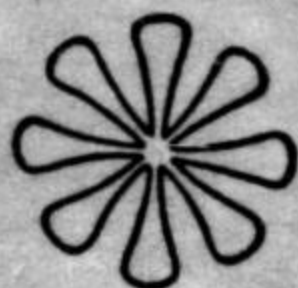


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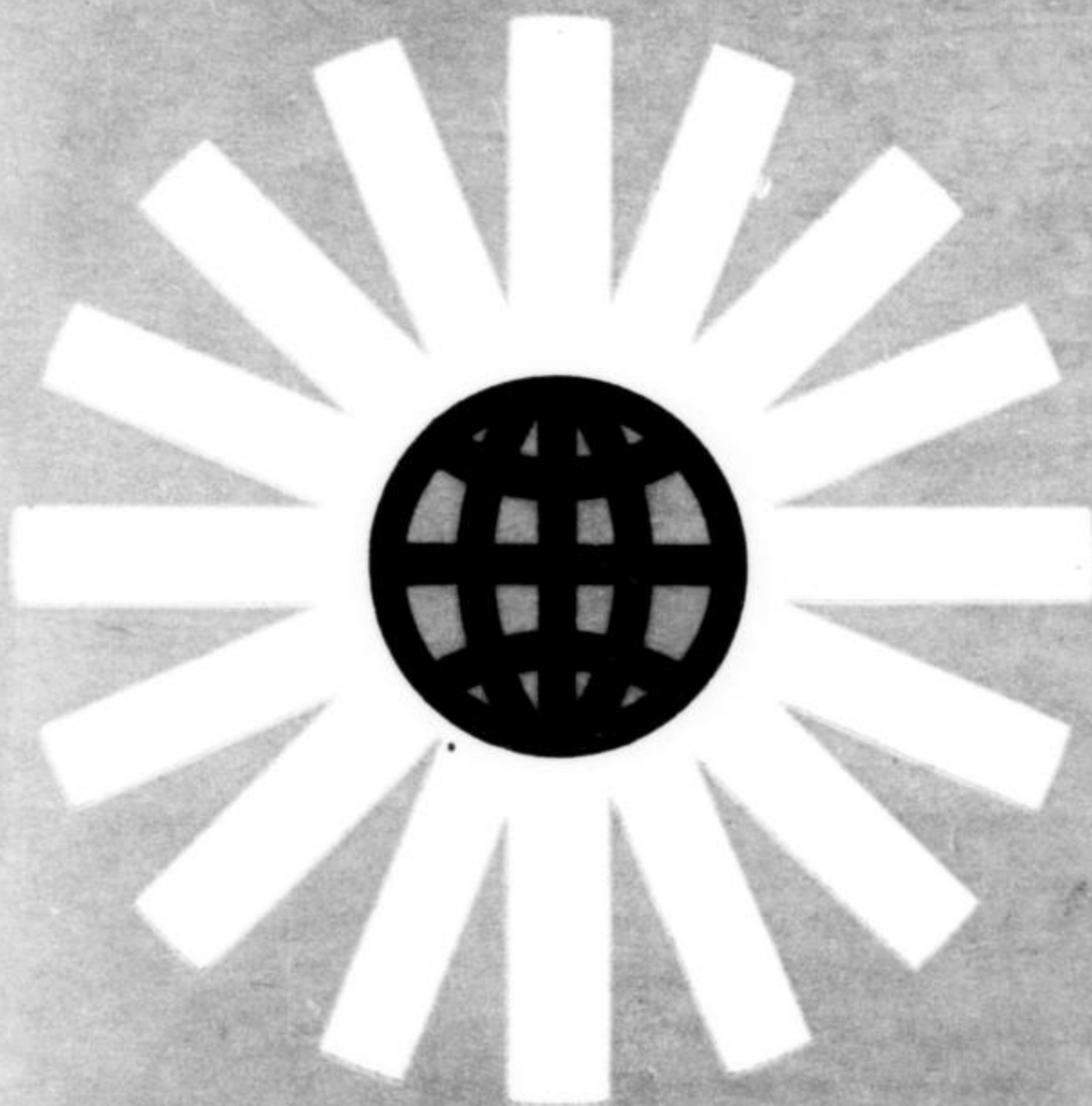
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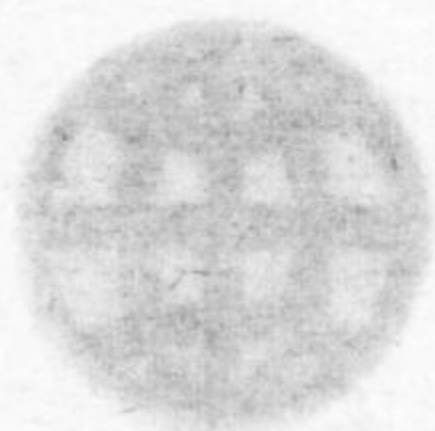
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GDR: TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

WALTER ULBRICHT

**FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE GDR STATE COUNCIL**

The founding of the German Democratic Republic 21 years ago signified an historical change in the center of Europe. For the first time, the working people came to power on the territory of Germany.

Berlin, once the stronghold of German imperialism and militarism, became the capital of a peaceful German state of workers and peasants.

There were two prerequisites making it possible for the working people in the East of Germany to establish their own state. First, the world historical victory by the Soviet Union, the joint anti-fascist forces and the anti-Hitler coalition over fascist German imperialism and, second, a German working class united on a Marxist-Leninist basis and unification of the Communists, Social Democrats and young anti-fascists to form the Socialist Unity Party of Germany in the then Soviet occupation zone.

The 21st anniversary of the national German socialist state coincides with the new situation in the development of European policy.

The GDR is a stable state recognized in international law, enjoying the respect of nations and having close ties with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. As a result of the combined efforts of all the people under the leadership of the working-class Party, we are implementing the socialist system according to plan and on a wide scale. The imperialist plans to force socialism back to the borders of the Soviet Union, as a first step, have collapsed. Instead, socialism has released its intrinsic energy.

The fraternal family of socialist countries, a result of the Soviet Union's far-sighted policy in the Warsaw Treaty and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, has become a powerful political and economic force playing an ever increasing role in safeguarding European and international peace. The peoples of the non-socialist countries on the continent are beginning to draw conclusions from the changing situation in Europe. They are emphatically demanding fulfilment of the proposals made by the socialist countries to prepare a European security conference and to gradually establish a

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system of European collective security of states with differing social systems.

The treaty signed between the USSR and the FRG on August 12 of this year demonstrates the growing influence of the forces of peace on our continent's development. The treaty proclaims the inviolability, for the present and for the future, of existing European borders, including the western border of the Polish Peoples' Republic along the Oder-Neisse and the border between the FRG and the GDR. The treaty also contains the obligation to strictly observe the territorial integrity of all European states within their present boundaries. Acceptance of the changes on the continent resulting from the Second World War is a prerequisite for successful cooperation between European states in the interests of European security. . . .

Twenty-five years after the end of the Second World War, after the liberation of European nations, including the German nation, from fascist domination it is necessary to sum up the results of the development of the two Germanys. There is the national German socialist state—the German Democratic Republic which carried out the Potsdam agreement and is preserving and developing the best humanistic and progressive traditions of the German people. And there is the West German, monopoly-capitalistic, NATO state, the Federal Republic, which did not fulfill the Potsdam agreement and which today is highly Americanized in key areas. A struggle is unfolding in the Federal Republic between advocates of peace and the revanchist forces.

The German Democratic Republic approves of the treaty signed between the Soviet Union and the FRG on renouncing the use of force and on cooperation. We view this treaty as the result of the patient and consistent policy of peace on our continent followed by the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community. It follows logically from the treaty between the USSR and the FRG that the Federal Republic must renounce all further attempts of discriminating against the GDR and its citizens. However, in the practical politics of the past few months, we must regretfully state that representatives of the Bonn government are, as previously, continuing their attempts to hamper the establishment of normal diplomatic relations between the GDR and other states, prevent the GDR from becoming a member of the United Nations Organization and boycott our participation in various UN agencies. . . .

The specific feature of the development of the GDR was that it was built up on the ruins of a highly industrialized country that retained however, feudal survivals, a country that was a former imperialist stronghold. The severe consequences of the war, the imperialist split of Germany and the psychological and economic

war waged by West German imperialism made the situation singularly complex. In these difficult conditions it was necessary to apply Marxist-Leninist theory on creating a socialist social system in a manner making it possible step by step to involve the entire working population, including the middle strata and even the middle capitalist businessmen and the rich peasants, in the building of socialism. This big task required research by our Party into many problems of social development, earnest discussions with the working class and other working people on their solution and then, it was necessary, together with them, to take the charted road.

The GDR advanced significantly after the Program of Socialism was adopted by the Sixth Congress of the SUPG in 1963. This program stated that the economic laws of socialism demanded consistent implementation and utilization.

When appraising the GDR's development it should not be forgotten that prior to 1961 the border in West Berlin and West Germany was open and the imperialist subversive centers could sensitively hamper the development of the socialist society and cause grave harm to the working people of the GDR. The economic laws of capitalism continued to operate simultaneously with the economic laws of socialism in the GDR up till 1961 as a result of open frontiers with the sphere of imperialist domination. After the foundations of socialism had been established in our country in spite of these unfavorable conditions, our Party decided to introduce a wide-scale economic system of planning and management proceeding from Lenin's principles of economic accountancy. Our primary consideration was the fact that the scientific and technological revolution made new and higher demands on the organization of research, the planning and management of a socialist economy and the entire process of social development. At the same time we evolved and systematically introduced a unified socialist system of education, from kindergarten through the 10-year polytechnical school to universities and higher schools.

These decisions and measures provided the only realistic way for the GDR to stop the leakage of material and manpower resources through the open borders and to cope with the outdated production technology which was due, among other things, to the same reason. This was also the only realistic way of releasing all the creative energy of the working class, the intellectuals and the cooperative farmers.

Economic planning in the GDR was complicated from the very start. Because of the imperialist split of Germany, the GDR's traditional processing industry was cut off from its former source of supply, from West German industry. Meanwhile, it was impossible to establish overnight planned economic cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other members of the Council for Mutual

Economic Assistance. A protracted period of time was required to develop this cooperation.

Agreements with the Soviet Union on coordination of both countries' five-year plans led to consistent planning of the development of the national economy in the GDR. However, it was only the drafting of the GDR's economic structure and constant orientation on the highest achievements and on a solution of the problems resulting from the scientific and technological revolution that created conditions for such close and broad cooperative ties and processes of socialist integration with the Soviet Union and the other CMEA countries as are evident at present. This policy rests on a scientific prognostication of economic and social development up to 1980, accords with the specific prerequisites in our national economy and promotes integration in the socialist community. The Seventh Congress of the SUPG launched a new stage in development in 1967, resolving to go over to establishing a developed socialist social system in the GDR. Characteristic of this new stage of development, the Congress noted, were a high level and rapid growth of social productive forces, stable, developing socialist relations of production, a strong socialist power, comprehensive development of socialist democracy, a high level of education among the working people, a constant improvement in their working conditions and welfare, rebuilding of destroyed city centers and a socialist ideology and culture penetrating deeply into all spheres of social endeavor. Through its social prognosis and determining the structural development of the national economy up to the 1980's, the Congress created the prerequisites for qualitatively new long-term planning as it will be implemented in the coming five years (1971-75), with the socialist economic system operating to the best advantage.

In order to resolve the problems raised by the scientific and technological revolution in the interests of social progress, it was necessary for the GDR to concentrate greater efforts on the development of corresponding spheres of the national economy. A decisive factor was and remains scientific and technological cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Thanks to a complete understanding of the problem by the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, substantial agreements were concluded on cooperation in the field of socialist organization of science. This experience facilitates cooperation between the GDR and all the other CMEA member countries.

The decisions taken by the SUPG served as the basis for elaborating the socialist economic system in the GDR and, in connection with this, for defining the long-term aims of the system of education up to the 1980's. The decisions of the Politbureau of the CC SUPG and the GDR Council of Ministers on the organization of

science and the utilization of modern methods of research in the chemical industry showed new ways towards systematic automation in the GDR's socialist industry. A factor determining a sharp increase of labor productivity and greater efficiency of our national economy is a breakthrough to the most advanced scientific and technological achievements and their early utilization in industry on the basis of a fully automated system of mass production. The Congress decisions also led to a gradual transition to cooperation between agricultural cooperatives and the establishment of inter-cooperative associations. A socialist system of trade was elaborated.

More than half a century ago, Vladimir Lenin pointed out in his work "The Immediate Tasks of the Soviet Government" that higher labor productivity is, in the final analysis, the determining factor in the competition between the socialist system and capitalism. At that time he also proposed adopting from the American automobile production system everything of value for scientific and technological progress that could raise labor productivity. He noted the necessity of wisely combining socialism with the progressive achievements in science and technology in order to fully unfold the advantages of the socialist system. This fundamental idea of Lenin's is being creatively implemented in the GDR, in line with present conditions, in solving the tasks posed by the scientific and technological revolution. The Soviet Union has made such advances in the decisive spheres of science and technology that it has reached the highest world standards. A convincing example is the brilliant scientific and technological achievement scored by the flight of the Luna-16 automatic station.

On the 21st anniversary of their socialist state the people of the GDR can proudly say that they have left behind the historical stage of capitalism and are building up a developed, socialist system of society on a broad scale. And on this day we feel the need to express our sincere gratitude to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and especially its tried and tested leadership, the Soviet government, and to all the Soviet people for their dedicated, effective and constant fraternal support.

Berlin

FIFTY YEARS OF SOVIET AZERBAIJAN

Speech* by L. I. BREZHNEV

**AT THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN BAKU
ON OCTOBER 2, 1970**

Dear comrades,
Friends,

Today, the people of Azerbaijan and all Soviet people celebrate a big holiday. We are observing the 50th anniversary of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and the establishment of Soviet power in the Republic. The Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic was born in the flames of class-battles half a century ago. The proletariat and the working peasantry, inspired by the Great October Revolution, scored a history-making victory over bourgeois-landlord reaction and the forces of foreign imperialism.

Permit me, first of all, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR to congratulate most warmly the participants in this anniversary meeting and through them all the workers, collective farmers, intelligentsia—all working people of Azerbaijan on the occasion of this great jubilee—the 50th anniversary of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and the establishment of Soviet power in the Republic.

The entire history of the revolutionary struggle waged by the Azerbaijanian people is inseparably linked with Lenin's name, with the Party of Bolsheviks. Lenin was the inspirer of the foundation of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, of the struggle of its working masses for the victory and consolidation of Soviet power. The foundation for the socialist reconstruction in the Republic was laid under Lenin's immediate guidance. Lenin's ideas continue to illuminate for the working people of Azerbaijan the road to new victories, the road to communism.

Azerbaijan by rights holds a worthy place in the great Union of Soviet Socialist Republics created by Lenin.

Your Republic has been generously endowed by nature, it possesses vast natural riches. For many decades Azerbaijan has been an industrially well-developed area of our country, where some important industries originated long ago, already at the time of the development of capitalism in Russia.

*Pravda, October 3, 1970.

The working class of Azerbaijan has fine revolutionary traditions. It is no accident that the first Marxist groups appeared in Baku—an important center of the Transcaucasian proletariat—as early as the end of the 19th century. The Baku Party Organization—pillar of our Leninist Party in the struggle against the enemies of the working class in the Transcaucasus — came into being and gained strength in close relationship with the proletarian revolutionary movement in Russia.

The Baku Commune was a glorious epic of heroism and self-sacrifice. It was led by Stepan Shaumyan, Meshadi Azizbekov, Alyosha Djaparidze, Ivan Fioletov, Grigory Korganov, Iakov Zevin, Mir Gasan Vezirov and other gallant fighters of Lenin's guard. Their names speak strikingly of the remarkable traditions of internationalism, for which the Baku proletariat has long been famous.

The people will never forget the heroism of the 26 Baku Commissars who were brutally murdered by British imperialists in the Trans-Caspian sands. The exploit of these heroes sounded as a clarion call rallying thousands of courageous fighters for communism under the banner of revolution.

The Azerbaijanian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) was founded in February 1920 and since its inception has been a component and militant detachment of the Leninist Communist Party.

Lenin extended daily assistance and support to the fighters for Soviet power in Azerbaijan, showing continuous care and concern for the revolutionary education of Communists, their organizational and ideological progress. In keeping with Lenin's behests, the Communist Party of Azerbaijan has covered a glorious road in the last fifty years. The Communist Party of Azerbaijan gained strength and became tempered in battle against the foes of Soviet power, in the work for the socialist remaking of the country, in the struggle for the defense of the motherland in the last war. Throughout its history the Communists of Azerbaijan formed a reliable bulwark of the Leninist Central Committee, were active champions of the cause of revolution and the cause of socialism.

Comrades, permit me on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to congratulate most warmly the Azerbaijanian Communists on the occasion of the glorious jubilee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and to wish you fresh success in communist construction for the prosperity of our great motherland.

The people of Azerbaijan have traversed a great road in their development, but their real history began essentially only five decades ago, when the workers and peasants of Azerbaijan with the fraternal assistance of the Russian proletariat, Red Army units, toppled the hated bourgeois-landlord Mussavatist government,

opening up the road to national freedom and social justice for the Azerbaijanian people.

In his letter to the Communists of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia, Daghestan and the Mountaineer Republic Lenin wrote in 1921: "I send my warmest greetings to the Soviet Republics of the Caucasus, and should like to express the hope that their close alliance will serve as a model of national peace, unprecedented under the bourgeoisie and impossible under the capitalist system."

The victory of Soviet power alone has made it possible to put an end to the national dissension and alienation of the peoples of the Transcaucasus which had been fanned by the exploiting classes and had time and again brought about tragic clashes. Only the victory of Soviet power in Azerbaijan, its embarking on the road of socialist transformation made it possible adequately to develop the creative capacities of the masses, to use on a big scale the wealth hidden in your land and to make it serve the people.

Having become masters of their destiny the people of Azerbaijan, under the leadership of the Communist Party and with the active participation of all the fraternal Republics of our country, rapidly rehabilitated the ravaged economy, built up a powerful socialist industry, implemented Lenin's plan of cooperation in agriculture, turned the finest cultural values of the past into an asset of the whole people, created a new socialist culture.

Azerbaijan, where prior to the Revolution the bulk of the population was illiterate, became a republic of total literacy, with a high standard of education and culture.

The great strength of the socialist system again became convincingly apparent in the years of great trials—the years of the Great Patriotic War. The question of to be or not to be for the Land of Soviets, of whether the gains of the Great October Revolution would live on or perish was resolved on the approaches to Moscow and Leningrad, on the Volga banks and in the foot-hills of the Caucasus, in fierce battles against the fascist invaders. The Hitlerites, as you know, were determined to capture Baku with its important strategic resources. But the adventurous plans suffered a complete fiasco, having come up against the heroic rebuff of our armed forces and the entire Soviet people.

The Hitlerites thought that the Soviet Union would not stand the test, would disintegrate into separate states. But in the hour of trial the peoples of our country rallied still closer together. By their exploits at the front and devoted work in the rear they proved the strength of the Soviet socialist system, their loyalty to the Leninist banner of friendship of nations.

Thousands upon thousands of Azerbaijanian soldiers and officers were awarded orders and medals of the USSR and 114 won the title of Hero of the Soviet Union for gallantry and heroism in action

against the Hitlerite occupationists. Our people remember well the glorious exploits of heroes of the Soviet Union Azi Aslanov, Vladimir Balandin, Mekhti Gussein-zade, Stepan Fedorenko, Israfil Mamedov, Kafur Mamedov, Vazgen Oganessov, Gerai Asadav and many other Azerbaijanians.

The sons and daughters of Azerbaijan by their work in the rear also contributed greatly to routing the enemy. The Baku oil workers likewise made no small contribution to building up the superiority of the Soviet Army over the enemy on sea, land and in the air, to the outstanding strategic operations of the Soviet tank and air forces. Working under extremely difficult conditions they uninterruptedly supplied fuel to the Army and the economy, producing at the time almost three quarters of all Soviet oil.

Today, 25 years after victory in the Great Patriotic War we bow our heads in tribute to the glorious memory of the gallant sons and daughters of the people who gave their lives in mortal combat with fascism, we recall with gratitude the selfless work of Soviet people on the home front. The grandeur of the combat and labor heroism of the peoples of the Soviet Union for the freedom and independence of our socialist homeland will live on for centuries.

The report by comrade Aliyev convincingly illustrates the vast changes in Azerbaijan in the five decades of Soviet power. We are all aware of the exceptional attention Lenin gave to socialist construction in the Transcaucasus considering that a model socialist life in the Transcaucasian Republics would be the best agitation, the best propaganda for our cause among the teeming millions of the East.

Observing the half century jubilee of Soviet Azerbaijan we can today proudly say that under the guidance of the Leninist Party, the working people of the Republic with the fraternal assistance of all the peoples of our country, are fulfilling with honor Lenin's behest. That Soviet Azerbaijan, once a colonial province of the Russian Empire, has become a thriving republic of our country, building communism, is convincing proof of the powerful constructive potency of socialism, an inspiring model for the young national states, for the peoples fighting for social and national liberation.

Azerbaijan today is a Republic with a large-scale, diversified industry, well-developed agriculture and a national socialist culture.

Several decades ago, Azerbaijan was known only for its oil. Naturally we all continue to rejoice at the successes of the Azerbaijanian oil workers and appreciate their highly important national effort. The economy of Azerbaijan, however, is characterized today also by important industries such as ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, oil engineering and instrument-making, electrical engineering, chemical and the petrochemical industries.

Important for the national economy are the Azerbaijan-made steel and rolled metal, pipes and non-ferrous metals, synthetic rubber, mineral fertilizer, tires, electrical engines, pumps. Azerbaijanian industrial goods can be found in the Transcarpathian areas and in Sakhalin, on the shores of the Arctic Ocean and in the scorching deserts of Turkmenia.

These products are also familiar far beyond the confines of the Soviet Union. Three hundred types of industrial goods are exported from these Caspian shores to some 60 countries. All this is convincing proof of the high industrial level attained by Azerbaijan in the years of Soviet power.

Big progress has been made also by the Republic's socialist agriculture. The irrigated area has been doubled as compared to the pre-revolutionary period. The state has turned over to collective farmers and state-farm workers tens of thousands of tractors, combine harvesters, cotton-picking machines and trucks. By skillful use of modern machinery the foremost collective and state farms in the Republic attain high yields in crop farming and animal husbandry.

The conditions of life of the Azerbaijanian people have changed completely. Alexei Maximovich Gorky, who was quite familiar with life in pre-revolutionary Baku, gave this description of the city. "Amidst the chaos of derricks there stood the long low-lying workers' barracks, very much like the abodes of pre-historic men, hastily put together from rough reddish and grayish stones. Never before had I seen so much dirt and refuse around the dwellings, so many broken windows and such wretched poverty as in those cave-like rooms."

This was Baku under tsarist Russia, but only the very aged remember the Baku of those days.

It so happens that this is my first visit to Azerbaijan, the first time I see its capital. That probably makes the impressions more striking. I must say frankly: Baku is a handsome city. It was obviously built by people who love their land dearly, who carefully cherish national traditions and at the same time skillfully apply the achievements of modern town development. It is a pleasure to live and work in such a city.

Here in Baku I saw an interesting sculpture—symbolizing the emancipation of the Azerbaijanian woman who wrathfully throws down the yashmak.

You know well what the ill-fated yashmak, that symbol of the lack of rights and the slave-like status, meant to women. To all intents and purposes it differed but little from prison bars, with the sole difference that the woman herself bore the barrier which divided her from the world at large.

The liberation, the emancipation, of women was the number one

target of Soviet power. Soviet power made the woman a full-fledged member of socialist society. Women have noticeably "elbowed out" men in public health and education. Many of them are engineers, agronomists, research workers. The women of Azerbaijan today account for 40 per cent of those employed in the national economy. A good many working women have been elected to the Supreme Soviet of the Republic and of the USSR.

For instance, look how many women there are in this hall. And that is quite natural—the daughters of the Azerbaijanian people hold many key positions in the economy and culture of their Republic, hold responsible managerial, state and Party posts. And they are doing good work. See how many gold stars, orders and medals the women participants in our jubilee meeting brought with them to this hall. These awards of the motherland are the best decorations that ever adorned women anywhere in the world.

The Central Committee of the CPSU is confident that the Party organization of the Republic will go on giving unflagging attention to the domestic comforts, the intellectual progress of working women, their active participation in socialist production, social life, in the management of state affairs.

Comrades, today on this solemn occasion, noting the turbulent economic progress of the Republic I wish to address words of heartfelt gratitude to those whose efforts have transformed this land, to the working people of Azerbaijan who create all the material values.

As always the glorious working class is marching in the vanguard. The big detachment of workers employed in the Azerbaijanian economy is a tremendous force. It is a significant fact that Soviet workers now have, as a rule, a good general education and occupational training. They are men and women who have mastered modern technology, who carry out their patriotic duty with supreme consciousness and responsibility.

The working class of Azerbaijan is a worthy continuer of the glorious revolutionary and labor traditions of the Baku proletariat.

To develop and multiply these traditions, to pass them on carefully to the younger generation is a matter of honor for the entire working class, for the Party, trade union, Komsomol, all public organizations. I think we should attend more to raising a worthy generation of young workers, make young people like their work and show a sense of responsibility for continuing the cause of their fathers and elder brothers.

Comrades, it so happens that the celebration of your anniversary coincides with another remarkable date which our Leninist Komsomol, all Soviet Youth, our Party and all Soviet people are observing today. Exactly 50 years ago Vladimir Ilyich Lenin made his famous speech—The Tasks of the Youth Leagues—at the Third All-Russia Congress of the Russian Young Communist League.

The 50th anniversary of Soviet Azerbaijan and the 50th anniversary of Lenin's historical address to the young people of the Land of Soviets is not only a coincidence of dates; there is a profound historic relationship between the two events.

Veterans of the Azerbaijan Komsomol most likely remember that three weeks before the opening of the Third Congress of the Russian Young Communist League, the first Congress of the Red Youth of the East was convened here in Baku to seek ways of developing the youth movement in the complex situation in which a new life was being built. Afterwards the envoys of the youth of the East went to Moscow to the Komsomol Congress and had the luck of hearing Lenin's famous speech, receiving, so to say, directly from him a clearly defined program for their work and struggle.

This speech by Lenin is a truly remarkable document. Its supreme importance is becoming ever more evident with the passing of time.

At the moment when Vladimir Ilyich was making the speech, at a time when the armed struggle against counter-revolution and foreign interventionists was not yet over, at a time of economic dislocation, as contemporaries can testify, Lenin's call to the younger generation, "The task is to learn," sounded bewildering, and could not be fully understood by some people.

However, every year, each subsequent decade, unfolded with growing clarity and force the implications of this counsel of Lenin's, his call to educate our young people in the spirit of builders of communism.

Those who heard Lenin's speech in 1920, the vanguard of the revolutionary youth of the Land of Soviets, had in practice become pioneers of socialist construction, active participants in the industrialization of the country and socialist reconstruction of agriculture. And when the great Patriotic War came, these followers of Lenin rose against the fascist aggressor in defense of the gains of October and socialism. They remained until the last loyal to the behests of the great leader and proved this by their deeds, their whole life.

And in our days too, when the Soviet people are doing what Lenin dreamed of, what he called on us to be prepared for—communist construction—Lenin's wise words are for us a most relevant, concrete instruction, a mandate of the Party to the young generation of builders of communism.

Indeed, recall how Vladimir Ilyich defined the tasks of Soviet youth in the *field of education*:

"... an ability to acquire the sum total of human knowledge, and to acquire it in such a way that communism shall not be something to be learned by rote, but something that you yourselves have thought over, something that will embody conclusions inevitable from the standpoint of the present day education."

Is not this today, too, the most accurate definition of the political

essence of education of young people in our socialist society, the most precise expression of the class, Party approach to matters of education and culture? This, certainly, is true. The Party takes guidance and will continue to take guidance from this thesis of Lenin in the approach to education and the political training of young people and the entire people, because only in this way is it possible to educate true, convinced Communists, capable of carrying forward and bringing to completion the great cause of building communist society.

Recall how Vladimir Ilyich Lenin had already in 1920 defined the tasks of young fighters for communism in the *field of economic construction*. This is what he said:

"Confronting you is the task of economically reviving the whole country, of reorganizing and restoring both agriculture and industry on modern technical lines, based on modern science and technology, on electricity."

Our country faithfully followed Lenin's way in socialist construction. Implementing Lenin's plans, the new men reared by socialism, people who have mastered new technology, displayed miracles of labor heroism. Under these conditions there emerged the wonderful movement of Stakhanovites, the 35th anniversary of which our country recently observed.

Are not the words of Lenin which I have quoted an accurate and profound definition of the tasks of our young people and of the entire Soviet people *today*, too, when we are facing a historic task—to put all the latest achievements of the scientific and technological revolution of the second half of the 20th century at the service of socialist society, built by the Soviet people?

Such certainly is the case, and our Party is taking guidance and will continue to take guidance from this Lenin thesis, because it provides the key to the solution of one of the basic tasks of communist construction. One of the important stages in the progress along this road should be implementation of the decisions of the December 1969 and July 1970 Plenary Meetings of the Party's Central Committee.

Comrades, this year—the year of Lenin's centenary and at the same time the final year of the Five-Year Plan, and the eve of the 24th Congress of the Party—is conspicuous for the exceptionally high labor activity of the Soviet people, for a further upswing of socialist emulation. The factory and office workers are trying hard to obtain a further growth of output by boosting the effectiveness of social production. It is important that in their socialist pledges they should include specific organizational and technical measures to increase productivity, master new types of production, improve quality and save raw materials.

The working people of Azerbaijan are participating actively in the nationwide socialist emulation movement. The collectives of the 22nd Congress of the CPSU (Neftyaniye Kamni) Caspian Oil Mining Administration, the Novo-Baku refinery, the Baku electrical engineering plant, the Lieutenant Shmidt Plant, a veteran of oil engineering, the Sumgait Aluminum Plant, the first plant of non-ferrous metallurgy of the Republic, have scored fine successes.

The people today speak with pride of the splendid representatives of the Republic's working class, collective farm peasantry and intelligentsia whose work is a fine model of the observance of patriotic duty. I would like to use this opportunity and from this rostrum convey to them all, on behalf of the Central Committee of our Party, our heartfelt thanks for their dedicated effort.

Towards the end of the current year our country will be summing up the results of the Five-Year Plan. Some of the indicators of our work for the country as a whole and for the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic can be assessed already today.

It can be confidently said that new high targets have been achieved in creating the material and technical basis of communism in our country, in developing the socialist economy, science and culture, in improving the welfare of the Soviet people. It is already clear that the Directives set by the 23rd Congress of the CPSU for the Five-Year Plan will, in the main, be fulfilled. Industry in the five-year period will have increased output by approximately 50 per cent, output of farming produce will also grow considerably.

One more proof of the successful progress of our science and technology, a real triumph of Soviet scientists, engineers, technicians and workers, was the flight of the "Luna-16" cosmic station, completed triumphantly a few days ago after performing unique operations in Lunar research, taking specimens of lunar rock and delivering them to earth. All this was performed with astounding accuracy and mastery and evoked admiration throughout the world. The success of "Luna-16" is another remarkable achievement in the year of Lenin's centenary, a tribute of the Soviet people to the approaching 24th Congress of the Party.

The working people of Azerbaijan, in implementing the decisions of the 23rd Congress of the CPSU and the Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee of the CPSU, have achieved positive results in the development of the national economy.

Industrial production in the Republic has grown considerably in the current five-year period. Changes for the better are evident also in agriculture. Despite the complex weather conditions the collective and state farms of the republic are successfully coping with this year's targets.

Though, as you know, our achievements are considerable, we

have no grounds for complacency. An anniversary celebration is hardly a suitable occasion for criticism. Life, however, presents its demands and Bolsheviks have never closed their eyes to shortcomings in their work—this has been one of the fountains of strength of our Leninist Party. Therefore, I think you will not mind my being frank.

Incidentally, Party organizations, governmental and managerial bodies in the republic should take into account the existing lag in rates of industrial output growth, registered in recent years. This concerns both output of oil and gas, the manufacture of mineral fertilizers and operation of the light and food industries. Surely, you know all this just as well as I, so I need not go into details.

In the field of agriculture, Azerbaijan certainly possesses big opportunities for raising the yields of cotton, grain and fodder crops. One of the main directions in this sector is a more sound application of funds allocated for melioration, for improvements in irrigated agriculture. Much can and must be done to improve the productivity of animal husbandry in the republic.

Comrades, in all these fields, you have a big potential and it is a matter of honor for Communists, a matter of honor for the workers, collective farmers and state farm workers of Azerbaijan to tap this potential.

As Comrade Aliyev has already said Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan were held last December, this March and August. They thoroughly analyzed what caused these shortcomings. The discussion was sharp, principled and to the point. I think that for the republic's Party organizations this discussion was the starting point for a big and strenuous effort to eliminate these failings promptly.

The fraternal assistance and mutual aid of all Soviet peoples, which has become traditional, plays a big part in the subsequent progress of industry and agriculture. The Central Committee of the Party devotes daily much attention to the development of the economy in all the socialist republics. It is known that the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have mapped out large-scale measures for economic progress in Azerbaijan. State investments in your republic in 1971-1975 will grow by more than 50 per cent as against the current Five-Year Plan and will total 6,700,000,000 roubles. In these years the gigantic Sumgait Chemical Works, the porcelain and aluminum plants in Kirovabad should be fully in operation, dozens of new enterprises and projects in the chemical, engineering, food and other industries will be built and the power resources augmented.

The agriculture of Azerbaijan will be further developed, the material and technical facilities of collective and state farms will be strengthened. The funds allocated for these purposes are almost

double compared to those allocated in the current five-year period. Approximately half of these funds will be channeled into melioration, reconstruction of irrigation systems and the construction of new reservoirs. The supply of drinking water in Baku and in other districts of the republic will be improved radically.

Dear comrades, your work and skill, your enthusiasm and labor discipline are the decisive factor which will ensure a further upswing in the republic's national economy and its prosperity. The Central Committee of the Party is confident that the Communists of Azerbaijan, workers in industry and construction, in agriculture will worthily appraise the solicitude of the Party, will effectively use the generous assistance granted by the state and cope successfully with the tasks ensuing from the decisions of the recent Plenary Meetings of the Central Committee of the CPSU.

The solution of the big tasks facing the republic calls for higher state discipline and greater responsibility of personnel for their respective duties; it requires a highly principled Party approach in evaluating and staffing personnel.

We are confident that in the process of further joint work in all fields of communist construction the fraternal cooperation of all Soviet Republics will become still broader and deeper, that the reciprocal exchange of achievements in the material and intellectual fields will grow and lead to further rapprochement of socialist nations and nationalities. In this the Party perceives the earnest of unprecedented blossoming of the constructive forces of all Soviet people, confidently marching into the communist morrow.

Dear comrades, in his letter to the Communists of Azerbaijan and other Caucasian republics, which I have mentioned, V. I. Lenin recommended to "... take advantage of the favorable international situation, and learn to build the new ...". If Lenin's advice were applied to our reality it could be said that the foreign policy of our Party and state has considerably consolidated the international position of the Soviet Union; the strength and effectiveness of our foreign policy is multiplied by the fact that we pursue it in close cooperation with the fraternal socialist states, in alliance with the revolutionary anti-imperialist forces in the world. Under these conditions the Soviet people are confidently continuing the great cause of building a new, communist society.

But not for a moment do we allow the activities of the aggressive forces of imperialism to escape our field of vision. Every so often acute international crises and situations endangering peace arise in the world through the fault of the imperialists. We cannot but take into account the fact that the imperialists are continuing the arms race and resorting to refined methods in their struggle against the socialist countries and the liberation movements of the peoples. All

this calls for vigilance, constant care that the defense of our country should be reliable, and for indefatigable struggle against the aggressive imperialist intrigues.

Of late I have more than once spoken on how the international situation is shaping and on the situation in the individual sections of our foreign policy front. So as not to repeat myself, I shall dwell here only on certain problems pertaining to the struggle waged by the Soviet Union for the strengthening of the positions of socialism, for an enduring peace and for the establishment in international relations of the principle of peaceful coexistence of states, irrespective of their social systems.

The rebuffing of imperialist aggressors is a most important element in the struggle for a durable peace. The Soviet Union provides fraternal support to the heroic people of Vietnam in their selfless struggle against American aggression, and for the freedom and independence of their native land.

The Vietnamese patriots managed to score remarkable successes on the battlefield with the support of the socialist countries and of the peace-loving progressive forces of the whole world. Their matchless courage merits admiration. At the same time we highly prize the steps they have taken to bring about a political settlement of the Vietnamese problem. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam has recently at the Paris talks initiated fresh constructive proposals which met with vigorous support on the part of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. These proposals offer a sound and just basis for the ending of the war, and for the setting up of a coalition government, which would express the will of the people and the interests of all the democratic, progressive forces of South Vietnam.

The new step taken by the Vietnamese patriots has met with complete approval and understanding in the Soviet Union. We are of the opinion that if the government of the United States appraises this step correctly, if it sizes up the situation soberly and displays wisdom, a political settlement in Vietnam may make headway. But if Washington persists in its aggressive intentions, in conducting a positions-of-strength policy, it will meet with even greater difficulties and graver defeats.

The situation in the Middle East cannot fail to evoke apprehension in all those who cherish the cause of peace and security of nations. The contacts between the UAR and Jordan and Israel through the UN representative Jarring, which had barely begun, developed no further. The blame for this rests with the policy of the Tel Aviv ruling circles which, with the backing of the U.S. Administration, are doing their utmost to torpedo Jarring's mission.

Hiding behind the smokescreen of trumped up accusations against

the UAR, the Israeli military command strives in every way to strengthen its own positions in the occupied Arab lands, and especially along the eastern bank of the Suez Canal, and is building up forces to deliver new piratical attacks against the Arab countries. With characteristic brazenness the rulers of Israel declare, for the whole world to hear, that they "do not even contemplate a return to the 1967 borders," i.e., returning what they have plundered through aggression.

The U.S. Government continues to indulge the Israeli aggressors, in fact encouraging them to conduct a policy of frustrating the talks, while shipping to Israel more and more consignments of offensive armaments for fresh attacks on its neighbors. Obviously, Washington, while talking about peace, is in fact busy sowing the seeds of discord and strife.

Unfortunately, the sanguinary clashes which flared up recently in Jordan between the government troops and armed detachments of Palestinian organizations, have also inflicted perceptible damage to the common cause of the Arab nations, the Palestinian Arabs included. This fratricidal fighting is indeed a tragedy. Observing it, the Israeli aggressors rubbed their hands in delight, and the U.S. imperialists seized on the opportunity to bring up their forces, hoping that it would enable them to interfere militarily in the affairs of the Arabs in order to stifle their liberation movement and plunder their national wealth.

But such cynical toying with the destinies of independent states and nations has become dangerous in our time. One may not only burn one's fingers, but very well lose the whole arm. It is easy to imagine the stormy reaction and the wrath of the peoples, which a fresh armed intervention by the imperialist powers in the Middle East would evoke.

As for the Soviet Union, it occupies an absolutely clear position. We consider it our duty to facilitate in every way the final ending of the fratricidal struggle in Jordan, including an end to the annihilation of the Palestinian Resistance units. We considered and consider any kind of foreign military interference in the events in Jordan utterly impermissible.

It is our profound conviction that the main task of all the freedom- and peace-loving forces in the Middle East today is to achieve a peaceful settlement by political means, to liquidate the aftermath of Israeli aggression, and restore for all the nations in that region peace and tranquillity on a solid, lasting basis.

The untimely death of Gamal Abdel Nasser, hero of the liberation struggle of the Arabs, President of the United Arab Republic and Chairman of the Arab Socialist Union, is a grave loss for the Arab people, and for the cause for which they are fighting. A great patriot, a fiery fighter against oppression and aggression, a cham-

pion of freedom, independence and social progress, a wise statesman and one of the most popular leaders of the Arab World, has passed away. We Soviet people mourn the loss of a militant comrade-in-arms, a companion in the common anti-imperialist struggle, and a faithful friend of our country and of the entire socialist community.

Gamal Abdel Nasser was one of those men who laid the firm foundation of the great friendship binding the nations of the Soviet Union and the United Arab Republic, and all Arab countries. We are confident that the fine edifice of our friendship, built upon this foundation, will grow ever firmer, because this friendship is the expression of a profound historical need, and it will flourish as time goes on!

Availing myself of this opportunity, I should like to convey, from this rostrum, cordial, comradely greetings to our good friends, the leaders of the United Arab Republic, comrades-in-arms of Gamal Abdel Nasser, who, we are sure, will carry forward with honor the cause of the late President, which is of such importance for the UAR, for all Arab peoples and for the forces of peace and freedom all over the world.

Our Arab friends should know that the Communist Party and the government of the Soviet Union and the entire Soviet people will continue to follow undeviatingly the course of sincere friendship and fraternal cooperation with the United Arab Republic. We shall go on, as before, rendering all-round support for the righteous struggle waged by the Arabs for the liberation of their lands, seized by the aggressors, and for the establishment of a durable peace in the Middle East.

Comrades,

The conclusion of the Treaty between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany in August of this year was a major success for our policy of peace in the recent period. I think that all of you are well aware of both the content and the significance of this Treaty.

I must say that the talk, here and there, as to which party "gained more" from the Treaty, and which "gained less," is in our opinion absolutely groundless. Everyone gained in equal measure: the socialist countries, the FRG, and all who are interested in the strengthening of peace in Europe, and in the relaxation of international tensions.

The international importance of this document will, of course, be really revealed after it is ratified and goes into effect. But already the conclusion of such a treaty is indisputably having a certain beneficial effect upon the situation in Europe. I have in mind the growing trend towards a detente, towards a firmer establishment of the principles of peaceful coexistence and towards a

more active development of international cooperation in Europe. In our opinion, all the peace-loving forces in Europe should consider it their duty to use this favorable situation for new practical steps towards strengthening European security and further developing peaceful, mutually-advantageous cooperation among European states, including such a step as the convocation in the near future of an all-European conference devoted to these problems.

In our policy aimed at strengthening peace and security in Europe, we ascribe a prominent place to cooperation with France. This cooperation is based upon the firm traditions of friendship between the peoples of our countries and has, in our opinion, promising prospects.

A definite understanding has been reached between the Soviet Union and France in recent years, political contacts on different levels have been established, and good foundations have been laid for the sound development of mutually-beneficial economic cooperation. We intend to go on doing everything in our power to further develop Soviet-French relations on a firm, reliable basis.

We express hope that the visit of M. Georges Pompidou, President of France, to our country which is to start in a few days' time, will mark a new significant stage in the strengthening of friendship, concord and cooperation between the Soviet Union and France, in the interests of both our countries, and in the interests of peace in Europe and all over the world.

Such an important act as the recent prolongation for a further 20 years of the Treaty of Friendship Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Finland should also be put down as a new gain for the policy of peaceful coexistence which we pursue undeviatingly. The development of good-neighbor relations with that friendly country has now acquired new clear prospects. We attach great significance to this within the framework of the further strengthening of peace and security in the north of Europe.

Comrades, when speaking here in Baku, it is only natural to dwell on how our relations are developing with such neighboring states as Iran and Turkey which border upon your Republic.

I must say straightaway that these relations are developing fairly well, in our opinion. As you are aware, in the past there had been quite a few complications and difficulties in these relations. But by consistently putting into practice the behests of V. I. Lenin, who attached tremendous importance to the establishment of friendly relations between the land of Soviets and the nations of the East, especially with neighboring countries, we managed to overcome the obstacles and, with the constructive cooperation of our partners, to lead the relations of the Soviet Union with Iran

and Turkey onto the straight road of good-neighborliness and equitable, mutually-beneficial cooperation.

The rather regular recent mutual visits by prominent statesmen and political leaders, parliamentary delegations and other representatives of authority help to strengthen understanding and to gradually create an atmosphere of mutual trust in the relations between our countries. There is every reason to believe that contacts of that kind will go on developing in the future, as well.

The development of trade and economic relations is of no less importance, for these relations are not only profitable for both sides, but constitute also a sound basis for rapprochement and cooperation in other fields. Much has been achieved in this respect in our relations with Iran and Turkey, and much more remains to be achieved.

A metallurgical works, an engineering plant and a fish-breeding farm are being built lately in Iran with technical assistance from the Soviet Union. They will be of great importance in strengthening the national economy of our neighbor country. Iran, for its part, will soon start to deliver natural gas for the needs of the economy and the population of Soviet Transcaucasia. The hydro-engineering complex built jointly by our own and Iranian specialists on the Araks River, which runs along our border, is soon to be put into operation. That will make it possible to irrigate considerable areas of land both in Iran and in your Azerbaijanian SSR, and to supply additional electric power to the cities and villages of the border regions in both countries.

The joint efforts of both sides in the construction of a metallurgical, oil-processing and sulphuric acid plants in Turkey should be of great importance in developing Soviet-Turkish relations.

We also attach great importance to the expansion of trade and the development of cultural and other relations with our Iranian and Turkish neighbors. This is true likewise of the other neighboring countries such as, for example, Afghanistan, India and Pakistan from which we are divided by the differences in our social systems but with which we are united by ties of good-neighborliness and mutual respect.

Taking this opportunity, I wish unequivocally to declare that the leadership of the USSR will continue to do everything it can to ensure that the borders of our country with all our neighbors in the South, as well as in the West and East, shall always remain borders of peace, friendship and fruitful cooperation.

Lastly, comrades, one more comment on international affairs. This month marks the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Organization, which was born as the result of the victory scored by the nations in the anti-fascist liberation struggle.

In spite of all its shortcomings and weaknesses, the United Na-

tions Organization has made a useful contribution to the realization of the goals and principles proclaimed in its Charter. It helped to overcome a number of grave international crises. We consider this result an important success for the foreign policy of the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries and all the peace-loving forces of our globe.

The imperialist circles do not cease their attempts to turn the UN, as they did with the League of Nations, into a discussion club, a place for the proclamation of hollow and meaningless declarations. They are trying to divert the Organization from fulfilling its main political task of securing and strengthening universal peace.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, we want the UN to be an effective organization enjoying authority, and directing its efforts towards maintaining peace and security. The Soviet Union will vigorously support such action by the UN.

Naturally, we realize very well that the UN is not some kind of self-contained force or world super-government. Its position, its activities, only reflect the specific correlation of forces between the states of the world, and a certain dominating trend in international life. But precisely for this reason we look optimistically to the future of the UN, because, firstly, we know that the role and the political weight of the socialist and other peace-loving and freedom-loving countries are continuously growing in the world, and will go on doing so. Secondly, we are firmly convinced that the policy of peace which the USSR is indefatigably conducting, carrying out the behests of Lenin, conforms, in the long run, to the interests of all nations and all countries, both large and small.

In the international arena we defend the cause of the freedom, independence and security of nations, a fair and righteous cause. The international position of the Soviet Union is stronger than ever before. Its prestige as a mighty force of progress, reason and peace, has won universal recognition. The Land of Soviets is confidently marching—under the banner of the great Lenin—along the Leninist road of communist construction, the road of peace and friendship among nations.

Comrades, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the entire Soviet people are on the verge of a great event—the 24th Congress. It will discuss and adopt the directives on the 1971-1975 Five-Year Plan for the development of the USSR economy, whose fulfilment will constitute a major step in the progress of our country along the road to communism. The Party is following its general line undeviatingly, and is consistently implementing the political course evolved by the Central Committee. The time which has passed since the 23rd Congress has been a period of the further strengthening of the might of our country, the growth of the Party's leading role and its even closer unity with the people. Enriched

by experience in coping with a number of the most important economic and social problems, the Party is approaching the Congress confident of the correctness of its line, and of the boundless support it enjoys among all Soviet people.

It gives me great pleasure, dear friends, to inform you that on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, Soviet Azerbaijan has been honored by a high award. A decision has been taken to bestow the Order of the October Revolution on the Republic.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, I cordially congratulate you, dear comrades, on this award. Permit me to express the conviction that the Communists of Azerbaijan—a militant unit of our Leninist Party—and all working people of the Republic will respond to this award by practical deeds, will welcome the forthcoming CPSU Congress in a worthy manner, and will achieve new successes in developing their economy and culture. May sunny Azerbaijan continue to prosper as before, and may the fraternal friendship and unbreakable alliance of all our nations gather strength and flourish!

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

IMMEDIATE TASKS OF THE PARTY FOLLOWING AN EXCHANGE OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP CARDS

(Decision of the CPC CC Presidium September 18, 1970) *

Ever since the May plenum of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee in 1969, when directives were adopted on fulfilling plenum decisions, the Party has been waging a consistent struggle for the restoration of unity based on Marxist-Leninist theory and proletarian internationalism, for the implementation of the Lenin principles in Party construction and to enhance its activity and revolutionary militancy.

A decisive step in this direction was the plenum resolution on exchanging Party membership cards (January, 1970), providing for talks and interviews with all Party members. Proceeding from a CC letter to primary organizations and Party members, all Party members were judged on the grounds of their participation in carrying out Party policy and their stand, especially during the critical period recently experienced by the Party and society. The Party was cleansed of those who alienated themselves from the Party's Marxist-Leninist policy, betrayed its ideological and organizational principles and did not fulfill their obligations as Communists. The Party's political activity increased. United ideologically and organizationally, the Party will be capable of leading our society along the road of building socialism.

The exchange of Party cards was accompanied by an acute struggle against the Right opportunist elements who were totally defeated. The Party was cleansed of those who do not belong in the Party. Key sectors in society were reinforced with staunch Party members who withstood the ordeals and adhere to Marxist-Leninist positions and proletarian internationalism.

On the basis of its own experience and a preliminary estimation of the entire campaign conducted by district and regional Party committees, the CPC CC Presidium values highly the work of Party bodies in the districts, regions and primary organizations and expresses its gratitude to Party activists, the thousands of dedicated Party workers, members of commissions who conducted the interviews and who spared no effort to help the Party create the prere-

*Rude Pravo, Sept. 29, 1970.

quisites for forming Party unity on a qualitatively new, higher level through an exchange of Party cards.

Only a few Party organizations still have to complete the exchange. It is necessary in the immediate future to conclude the remaining interviews and to proceed to apply the usual methods of Party work and Party life. This exhausts the emergency measures connected with the exchange of Party cards. The commissions that conducted the interviews are also completing their functions in the organizations and higher Party bodies where the exchange has already been completed. Any further decisions concerning membership, which will receive the Party's constant and undivided attention, should be resolved on the basis of the Party Rules.

Now we have a healthy Party. All Party members enjoy equal rights and duties. That is why it is imperative to continue strengthening the Party and its unity, from the Central Committee, primary organizations down to every individual member. The complete restoration and consistent application of Lenin's norms of inner-Party life are an absolutely concrete task. Past and recent experience shows that in some organizations the principle of democratic centralism was not and to this day is not observed and Party discipline is intolerably weakened.

That is why the CPC CC Presidium attaches such importance to observance of the Party Rules by all Party bodies and organizations and all Party members. That is the basic condition for strengthening Party unity, the activity of members and primary organizations, the activity and militancy of the entire Party.

Following the exchange of Party cards, it is necessary to start out by placing greater demands on every Communist. Those who have been issued new Party cards were reminded during their interviews of the Lenin principles of Party membership, and Party policy was explained to them. It was imperative for all to comprehend that Party membership implies that one should recognize its program, observe the Party Rules, carry out its decisions, participate actively in a primary organization and pay dues. The June plenum stated in no uncertain terms that members who decided that everything had been settled once they received new Party cards, and did not intend to exert every effort in order to carry out Party policy, cannot remain members of the Party.

Party activity signifies primarily political activity, labor initiative and a systematic study of Marxist-Leninist theory. What this means in practice is that at members' and committee meetings Communists should be given concrete Party assignments depending on their ability, with fulfilment followed and checked. Also, the work, behavior and life of Communists must be reviewed and assessed. The preceding period should serve as a warning to us not to be indulgent towards passive members, violations of the Party Rules, to

avoid justifying mistakes and drawbacks and not tolerate cases when words are not followed up by deeds.

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The CPC CC Presidium attaches great significance to systematic work by primary organizations with individual Communists. Committees of primary organizations and Party groups are to play a decisive role here for, to a great extent, it is their work that is to determine how the Party will be represented by each Communist.

Increasing Party activity and militancy presupposes the unfolding of inner-Party life in which membership meetings have a decisive role to play. Utmost attention should be given to this preparation.

These meetings should discuss topical political, ideological and economic questions, respond to drawbacks and problems affecting people and help to solve them. It is essential to discuss political questions with the workers, study their criticisms and proposals and draw concrete conclusions with regard to the work of the primary organizations and the membership. Systematic and concrete control is required over the fulfillment of decisions. The Party organs must regularly appraise Communists' participation in meetings. In accordance with the Party Rules Communists must be held responsible for repeated and unjustified absence from Party meetings and not fulfilling tasks and decisions.

Improving the work of primary organizations demands effective aid from district Party committees, who are expected to provide uniform and direct leadership of all district primary organizations in a way ensuring consistent implementation of the present Party policy and tasks of the Central Committee at all enterprises and localities. This calls for an effective system of personal contacts with primary organizations. There can be no justification for district committees remaining silent when certain organizations do not participate actively in Party life, do not hold regular meetings or hold poorly attended meetings, etc.

In view of the resumption of normal Party activity and provision of the conditions for every Party member to exercise his rights, with the various Party organs and organizations invigorated, the collective Party organs, which within the framework of their activity are fully responsible to the Party for fulfilling its policy, should be the ones to decide on fundamental problems of Party policy, inner-Party questions and cadres policy. It is impermissible for inner-Party problems to be discussed outside the Party. All Communists must observe the principle ensuing from the Party Rules that inner-Party problems are discussed within Party organs and at Party meetings and decisions on them are binding for all Party members.

The work of Communists outside Party organs is determined by the tasks of government bodies and public organizations and decisions taken by corresponding Party organs. They are responsible for carrying out policy decisions in areas entrusted to them, organize political work among the masses and involve the working people in fulfilling the basic tasks of socialist construction.

The Party and its organs and organizations, all its members, are now faced with the task of devoting all their efforts and attention to carrying out the pressing social, economic and other problems before us. This means that we should proceed from the tried and tested principle that the people's welfare and the authority of the Party depend on our work, on how we organize work, how we involve the working people and on the results achieved.

In spite of the fact that we discussed our own problems, problems of great significance to the Party, we made noticeable progress in the economy and consolidation of the situation in other spheres of public life. The working people's faith in the Party is growing, so that we can energetically tackle positive tasks in the development of our society, the education of people in our national economy and in all public activities in the country.

Regional and district committees, primary organizations and every Communist should focus attention in the coming weeks upon the following:

- developing and improving the quality of mass political activity among the working people and their political education, involving them in fulfilling Party policy and conducting ideological struggle against revisionist views and bourgeois ideology;

- encouraging public political activity and creative initiative by the working people, trade unions, the youth, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the CPC, for the successful fulfilment of all commitments and economic targets;

- drafting the national economic plan for 1971 and a feasible five-year plan for the development of the economy, science, technology and culture and a further boost in living standards;

- reinforcing state organs and increasing the state's organizational role, enforcing observance of socialist legality and state discipline;

- care for the youth and its socialist up-bringing;

- a further strengthening of cooperation and friendship with the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union; it is necessary to develop activity in order to convince the working people that such an alliance is the surest way and the best guarantee of our country's economic development and security and promote the success of the socialist countries' common cause.

Success in achieving these goals depends on correct leadership of society by the Party, its policy in selection of personnel, restor-

ing the system of training and placing personnel, higher political maturity among personnel and their professional qualities of leadership and ability to carry out Party policy in areas entrusted to them.

The basic method in fulfilling Party policy is to involve the assistance of the working people, and that is why the main task for all Communists, all Party organizations and Party organs is to carry on political and organizational work among the population.

Besides effective agitation at places of work it is necessary to resume the practice of open Party meetings and discussions, to hold youth gatherings and promote activity by other public organizations. Communist deputies at all levels including deputies to national committees, have an important role to play. Trade union work must be intensified, making full use of the tried and tested methods of educational and mass-political work.

In the case of the central organs, the districts and regions, this means that Party workers, representatives of State and economic bodies and public organizations should regularly address mass audiences. This will help them to gain a deeper knowledge of the working people's concerns and requirements and deal with them more efficiently. They will win greater respect among the people, enhancing the authority of our Party and State.

A sensitive approach to the working people, close ties between the Party and the people should again become one of the fundamental principles of Party policy. Party organs should develop mass-political work in line with the main tasks of Party policy and with a knowledge of the situation and problems on the spot. Burning issues and erroneous points of view should not be avoided. It is necessary to explain the essence of Party policy without equivocation.

Communists guarantee implementation of Party policy where no Party organization exists. This will be done by the Communist staff of the state and economic bodies and public organizations. The trade unions are a great help in influencing the working people in the Party spirit where no Party organizations exist. The Party organs must resume the practice of sending experienced Party members to these areas.

It is possible that in fulfilling the gigantic task of exchanging Party cards (more than 1.5 million members were interviewed) mistakes were made in some cases, though on the whole we believe the results to be definitely positive. The mistakes must be rectified in complete conformity with the Party Rules. This will raise the authority of the Party and win it greater respect.

During and prior to the exchange of Party cards many inactive members were expelled who were not hostile to the Party but did not understand Party policy. Many of them wish to play an active

role in carrying out Party policy and are gradually and sincerely overcoming their mistakes. The approach here should be individual and differentiated. Their work and involvement must be encouraged and gradually they should be allowed to participate in public life depending on the results of their efforts.

As concerns political enemies, representatives of the Rightist forces expelled from the Party who intend publicly or secretly to continue their hostile activities, it is necessary to act consistently and wage a merciless ideological struggle against bourgeois ideology and revisionism. They should not be provided a platform to express their views or permitted to organize.

The exchange of Party cards was a decisive step to ensure that the Party consolidates its ranks once again following its many ordeals. This was not an end in itself. It created the conditions for the Party to become a militant organization of members holding identical views, firmly adhering to its program, abiding by its Rules and organizational principles, so that the Party, together with millions of working people, workers, cooperative farmers, intellectuals, women, youth, could successfully cope with the problems of developing a socialist society. Today the prerequisites for this are a reality. How soon this will be achieved depends upon all the Party organizations and members in every sector.

Our Party has gone through a hard school. We have experienced the results of relaxing the Lenin principles of Party development and activity, and everywhere we draw the necessary conclusions.

We shall do all in our power to mark the 50th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party as a Party engaged in revolutionary activity. The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia has in the past and will continue in the future to guide the development of our socialist society, it has been and will remain a strong link in the international Communist movement.

ON VISIT OF THE CPSU DELEGATION TO FRANCE*

A CPSU delegation headed by I. V. Kapitonov, Secretary of the CC CPSU, visited France from September 21 to October 3, 1970, at the invitation of the French Communist Party Central Committee.

The CPSU delegation visited the FCP federations in the departments Val-de-Marne, Izère and Bouches-du-Rhône, acquainted itself with their work, had talks in the federal committees and sections, and factory, agricultural and territorial Party cells, the Party cell at Grenoble University and in Communist-led municipalities. In Champigny, Grenoble and Marseilles, the delegation attended Party meetings and met Party activists. There were also visits to various departments of the Central Committee of the Party.

The delegation acquainted itself with the far-flung activities of the French Communist Party, which is making good progress in its fight for an advanced democracy opening the way to socialism, and noted the consolidation of the Party's position among the masses, the growth of its influence on the life of the country and its role in the struggle for the common goals of the Communist movement. The FCP is working to consolidate its ranks ideologically and organizationally, to educate the membership in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

During the talks and meetings the French Communists expressed their feelings of brotherhood and solidarity with the Soviet working people and their appreciation of Soviet achievements in the building of communism, the CPSU's contribution to cementing the unity of the world Communist movement and the assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to the peoples fighting against imperialist aggression, stressing the decisive CPSU contribution to safeguarding peace and championing the rights of the peoples.

On October 2, the CPSU delegation met with a delegation of the FCP, consisting of G. Marchais, Deputy General Secretary of the FCP, Politbureau members and secretaries of the CC FCP A. Vieu-guet and G. Plissonnier, and Central Committee members M. Zaidner, P. Courtieu and A. Merlot. At the meeting, which passed in a spirit of friendship, the invariable feature of the fraternal relations between the two parties, the delegations exchanged information on the activities of their respective parties. They also exchanged views on international issues and the problems of the world Communist and working-class movement. The delegations of the

*Pravda, October 5, 1970.

CPSU and FCP confirmed the complete identity of their views on the matters discussed and expressed their desire to continue strengthening the fraternal cooperation between the two parties and promoting friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and France.

IN THE COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

SWITZERLAND

Problems connected with convening a national conference of the Swiss Party of Labor in spring of 1971 were discussed by an executive committee of the SPL, reports the newspaper *Voix Ouvrier* of *September 28*. The 1971 Swiss Parliamentary elections were also reviewed.

FRG

Addressing a Board meeting of the Ruhr-Westphalia CGP district organization in Hesse on *September 30*, Kurt Bachmann, Chairman of the German Communist Party, spoke on the significance of the treaty signed between the FRG and the USSR. Kurt Bachmann called for early ratification of the agreement by the Bundestag.

FRANCE

The Politbureau of the French Communist Party met on *September 30* to discuss the international situation and the need for stronger mass action for world peace. Party members were urged to take an active part in preparing a national congress of the French peace movement on November 27-29. The general and democratic nature of the peace movement, the Politbureau emphasized, makes it possible to increase mass actions against the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, for a political solution in the Middle East, for European security, disarmament and peaceful coexistence.

The Politbureau also reviewed the position of French women.

MONGOLIAN PEOPLES' REPUBLIC

Party studies have started in the Republic, writes the newspaper *Unen* on *October 1*, in the conditions of a great political and labor upsurge among the working people in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Mongolian People's Revolution. The accent at lectures and seminars will be on a deep study of Leninism, and the documents of the MPRP and the international Communist movement.

RUMANIA

Party election meetings and conferences were held throughout the country between *October 1 and 15*, with over two million members of the Rumanian Communist Party participating. All Party organizations discussed and adopted measures to fulfil the 1970 production goals.

The meetings and conferences, held in a spirit of inner Party democracy, helped to improve Party activity and methods of leadership, and perfect economic management and social administration.

COLOMBIA

Gilberto Vieira, General Secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of Colombia, was elected Second Deputy Chairman of the Assembly in Cundinamarca, one of the country's most important departments.

Addressing the Assembly at the *beginning of October*, G. Vieira said that an opposition Popular Front is being formed to achieve unity of the people and end the system of oligarchy. Communist deputies were also elected in five other departments.

USA

A statement released on *October 2* by the Economic commission of the CP USA says that the present economic slump in the country is the most serious crisis since the Second World War.

The Commission appealed for convening a conference of spokesmen of the main organized forces of the people in order to draft a program providing for a way out of the crisis that would be in the interests of the people.

The Commission recommended that the following demands be included in the program: job freeze; stopping lay-offs; annulling rent arrears and similar debts for unemployed; drafting a government program to provide all unemployed with jobs; cutting the military budget by 10 billion dollars a year; automatic wage increases to cover the rising cost of living; doubling all fringe benefits for workers; lowering monopoly prices, medical and hospital costs; implementation of other measures to improve workers' conditions and curb monopoly power.

PERU

The Peruvian Communist Party appealed to all workers, peasants, intellectuals, youth, women to participate in the *October 3* mani-

festation. "This manifestation," says the appeal, "should be a step forward in establishing a broad unity among all civil, military, democratic, progressive and revolutionary forces in the country and must be a decisive, popular 'NO' to maneuvers by the plotters, splitters and provocateurs, by the stooges of reactionary forces inspired by the imperialists."

The Communist Party notes that this appeal is not connected with any obligation before the government which "is not a Communist government and which does not include a single Communist," but only fulfils its sacred duty before the working class and people. The Party calls on the people to unite in order to strengthen the wide front of all truly democratic, progressive, patriotic and revolutionary forces and defend the gains of the revolution.

HUNGARY

On October 3 *Nepszabadsag* reported completion of the second stage of preparations for the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Congress — Party meetings were held to discuss the Central Committee theses for the Congress, and elect new Party committees. The newspaper notes the high degree of activity by Party members, with nearly one-fourth of all Communists taking part in the discussions. The following stage will include Party conferences in city and district organizations.

* * *

The Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party has admitted more than 77,000 new members since the Ninth Party Congress and now numbers over 600,000 members, about half of whom are workers by hand.

On the eve of the 10th Congress front-rank workers, farmers and intellectuals are joining the Party.

ITALY

Seventeen people were expelled from the Party on October 3 by the Committee and Party Control Commission of the Bergamo federation. *L'Unita* writes that this step was prompted by violations of inner-Party discipline as expressed in splitting activities and support of the Manifesto group whose members were previously expelled from the Party.

INDIA

India's socio-political development and the international situation were discussed by the National Council of the Communist Party of India on October 1-5. Taking part were the Chairman of the

National Council, S. Dange, General Secretary Rajeswar Rao and other well-known personalities in the country's Communist movement.

Several documents passed by the session appeal for closer unity of India's patriotic and progressive forces in the struggle against reaction, for democracy and social progress.

The National Council expressed support for the program of progressive social and economic reforms introduced by the Indira Gandhi government. A resolution on the Middle East situation notes the role played by the USSR, which did everything to relax tension in that part of the world.

It was also decided to hold the next, Ninth, Congress of the CPI in April 1971 in Kerala State, with one delegate representing 250 members. With the CPI membership now running at 243,238, about 1,000 delegates will attend the congress.

SOVIET UNION

L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU, visited the Azerbaijan Republic from *September 29 to October 4* for the Republic's 50th anniversary celebrations.

"Fifty Years of Soviet Azerbaijan" was the title of a speech made by L. I. Brezhnev at a joint session of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan CP and the Republic's Supreme Soviet on October 2. (Published in this issue.)

URUGUAY

A big meeting devoted to the 50th anniversary of the CP of Uruguay was held in Montevideo on *October 4*. It was opened by Julia Arevalo, one of the Party's founders, who spoke of the 50-year history of the CP of Uruguay.

Rodney Arismendi, the Party's First Secretary, said that on its 50th anniversary the Party was united and consolidated as never before on the basis of Marxist-Leninist theory and inner-Party democracy. Almost 9,000 people joined the Party in 1970.

On our 50th anniversary, Arismendi said, we are celebrating the historic victory of the ideas of socialism. An upsurge in the Latin American national liberation movement, launched by the Cuban revolution, is characteristic of our epoch. This road has been taken today by Peru and Chile and the time has come to achieve broad political unity of the people of Uruguay. For this, Arismendi said, all the necessary prerequisites are on hand in the country.

Speaking for the CPSU, P. A. Rodionov greeted the CP of Uruguay and all the working people in the country struggling for

peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. He presented the Uruguayan Communists with a bas-relief of Lenin.

The General Secretary of the CP of Chile, Comrade Luis Corvalan, also addressed the gathering conveying best wishes.

YUGOSLAVIA

On October 4 a plenum of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia discussed problems of further developing Yugoslavia's political system. The meeting was addressed by Josip Broz Tito, Chairman of the LCY.

VENEZUELA

In early October the Politbureau of the CP of Venezuela published a statement in *Tribuna Popular*, calling the government plan to increase taxes a "provocation against the majority of Venezuelans because the government is going to place the tax burden upon the consumer while ignoring measures that could affect the profits of U.S. concerns."

The Politbureau called upon trade union members and the peasants, student organizations and progressive-minded people to unite in struggle against the government plan.

FRANCE

On October 5 *Humanite* reported a meeting between French CP leaders and activists from the Communist Youth Movement, during which they answered questions by Young Communists. This December the French Communist Youth Movement will hold its regular congress.

ITALY

On October 6 *Unita* published a communique of the Federal Committee and Federal Control Commission of Venice on expulsion from the Party of supporters of the Manifesto group. "All Communists in Venice," says the communique, "must censure splitting activities and, by their participation in political discussions and Party work, should bolster Party policy and decisions."

G D R

The 21st anniversary of the GDR was marked in Berlin on October 6. A meeting was convened jointly by the CC SUPG, the State Council and GDR Council of Ministers and the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany. The meet-

ing was addressed by Willi Stoph, Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

FRG

Max Reimann, First Secretary of the Communist Party of Germany, spoke to workers in Bielefeld on *October 6* about the treaty signed between the USSR and the FRG. The treaty is beneficial to all, he said, because it serves the interests of peace and European security. Max Reimann said the propaganda campaign launched by the CDU/CSU against the Moscow treaty was an attempt to mislead West Germans as to the true nature of this document and to prevent its ratification.

GREAT BRITAIN

A statement released on *October 7* by the Political Committee of the CPGB calls upon the trade unions to quash the Conservative government's Industrial Relations bill.

The statement said: "The proposals are a vicious attack on the right of workers to organize for the defense and improvement of their wages, living standards and working conditions, and on the democratic rights of the British people."

"The Communist Party," says the statement, "will do all in its power to help the movement defeat the Tory plan."

FRANCE

The French Communist Party decided to increase Party propaganda and to modernize its methods, said René Piquet, Politbureau member and CC Secretary, speaking at a press conference on *October 6*.

René Piquet pointed out that this decision was motivated by a sharpening of the ideological struggle in present-day society, greater political activity in the country and the growing dissatisfaction of an increasing number of people demanding extensive democratic reforms.

Meetings will be held throughout the country at which prominent members of the FCP will explain the main trends of Party policy. This will be followed by meetings of district and factory Party organizations. Through these nationwide discussions, said René Piquet, the Communist Party aims not only at spreading its own ideas but also to better learn what the people are demanding and to involve them in collective political thinking.

It was also decided to improve the circulation of the Communist press, leaflets and posters.

HOLLAND

Henk Hoekstra, Chairman of the Netherlands Communist Party, spoke at a meeting of the Central Committee on October 7-8. A report on the meeting in London of representatives of several Communist parties in Western Europe on September 21 was made by Politbureau member Joop Wolf. On October 10 the newspaper *De Waarheid*, carried a statement titled "For a new government, for a new policy," analyzing the political situation in the country.

USA

In his statement published on October 8, Gus Hall, General Secretary of the CPUSA said Nixon's speech and its peace proposals are nothing but Republican election demagoguery and an attempt to create the impression that the Nixon administration is seriously searching for peace. The people of the United States and other countries should not fall victims to such brazen deception. There is only one way to peace, Gus Hall said, and that is the immediate withdrawal of U.S. armed forces from Indochina and stopping any support of puppet dictatorships.

JAPAN

S. Nosaka, Chairman of the Japanese Communist Party, addressed a meeting called by the Party in Sapporo, Hokkaido Is., on October 12 reported *Akahata*. He spoke about the internal and external situation following the 11th Congress of the Japanese Communist Party, censured the aggressive nature of the U.S.-Japanese joint communique and the intrigues of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries aiming to restore the "great sphere of co-prosperity in East Asia," in particular to establish the PATO organization. Nosaka also criticized the plan to establish an "anti-Communist coalition of opposition parties."

KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

An editorial in the *Nodon Shinmun* of October 10 is dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Korean Party of Labor.

* * *

On October 10 the KPL Central Committee published a communication, announcing that the Fifth Congress of the Party will open on November 2, 1970.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM

In an interview to *Humanite* published on October 12, Mrs.

Nguyen Thi Binh, Foreign Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, said that the aim of Nixon's speech of October 7 was to mislead public opinion with the aid of propaganda tricks. "Nixon speaks about peace, a ceasefire, freeing prisoners of war, convening an international conference on Indochina, etc., while ignoring our proposals on a complete troop withdrawal by June 30, 1971. This means that the United States intends to maintain, as previously, a significant part of its troops on our territory in order to continue its 'Vietnamization' policy."

FRANCE

On October 13-15, a plenum of the FCP Central Committee discussed the political situation and Party tasks (report by Georges Marchais, Deputy General Secretary of the FCP), and Party work among women (report by Politbureau alternate member Madeleine Vincent).

The first report stressed the need for unification of all democratic and workers' forces and an alliance of all Left political organizations. G. Marchais also dealt with the international situation and various aspects of developments in France. The concluding section of his report was devoted to organizational problems.

* * *

"Socialism's Place in History, Stages and Criteria of its Development" was the theme of the discussion by scientists from socialist countries, organized by the journal *Problems of Peace and Socialism* in Prague on October 8 and 9. The meeting was attended by researchers from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, Rumania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia.

The participants discussed many topical problems of socialist construction. They criticized bourgeois, reformist and revisionist conceptions of socialism. The business-like, comradely discussions were held in an atmosphere of creative cooperation. The materials of the discussions will be published in a forthcoming issue of the journal.

"Frederick Engels—Thinker and Revolutionary" is the title of a book released on October 10 by the Peace and Socialism publishers in Prague. It contains the materials of the international theoretical conference on the 150th anniversary of the birth of F. Engels, organized this July by the journal *Problems of Peace and Socialism*. The research workers and representatives of Communist and Workers' parties spoke of the significance of Engels' work for the present-day development of the world revolutionary process.

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