of the BCP. The delegation was to be present at the funeral of William Gallacher, one of the founders of the Communist Party of Great Britain and one of its leaders for many years.

21. An agreement on co-operation in the period of 1966-70 was signed in Sofia between the

Government economic delegations of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, following negotiations which took place on August 17 to 21, in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual good will. The agreement provides for the construction of plants for light lorries, a cast iron works and others for alloy steel, for segments and pistons, an enterprise for the production of butanol, propylene, and so on.

The Soviet Union is to assist Bulgaria in the designing, in the supply of equipment and materials, and in other ways.

25. A delegation of the Austrian Peasant Union, headed by Joseph Walner, its President, accompanied by Johann Diewold and Hermann Gruber, members of the Union's Executive Committee, and Georg Grindl, Vice-President of the Union in Lower Austria, arrived in Sofia at the invitation of Georgi Traikov, Secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union and President of the Presidium of the National Assembly.

30. Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, received the delegation of the Austrian Peasant Union, headed by its President, Josef Walner, at the Palace of Euxinograd.

* Ivan Boudinov, Minister of Foreign Trade, left for Turkey on a visit, at the invitation of the Turkish Minister of Trade.

31. Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, received a delegation of the City Assembly of Skopje

headed by its Vice-President, Engineer Kocho Kiganovski, now on a visit to our country.

The leader of the delegation expressed the profound gratitude of the population of Skopje for the assistance given them by the Bulgarian people and Government in the days of the disastrous

earthquake, which befell the city on July 26, 1963. He handed Comrade Georgi Traikov a special message on behalf of the inhabitants and the Municipal Assembly of Skopje. The delegation also presented a copy of the documentary film 'Bulgarian Assistance to Skopje' and albums with views of the city.

September 1965

1-3. The Third Session of the Bulgaro-Yugoslav Committee on economic, trade, scientific and technical co-operation was held in Sofia.

At this session, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship and good will, the results of implementing the decisions of the Second Session were assessed, and new useful decisions for the further expansion of economic co-operation between the two countries were taken.

The delegations of the two countries agreed to extend mutual co-operation in the field of industry by implementing specializations on the part of both countries, and co-operating in the production of certain machines, as well as engineering products, chemicals and drugs.

Decisions on a further extension of co-operation in the field of transport and communications, tourism, agriculture, scientific and technical co-operation, and in other spheres were also adopted at the session.

Milyan Neorichich, who headed the Yugoslav delegation, was received by Zhivko Zhivkov, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the BCP and First Deputy Prime Minister, and

by Pencho Koubadinski, Candidate-Member of the Politbureau, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Transport and Communications.

3-13. A delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the National Council of the Fatherland Front. It was composed of: Dang Huan Minh, leader of the delegation, Member of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, and Mat Thi Chu, representative of the South Vietnamese Committee of Solidarity with the Afro-Asian Nations.

4. Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov received Lord Thomson of Fleet, owner of a number of British, American and Canadian papers and magazines, who was on a visit to Bulgaria, and had a friendly talk with him.

A mutual desire to strengthen friendly relations and to promote economic, trade, tourist and other relations between Britain and Bulgaria was expressed during the talk.

6-13. An economic delegation from the UAR, headed by Dr.

Yekiya el Milla, director-in-chief of the organization for the industrialization of the UAR, visited Bulgaria. Directors-in-chief and directors of industrial, trade and administrative organizations were members of the delegation. During its stay in Bulgaria, the delegation visited some of our enterprises, and had talks on expanding collaboration between the two countries. A protocol on studying the possibilities of Bulgaria's supplying the UAR with complete plant and equipment, products of engineering, as well as with technological blueprints, was signed as a result of the talks held.

8. Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the CC of the BCP and Prime Minister of Bulgaria, received the Delegation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, headed by Dang Huan Minh, Member of the Central Committee of the National Front, now on a visit to our country.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov cordially welcomed the visitors and expressed the full solidarity of the Bulgarian people with the courageous struggle of the people of South Vietnam for national liberation and the readiness of our people to continue giving them moral and material support.

Dr. Vladimir Bonev, Secretary General of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, was also present at the meeting, which took place in a most cordial atmosphere.

13. Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the CC of the BCP, received a delegation of the Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship Society which visited our country, headed by the President of the State Committee on the

Press at the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR, Boris Stukalin. He had a friendly talk with the members of the delegation.

13-18. A Party and Government Delegation from the Socialist Republic of Rumania, headed by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, paid an official visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria, at the invitation of the Bulgarian Communist Party and of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

During its stay in Bulgaria, the delegation visited industrial enterprises, co-operative farms, cultural and research institutes and historical monuments in Sofia, Plovdiv, Plevn, Botevgrad, Kremikovtsi, Grivitsa and so on: it met workers, co-operative farmers, representatives of the intelligentsia, leaders of local Party and State organs, and thus gained knowledge of the successes achieved by the Bulgarian people in the construction of socialism.

During its stay the official Rumanian Delegation had meetings with Comrades Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Georgi Traikov, President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and other Bulgarian Party and state leaders.

Talks took place between the Party and Government Delegations of both countries, in which the following persons took part:

On behalf of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime

Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Zhivko Zhivkov, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and First Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; Encho Staikov, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the National Council of the Fatherland Front; Boris Velchev, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Secretary of the Central Committee; Pencho Koubadinski, Candidate-Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Minister of Transport and Communications; Luchezar Avramov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister; Ivan Bashev, Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; and Georgi Bogdanov, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Bucharest, Member of the Central Auditing Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

On behalf of Rumania: Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party; Ion Gheorghe Maurer, Member of the Executive Committee of the Permanent Presidium of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Rumania; Alexandru Bărlădeanu, Member of the Executive Committee of the Permanent Presidium of

the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party and First Deputy Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Rumania; Alexandru Draghici, Member of the Executive Committee and of the Permanent Presidium of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Party and Secretary of the Central Committee; Virgil Trofin, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party; and Ion Beldian, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Rumania in Sofia.

A communiqué on the talks between the two delegations appears in the present number of the Information Bulletin.

14-24. A task force on the mechanization of farming at the European Economic Committee of the UN visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the government. It included well-known experts in this field from 14 countries in Europe. During its ten-day stay, the group visited a number of co-operative and state farms, machine-tractor stations, repair workshops, research institutes and complex experimental stations.

15. Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov received at his request M. Bari Sori, Minister of Agriculture of Guinea, who is on a visit to Bulgaria. Marin Vachkov, Minister of Agricultural Production, was present at the talk which took place in a friendly atmosphere.

15-24. The Third Regular Session of the Bulgaro-Mongolian Committee on Scientific and Technical Co-operation was held in Sofia. The implementation of the decisions taken at the Second

Session of the Committee was reviewed at this Session, as well as proposals made by both countries, and the further development of scientific and technical co-operation. The minutes signed provide for Bulgaria to help Mongolia by sending skilled specialists and supplying technical documentation in the field of construction, industry, agriculture, etc. The Mongolian People's Republic, in its turn, will receive Bulgarian specialists to study the fisheries of the country.

During its stay in our country, the Mongolian delegation visited industrial and agricultural enterprises.

20. Georgi Traikov, Secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union and President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, received M. Laurits Tompson, Danish Minister of Agriculture, M. Peter Jorgensen, President of the Federation of Small Landowners in Denmark, Anders Andersen, President of the Union of Danish Peasants, and persons accompanying them. The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere in the Alexander Stamboliiski Memorial House.

22. The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Mongolian People's Republic signed a long-term trade agreement on the mutual delivery of goods during the period of 1966-70, and a protocol on trade and payments in 1966.

The agreement and protocol provide for Bulgaria to supply Mongolia with consumer goods, machines and spare parts, and to import from Mongolia farm produce, products of animal origin, certain industrial goods and so on.

Compared with the preceding five-year period, trade between the two countries for the period of 1966-70 is to increase by over 20 per cent.

22-27. Iosip Broz Tito, President of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia and Secretary General of the Union of Yugoslav Communists, paid an official visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria, at the invitation of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

During his stay in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, President Tito and his assistants visited Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, the towns of Varna and Plovdiv, and other towns and villages, as well as the Kremikovtzi iron and steel works, the co-operative farm in the village of Peroushtitsa, the seaside resorts on the Black Sea coast, and other places of interest. At friendly meetings and talks with workers, co-operative farmers, cultural workers and other local leaders, the Yugoslav guests were able to acquaint themselves with the work and life of the Bulgarian people and their achievements in socialist construction. The visitors from Yugoslavia were everywhere given a warm welcome, which expressed the friendly feelings of the peoples of the two neighbouring countries, as well as their wish for the further development of mutual co-operation.

President Tito had meetings and talks with Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and with Georgi Traikov,

President of the Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Among those who took part in the talks were:

On behalf of Bulgaria: Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the CC of the BCP; Zhivko Zhivkov, Member of the Politbureau of the CC of the BCP and First Deputy Prime Minister; Dimitar Popov, Member of the CC of the BCP, Minister of Finance; Ivan Bashev, Member of the CC of the BCP, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dimo Dichev, Member of the CC of the BCP, and head of the Department of Foreign Policy and International Relations of the CC of the BCP; Groudi Atanassov, Member of the CC of the BCP, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia, and Milko Balev, Candidate Member of the CC of the BCP.

On behalf of Yugoslavia: Vido Smilevski, President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia and Member of the CC of the UYC; Mika Spilyak, President of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Croatia and Member of the Executive Committee of the CC of the UYC; Milyan Neorichich, Union Secretary of Transport and Communications and Member of the CC of the UYC; Misa Pavichevich, Deputy State Secretary of Foreign Affairs; Dragoslav Markovich, Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia to the People's Republic of Bulgaria; and Milorad Pesic, Head of Department at the State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs.

A useful exchange of views took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual good will, on the development of co-operation and friendly relations between our two countries, on questions concerning the international situation in the Balkans, issues of the international communist and workers' movement, and relations between the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Union of Yugoslav Communists.

A communiqué on these talks is published in the present number of the Information Bulletin.

25. A Delegation of the Japanese Socialist Party on agricultural questions, composed of: Sadayoshi Matsuura, Member of Parliament, President of the Agricultural Committee of the Japanese Socialist Party; Djiro Kiyama, Deputy Director of the Agricultural Bureau of the district organization of the JSP in Hokaido; Sasuke Isikawa, Director of the Agricultural Bureau of the JSP in Sisuoka; Taro Yamaguni, Secretary of the Agricultural and Fisheries Bureau of the JSP; and Shozo Sigiya, Secretary of the International Bureau of the Japanese Socialist Party, visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the CC of the BCP. It had a meeting at the Central Committee.

Ivan Prumov, Secretary of the CC of the BCP, Dimo Dichev, Member of the CC of the BCP and Head of the Department of Foreign Policy and International Relations of the CC of the BCP, and others, were present at the meeting.

27. Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov received a Government Delegation of Cambodia, headed by M. Son San, Deputy Prime Minister, who visited our country.

The meeting took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

* A delegation of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, headed by Matei Stefan, Head of the Agricultural Department of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, visited Bulgaria. It came to study the experience of the Bulgarian Communist Party in managing the water economy and irrigation.

28. Comrade Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, received the delegation of the Japanese Socialist Party on agricultural questions, which visited our country at the invitation of the CC of the BCP. On behalf of the CC of the JSP and the delegation, Sadayoshi Matsuura, head of the delegation, Member of Parliament and President of the Agricultural Committee of the Japanese Socialist Party, expressed their thanks for the opportunity given to the members of the delegation to study the achievements of our agriculture.

Among those present at the meeting were Comrades Mitko Grigorov, Member of the Politbureau and Secretary of the CC of the BCP, and Dimo Dichev, head of the Department of Foreign Policy and International Relations of the CC of the BCP.

The talks were held in a warm and cordial atmosphere.

* At the Alexander Stamboliiski Memorial House, Georgi

Traikov, Secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union and President of the Presidium of the National Assembly, received the delegation of the Japanese Socialist Party on Agricultural Questions, headed by Sadayoshi Matsuura, Member of Parliament and President of the Agricultural Committee of the JSP. The delegation visited our country at the invitation of the CC of the BCP.

The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere.

* A trade and payment agreement between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Colombia was signed in Bogota between BULET, the Bulgarian State Economic Enterprise, and the National Federation of Coffee Producers. This agreement opens up favourable prospects for regular trade relations between the two countries.

According to the agreement, Bulgaria will import coffee, cotton, hides, fodder, meat, cotton fabrics, etc., from Colombia, in exchange for machines, means of transport, equipment and spare parts, electrical materials and equipment, chemicals and drugs, fertilizers, essential oils, wines and alcoholic beverages, etc.

29. Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, received M. André Fontaine, French journalist and editor of the foreign affairs dept. of *Le Monde*, who visited our country at the invitation of the Press Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.