

## RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST PARTIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES

The Communist Party of the United States of America is an independent American party dedicated to socialism. Its concern is for the present and future welfare of the American people.

The Communist Party works for friendship between all peoples so that our country may prosper in a world of peace. In this spirit it advocates friendship and cooperation between our country and the socialist countries. It holds that extended trade, exchanges and delegations in the fields of culture, trade unionism, agriculture, sports, education and science, etc. will advance people's welfare, knowledge and understanding of each other.

The CPUSA now recognizes that over the years it held certain wrong and oversimplified concepts of what its relations should be to other Marxist parties. We accepted, as dogma, views of other Marxist parties particularly the Soviet Party. These views were sometimes incorrect, often misinterpreted by us. As a result, the theory and the practice that followed in our decisions did not correspond to the needs and requirements of our Party in relation to our national conditions.

Because the Soviet Union pioneered in the building of Socialism, our Party from its early stages was convinced that the Soviet Union had to be defended against all attacks in order to insure its very life and existence. Through the years, this attitude became mechanical - and developed into a concept that the Soviet Union could do no wrong. Therefore, we defended, without question, all views, policies and actions of the Soviet Union would weaken the bonds of international working class solidarity or bring comfort to the enemies of peace and socialism.

Therefore, we believe that socialism is strengthened, not weakened, by the fraternal and constructive criticism of Marxists of many lands. Such criticism has nothing in common with those who deprecate the epic achievements of the socialist countries, or those who seek to engender hostility to socialism at home and abroad.

The CPUSA must continue to correct the oversimplified relations which have existed between itself and other Marxist parties. This requires independence and equality of Marxist parties, the right and duty of the Communists of all countries to engage in comradely criticism of the policies and practices of the Communists of any country whenever they feel it necessary. This will advance the cause of socialism in all countries.