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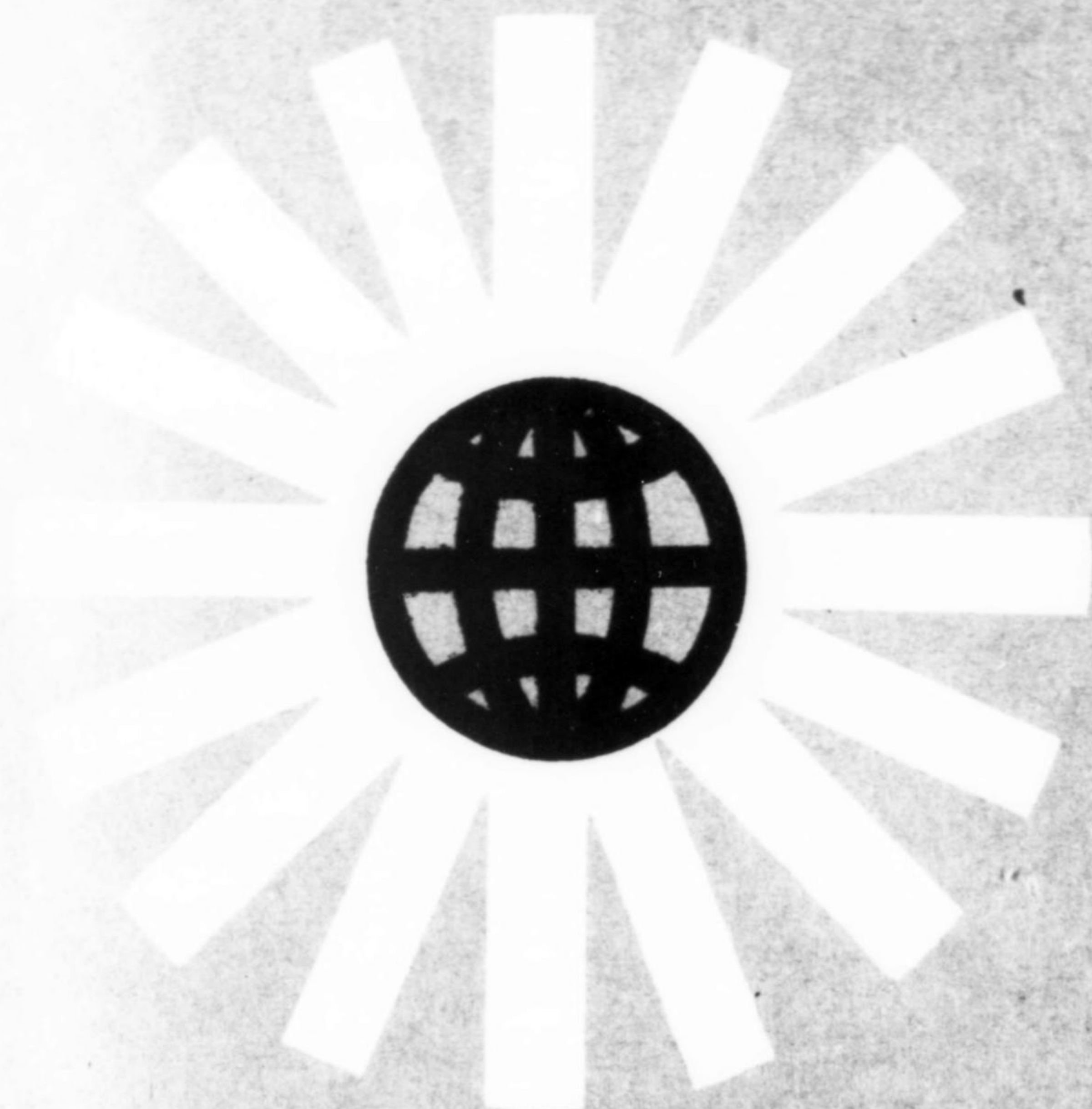
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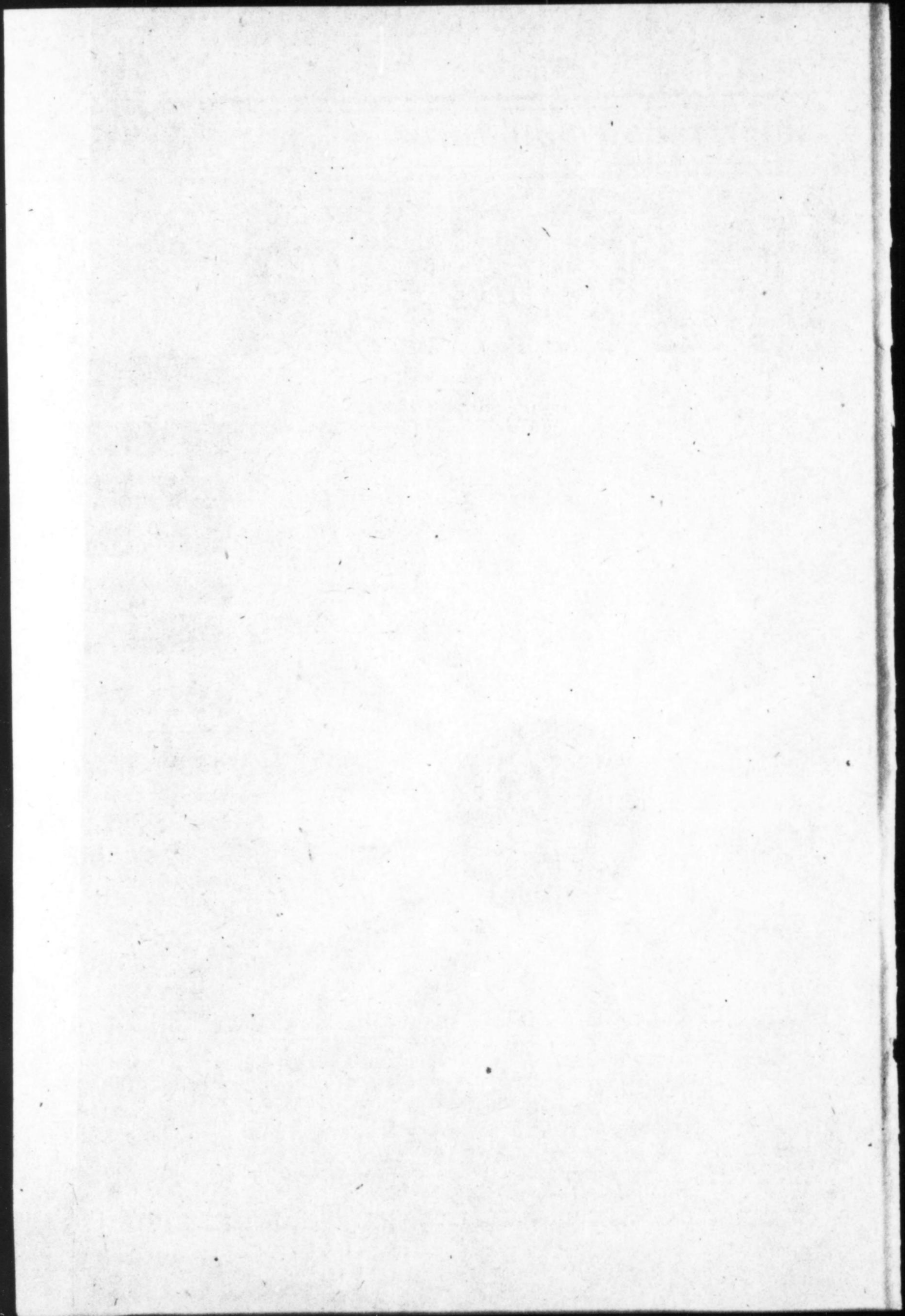
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**BREZHNEV
GISCARD
MEETING**

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GUATEMALA



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BUDAPEST PREPARATORY MEETING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES

COMMUNIQUE OF BUDAPEST PREPARATORY MEETING

In accordance with the agreement reached at the consultative meeting of Communist and Workers' parties of Europe in Warsaw in October 1974, a preparatory meeting was held in Budapest on December 19-21. It was attended by delegations of the following parties:* Communist Party of Austria, Communist Party of Belgium, Bulgarian Communist Party, Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Communist Party of Denmark, Communist Party of Finland, French Communist Party, Communist Party of Greece, Communist Party of Ireland, League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Polish United Workers' Party, Communist Party of Luxembourg, Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, Communist Party of Great Britain, German Communist Party, Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Communist Party of Norway, Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, Italian Communist Party, Portuguese Communist Party, Rumanian Communist Party, San Marino Communist Party, Communist Party of Spain, Swiss Party of Labor, Left — Communists of Sweden, Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Communist Party of Turkey.

The People's Alliance of Iceland sent the meeting a telegram of greetings.

Expressing satisfaction with the successful work in preparation for the Conference of European Communist and Workers' parties, the participants in the meeting exchanged views on a broad range of political and practical questions of further preparations for the Conference.

The Conference of European Communist and Workers' parties will have on its agenda the questions of the struggle for peace, security, cooperation and social progress in Europe. In the course of the discussion the participants in the meeting set forth the views of their Parties on these questions.

*The parties are listed in Hungarian alphabetical order.

Agreement was reached at the Budapest meeting to set up a Drafting Commission of the Conference of European Communist and Workers' parties in which delegations from all these parties can take part. The Commission will organize its work in line with the exchange of views and results of the Warsaw and Budapest meetings. At the fraternal parties' request, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany agreed to assume the tasks connected with the convening and work of the commission.

The participants in the meeting suggested holding seminars on problems related to the theme of the Conference.

The fraternal parties favor the earliest convening, at summit level, of the final stage of the European Security and Cooperation Conference. Confidence was expressed that the successful conclusion of the European Security and Cooperation Conference and implementation of its decisions will not only serve the interests of all countries and peoples of the European continent but will also promote consolidation of durable peace and security throughout the world.

The representatives of Europe's Communists reaffirmed their determination to work for the cohesion and unity of all democratic and progressive forces of the continent.

The parties present at the meeting expressed their solidarity with the Communists and all democrats of Spain, who are fighting for the liquidation of the only remaining fascist regime in Europe, with the peoples of Cyprus and Northern Ireland, with all those fighting in different parts of the world against imperialist oppression, for democracy, national independence, peace and socialism.

The work of the preparatory meeting took place in a spirit of mutual understanding, equality and proletarian solidarity.

INAUGURAL MEETING

The Drafting Commission of the Conference of European Communist and Workers' parties held an inaugural meeting in Budapest on December 21, 1974.

Pravda, December 22, 1974

SPEECH BY JANOS KADAR

The meeting was opened by Janos Kadar, First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, who delivered a speech of greetings.

The Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, he said, has from the very beginning appreciated and supported the initiative of the Polish United Workers' Party and Italian Communist Party on holding a conference of European Communist and Workers' parties. Our delegation took part in the Warsaw consultative meeting called on October 16 last by 28 brother parties to discuss the matter. Our Party was deeply satisfied to know that the Warsaw meeting had proceeded in a good atmosphere and had unanimously taken the highly important decision on convening a conference of European Communist and Workers' parties in Berlin in the first half of 1975. The situation was undoubtedly ripe for the decision, and the Berlin conference will be a landmark in the struggle of the European communist and working-class movement and peoples for progress and peace.

We see it as a great honor that Budapest was chosen as the venue of this meeting. On behalf of the Central Committee and members of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Hungarian people, who are building socialism, I have the honor to welcome the representatives of brother parties, all other participants in this meeting.

The Communist and Workers' parties of Europe, which were brought into being by the working class of their countries, are inseparably linked with society in their countries and express the interests and aspirations of the working masses. It is the right and duty of the Communist and Workers' parties of Europe to consider problems of the present and future with due regard to the historical experience of the continent.

In 1975 the peoples will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the historic day when the defeated Nazis signed the act of unconditional surrender in Berlin, in the presence of representatives of the allied countries. That day ended the terrible war and turned a new leaf in the history of Europe. The immense sacrifices made in fighting against nazism were not in vain. Over the past 30 years the changed alignment of forces in Europe has made it possible to head off a new war — there has been peace in Europe even though the situation was tense and grave more than once.

As a result of the struggle for social progress and peace, we are now at a stage of development in Europe and the world at which the forces of reaction and war, the forces of cold war, are retreating and the alignment of world forces is shaping in favor of the peoples fighting for their national rights. The international situation is characterized by further advances in the policy of détente and peaceful coexistence.

Under the impact of changes in the alignment of world forces and

by the will of the masses striving for peace, the ruling quarters of capitalist countries are compelled to approach ever more realistically the political problems affecting the destiny of all mankind. Changes on the world political scene, the socialist countries' steadfast struggle for peace, and a realistic appraisal of the situation by many bourgeois politicians found expression in the normalization and development of Soviet-U.S. relations and in the two countries signing agreements of tremendous importance.

Unquestionably, recent years have seen very important gains in settling European problems left by World War II and in promoting peace and security on the continent. As a result of sustained efforts by socialist countries and a realistic approach to problems by the other side, treaties were concluded between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union, as well as between the FRG and Poland, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic. The NATO countries recognized the German Democratic Republic and, in turn, socialist countries extended diplomatic recognition to the FRG. A favorable development of the situation made possible the convocation and promising progress of the European security and cooperation conference and the beginning of the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

All these factors enable the Communist and Workers' parties of Europe to persevere successfully in their work for progress and peace, so that Europe may really become the homeland of the peoples inhabiting it, a continent of peace and security. Undoubtedly, the European Communist and Workers' parties, which fought for peace and international security in the past as well, being well aware of their responsibility, do the same today. They will certainly follow this course in the future.

In the grim years of World War II, when the Soviet Union bore the brunt of the fight against fascism, the Communist parties of Europe, and all Communists, fought as befits real sons of the working class and the people, challenging the most reckless fascist terror and shrinking from no sacrifice.

They did much for the liquidation of nazism. After World War II, in the trying cold-war years when the Soviet Union and other socialist countries united in the Warsaw Treaty Organization worked for détente, security and peace, they were aware of the solidarity of the masses and the support of sizable social strata and forces in European countries. Everlasting credit for the favorable evolution of the situation in Europe is due to its Communist parties, which have been

tirelessly working for peace and security on the continent and in the world.

Some European Communist and Workers' parties are operating in socialist countries, where they guide the construction of a new, socialist society, while other parties are carrying on their activities in capitalist countries, in an atmosphere of the general crisis of capitalism, the grave crisis phenomena. This is why our immediate social and political tasks differ greatly. But our common goal is to bring about and promote peace and security in Europe. Our common task is to do whatever is necessary to achieve this goal.

We must do everything to ensure that the second stage of the European security and cooperation conference now deliberating in Geneva draws to an end at an early date and that the third and final stage of the conference is held at summit level and successfully concluded in Helsinki in the first half of 1975. We must help to ensure that a political settlement is followed by military détente in Europe and the way paved for more tangible disarmament measures.

The favorable trends in the international situation are a result of decades of persistent struggle, not an unexpected gift to the peoples. The struggle is not over, for it is not easy to make the enemies of détente abandon their positions. We have to go a long way to realize the program for peace, security and cooperation and achieve social progress thereby. We are in a position to attain our objectives.

It is on our continent that the oldest militant contingents of the working class are active. The brother parties of Europe unite 25 million Communists, the trade unions of Europe have 150 million members and — another very important fact — nine countries of the continent are socialist. In the sphere of government policy the socialist countries strive through concerted action for a relaxation of tensions. A tremendous role in improving the international situation is played by the Soviet Union, a country situated on two continents, and by its Communist Party, which is consistently working to realize the Peace Program adopted by its 24th Congress.

The conference of European Communist and Workers' parties to be held in Berlin should bring out new problems of international development, assess the new situation on the continent and outline ways of meeting the aspiration of the peoples of Europe for social progress, peace and security. The brother parties will have to consider all these problems well knowing that their effort is followed with great hope by the progressive democratic forces of Europe, working-class parties, the trade unions and the working people.

Few people today deny that in slightly more than 100 years the working class has become the world's greatest political force making history. One reason for this is that in any country the Communists are the staunchest and most consistent defenders of the working people's interests and the most devoted patriots. Another reason is that the ideas of proletarian internationalism and solidarity make for the unity and cohesion of the Communist parties, which enables them to fight jointly for common goals.

We all know that the Communist International, having accomplished its historic mission, ceased to exist decades ago. Our movement has long had neither a center nor a leading party, and, indeed, there is no need for this. The brother parties are independent parties steeled in struggle and having much experience. They frame their policies and define their tasks independently. This is natural and correct but not sufficient for our struggle. It is an exigency of our struggle that brother parties should meet from time to time to exchange revolutionary experience and views on world problems and coordinate their action. Our common outlook and periodical meetings and exchanges of opinion enable us to come to terms and to take joint action in common with all progressive and peace-loving forces against the peoples' common enemy, international imperialism.

The fundamental view of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party on this matter is known to all. Prompted by its conviction and its experience our Party favors and will continue to favor multilateral meetings of brother parties. We are deeply convinced that this form of relations between brother parties is indispensable for comradely exchanges of views and experiences in the interest of the parties' closer unity of action.

We have now gathered together again to discuss an important matter. We are confident that the brother parties will through open and creative discussion work out a common political platform based on identical principles. They are certain to reach agreement on measures needed to ensure the success of the Berlin conference.

It is our desire that the Berlin conference work out a common view on the most important and mutually interconnected aspects of the situation in Europe and on common tasks in promoting peace, security, cooperation and social progress. The documents which are being drafted jointly for the conference and which it will address to public opinion are bound to list manifold tasks. We are convinced that each party will work for their fulfilment independently, in accordance with its own decisions, using forms and methods most suited to its

circumstances and situation and realizing its responsibility for the common cause. We must work together for our common cause, remembering that the gains or difficulties of individual Communist parties have their effect on the movement as a whole and that, conversely, the results of the movement as a whole have their effect on the situation of individual parties. The powerful communist movement in Europe is capable of working fruitfully to promote peace and security on the continent, an effort which promises to earn the brother parties engaged in it greater respect and prestige in their countries.

Our Party and working people are preparing for two outstanding events, the 11th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, due to meet in March, and the 30th anniversary of our country's liberation from fascism.

The 11th Congress will sum up the results of our Party's activities, set tasks for the subsequent period of building socialism and formulate our long-term program. The 30th anniversary of liberation will be an occasion to recall the courageous struggle of Hungary's Communists and other progressives for the people's freedom. We will have the opportunity to note that our people's socialist achievements are inseparable from the all-round internationalist support given us by the world communist movement and the fraternal peoples building socialism, primarily, our liberator, the Soviet Union.

A little over a quarter century has passed since working-class power was established and socialist construction begun in our country. During this time our people have made up for a century-long lag in their development. Creative labor goes on at full speed. The State Assembly (parliament) session opened today is discussing the economic plan and state budget of Hungary for 1975. These are not easy tasks. Nevertheless, I can assure you, dear comrades, that our people are advancing confidently along their road of building socialism. I can also assure you that we who have so often benefited from our class brothers' solidarity, never forget about our international duty while fulfilling our national tasks. Our Party and state are always ready to work for a good cause and will contribute their utmost to the struggle for peace and security in Europe.

In the light of what I have said I would like to greet this meeting, all the delegates of brother parties, all its participants and all who are helping to hold it. Once again, I wish you all good health and success in your work.

Abridged from *Nepazabadsag*, December 20, 1974

SPEECH BY BORIS PONOMARYOV

Boris N. Ponomaryov, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, spoke at the meeting on behalf of the delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. He thanked the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party, the Italian Communist Party, and the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party for preparing the meeting, and stressed the importance of the welcoming speech by Janos Kadar.

The international situation, he said, insistently requires concerted action for peace and social progress in Europe by the now much stronger forces of socialism and by the working-class movement in the non-socialist countries. This makes Comrade Kadar's words particularly significant, and the CPSU delegation expresses its complete accord with what he said.

The CPSU regards the Budapest meeting as an important milestone on the road to the conference of European Communist and Worker's parties. The Warsaw consultative meeting revealed a broad common approach by Europe's Communists to fundamental questions relating to the struggle for peace, security and social progress at the present stage. This was its main political result. The Central Committee of the CPSU highly assessed the results of the meeting and expressed confidence that the preparations for the conference, like the conference itself, will help to advance the cause of peace, democracy and socialism. True to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the CPSU will therefore continue its close cooperation with the fraternal parties.

At the Warsaw meeting, representatives of fraternal parties mainly examined the question of whether or not a conference of European Communist parties was necessary. Now that the unanimous opinion on this point is positive, we can concentrate on the contents of the conference and its documents.

That our joint work is correct and timely has been confirmed by events in a little more than two months since our previous meeting.

The tendency for the principle of peaceful coexistence to become a standard of relations between states with different social systems is gaining ground. The relevant efforts of the fraternal countries and parties have yielded new important results. The recent plenary meeting of our Party's Central Committee dealt with the further implementation of the Peace Program and the aim of making the détente irreversible. It commended the "summit meetings" which Leonid

Brezhnev held recently with leaders of three Western powers.

Boris Ponomaryov dealt at length with the significance of these events, and stressed that in all these negotiations the CPSU leadership has, as before, followed fundamental class positions, striving to do the maximum in the foreign-policy field to consolidate the détente and peace, and assure the interests of the socialist countries and the working people in all other countries.

Many of the speakers at the Warsaw meeting, Ponomaryov recalled, referred to the significance of the All-European Security conference, which, it is now safe to say, is gradually approaching its summit phase. Its results may have a positive impact on political developments in Europe. The role of the democratic public in assuring consistent implementation of the decisions of that conference can hardly be exaggerated. Also of fundamental importance is devout and complete fulfilment by all states of the treaties and agreements that gave impulse to the present positive processes on the principles of peaceful coexistence. We should always remember that the reactionary forces are doing all they can to reduce the practical effectiveness of these treaties and agreements, if not to frustrate them altogether. The conference of European Communist parties should evidently express its viewpoint concerning the negotiations in Vienna. The delegations of socialist countries are highly active there, striving for substantive results.

The course of events, including the most recent developments, proves that much remains to be done against the forces of militarism and war. New NATO programs for building up armaments and war preparations were drawn up in recent months. The economic crisis in the capitalist world is growing, the inflation is continuing, the cost of living is rising, but military expenditures are not cut. On the contrary, they are being increased. This accentuates the timeliness of our conference and the significance of the ideas and slogans put forward by the Communists.

In the light of these facts, the CPSU attaches the utmost importance to the struggle against the arms race. "The unbridled arms race," Leonid Brezhnev said recently, "cannot resolve the contradictions between countries, let alone between the two world systems, and cannot assure security for the peoples." This fundamental and firm position is behind all the initiatives and actions of our Party aimed at resolving this major problem bearing on the vital interests of all humanity.

The parties represented here have agreed that political détente in

Europe should be complemented and buttressed by military détente. Full emphasis should be made on this point at our conference. Political and military détente should help to mend the division of Europe into two opposite military groupings. Détente has made the conditions for this more favorable.

The conference must produce a clear and well-argued exposition of how the Communists picture future international relations in Europe. This is important, among other things, in order that all political forces, all peoples, should at this highly responsible turning point in the continent's history have a clear idea of the kind of peace and the kind of security and cooperation the Communists aspire to, and what they intend doing for this end.

One of the most topical and at once complicated questions is the development of mutually advantageous cooperation among states. Some aver that closer economic, scientific and technical ties between socialist and capitalist countries may strengthen the capitalist system. The Soviet Union, like other socialist countries, has no unemployment and no inflation, and is not affected by either the energy or monetary crises; at the same time, Soviet orders are an effective means of maintaining employment in many industries of Western countries. But does this work in favor of capitalism? Certainly not. What we see is the reverse: the socialist world is facilitating the popular struggle in the capitalist countries not only by its example, not only by its ideas, but also by concrete economic actions. It is clear, on the other hand, that broader mutually beneficial economic cooperation is a dependable means of materially consolidating peaceful international relations. In this sense, cooperation transcends the framework of purely economic, scientific and technical ties.

We Communists should not overlook the fact, however, that the development of these ties is accompanied by an acute ideological struggle. Ideological struggle is an inseparable element of cultural exchanges, exchanges of information, and the like.

As we see it, the conference must come out openly and clearly against anti-communist ideology, showing its harm and danger to the peoples.

Anti-communism and anti-Sovietism are the ideological and political basis of the forces of war and aggression, reaction and fascism. They are the fuel of militarist policy and confrontation with socialist countries. Anti-communism has always been and remains, an enemy of true free thought. It is behind discriminatory practices and repressions against not only Communists, but all who oppose exploitation,

national oppression, monopoly domination, and who work for democracy and social progress. Anti-communism is contrary to the national interests of every country. This is why, we hold, it is necessary to fight consistently against those who in Europe and elsewhere are trying under the flag of anti-communism and anti-Sovietism to weaken the international positions of socialism by building up NATO's military potential, stimulating the arms race, turning the EEC into a political and military alliance against the socialist community, inciting the revenge-seeking forces in Europe, and attempting to revise the results of the Second World War.

No objections were voiced at the consultative meeting to the idea, advanced by many of its participants, that a program of joint concrete action based on a collective analysis of the present European situation should be at the core of the main document. It could not be clearer that an all-European anti-war coalition of different social and political forces is a crucial condition for assuring just and democratic peace on the continent.

In order to tie up the defense of peace with social problems it appears important to accentuate the factors that gave impulse to the present processes on the European and world arena, because these factors also assure peaceful social progress.

At the same time, our conference must identify the enemies of détente, all those trying to retard it by intensifying the arms race, which aggravates the crisis processes, the inflation, the high cost of living, and unemployment in capitalist society, adding to the hardships of the working people there. We are all disturbed by the growth of the rightist, sometimes neo-fascist, danger in some European countries. A clear and unambiguous statement on this score by Communists, a call for solidarity against this danger, an actual display of solidarity with forces opposing fascism and neo-fascism — all this is a necessary element of the struggle for social progress, as well as peace.

As the CPSU sees it, it would be useful to reaffirm at our conference the common stand of European Communists on the alleged "incompatibility" of peaceful coexistence and class struggle. The crisis in the capitalist world has brought about a tremendous uplift of the working people's struggle, which is often filled with a new political content. The determined actions against attempts to end the crisis at the expense of the working people and, at the same time, to move to the right, to strike at the vanguard forces, are not a purely domestic political development. They contribute prominently to the maintenance of peace and help reshape the structure of international rela-

tions on the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The CPSU and the fraternal parties of the socialist countries hold that stable peace will facilitate and accelerate their long-term social-economic plans for completing the construction of developed socialism and advancing to communism. And this will give still greater scope for the humanist principles of the new society — a society free of class antagonisms and working to deliver humanity from wars, to assure ever fuller satisfaction of the growing material and cultural needs of the people. That, as the socialist countries see it, is their main contribution to worldwide social progress at the present time.

Greater activity by the European communist movement, its closer unity and cohesion on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, are a necessary requisite for implementing the joint action program for European peace and security.

The Communist parties of Europe work in different social, economic and political conditions and tackle different concrete tasks. The increasing variety of conditions for revolutionary activity, the steeply growing scope and significance of the international tasks of the Communists in all countries, the attempts made by different quarters to undermine the communist movement through the use of nationalism — all this makes it particularly important to defend, spread and affirm the ideas of proletarian internationalism in the world communist movement.

At the consultative meeting in Warsaw our parties again declared their opposition to "Eurocentrism" in all its forms. This is as it should be in view of our internationalism. It is also necessary in the light of our assessment of the interconnection of processes under way in the modern world. This is why as we see it, the conference should discuss not only the deepening, but also the expansion of the zone of détente, and express solidarity with the struggle of the peoples for national and social-emancipation all over the world, and first of all with the democrats of Chile, the people of Vietnam, the Arab peoples, all fighters against colonial and racist regimes.

The serious deterioration of capitalist Europe's relations with the so-called Third World is an important feature of the present stage. The crisis of neo-colonialism is obvious. It has never been so urgent for the West European countries to revise these relations, and fully to recognize the principles of equality and mutual advantage and the sovereign right of developing countries to their national wealth. Reflected in the document of our conference, this standpoint would be

our answer to the problems created by the energy, food, and other crises.

The nature of imperialism and monopoly policy raise objective obstacles to a radical solution of this question. But with the new relation of world forces, the working-class movement, acting in an anti-monopoly and anti-imperialist spirit, could be highly successful in the struggle against neo-colonialist policy.

This, by and large, is the round of essential questions on which it would be useful to exchange opinions both at the conference and during its preparations, summing up their substance in its main document.

By concerted action, and collective and meaningful work, Boris Ponomarev said in conclusion, the fraternal parties will contribute to the further consolidation of the European communist movement in the name of peace, security and social progress.

FOR A EUROPE OF PEACE, SECURITY, COOPERATION AND SOCIAL PROGRESS

The outgoing year was rich in events of world significance. They provide a basis for expanding, in the new year, the achievements of peace-loving countries, anti-war movements and mass public and political organizations in the struggle for promoting détente and establishing the principles of peaceful coexistence as a norm of behavior in relations between states.

One such event was, certainly, the beginning of preparations for a conference of European Communist and Workers' parties. It is already apparent that the conference will substantially influence the prospects of European security and serve the interests of lasting peace in other parts of the globe. It will be the European Communists' contribution to the struggle against imperialism and war, for peace and social progress, a struggle conducted by Communists, all Left, democratic, liberation forces of the world.

Following the Budapest preparatory meeting on December 19-21, 1974, preparations for the European Communist conference have entered a new and decisive phase.

At the Warsaw consultative meeting last October, representatives of 28 Communist and Workers' parties agreed on the necessity and usefulness of holding a conference of European Communists and

decided to call a preparatory meeting as a forum for a serious and fruitful exchange of views on the topical issues facing Europe, as a forum that would outline solutions for the main political and organizational problems of the planned conference.

Between the Warsaw and Budapest meetings the CPSU, like other fraternal parties of Europe, used its bilateral contacts for an exchange of views on the problems to be discussed in Budapest. This proved an extremely useful preliminary to the preparatory meeting which, within three days, not only reached agreement on specific aspects of further preparations for the conference, but also discussed a wide range of relevant political questions.

The political discussion in Budapest re-emphasized the wide-range agreement of European Communist and Workers parties on all the basic problems and tasks of the struggle for peace, security, cooperation and social progress on the continent. In fact, it was a step forward in framing a common platform of the European communist movement on guidelines for the struggle to achieve the mentioned common goals.

The fraternal parties noted that European, and international, détente was gaining momentum and, despite opposition to it, becoming the leading trend of European political development. They also emphasized that peaceful coexistence was a requirement of the time, a policy in keeping with the basic interests of the working class, all working people. Representatives of many parties stressed the contribution of Leonid Brezhnev's latest negotiations with West German, U.S. and French leaders to this end. The spread of détente, expansion of mutually beneficial, non-discriminatory cooperation between states, and prospects of progress in limiting the arms race and armaments — all show that conditions are appearing to make the positive changes in the world, especially in Europe, irreversible.

But the representatives of brother parties also spoke of the importance of higher vigilance with regard to the opponents of détente for strengthening European peace and security. It was stressed that, despite the political thaw in Europe, one could not discount the activities of forces longing for cold-war times, activities which still carry a threat to peace, and not only in Europe.

The significance of this is underscored by the fact that war preparations continue unabated. In fact, some in the West are even stepping them up: in the last months of the outgoing year new programs of arms build-up and war preparations were launched in the framework of the aggressive imperialist NATO bloc. Such programs are in crying

contradiction with the general trend toward political détente in Europe. As Leonid Brezhnev pointed out, the unchecked arms race "cannot resolve the contradictions between states, even less, between the two world social systems, it cannot offer the peoples security." This is why, as the Budapest meeting showed, European Communists attach such importance to complementing political with military détente so that the two processes help overcome the division of Europe into opposing military groupings.

Almost all speakers indicated that the problems of peace and security are directly linked in many ways with those of social progress, with the struggle for the vital rights and interests of the masses, for democracy and the socialist transformation of society. On the one hand, success in the struggle for peace and security facilitates the struggle for social progress. On the other, the working people's efforts to resolve their present and future problems create more favorable conditions for strengthening peace.

Naturally, the immediate tasks of social development in socialist and capitalist countries are basically different. The representatives of governing Communist and Workers' parties reaffirmed their desire to use the favorable international conditions for building up the economic strength, raising living standards and perfecting the new social system. The successes achieved by the countries of the socialist community are of tremendous importance for the struggle of the working class and its allies in the non-socialist world. The fraternal parties of capitalist countries pointed out that in the conditions of the mounting crisis of capitalism inter-state cooperation should be made to benefit the masses in the West, to improve their conditions, etc.

A careful analysis of the speeches made at the Warsaw and Budapest meetings inevitably leads to the conclusion that such representative international forums, which are held in a fraternal, creative and candid atmosphere, enable Communists to proceed from their common philosophy, "to find common ground and opportunities for joint action together with all progressive and peace-loving forces against the peoples' common enemy, international imperialism," as Janos Kadar said at the preparatory meeting. European Communists see one of the key tasks of the forthcoming conference in drawing up a political action program that would include the basic issues of European security not only for Communists but for all people aspiring for peace in Europe. It should be stressed in this connection that the communique on the Budapest meeting recorded the common view of

European Communist parties concerning the role which a successful conclusion of the European security and cooperation conference should and can play in strengthening world peace. Also, the necessity was pointed out of the Communists clearly setting forth at the conference their view on future international relations in Europe. It is most important, as the CPSU delegation emphasized, "for all political forces and all peoples to have a clear idea of the kind of peace, the kind of security, the kind of cooperation Communists advocate, and the steps they envisage for this."

The fraternal Party representatives reaffirmed the Communists' readiness for serious, constructive cooperation in the struggle for peace and progress in Europe with all Left, anti-war, democratic forces, including the social-democratic parties and other organizations speaking for the working class in the West European countries.

Finally, the Budapest meeting devoted much attention to the role and responsibility of Communists and their solidarity and united action in the struggle for peace and social progress on the continent. Many delegations held that these questions should be discussed at the conference and reflected in its documents.

The broad agreement on fundamental political problems involved in the preparations for the conference and its subsequent deliberations was instrumental in reaching principled agreement on a wide range of specific questions. First, the conference agenda was formulated: "The Struggle for Peace, Security, Cooperation and Social Progress in Europe." It covers all the problems discussed in Warsaw and Budapest and leaves adequate room for a fruitful, creative and constructive debate at the forthcoming conference. The representatives of the fraternal parties came to the conclusion that the exchanges of views in Warsaw and Budapest provided a good basis for drafting conference documents and a reliable guideline in this important work.

The preparatory meeting also set up a commission to draft documents for the Berlin conference and laid down the main principles of its work. Finally, it suggested that seminars be held on problems relevant to the conference.

The Budapest preparatory meeting reaffirmed the growing desire of Communist and Workers' parties for coordinated and united action in resolving the main international problems facing the communist movement in Europe. The spirit of the meeting and its results utterly refute our enemies' claims that the interests of the Communist parties of the socialist countries and the fraternal parties active in capitalist

Europe are different, "contradictory" and even "incompatible." The Budapest meeting offered new convincing proof that the European communist movement is united and cohesive, that different parties share a common approach to the key problems of the struggle for peace, security and social progress.

The Budapest meeting showed — and this was pointed out by all its participants — that Communists see a direct link between European and world peace. It also emphasized that the European communist movement can, and is resolved, to contribute to the struggle against imperialism and war, for world peace and security.

The December plenum of the CPSU Central Committee reaffirmed our Party's firm policy of promoting international communist unity on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and its readiness and determination to contribute to this in every possible way. In line with this policy the CPSU delegation took an active part in the preparatory meeting. Our Party intends to continue to do everything to bring the preparatory work for, and the conference itself, to a successful conclusion.

Pravda. December 31, 1974

At the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

**ON THE RESULTS OF
THE WORKING MEETING BETWEEN
GENERAL SECRETARY OF
THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE
L.I. BREZHNEV AND PRESIDENT
OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC
V. GISCARD D'ESTAING**

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR, having discussed the results of the working meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, L.I. Brezhnev and President of the French Republic V. Giscard d'Estaing, fully approve L.I. Brezhnev's activities and express satisfaction with the agreements and accords achieved at Rambouillet.

The Rambouillet meeting which took place at a time when the establishment of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the French Republic is marked, again confirmed the stability of the policy of accord and cooperation between the two countries which has been pursued since 1966.

It is precisely this policy that has become in many respects a starting factor in the relaxation of tension and the reshaping of relations between Eastern and Western countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. The past years fully confirmed that the development of Soviet-French relations, in accordance with the Principles of Cooperation between the USSR and France and the Protocol on Political Consultations, meets the national interests of both countries and promotes a favorable development of the general international situation.

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR believe that one important result of the talks between Comrade

L.I. Brezhnev and President V. Giscard d'Estaing, which were marked by a realistic and constructive approach to the questions discussed, is the agreement reached that good prerequisites have now been created for the conclusion of the European Conference at an early date, for holding its third stage and signing its final documents at summit level. A successful conclusion of the Conference, which is an important link in the process of the further relaxation of tension in our continent, will help consolidate the principles of peaceful relations between the peoples of Europe and the world over.

The Soviet Union considers it important that the meeting revealed an identity of the positions of the two countries on key questions relating to the Middle East situation, which is still fraught with serious dangers. Both sides expressed themselves in favor of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all territories occupied in 1967 and the establishment in the area of a just and lasting peace on the basis of the relevant UN decisions, with due respect for the right to independent existence of all states in the area. The need for satisfying the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people is of special importance. Concerted efforts by the Soviet Union and France in the Middle East could be a contribution to such a peaceful settlement.

The Soviet leading circles, the entire Soviet people welcome the desire of both sides to work toward the strict observance of the Paris agreements on Indochina.

The readiness of the two sides to facilitate a settlement of the Cyprus problem, based on full respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, is of substantial importance.

A paramount problem of our times is that of ridding mankind of the burden of the arms race. In this connection it is important that the USSR and France have affirmed their strong desire to continue efforts in the field of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, and, as before, they urge the convocation of a world conference on disarmament.

As a result of the working meeting between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and President V. Giscard d'Estaing, a new impulse was given to the development of Soviet-French bilateral relations.

The statement by President V. Giscard d'Estaing to the effect that Franco-Soviet cooperation constitutes a fundamental element of French foreign policy has been received in the Soviet Union with satisfaction.

The agreement reached at Rambouillet for developing these rela-

tions on a firm, stable basis, and for giving them ever greater effectiveness, opens up broad prospects for Soviet-French cooperation. New practical steps are to be taken now in keeping with this accord. The Soviet side expresses its firm resolve to follow this path.

It is noted with satisfaction in the Soviet Union that the latest summit meeting facilitated considerably the expansion and deepening of economic cooperation between the two countries, which constitutes one of the essential foundations of their relations. The Soviet-French documents on economic and credit matters signed at Rambouillet, and first of all the Agreement on Economic Cooperation for the period of 1975-1979, are a vivid example of developing reciprocally advantageous economic relations between countries with different social systems.

L.I. Brezhnev's visit to France once again demonstrated the importance of regular summit meetings for the solution of outstanding international issues, for continuing the process of détente and for developing reciprocally advantageous cooperation between states. The realization of the agreements signed and the accords reached on the further development of relations between the USSR and France will be of great importance for strengthening peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

The policy of accord and cooperation between the Soviet Union and France enjoys the broad support of the peoples of both countries.

Pravda, December 10, 1974

SOVIET-FRENCH COMMUNIQUE

L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, stayed in France on a working visit from December 4 to 7, 1974 at the invitation of the President of the French Republic V. Giscard d'Estaing.

Taking part in the talks which were held at Rambouillet, were:

On the Soviet Side — Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Foreign Minister of the USSR A.A. Gromyko; Minister of Foreign Trade N.S. Patolichev; Head of a Department of the CPSU Central Committee P.A. Abrasimov; the Soviet Ambassador to France S.V. Chervonenko; assistants to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee A.M. Alexandrov, A.I. Blatov; Deputy Head of a Department of the CPSU Central

Committee V.V. Zagladin; General Director of TASS I.M. Zamyatin; Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR A.G. Kovalev; Member of the Collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry Y.V. Dubinin;

On the French Side — Foreign Minister of France J. Sauvagnargues; Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance J.P. Fourcade; Secretary of State for Foreign Trade N. Segard; General Secretary of the President's Office C. Pierre-Brossolette; General Secretary of the Foreign Ministry of France G. de Courcel; the French Ambassador to the USSR J. Vimont; advisers to the President of France J.P. Dutet, C. Gouillout-Bochang, G. Robin.

The meeting was marked by a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding which are characteristic of relations between the Soviet Union and France, and bore out the continuity of the policy of accord and cooperation between the two countries, one of the keystones of their foreign policies and an important permanent factor for deepening détente in the world and strengthening international security. L.I. Brezhnev and V. Giscard d'Estaing reaffirmed that both Sides attach great importance to such basic Soviet-French documents as the Protocol on Political Consultations of 1970 and the Principles of Cooperation Between the USSR and France of 1971.

The Sides gave special attention to the development of the situation in Europe. They expressed satisfaction with the fact that the improvement of East-West relations in the continent widens opportunities for Europe to make its contribution to international détente. The USSR and France, for their part, will make vigorous efforts to facilitate and encourage such a development. They believe that the four-power agreement of September 3, 1971 is playing a great part in improving the situation in Europe.

The progress of the Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe was thoroughly examined. Both Sides stressed again the great importance they attach to this conference which is a most important link in the process of the further relaxation of tension in Europe. They believe that the success of the conference will help further strengthen peace in Europe and the world over. The Sides express satisfaction with the contribution the Soviet Union and France have made and continue to make, specifically by relying on the experience of their mutual relations, to the work of the conference by their own initiatives and by mutual consultations.

The Sides pointed out that considerable progress was made during the second stage of the Geneva Conference, particularly in the last

few weeks, in preparing the drafts of the final documents. The Soviet Union and France declare their determination to step up efforts in concerting questions which are not yet agreed upon within the framework of the agenda adopted in Helsinki, so as to conclude the second stage of the conference.

They state that good prerequisites have been created for the conclusion of the conference at an early date, for holding its third stage and signing its final documents at summit level.

The discussions also covered the situation in the Middle East. The Sides noted the progress made with regard to taking into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. They agree that these rights should be consolidated on the basis of implementation of the relevant U.N. decisions with the due respect shown for the right of all states of the area to independent existence. The Soviet Union and France are concerned over the present situation in the Middle East, a situation which in their opinion is fraught with serious dangers. They believe as before that a just and lasting peaceful settlement is inconceivable without the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the territories occupied in 1967 and recognition of the right of each state of the area to live within safe and recognized frontiers. They express the hope in this connection that the Geneva Peace Conference on the Middle East will resume its work as soon as possible.

The Soviet Union and France express their concern over the remaining dangerous situation in Cyprus. They proceed from the premise that the settlement of the Cyprus question must be reached through negotiations and rest on full respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, on a strict implementation of the U.N. Security Council and UN General Assembly decisions on Cyprus. The Soviet Union and France declare for the speediest withdrawal of all the foreign armed forces from the Republic of Cyprus and for the return home of all the refugees in conditions of security.

Also examined was the situation in Indochina. The Soviet Union and France declare for the strict observance of the Paris Agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam by all the parties to it and express satisfaction at the restoration of peace and national concord in Laos in compliance with the Vientiane Agreement and the Protocol on its implementation. Both Sides hold that the Cambodian problem must be settled by the Cambodian people themselves without foreign interference.

The Sides declare that the aim of their efforts in the field of disar-

mament is the attainment of universal and complete disarmament under effective international control, the most important part of which is nuclear disarmament. It is in this spirit that the USSR and France as earlier come out for the convocation of a World Disarmament Conference, bearing in mind that this Conference may be a major contribution to ridding mankind of the armaments burden.

The USSR and France, loyal to the goals and principles of the Charter of the United Nations Organization, whose founding members they are, reaffirmed the significance of the role with which this organization is vested in maintaining peace and international security. They also reaffirm their adherence to the UN Charter based on the generally recognized and just fundamentals and preserving all its significance.

The Sides again declared that they attach the greatest significance to the development of bilateral relations between the USSR and France. They stressed, in particular, the intention to continue regular political consultations on world problems and noted that their holding at all levels, particularly at the summit level, is a permanent element of Soviet-French cooperation. The General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of France noted with satisfaction that their working meeting coincides with the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and France.

Special attention was devoted to examination of the economic ties constituting one of the essential fundamentals of relations between the two countries. The Sides expressed satisfaction at the growth of trade over the period from 1970 to 1974, which made it possible to exceed the goal set in 1969 of doubling the volume of trade between the two countries in the course of the five years.

The development of economic and industrial cooperation is continuing under the program for deepening Soviet-French cooperation in the field of economy and industry for a 10 year period signed in Moscow on July 10, 1973, whose significance was again stressed. In implementation of this program the two countries concluded contracts on large-scale projects of industrial cooperation.

With the aim of ensuring consolidation and expansion of mutually beneficial cooperation the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of France signed on December 6, 1974, an Agreement on economic cooperation for the period of 1975-1979. The Sides attach great significance to this Agreement.

On the same day, an Agreement on credits was signed, which provides for the financing of the most important projects of economic cooperation to be implemented in the forthcoming five-year period.

Being confident that good perspectives are open between the USSR and France in the field of economic relations and expressing resoluteness toward further expansion and development of these relations, the Sides outlined new targets of growth in the Soviet-French goods turnover for the coming years. The Sides decided to double the goods turnover in the future five-year period as compared with the previous five-year period and to make everything that is necessary in order to treble it as well as to ensure a balanced development of trade exchange between the two countries.

In the same spirit, after a profound discussion of the principal projects of industrial cooperation between the USSR and France as well as the possibilities of delivering energy goods, the Sides agreed to conduce to the realization of the new projects of cooperation. For these purposes a Protocol was signed to the Program of deepening Soviet-French cooperation in the field of economics and industry for a 10 year period, bringing in a number of additional projects agreed upon by both Sides. Satisfaction was expressed at the signing of the Agreement on the deliveries by the Soviet Union to France of additional quantities of natural gas which ensures beginning from 1980 the export of 4,000 million cubic metres of gas annually on the whole as well as on the deliveries to the USSR of the relevant French equipment. Agreement was reached between the organizations concerned regarding the signing of the two big contracts — on the deliveries from France to the USSR of pipes for gas pipelines and on the construction in the USSR of a magnetic starter plant.

The General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of France noted a special significance of the implementation of such new projects of Soviet-French cooperation as the participation of French firms in the construction in the USSR of a complex to manufacture alumina and aluminium on the compensation basis, on which the Sides concerned signed a corresponding protocol. These projects also include the possibility of cooperation on terms agreed upon in the development of mineral deposits in the USSR, including oil and gas, in the field of atomic energy, including the production of atomic reactors, the delivery of complex equipment for the construction in the USSR of a number of enterprises of oil processing, chemical, petrochemical, light and food industries as well as electronic equipment. The importance of expanding the deliveries of Soviet

equipment for industrial projects in France was equally emphasized.

In the course of the talks a profound exchange of opinion was held regarding the cultural cooperation between the two countries. Both Sides noted a special importance attached to the development of teaching the Russian language in France and the French language in the USSR, as well as to the present-day programs for scientific exchange now in force.

Guided by the Principles of Cooperation Between the USSR and France, the Sides declared their common striving toward further expansion of mutual cultural exchanges. The Permanent Mixed Soviet-French Commission on Cultural Cooperation, whose session is to be held on December 11-12, this year in Paris, will elaborate a program of broad cultural exchange of mutual interest for the next two years.

Special significance was reaffirmed which the Sides attach to the further development of scientific and technological cooperation. In conformity with the Soviet-French Agreements of June 30, 1966 and a Program for deepening cooperation in the field of science and technology for a 10 year period of July 27, 1973, the exchanges or cooperation are carried out in many important provinces of science both in fundamental and applied researches, aimed at, in particular, industrial cooperation. Special attention should be given in this connection to the energy problems, including atomic power engineering, high energy physics, the use of computers, cosmos, oceanology, the environment, medicine.

The Sides spoke in favor of continuing the exchanges of visits between the representatives of the armed forces of both countries. They stated that the reciprocal visits, which had already taken place, strengthened the feelings of respect, which are entertained by the armed forces of both countries toward each other as well as the significance which they are attaching to the exchange of the relevant information.

The General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of France expressed satisfaction with the current exchange of opinion and the friendly atmosphere in which the talks were held. They unanimously noted the necessity of continuing working visits.

L.I. Brezhnev, on behalf of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, extended an invitation to the President of France Valery Giscard d'Estaing to come to the Soviet Union with an official visit. The President of France accepted this invitation with satisfaction.

Pravda, December 8, (in full.)

**L.I. BREZHNEV'S SPEECH
AT A DINNER GIVEN BY
PRESIDENT D'ESTAING AT RAMBOUILLET**

Dear Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Comrades,

First of all, allow me to thank you for the warm welcome and the kind words addressed to our country, to our people.

We are grateful to you, Mr. President, for the invitation to visit France, a land that is friendly to us, to continue the Soviet-French contacts at the summit level. Since 1966, such contacts became a permanent, and, it can be said, determining element of the relations between the USSR and France. We hold the working meeting for the fourth time over the past two years.

We are meeting for the first time since you became President of the French Republic. But you have long been known in the Soviet Union and we know that you have personally made a considerable contribution to Soviet-French relations, above all in the sphere of economy. We hope that our meeting will be useful and fruitful. This will serve the interests of our two peoples.

We are justified in taking a positive view of the development of Soviet-French relations. The joint efforts have enabled us to lay down a solid foundation for mutually beneficial cooperation. This refers to the political sphere, to economy, to our scientific, technical and cultural relations. Certainly, there are questions that require solution, there are certain complexities that are to be overcome.

We arrived here, wishing sincerely to give by joint efforts a new impetus to the Soviet-French cooperation. As we realize, the French side strives for this, too.

It is a pleasure for us to recall here that the relations of the Soviet Union and France served largely as a good example for other countries. It won't be an overstatement to say that the Soviet Union and France by joint efforts contributed largely to the improvement of the political climate in Europe, and not only in Europe.

The positions of our countries on a number of key issues of the present-day international situation are close or identical. And this means that there is a field for further constructive cooperation in the interests of further easing international tension.

It is known that on some problems our viewpoints do not coincide completely. This is no secret. All the more reason, to our mind, to

meet, hold consultations, to ensure greater closeness of views. We see one of the most important tasks of our meeting in further expanding the sphere of cooperation between our countries in international affairs.

International life of our time is complex and contradictory. The trend for consolidation of peace and security of nations is gaining ground, there is a further relaxation of tensions. At the same time, hotbeds of war still exist, the situation in the Middle East remains explosive, stockpiling and perfection of armaments goes on. The scientific and technological revolution opens unprecedented possibilities for prosperity of all mankind. At the same time, the energy, food and other problems are growing more acute in many countries.

We have not set ourselves the task to analyze here the reasons for these phenomena or to suggest recipes for the solution of outstanding problems. Every one of them requires special attention and joint efforts of many states.

But of one thing can be no doubt: ensurance of a durable peace, development and deepening of détente are an indispensable condition for success in solving all these problems. As to the Soviet Union, we can firmly and definitely declare that it was and will always remain a reliable partner in the struggle to achieve these goals.

The adherence to the ideas of relaxation, cooperation and peace is tested in practical deeds. The security and cooperation conference is the most important practical deed in this sphere in Europe.

Next year, it will be 30 years since guns were silenced in Europe, since the bloodshed ended. We in the Soviet Union, just as you in France will never forget the past war, the grimmest and bloodiest war in the history of mankind. We believe it is the common duty of all who want the tragedies of the past never to be repeated to do all for reliable consolidation of the mainstays of peace in Europe. The speediest successful conclusion of the work of the European conference at the most authoritative level will be, we are convinced, a very important step in this direction.

There is no purpose more important and noble than that of ensuring clear, peaceful skies over our entire planet. For the sake of this, no effort should be spared. From precisely these positions, we positively assess the results of the recent talks at Vladivostok with President of the United States Gerald Ford.

From these positions, we approach the development of relations between the Soviet Union and France. The better these relations, the wider our cooperation and the stronger our mutual trust, the better for

the cause of durable peace in Europe and all over the world.

The past years confirmed the fruitfulness of the policy of all-round development of the Soviet-French friendly relations, showed convincingly what possibilities they have. What is now required is to use these possibilities as fully as possible. What is needed is to follow up our principled agreements with new specific deeds. I would like to assure you, Mr. President, that the good will of the Soviet Union will not be lacking.

The freindship of the Soviet Union and France is a valuable achievement of the peoples of our countries and we are called upon to strengthen and develop it. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, our government, the entire Soviet people are guided by this.

Thank you, Mr. President, once more for the invitation to visit France, for your hospitality. I hope that we shall be able to fully reciprocate when you make an official visit to the Soviet Union.

I propose a toast to the further deepening of Soviet-French cooperation for the sake of peace and security of nations!

To durable friendship between our peoples!

To your health, Mr. President!

The speeches of V. Giscard d'Estaing and L.I. Brezhnev were listened to with great attention and welcomed with applause. The dinner passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Pravda, December 6, 1974.

TALK BETWEEN LEONID BREZHNEV AND GEORGES MARCHAIS

L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU, had a talk with Georges Marchais, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, in Paris on December 6.

The talk was followed by a meeting and dinner attended on the Soviet side by A.A. Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau; P.A. Abrasimov, N.S. Patolichev and S.V. Chervonenko, members of the Central Committee; A.M. Alexandrov, G.A. Zhukov, V.V. Zagladin and L.M. Zamyatin, members of the Central Auditing Commission; and A.I. Blatov, Assistant to the General Secretary. Present on the French side were Roland Leroy and Gaston Plissonnier, members of the Political Bureau and secretaries; and Jean Kanapa and Charles Fiterman, members of the Central Committee.

L.I. Brezhnev informed the French Communist leaders of the measures being carried out by the CPSU Central Committee to further international détente on the Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence. He stressed the special attention the CPSU Central Committee gives to promoting the traditional friendship between the Soviet and French peoples and between the Soviet Union and France.

The French comrades spoke highly of the results of the foreign-policy activity of the CPSU, which contributes to the successful struggle of peoples for peace, national independence and social progress. They also spoke of their Party's resolve to continue its active contribution to the positive role of France in fostering détente and cooperation and extending Franco-Soviet relations as an important factor meeting the national interests of France and promoting peace and security in Europe.

L.I. Brezhnev reaffirmed the fraternal solidarity of the CPSU with the French Communists' noble, profoundly patriotic and consistently internationalist activity.

The beneficial effect of fraternal cooperation between the two parties on friendship between the Soviet and French peoples was pointed out and the intention of both parties to carry forward cooperation was stressed.

The talk and meeting were held in an atmosphere of cordial friendship, solidarity and complete mutual understanding.

Pravda, December 7, 1974.

ELEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

On November 25-28, 1974, the Rumanian Communist Party held its 11th Congress in Bucharest. It was attended by 2,450 delegates and numerous guests — veterans of the Rumanian working-class movement and representatives of mass organizations. Also present were delegations of Communist, Workers' and Socialist parties and progressive and liberation movements. The Soviet delegation was headed by Andrei Kirilenko, Political Bureau member and Secretary of the Party's Central Committee.

After Congress had elected its working bodies and approved the agenda, General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu presented the Central Committee report on the Party's activity since the previous congress and on its subsequent tasks.

The delegates discussed and approved the report, the Party Program, and the directives for the next five-year plan (1976-80) and the main lines of Rumania's social and economic progress up to 1990. They also approved the report presented by the Central Auditing Commission and amendments to the Party Rules, and adopted the main resolution.

Congress then elected the Party's central bodies. Nicolae Ceausescu was re-elected General Secretary. The Central Committee elected by Congress has 105 full and 156 alternate members.

At its plenary session the Central Committee elected the political Executive Committee of 23 full and 13 alternate members, as well as the Secretariat and the Central Party Collegium.

The Central Auditing Commission was elected, too.

Nicolae Ceausescu delivered the concluding speech at the congress.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE*

The 11th Party Congress is deliberating in an atmosphere of en-

*Abridged from *Scinteia*, November 26, 1974.

thusiasm and greatly increased activity of the people, who are scoring noteworthy gains as they work to fulfil the five-year plan ahead of schedule. The plan holds an exceptionally important place as a factor for speeding Rumania's economic progress. In this period we will put more than 2,400 industrial units into operation and fixed assets will grow by 420,000m. lei, which is 150 per cent more than the increases achieved in the first three years of the five-year plan.

Considerable headway has been made in agriculture, which now produces twice as much as before the war.

The results of the efforts in the five years that have passed since the 10th Congress show that the people led by the Party have achieved much in every sphere.

The Congress is taking place only a few months after our people celebrated the 30th anniversary of the overthrow of the military fascist dictatorship and the liberation of Rumania from the domination of Hitler Germany. It is also three decades since the Rumanian Communist Party resumed its activity in legal conditions and became a government party.

We have every reason to affirm from the high rostrum of the congress that throughout this period as, indeed, ever since it came into being, our Party has been honorably fulfilling its mission by successfully leading the struggle for the revolutionary transformation of the country, the great cause of creating a socialist system on Rumanian soil.

We have reason to be proud of the progress made in the years of socialist construction by carrying out five-year plan assignments. However, being Communists, we cannot at this congress ignore certain shortcomings and mistakes or even certain distortions that occurred at a definite period. We cannot but mention the shortcomings and negative phenomena that have manifested themselves in our activity in the current five-year period as well.

A large part of Nicolae Ceausescu's report was concerned with an analysis of the international situation characterized, as he stressed, by a serious sharpening of economic, social, national and political contradictions on a worldwide scale. We may say that we are at the beginning of a new stage in the crisis of the capitalist system, a crisis involving every social sphere and affecting every continent, to a greater or lesser degree. This exceedingly complicated situation accelerates the revolutionary process of change in the alignment of forces in favor of social progress, of the forces championing a better and more just world.

The changes in the alignment of world forces that have come about since the previous Party congress, the solution of a number of complicated problems by negotiation, the beginning of talks between a number of countries belonging to different social systems, the improvement brought about in their mutual relations, the convocation and good results of the European security and cooperation conference, and the notable upsurge in the struggle of the masses throughout the world made for the abandonment of the cold war policy in favor of a policy of cooperation. As a result, there is an incipient new trend in international relations and a certain détente.

This was due in large measure to the socialist countries, the activity of the Soviet Union, which plays a very important part in international affairs, and the participation of all socialist countries in the solution of problems facing mankind.

The world still has numerous problems to solve. There still exist many areas of tension and conflict which may lead to armed clashes and wars fraught with dire consequences for the whole of mankind. Certain imperialist, reactionary forces have not yet relinquished their outworn policies. This is why we must say explicitly that so long as imperialist, colonial and neo-colonial policies and reactionary forces exist the war menace, in particular the danger of a new world war, will be there.

We believe, therefore, that it is necessary to proceed with a keen sense of responsibility for fostering the policy of détente, settling complicated disputes by negotiation, pursuing a policy of peaceful cooperation and equality among all peoples and safeguarding world peace.

In the international sphere our country has consistently put first the task of promoting cooperation with all socialist countries, considering this to meet the interests of both the Rumanian people and other peoples creating the new system and to contribute to the common cause of socialism and peace. This period has seen the renewal of treaties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, People's Republic of Bulgaria, Hungarian People's Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and Polish People's Republic. For a long time to come, these treaties will provide a solid basis for alliance, friendship and cooperation between Rumania and the socialist countries concerned. We also concluded the first Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance with the German Democratic Republic, which opened a new stage in relations between the two countries.

Once again I note with deep satisfaction the development of relations with the Soviet Union, which holds first place in Rumania's foreign economic relations. We wish to confirm, at this congress as well, the resolve of the Rumanian Communist Party and socialist Rumania to continue working with the greatest firmness for the progress of relations with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and with the USSR, for we consider that this meets the interests of both parties and peoples and serves the cause of socialism and world peace.

After describing Rumania's fruitful friendly relations with socialist countries, the speaker said:

In view of the present international situation, we think it is necessary to foster cooperation between the Warsaw Treaty countries and between the armies of these countries in order to develop and strengthen each national army, to increase the defense potential and fighting capacity of each people. At the same time it is necessary to campaign more vigorously for the abolition of military blocs and emphasize the political aspect of the Warsaw Treaty with a view to carrying forward détente and cooperation in Europe and the world.

At the same time Rumania has stood and will continue to stand for greater cooperation between our army and the armies of all socialist countries and other friendly countries, for it sees this as an internationalist duty arising from lingering tensions and the danger of new acts of aggression and war.

The development of our cooperation with socialist countries in this period has been a component of a general policy aimed at strengthening the socialist countries; solidarity and unity. We maintain that the greater the social and economic progress achieved by each socialist country and the more extensive the international cooperation of these countries, the greater the power and international prestige of socialism.

In the period that has elapsed since the 10th Party Congress Rumania has vigorously promoted multilateral cooperation with developing countries, with all countries advocating independent social and economic development. As a result, our country now has diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with 85 states of the Third World.

In accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence, we continue to extend cooperation with all countries irrespective of social system, including developed capitalist countries.

Being a European country, Rumania makes a special effort to help

in establishing new relations on the continent enabling every nation to direct its energies towards social and economic development, progress and extensive international cooperation. This is why Rumania came out with the utmost firmness and in common with socialist and other countries of the continent for guaranteeing European security.

We consider that the opening of the European security and cooperation conference and the two stages of work it has gone through to date have produced good results. For the first time ever, European countries are in a position to discuss on a completely equal basis highly important problems on whose solution security and peace on our continent depend. We believe it is necessary to persevere in the effort for the successful completion of the second stage and for the elaboration of documents laying a solid foundation and providing ample opportunities for all-round cooperation among the European countries and guarantees against aggression or interference in the affairs of any of them. We attach special importance to the formation of a permanent consultative agency that would ensure the maintenance of contacts with a view to implementing the principles to be established by the European conference. We declare for holding the third stage of the conference at the highest level, for we consider that its successful completion will open up a new vista for both the European continent and the rest of the world.

Speaking of the situation in the Middle East, Nicolae Ceausescu said that Rumania has invariably declared for a political, peaceful settlement of the conflict there. We consider that Israel must withdraw its troops from the Arab territories occupied during the 1967 war and that a settlement must be reached safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of every state in the area and paving the way for peaceful cooperation.

At the same time it is necessary to solve the problem of the Palestinian people in an appropriate manner, on the principle of recognizing their right to organize their life independently, in keeping with their national interests, including the establishment of an independent state. The self-assertion of the Palestinian people as a distinctive national community and their wide international recognition, in particular by the United Nations, constitute a substantial change in the Middle East situation and afford new opportunities for a fair peace in the area. Rumania recognizes the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only spokesman of the Palestinian people.

On stating the position of the Communist Party, the Rumanian state on some important international problems, the speaker said:

We are responsible to our peoples and the whole of mankind and must do all in our power to pave the way for an era of cooperation and world peace in which social and national justice and freedom will be established.

With regard to promoting inter-party ties, the RCP comes out for extensive cooperation, exchanges of views and exchanges of delegations with all parties and for participation in democratic discussions of world problems. It is in this spirit, the speaker said, that we also approach the question of holding a conference of Communist and Workers' parties of Europe.

The Rumanian Communist Party will continue to fulfil its duty both nationally, by ensuring steadfast implementation of the program for building a comprehensively developed socialist society and for the country's advance to communism, and internationally, by supporting the peoples fighting for a free, independent life, progress and world peace.

The speaker then dealt in detail with the first Party program submitted to the congress and with the congress directives for the 1976-1980 plan and the main lines of Rumania's social and economic development in 1981-1990.

According to the program and directives, he said, the main task in the five-year plan period will be to continue rapidly building up the material and technical basis of the economy and the whole of society. To this end, the task has been set of developing the productive forces at a high rate and distributing them rationally throughout the country. The policy of socialist industrialization on the basis of the achievements of modern science and technology will be pressed forward. A further task is greatly to increase agricultural production. A fast-growing national income will make it possible systematically to raise the people's material and cultural standards. The Party will work steadfastly to extend socialist democracy by providing the most favorable organizational framework for the masses to participate in the management of all economic and other public affairs.

Under the directives for the coming five-year plan, output of coal shall rise to 56 million tons, electric power to between 75,000 and 80,000 million kwh and steel between 17 and 18 million tons. In the 1976-1980 period the annual growth of industrial production will average nine or 10 per cent.

In view of the accelerating progress of science and technology, it is essential that the coming five-year plan should become a plan of the scientific and technological revolution, a plan for introducing the best

achievements in every industry on a wide scale.

In 1976-1980 agricultural output shall increase by 25-34 per cent over the 1971-1975 average.

As a result of the rapid development of all economic and other public activities, the social product will grow at an annual rate of 8 or 9 per cent and reach about 1,400,000m. lei in 1980. At the same time the national income will go up by nine or 10 per cent a year and exceed 600,000m. lei at the end of the next five-year period.

The program and directives assign an important place to a rational distribution of the national income. In the coming five-year period, 66 or 67 per cent of the national income is to be used for consumption and 33 or 34 per cent for development.

The rapid growth of the productive forces has brought about deep-going changes among the economically active population, with the share of people engaged in industry and other non-agricultural fields growing continuously. In the current five-year period alone, the proportion of working people employed in these sectors will go up by more than 1.3 million and total 6.2 million, or 62 per cent of the economically active population. This vast transfer of manpower produces notable economic and social effects and makes for fundamental changes in the structure of society.

The purpose of all our economic and other public activities, the supreme goal of our Party's policy and the substance of its historic mission — transforming society on revolutionary lines and creating a new system — is to raise the material and cultural standards of the people.

In the current plan years spending on social and cultural needs has increased by 50 per cent compared with the previous five-year period. In 1975 real incomes will be 55 per cent higher than in 1970.

The current five-year plan provides for building over 500,000 flats at the expense or with support of the state, which means that the targets set by the 10th Congress directives will be exceeded.

The next five-year plan envisages a reduction of the working week to between 42 and 44 hours, with the incomes continuing to rise.

More attention will be given to the health services. To provide material facilities for public health, it is planned to appropriate 6,500,000m. lei, or more than was allocated in 1961-1970. Nurseries for 100,000 children and kindergartens for roughly another 134,000 children will be built, which will make it possible to meet requirements fully. In 1976-1980, it is planned to build 815,000 flats.

The country's social and economic development calls for more

extensive economic relations and large-scale production cooperation with other countries. Rumania puts first more extensive economic cooperation with all socialist countries, which will remain our principal trade partners. We shall increase production cooperation with socialist countries by accomplishing certain common tasks in various spheres. The CMEA countries will undoubtedly hold an important place in economic relations and production cooperation under the Comprehensive Program. We always proceed from the need of extending this cooperation on Marxist-Leninist principles, on the principles of complete equality approved by all. The aim of cooperation for carrying out the Comprehensive Program is to guarantee the progress of each national economy, step up the process of drawing the levels of the member countries' development and at the same time increase the power of the world socialist system on this basis. We consider that only by expanding the productive forces and achieving universal prosperity in each socialist country will it be possible to firmly establish the ideals of socialism, increase the power of all socialist countries and enhance the prestige of socialism all over the world.

In accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence and the need of active participation in the international division of labor, Rumania will expand relations with all countries, including developed capitalist ones. We consider that there are ample opportunities for this and for production cooperation, including the formation of mixed companies, which will provide a solid and durable basis for relations between Rumania and the countries concerned.

The speaker then dealt with structural changes in Rumanian society due to the rapid growth of the productive forces.

The proportion of people engaged in industry and other non-agricultural fields, he said, has increased and exceeds 60 per cent today while in agriculture it has dropped from roughly 50 to 38 per cent. There is also an increase in the proportion of the intelligentsia, especially engineers and technologists, who play an increasingly important part in the country's social and economic development.

According to the Party program and directives, these changes will continue in the next five years and the sphere of people engaged in industry and other non-agricultural fields will exceed 70 per cent and vary between 85 and 88 per cent in 1990.

In other words, there will be a gradual effacement of distinctions between classes and social strata, their living and working conditions will draw level and so will the standards of their professional, cultural

and political knowledge. As a result, the process of formation of a homogenous society, of a working people making up a single whole and inspired by common interests and ideals, will intensify.

The management of economic and other public affairs, of the entire activity of the state, will be based on the principle of democratic centralism, under which integrated leadership (through the national plan) of all social processes, the development of the country, and the increasing responsibility and autonomy of local units, will harmoniously combine with the masses' active participation in the administration of society.

The Party and the government, which proceed from the fact that so long as imperialism exists there will also be a danger of new acts of aggression and wars, from the need to defend the gains of the revolution and national independence and sovereignty, and from their responsibility in this matter, will make every effort to strengthen the defenses, build up the armed forces, supply them with all that they require and raise the standards of their combat training and political education.

We apply the Marxist-Leninist theses about the part the people should play in the running of public affairs and about the need of steadily perfecting socialist democracy, by raising the role of the trade unions, youth and women's organizations, cooperatives, unions of creative workers, the Socialist Unity Front and other mass organizations in the life of society, in discussions of home and foreign policies and in mobilizing the people to translate the Party's Program into reality.

We adhere unfailingly to the Marxist-Leninist principle that the development of socialist democracy and the people's intelligent making of their history are objectively necessary in building the new society. Only with the people as a whole can we bring about the triumph of a comprehensively developed socialist society and of communism on Rumanian soil.

Speaking of the Party's organizing, political and ideological work, Nicolae Ceausescu said that the RCP has about 2,480,000 members, or 500,000 more than during the 10th Congress. Due to the increased numbers of the working class and its greater role in society, the proportion of workers in the Party has gone up from 42.6 per cent in 1969 to 48.37 per cent. The share of cooperative peasants in the Party is roughly 22 per cent and the share of intellectuals exceeds 21 per cent. Over 71 per cent of the Party membership is directly engaged in material production. Women make up about 25 per cent of the mem-

bership. The Party has hundreds of thousands of activists.

To raise the standard of Party work as a whole, it is necessary to amend certain provisions of the Party Rules, Nicolae Ceausescu said.

In view of the important role of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee, the draft Rules provide that henceforward it shall be called the Executive Political Committee. This name is more expressive of its role as leader of all Party activities in between Central Committee meetings. The draft Rules include a new article providing that the Executive Political Committee shall set up a Standing Bureau which shall direct current activities and be accountable to the Executive Political Committee.

We have a strong Party and mass organizations. The Socialist Unity Front unites all the forces of our socialist nation. We may say, therefore, that both politically and organizationally we have a proper framework for effectively carrying out the Party Program.

As regards the Party's political and ideological work, we must step up the political education of the masses and the younger generation aimed at moulding the new man, a man free from outdated views, selfishness and other negative qualities, from survivals of the old system, a man motivated by a spirit of friendship and mutual aid in everyday life and work.

The entire work of educating people and moulding their socialist consciousness should lead to the establishment of new humanism which puts man first, combining the interests of the individual with those of society and ensuring the well-being and happiness of each and all. The theoretical and political work and cultural education should be based entirely on the Program and other documents of the Party.

Nicolae Ceausescu then spoke in detail of the draft of the first Program of the Party submitted to the congress.

The draft contains scientifically grounded principles of a comprehensively developed socialist society as a higher stage of socialism in the gradual transition to communism.

We may say, the speaker said, that for the first time our Party has a document recording in condensed form the Rumanian people's two thousand years of existence and struggle, the activity of the masses and progressive forces, the revolutionary movement and the Party's own history.

Undoubtedly, the program will play an important part in raising the ideological and political level of the people. It will contribute in vast measure to the revolutionary militancy of the Party, helping it to

exercise its role of the political leader of society and gain in strength and unity, which is an earnest of Rumania's more vigorous advance to communism.

The report, Program and directives submitted to the congress set out in condensed form the manifold activities carried out by our Party and our people and sum up the experience of socialist construction gained by the Rumanian Communist Party and the Communist parties in other socialist countries, the experience of social progress and human knowledge in general. They equip the Party with a single theoretical and historical materialism, on the victorious Marxist-Leninist doctrine.

These documents reveal the vast perspective of development of Rumanian society and chart the main lines of activity of the Party, the state and the whole people.

The decisions of the Congress are bound to express the will of the Party and people, their resolve to foster solidarity with socialist countries, with the revolutionary, anti-imperialist forces in all countries, with the peoples fighting for a more just world, for social progress and world peace.



STATEMENTS

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, U.S. PARTIES ISSUE DECLARATION

The Marxist-Leninist parties of Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. this week simultaneously issued a joint declaration of common policy. The three-party statement followed the recent 23-day visit to Australia and New Zealand of George Meyers, Labor Secretary of the Communist Party, USA, and member of the CPUSA Political Committee.

The joint declaration of the CPUSA, the Socialist Party of Australia, and the Socialist Unity Party of New Zealand said that "during the fraternal visit of George Meyers . . . friendly discussions were held by him with leaders of the NZSUP and the SPA. George Meyers' visit marked the first official delegate exchange between our parties and was a significant development following the lifting of the cold war atmosphere when such a visit would have been prevented by refusal of visas."

The declaration stressed first of all that the working people of all three countries are exploited by giant monopolies and multinational corporations together with the CIA and other U.S. agencies. The fascist coup in Chile was one example of such imperialist operations.

The declaration stated: "This identical class enemy unites the interests of the workers of our countries and calls for a strengthening of ties facilitating class struggle policies, between our parties, the trade unions and other working class organizations.

The relations between our three countries have been up to now largely based upon the cold war SEATO and ANZUS pacts which must be replaced by relations of independence, non-interference, equality, mutual advantage in trade and a common striving for peace between nations."

In regard to this common striving for international peace, the joint declaration said: "The three parties welcomed the great advances made toward replacing the cold war with détente, extending the struggle for the principles of peaceful coexistence between states having different social systems."

"The many initiatives taken by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have laid the basis for a successful European Security agreement and advance the struggle for peace.

"Mass activity is called for to make the advances the close concern of all progressive and peace-loving people and the process toward making détente irreversible.

"An end to all nuclear testing, destruction of nuclear stockpiles and other weapons of mass destruction, the dismantling of military bases on foreign territory and other steps toward disarmament are needed to extend détente and lift the crushing burden of war preparations from the lives of the people."

The three-party declaration contrasted the peaceful, crisis-free economic growth of the socialist countries with the chaos and anarchy in the world capitalist economy.

It continued: "The three parties call for the establishment of the Indian and Pacific Oceans as zones of peace and for Asian Collective Security. We condemn the extension of the Diego Garcia base as a threat to the national liberation movements of Africa and Asia, to the independence of other countries in the area and to world peace."

Racism came in for special attention in the declaration. The Aboriginal people of Australia and the Maori and Polynesian people of New Zealand suffer from racial discrimination. The joint declaration said:

"Our three countries are all affected by the hateful capitalist policies of racism and suppression of national minorities which are aggravated to the extreme by imperialism. Racism is a weapon of the ruling class. It divides the working class and subjects minorities to economic, social and political discrimination.

"We reject all manifestations of racism and persecution of national minorities and strive for equality and unity between peoples including the right of national minorities to self-determination. We pledge a most determined struggle against all manifestations of racism and white chauvinism within our respective countries and parties."

Criticizing the Communist Party of China for its "negative and disruptive role," the declaration said: "The self-imposed isolation of the leadership of the Communist Party of China from the world movement, its anti-Communism in general, its anti-Sovietism in particular, its rabid chauvinism and rabid nationalism are completely alien to proletarian internationalism and violate the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism.

"These policies constitute a betrayal of the forces for peace and

socialism and play into the hands of imperialism or are of outright assistance to imperialism.

"We consider the best interests of peace and socialism call for acceptance of the repeated offers of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for normalization of relations with China and the development of the strongest friendly relations with the great Chinese people on the reliable basis of proletarian internationalism."

The CPUSA, NZSUP and SPA welcome this first delegate exchange and pledged to continue close, fraternal contacts. They said they support the call for an international conference of Communist Parties to deal with the "rapid and sweeping changes" in the world in recent years.

The joint declaration was signed by Peter Symon, general secretary of the SPA; G.E. Jackson, national secretary of the NZSUP, and George Meyers, on behalf of the central committee of the CPUSA.

Daily World, Nov. 8, 1974.

Meeting of International, Regional and National Organizations to Establish the International Preparatory Committee for the World Congress for International Women's Year. Tihany, Hungarian People's Republic 4-5 November 1974.

COMMUNIQUE

On 4 and 5 November 1974, an international meeting was convened in Tihany, Hungarian People's Republic, to launch the International Preparatory Committee for the World Congress for International Women's Year, to be held in Berlin, capital of the GDR, from October 20 to 24 1975.

Representatives of 34 international organizations, 11 regional organizations, 34 national organizations and 20 national preparatory committees, coming from 55 countries, were present as guests of the National Council of Hungarian Women.

The meeting was attended by representatives of women's trade union and youth organizations; church bodies and religious organizations; peace, solidarity and human rights and resistance organizations; by representatives of the United Nations and its specialized

agencies, government bodies, United Nations associations, Red Cross societies; teachers', lawyers', artists', journalists', cooperative and child-welfare organizations and political parties; and by Members of Parliament and prominent public figures.

Helvi Sipila, Assistant UN Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and Secretary-General for International Women's Year, addressed the meeting and wished success to the forthcoming Congress.

The discussion was held in an atmosphere of friendly cooperation, and all points of view were expressed.

The participants warmly supported the convening of the World Congress.

In the course of discussion, the participants expressed the view that at the Congress, commissions on the following themes should be set up:

- Equal Rights for Women
- Women and Development
- Women in Society
- Women and Peace
- Solidarity and National Independence
- Cooperation and United Action

Working groups should be formed to prepare basic documents for the commissions, the themes of which could be expanded.

The meeting welcomed the many initiatives which will be undertaken in the course of the International Women's Year and called for the creation of national preparatory committees for the World Congress.

The meeting adopted an appeal that reflected the broad consensus of those present, and it will be widely publicized.

The International Preparatory Committee established at the meeting, comprising international, regional and national organizations and movements, is open to all who agree with the aims of the Congress.

An Executive Committee was formed to coordinate the preparatory work for the Congress. Rules of procedure will be established and an international fund will be launched.

The participants in the meeting agreed that the World Congress should be a very broad forum, and would make an important contribution to the success of International Women's Year.

APPEAL

To women all over the world

To all those who agree with the objectives of International Women's Year

The International Preparatory Committee formed at the Consultative Meeting of various international, regional and national organizations welcomes and supports the UN General Assembly Resolution proclaiming International Women's Year and calls a world congress for Berlin, capital of the GDR, from 20 to 24 October 1975.

The International Preparatory Committee addresses itself to those who believe that all forms of discrimination against women constitute a violation of human rights;

to those who recognize the equal responsibility of men and women in economic, political, social and cultural life, in the family and in the rearing of children;

to those who consider that the full development of society is possible only to the extent that women attain their total and real equality;

to those who consider that the equal contribution of men and women is decisive for human progress, for social justice, democracy, national independence and peace.

Inspired by the objectives of International Women's Year, the International Preparatory Committee calls upon them to make the World Congress a forum open to all opinions, to dialogue, where all points of view can be expressed, a forum that strengthens mutual understanding and unity among the forces for equality, development, national independence and peace.

Let us prepare for and hold the World Congress together.

Together let us make it a culminating event in International Women's Year.

STOP THE TERROR IN GUATEMALA

ON THE ASSASSINATION OF COMRADE HUBERTO ALVARADO

Statement of the Central Committee of the CPSU

On December 20, 1974, the repressive agencies of Guatemala arrested and murdered Comrade Huberto Alvarado, General Secretary

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of the Guatemalan Party of Labor, a noted writer and poet.

The reactionaries, who in 1972 killed Comrade Bernardo Alvarado Monzon and several other Communist leaders, have now perpetrated a new infamous crime.

Comrade Alvarado was a prominent leader of the international Communist and working-class movement, a staunch fighter for peace, democracy and progress, for the vital interests of the Guatemalan people.

The Central Committee of the CPSU emphatically condemns the criminal assassination of Comrade Alvarado, as well as the arbitrary and unlawful practices used against thousands of Guatemalan patriots, who are persecuted by the authorities for their allegiance to the ideals of democracy and freedom.

It expresses sincere condolences to the Central Committee of the Guatemalan Party of Labor on the death of Comrade Huberto Alvarado and once again declares fraternal solidarity with the courageous struggle of the Guatemalan Communists for genuine national independence, democracy and social progress.

EMPHATIC CONDEMNATION

The treacherous murder of Comrade Huberto Alvarado, General Secretary of the Guatemalan Party of Labor, shows again that the Guatemalan reactionaries and the CIA have not abandoned their aim of physically destroying patriots, an activity started in 1954, after the overthrow of the democratic and anti-imperialist government of Jacobo Arbenz, with the result that over 15,000 patriots lost their lives. The attempts of the General Laugerud government to justify this unprecedented crime merely underscore the repressive nature of the present Guatemalan regime and aggravate its responsibility.

Huberto Alvarado was arrested on December 20 and the government admitted this officially. However, 24 hours later his body was found on a highway. It bore the marks of atrocious tortures, the marks of blows all over it, and there were wounds inflicted with side-arms and numerous bullet wounds.

Reactionary terror reigns supreme in Guatemala. Legality and elementary human rights have been completely ignored there for many long years. Nothing can justify either this crime or numerous others. All these facts must be most emphatically condemned by the working people, by all democratic forces. The assassination commit-

ted in Guatemala must bring energetic protests from all international organizations, and first of all from the United Nations. The campaign of exterminating the finest spokesmen of the people which Guatemalan reaction backed and abetted by the CIA is carrying on, can no longer be tolerated and is incompatible with the sentiments of any people on earth. It is a challenge to progressive world opinion, which upholds human rights and has set brilliant examples of solidarity, as when it identified itself with the Chilean people against the fascist junta's atrocities.

We representatives of a number of Latin American Communist parties emphatically condemn the treacherous killing of Huberto Alvarado and his comrades, and the atrocities that have been committed in Guatemala over the past 20 years, and earnestly urge the whole of progressive mankind to pillory those responsible for the brutal repression in Guatemala.

On behalf of our parties, we express to the Guatemalan Party of Labor, its leadership and its every member deep condolences and militant solidarity on the assassination of Huberto Alvarado and other comrades.

Stay the criminal hand of reaction and imperialism, the assassins of Guatemalan patriots!

Long live the Guatemalan Party of Labor!

Luis Carlos Prestes, General Secretary of the Brazilian Communist Party; Ruben Dario Souza, General Secretary of the People's Party of Panama; Jorge Shafic Handal, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Salvador; Eduardo Mora Valverde, Central Committee Secretary of the People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica; Carlos Reyes Daglio, Executive Committee member of the Communist Party of Uruguay; Eduardo Montes, Central Committee member of the Mexican Communist Party.

Pravda, December 29, 1974

THE GUATEMALAN TRAGEDY

On December 20, Guatemalan reactionaries murdered Comrade Huberto Alvarado Arellano, General Secretary of the Guatemalan Party of Labor. His body, found near a highway in the vicinity of the capital, bore the marks of savage tortures.

Comrade Alvarado was a prominent public leader, writer, poet and

journalist. He was seized during a regular round-up carried out by troops and police in several districts of the capital. The pretext for the round-up during which hundreds of people were arrested in their homes and taken away to an unknown destination, was a search for the kidnappers of a wealthy industrialist. According to well-informed sources in Guatemala, Mexico and other countries, the Guatemalan government had decided to use this pretext for physically eliminating numerous opposition leaders, primarily Communists.

Political assassinations are by no means exceptional in present-day Guatemala. The bodies of men and women killed by hirelings of the regime are found in the mornings on the roads or in the streets or are fished out of rivers. There have been cases of people discovering whole "clandestine" graveyards.

It is easy to trace back the current bloody events to the presidential "elections" of March 1974. In December 1973 the outgoing President General Arana Osorio, said he was sure his candidate would win the election. That candidate was General Eugenio Laugerud.

Under the Constitution now in force, only one in every five Guatemalans is eligible for voting. All left-wing parties, first of all the Guatemalan Party of Labor (Communists), have been outlawed. *Le Monde Diplomatique*, the French bourgeois journal, wrote that only those whom the dictatorial military regime suited well could seek election to the Presidency or the Chamber of Deputies. The election campaign took place in an atmosphere of increased terror which under the Arana government cost 6,000 Guatemalans their lives.

Nevertheless, it was not the government nominee but General Rios Monta, the "legal opposition" candidate, that most electors voted for. This outcome did not satisfy the ruling top and, under pressure from the reactionary military, parliament recognized General Laugerud, who had polled 100,000 votes less than his rival, to be the "winner."

During the rule of General Arana and his predecessors the numerous social and economic problems grew more acute. Now as in the past, less than two per cent of the landowners hold three-fourths of the cultivated land area. The country has a population of 5.5 million, including about two million Indians who are actually barred from the country. According to official statistics, 600,000 Guatemalans are jobless and one million work part time. In the towns, only eight per cent hold permanent jobs.

Yet many Guatemalans remember the Arevalo and Arbenz governments, attempting to carry out radical bourgeois democratic re-

forms in 1944-1954. Under a decree issued at the time, about 100,000 peasants were allotted land (January 1953-June 1954). A very important progressive measure was the expropriation of 84,000 hectares of uncultivated land from the United Fruit Company, a North American monopoly. On the other hand, this move led off the liquidation of Guatemala's sovereignty. John F. Dulles, the then U.S. Secretary of State and an advocate of the big stick policy, made an arrogant anti-Guatemalan speech at an inter-American conference in Caracas (March 1954), describing the agrarian reform in Guatemala as an instrument of "communist colonization." His speech was the signal for open interference in the affairs of a sovereign country. Shortly afterwards, a CIA conspiracy led to an invasion of Guatemala by a mercenary army equipped with U.S. arms. The Arbenz government was overthrown and thousands of patriots were killed.

Ever since then brute force and arbitrary practices have been the answer to every manifestation of opposition, however slight. Anti-communism has become the official doctrine of the regime. General Arana made a revealing statement on this point. "I will make Guatemala a stronghold of anti-communism," he said, "even if I have to reduce it to a graveyard."

The world public is shocked by the death of Huberto Alvarado, killed by stooges of the CIA and the imperialist United Fruit Company. The Guatemalan people's executioners and those who protect them shall have to answer for their crimes.

V. Afanasyev

Pravda, December 30, 1974

IN BRIEF

HUNGARY

A delegation of the Communist Party of Finland headed by Chairman Aarne Saarinen visited Hungary October 31 to November 7, 1974. It was received by First Secretary Janos Kadar and had talks with Political Bureau member and Central Committee Secretary Bela Biszku; Political Bureau member and Chairman of the Fatherland Popular Front Gyula Kallai; and Central Committee Secretary Miklos Ovari.

A communique on the visit says that during the talks, held in a

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warm and comradely atmosphere, the representatives of both parties told each other of the situation in their countries and the work of their parties.

Early convening of the third stage of the European Security and Cooperation Conference at summit level, the sides noted, is of great importance for world détente, and peace and security in Europe.

Common tasks and social progress call for greater unity and more coordinated action of the international communist and workers' movement. That is why the two parties attach great importance to the conference of European Communist and Workers' parties and are active in preparations for it. In the opinion of both parties, conditions are ripening for a new international conference of Communist and Workers' parties.

ISRAEL

The Communist Party of Israel said it considers the Palestine resolution of the 29th Session of the UN General Assembly an important contribution to world peace and the final settlement of the Middle East conflict. The number of votes for the resolution is indicative of the Israeli government's growing international isolation and public support for the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Neither fierce repression in the occupied territories nor military threats against Arab countries by the government and ultra-right forces in Israel can prevent the realization of worldwide demands to put an end to the Mideast crisis and find a just solution of the Palestine question.

PORTUGAL

A joint communique on talks between a delegation of the French Communist Party and leaders of the Portuguese Communist Party was issued in Lisbon on November 14, 1974.

The leaders told the French comrades of the events in Portugal, the Party's efforts in democratizing the country, the alliance of the working people with the Armed Forces Movement, and the progress in decolonization.

The delegation expressed full solidarity with the activity of the Armed Forces Movement, the Portuguese Communist Party and other democratic forces. It described the situation in France and the workers' struggle for carrying out the Common Program of democratic change.

Both parties, the communique notes, reaffirmed their solidarity

with the peoples still oppressed by fascism, racism and colonialism. They welcome the progress in international détente and consider it necessary to make new efforts for an early conclusion of the European Security and Cooperation Conference at summit level. Both parties also reaffirmed their desire to promote the unity of the international communist and workers' movement on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in accordance with the ideas set forth by the 1969 international communist conference in Moscow.

SRI LANKA

The Communist Party of Sri Lanka considers it necessary to call a new international conference of Communist and Workers' parties to discuss the important changes that have taken place in the world since the 1969 Meeting and work out common positions and tactics in line with the new situation. Reporting on this resolution of the Central Committee, the Party newspaper *Aththa* adds that it has been sent to other fraternal Communist parties.

USSR

Delegations of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of Austria met in Moscow in November 1974.

The CPSU was represented by Political Bureau member and CC Secretary M.A. Suslov; alternate Political Bureau member and CC Secretary B.N. Ponomaryov; CC Secretary V.I. Dolgikh; and Central Auditing Commission member and deputy head of the CC International Department V.V. Zagladin.

The CPA was represented by Party Chairman F. Muhri; Political Bureau member and CC Secretary E. Scharf; Political Bureau and Secretariat member H. Kalt; CC member and head of the CC International Department H. Steiner; and CC member E. Schmidt.

Both delegations noted with satisfaction the positive achievements in world détente. They regard as a historic task the establishment of a reliable security system in Europe based on firm relations of peaceful cooperation among its nations. In this connection they attach great importance to the early conclusion of the European Security and Cooperation Conference at summit level.

The new situation creates more favorable conditions for expanding the struggle for economic and political rights, radical democratic change and socialism.

The two parties hail the overthrow of the fascist dictatorships in

Portugal and Greece and express their solidarity with the Communist parties and all anti-fascist democratic forces in those countries. They demand an end to the persecution of democrats in Chile and Uruguay and immediate freedom for CPC General Secretary Luis Corvalan, CPU First Secretary Rodney Arismendi and all jailed democrats and patriots.

Both delegations reaffirmed the resolve of their parties to work for world communist unity on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. They stressed the harm of anti-communism and anti-Sovietism in any form for the struggle of the working class and all anti-imperialist forces.

Both parties declared their resolve to help in every way to carry out the recommendations of the Warsaw consultative meeting in preparing and holding a conference of European Communist and Workers' parties which, they are firmly convinced, will greatly contribute toward making Europe a continent of lasting peace and cooperation and promote the cause of democracy and socialism.

The CPSU and CPA favor the further development of government ties between the Soviet Union and Austria, the expansion of commercial, economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation and the strengthening of friendly relations between the Soviet and Austrian peoples.

Practical steps were considered for broader fraternal ties and cooperation between the two parties.

The meetings took place in an atmosphere of complete unity, cordiality and mutual understanding.

VENEZUELA

On November 3, 1974, the Communist parties of Venezuela and Colombia signed a joint statement calling for a peaceful settlement of the border disputes in the Gulf of Venezuela. It warns the Venezuelan and Colombian peoples of the dangers of the chauvinistic campaign which has been mounting recently and fanning the conflict between their countries.

The campaign is directly linked with imperialist attempts to keep control over the natural resources of the two nations. Its prime task is to create difficulties for the Venezuelan government and prevent it from carrying out its oil nationalization plans.

