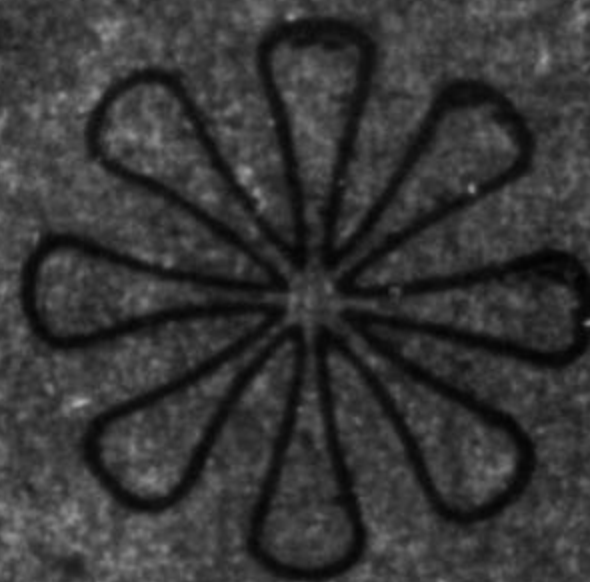
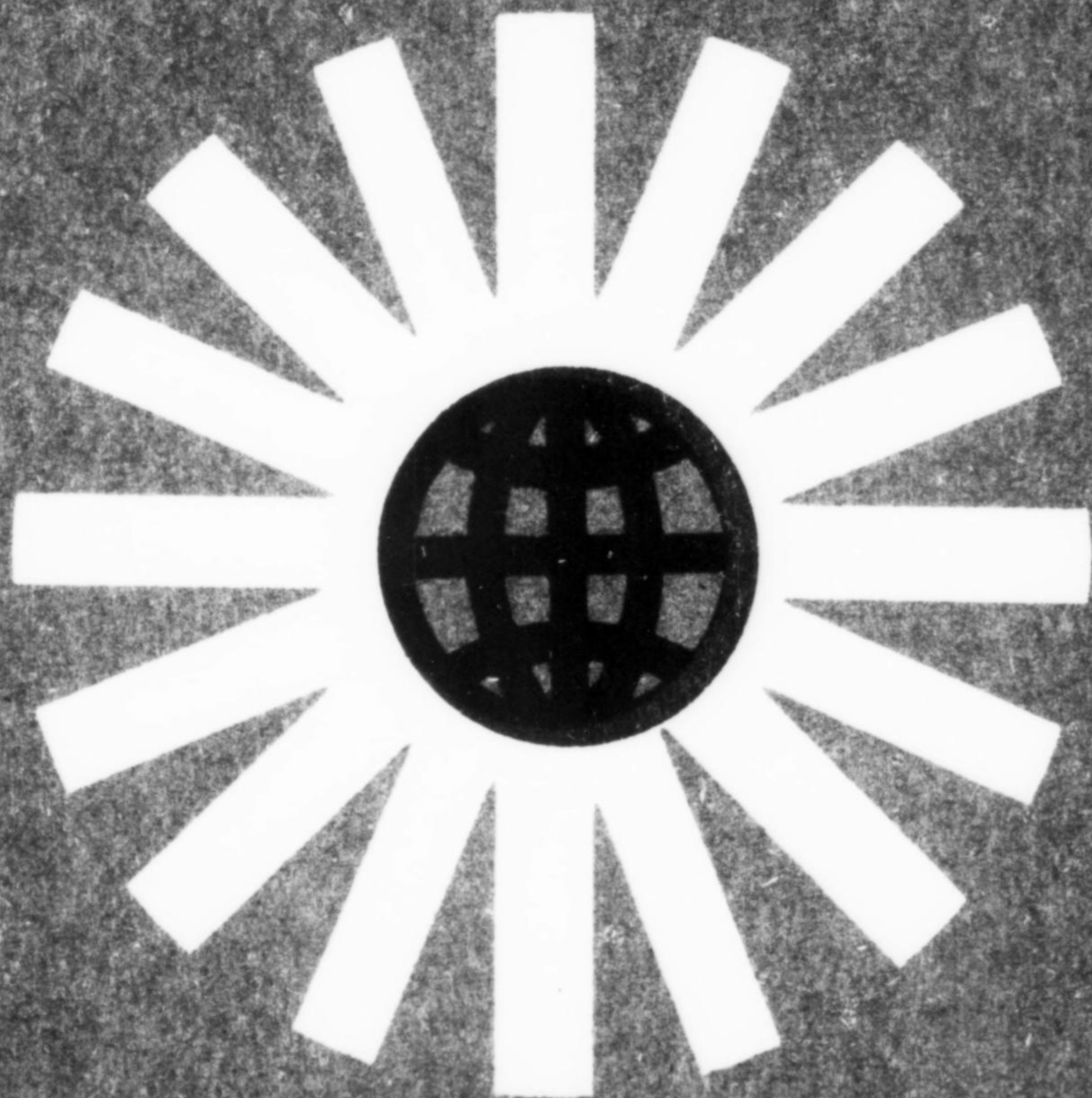


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July 31, 1975



THE 21ST CONVENTION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE USA

The 21st Convention of the Communist Party was held in Chicago from June 26 to 30.

Chicago is the country's industrial heartland and home base of its working class. With a population of four million, it is famous for its steel plants, machine-building, electrical appliances, mining and other industrial equipment.

Chicago is primarily a city of working people. In the hearts of millions it is associated with the glorious traditions of the working class.

Chicago was the birthplace of many big trade unions: railroad workers, steelworkers, packinghouse workers and others. Here in 1919 the Communist Party of the USA was founded.

Fifty-six years later the U.S. Communists once again gathered in Chicago. Theirs has been a difficult and heroic struggle in conditions of police persecution, the onslaught of reaction and outright attempts at physical extermination of the Party.

Delegates came from all over the country: workers from factories and mines, farmers and office employees. Among them were veteran members and young Communists.

The U.S. Communists have been active fighters for the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems, for trade with the Soviet Union and for an end to all discrimination and restriction in this field. In the struggle for détente they see the most effective tool of struggle for the interests of the working class.

The Convention met in a situation when the United States and other capitalist countries are experiencing the most severe economic crisis since the "great depression" of the 1930s. In the year and a half of the crisis the real wages of workers and other employees have fallen by 11 per cent, and the quality of life is deteriorating. In approximately the same period corporation profits have gone up by 17 per cent.

In these conditions the U.S. Communists see their primary duty in mobilizing the masses for struggle against the monopoly offensive.

National chairman Henry Winston opened the Convention with a short introductory speech.

The delegates and guests gathered in the big hall of the Ambassador Hotel were welcomed by a representative of the local Party organization.

Then, warmly greeted by the delegates, general secretary Gus Hall delivered the main political report.

In its first part he gave a deep analysis of the economic crisis the capitalist system, and especially the United States, is going through. Among the many problems facing the American people the most critical is the devastating effect of the economic crisis.

Citing numerous facts, Gus Hall showed the serious deterioration in the quality of life of the working people and noted that the overriding mood is anger and a rising militancy to strike back.

The primary task of the Communists is to organize a mass movement. The cardinal question for us is how to develop struggles for jobs, how to stop the deterioration of the living standards of the working people, how to make the rich, the banks and the corporations pay for the crisis they have created, and how to impel the government to tackle the vital problems and face the needs of the people.

The main contradiction of this epoch is between socialism and capitalism. The lines for this confrontation were drawn and the gauntlet was thrown down with the birth of the first socialist state, the Soviet Union. During this epoch, the confrontation between these two systems has been the main factor in shaping world history.

This has significance because today there is a new reality. Today the cardinal factor determining the direction of human events is the qualitative shift in the balance between these two opposite forces.

A fundamental process of this epoch is the deterioration, the degeneration, of world capitalism. This general crisis of capitalism is generated by its internal contradictions based on its inner laws of development. It deepens because there simply are no possible basic or longer range solutions to the problems of society under capitalism. This is now true even in the richest and strongest of the capitalist countries. Capitalism is simply not for these times.

The general crisis deepens because the last of the old colonial empires is crumbling. The general crisis deepens because capitalism failed to move the liberated countries toward the capitalist path of development. The general crisis deepens because while the measures

and regulations of state-monopoly capitalism may be of momentary benefit to some sectors, they do not solve the fundamental problems but add to the chaos, the anarchy, the contradiction and antagonism within capitalism.

U.S. capitalism is running out of some of its traditional reserves. As the contradictions of monopoly capital sharpen, the inherent tendencies toward reactionary positions become more pronounced. On the agenda of repression is a serious danger that Congress will pass a law that will replace the notorious Smith Act. It is a law that is anti-communist, anti-labor and racist. It would give a blank check to the FBI, CIA, the immigration border guards and all public officials in an attempt to revive McCarthyism. We must keep a sharp eye on how, in the U.S. in the 1970s, monopoly capital is preparing the political and ideological soil and the climate in which fascism can come to power.

The continuing achievements of the socialist countries in building socialism, and the continuing decay of the capitalist world, add a new quality to the competition between the two world systems. Because of this the comparison of the overall quality of life between the two systems has itself become an important factor influencing the historic transition from capitalism to socialism. This continues to add its force to the general crisis of capitalism.

The direction, the main essence of the trends of this epoch, is clearly sketched by the rising curve in the building of socialism. The fact that the Soviet Union alone now produces over 20 per cent of the world's industrial production is of tremendous significance.

After the continuous struggle against the imperialist forces of France and Japan, and then against the brutal aggression of U.S. imperialism, Vietnam is now at peace, free, independent, and on the road to unity. Southeast Asia is now off limits for imperialism for all times.

The events in Indochina, the collapse of Portugal's colonial empire in Africa, and the smashing of the fascist rule in Portugal bring to light some new relationships reflecting the new phenomena in the world. There is a new relationship between the countries of socialism and the forces of national liberation. There is a closer association of the anti-imperialist, anti-fascist and anti-capitalist trends. They come about because of the increasing leadership role of the working class in the world. This trend of unity is a reflection of the new level of influence of socialism. The example of the building of socialism is a new force in all struggles. And finally the trend takes place because of the increasing influence of the science of Marxism-Leninism and the

Communist parties in all movements. On the other side of the coin, this trend of unity is evidence of the decline of the influence of bourgeois ideology — a decline of the influence of petty bourgeois concepts, including the bankruptcy of Maoism.

In their attacks on détente the Maoist phony-left join ranks with the imperialist ultra-right forces. Of course, the Maoists try to have it both ways. When they think they have a left audience they say détente is “the new opportunism prettifying imperialism.” When they have the ear of the imperialist spokesmen they warn them about the Soviets attempting to “export revolution.”

The imperialist ultra-right and the Maoist phony-left are not confused. They are against détente. They are for a return to the cold war. As Marxists we do not base our policies or our hopes on the importing or exporting of revolutions and we do not do so for very practical reasons. It is impossible to export revolutions, with or without détente. On the other hand, while détente does not mean the exporting of revolutions, it is a very definite obstacle to the exporting of counter-revolutions.

Gus Hall further noted that the policy of détente is the struggle to prevent a nuclear disaster, to give the concept of peaceful coexistence the force of agreement and international law, to scrap the U.S. imperialist restrictions on trade with the socialist countries. The pressure of the pro-war forces to return to the outlook of the cold war only makes it more urgent to increase efforts in the struggle for détente. The struggle for détente is an ongoing and continuous battle, the right concept at the right moment and in the right epoch. To expect imperialism to accept détente willingly and without a struggle is to live in a world of illusions.

In the context of today's world it is difficult if not impossible to be for world peace and against détente, because détente is the struggle for peace in the realities of today. The struggle for détente is the basis for the broadest unity of the forces of peace. At this time it is the centerpiece in the struggle against world imperialism, for world peace and social progress.

Actively calling for cooperation among nations, the socialist countries are making a historic contribution to the mass struggles, to the struggle against imperialism and, of course, to the struggle for the triumph of socialism the world over. Each for their own specific purposes, the imperialist ultra-right, the Maoist phony-left and the leadership of the Zionist movements are the anti-détente confluence, the hard core of the pro-cold war, pro-imperialist forces of today.

The struggle for détente on our part, Gus Hall stressed, is a struggle for a U.S. foreign policy that is in the best possible interests of the people of the U.S. The essence of this struggle is to: close all U.S. military bases the world over; block all attempts to return to the cold war; frustrate all attempts of military aggression; block all aid to the racist, military and fascist dictatorships; put an end to all economic and trade blockades; cancel the huge war appropriation; sign the SALT agreements; open up trade with all countries on the basis of equality.

In conclusion, Gus Hall analyzed in detail the new tendencies in the trade union movement, noting the growing class-consciousness of the working people.

The Communist Party is relevant, he said, because it refuses to be swayed by opportunistic pressures, because it refuses to follow will-o'-the-wisp, subjective fantasies. It is the Party with working-class principles. It does not compromise to the ruling class, and not to the publicity agents or media of that class. It has a working-class loyalty and is in the class struggle.

Plenary sittings discussed Gus Hal's political report.

First to be examined by the Convention was the most pressing issue of today — the contribution which U.S. Communists make at present and should make in the future to détente and U.S.-Soviet relations based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, and the most effective ways of preserving peace for the good of both countries and the whole of mankind.

The Soviet Union's unrelenting struggle for the maintenance and consolidation of world peace, said James Jackson, a veteran of the American labor movement and a member of the Party's Political Committee, is supported by more and more people. It is a model with which to compare other governments' statements and moves over a problem on whose solution the future of mankind hinges, the problem of ensuring genuine peace, stopping the arms race and preventing a third world war.

The manifold activities of the Soviet Communist Party on the world scene aimed at implementing the great Peace Program of its 24th Congress, James Jackson stressed, made an immense contribution to the effort to safeguard peace, provide favorable conditions for the victory of democratic and revolutionary forces and consolidate the gains of the worldwide revolutionary movement.

Tony Montero, a Pennsylvania delegate, said that the Party's primary task today is to combat anti-Sovietism, which is fomented by both

extreme right-wing reactionaries and the Maoists, who make common cause with them.

It is the Soviet example, Tony Montero said, that paves the way for lasting international détente. This purpose was served by such Soviet initiatives as the proposals for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, for the limitation and reduction of arms, and for the abolition of military bases on foreign soil.

It is our duty, the speaker said, to work without let-up for closer relations with the Soviet Union and for the lifting of all discriminatory curbs on trade with the Soviet Union, which would meet the American people's vital interests and the interests of the struggle for disarmament and peaceful coexistence.

The Convention hailed the speech of Myra Talbot, a delegate who is a member of the World Peace Council. She called on the U.S. Communists to work steadfastly for the promotion of the policy of détente. The experience of recent years showed that peace can be safeguarded but that there are obstacles to be removed first. The main obstacle is the continuing arms race, which is a waste of national resources and lowers the standard of living.

The policy of détente, Myra Talbot said, provides new opportunities to strengthen peace and meet the pressing interests of the people. Détente is a weapon in the fight against the arbitrariness of monopolies, against aggression, colonialism and racism.

Gus Hall stressed in his political report that the CP USA is an inseparable component of the world communist movement. The Party has very good relations with other Communist parties. Those are relations of genuine comradeship and friendship. The Party fully supports the idea of an early international meeting of Communist and Workers' parties. We consider, Hall said, that the international communist movement should be an object of our collective attention and that this cooperation would benefit our Party, just as we would contribute to it.

Speakers pointed to the need of stepping up efforts for the unity of the international communist and working-class movement on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

The delegates unanimously passed a resolution saying that the 21st Convention supports the proposal advanced in the political report for convening an international meeting of Communist and Workers' parties. The meeting would greatly promote the international solidarity of the working class and make the policy of détente irreversible. Such a meeting should be held as early as possible.

The duty of our Party, said national chairman Henry Winston, is to direct all its efforts toward achieving social justice — jobs, prosperity and peace for the working people.

The Party champions the unity and cohesion of all left and progressive forces. A united front is not a temporary phenomenon but a struggle for the leading role of the working class.

Henry Winston condemned the divisive anti-communist activity of the Maoists. Maoism, he said, has broken with Marxism-Leninism. It has made outspoken chauvinism its banner. Maoism had committed a class betrayal in regard to the Chinese people and the peoples of the world.

Communists all over the world, Winston pointed out, are the main force of social progress, the national-liberation movement and the fight for peace, a force set in motion by the Great October Socialist Revolution and the science of Marxism-Leninism.

In view of the decisive role of Communist parties and their tremendous potentialities, the CP USA declares for the speedy convocation of a new meeting of Communist and Workers' parties. This is necessitated by the course of contemporary history. There is no reason whatever to stall on this.

Delegates stressed that the struggle for the working people's vital interests is inseparable from the struggle for peace, against the arms race, for a reduction of the sky-rocketing military budget.

The relevant resolution says that the struggle for détente must be made concrete. It gives the American people the means for cutting the military budget and furthering normal relations with the Soviet Union. Détente can become irreversible if the Communists help direct the mass struggles against its enemies: the Pentagon and the industrial financial interests dictating its war-based budget, against the reactionary class-collaborationist leadership of Meany, against the Zionists and Maoist-inspired betrayers of the best interests of the people. A peace movement to be effective must reject anti-Sovietism, anti-communism and expose the "two superpowers" concept of the Maoists.

The resolution stresses the history of the efforts of the Soviet Union in the interests of establishing world peace must be made known to the people of the United States.

It says that on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the victory over fascism the Soviet Union issued an appeal to all peoples, parliaments and governments to put an end to cold war policy, stop interference in the internal affairs of states and concentrate on creating an

atmosphere of confidence so as to ensure a lasting peace on earth. A major task of the peace movement, the resolution notes, is to force the U.S. government to respond favorably to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union.

The delegates warmly applauded the Soviet Communists' message of greetings to the Convention, read out by H. Ristorucci, a member of the Party's Central Committee.

Messages of greetings from the Communist parties of Chile and South Africa, which are fighting in particularly difficult conditions, and from the Communist and Workers' parties of other countries were greeted with enthusiasm. The special enlarged sitting of the Convention devoted to international communist solidarity was a rousing manifestation of proletarian internationalism.

The Communist and Workers' parties of over 70 countries wanted to send delegations but were all refused entry visas. Those in the State Department who like to talk about the "free flow of people and exchange of ideas and information" barred from Chicago representatives of the biggest and most influential political parties of the world.

Nevertheless, the atmosphere in the grand hall of Chicago's Hotel Ambassador was one of international solidarity and proletarian internationalism. Support for revolutionary movements is inseparable from communist and proletarian internationalism, Gus Hall said.

It is from these fundamental Marxist positions that the Convention sharply condemned the treacherous splitting activities of the Maoists. "The opposition of the Maoists to détente," a resolution says, "divides the peace forces, is anti-Soviet and is, in effect, a source of great support to U.S. imperialism in its attempts to crush the forces of national liberation."

The U.S. Communists consider it their internationalist duty to promote fraternal relations with socialist countries, a Congress resolution says. The achievements of socialism were a factor capable of making détente irreversible.

An outstanding development in relation to détente is the European Security Conference, which sets a pattern for peaceful coexistence applicable to other parts of the world.

The Convention emphatically condemned the terror maintained by the Chilean fascist junta and its imperialist patrons. It demanded restoration of all human rights in Chile and the immediate release of Luis Corvalan and other political prisoners of fascism.

Welcoming the victory of the Vietnamese people, the Convention

said: "In the spirit of friendship, solidarity and sense of responsibility for the ravages inflicted in Vietnam, the American people must call upon the U.S. government to live up to the Paris Agreement . . . It (the agreement) states that the U.S. will contribute to the healing of the wounds and to the postwar reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and throughout Indochina."

A resolution unanimously adopted by the Convention stresses that the only road to peace in the Middle East is the implementation of the UN resolutions providing for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied territories of Arab countries. This is the only way to assure the security of every state in the area and self-determination for the Arab people of Palestine.

As Gus Hall stressed at the concluding sitting on June 30, the Convention demonstrated the unity and cohesion of the U.S. Communists on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and their increased activity and influence among the masses.

On the final day the Convention moved from the Ambassador Hotel to the Chicago Amphitheater, where at noon a mass rally was held with the participation of progressive Americans from all over the country. Among those gathered in the hall were unemployed, victims of monopoly exploitation and racism who came to voice their support for the Communists consistently upholding the rights of the working people and to take part, together with them and in their own way, in the celebrations of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution.

The 200-year history of the United States, says the Convention's resolution, is a history of capitalism; of class struggle, of a struggle between the exploited and the exploiters. The contradiction between these two classes has been and is the main contradiction of the 200-year existence of our society.

A vivid speech delivered by Gus Hall was enthusiastically acclaimed.

In the five work-filled days of the Convention the delegates examined the economic situation, discussed questions of mass work, and outlined ways of further consolidation and growth of Party ranks. Much attention was devoted to problems of the struggle for international détente and further strengthening the world communist movement on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Convention unanimously supported the idea of an early new international meeting of Communist and Workers' parties.

At the final sitting the results of elections to the Party's leading bodies were announced. A Central Committee of 66 was elected,

including a number of new, young members. The Convention unanimously elected Henry Winston national chairman and Gus Hall general secretary of the Party.

The Credentials Committee report reflected the positive changes in the Party over the last few years. The Convention was attended by 367 voting delegates from more than 30 states. Among them were 117 industrial workers and 32 unemployed, 176 Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Indians and representatives of other oppressed ethnic groups. The Party's growth and influx of young members was reflected in the fact that 277 delegates were people under 40.

The concluding sitting adopted the main political resolution, a product of the collective efforts not only of the delegates but also of the many Party activists who discussed the draft in the days preceding the Convention. The resolution gives a Marxist-Leninist analysis of the main features of the present-day international situation, the general crisis of capitalism and its manifestations in the United States, the tasks of Party work in the trade unions, youth and other mass organizations, and questions of Party building.

The present-day epoch, the resolution notes, is one of the deepening general crisis of capitalism, the last days of colonialism and the emergence of socialism as the advanced and leading force in the world arena. The contest between the two systems embodies the main contradiction of modern society, which has become the cardinal feature of the world scene since the birth of the Soviet Union.

The new stage in the general crisis of capitalism is characterized, in particular, by the new alignment of forces between imperialism and socialism in favor of the latter. A shift in the balance of military forces acts as a deterrent against imperialist aggression.

There is a shift in the balance of economic production. Between 1913 and 1973 production in the Soviet Union increased 113 times. In the same period production in the United States went up ninefold.

There is also a shift in the balance of the overall quality of life between the two systems. Socialism has surpassed capitalism in providing a higher, more satisfying quality of life, social and economic security, standards of education, medical care, culture and the overall conditions for a more meaningful, happy and secure life.

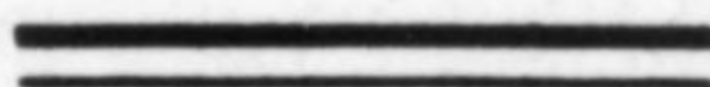
Analyzing the present situation in the world, the Convention noted that Maoism is rampant nationalism turned into great-power chauvinism. Opportunism and nationalism have combined in Maoism. The ultra-right and fascist forces in the United States are against the policies of U.S.-Soviet détente, and Maoism is completely with them.

The Convention devoted considerable attention to the fascist threat in the United States. It pointed out that the bankruptcy, inability and refusal of those in power to put forward any program for the solution of the problems of the growing army of millions of unemployed and other victims of the economic crisis, on the one hand, and the mounting fascist threat, on the other, emphasize the need for an anti-monopoly political party that would meet the aspirations of the people.

We Communists, Gus Hall stressed, come out for the unity of all progressive and left forces. The basis of that unity is the joint struggle against unemployment and monopolies; differences on all other issues can be set aside.

Détente means trade, jobs, disarmament, peace: that slogan addressed to the participants of the mass rally in the Chicago Amphitheater was one of the Convention's main appeals. The U.S. Communists see détente as first and foremost a struggle to avert nuclear catastrophe, for the application of the principles of peaceful co-existence as a norm of international life. It was repeatedly stressed at the Convention that the profound economic crisis could be overcome, the sores eating American society healed, unemployment liquidated, and the working people's living standard raised only through a drastic cut in military spending and the use of the sums freed for the benefit of the people.

All this, the Convention resolution says, can be achieved only if the process of international détente becomes irreversible. Therefore it is the sacred duty of Communists to bring home to all working people the concrete content of détente.



PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A Central Committee plenum of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, held July 2-3 in the Prague Castle, discussed a proposal to call the Party's 15th congress, questions of a further implementation of the November 1974 plenum decisions and the guidelines for drafting the sixth five-year economic plan and the plan for 1976.

Speaking on the first two items of the agenda, General Secretary Gustav Husak, on behalf of the Central Committee Presidium, proposed convening the 15th congress next April. It is a propitious time, internationally and nationally, Husak said, for deciding to call the Party congress and starting preparations for it. The decisions of the 14th Congress were accepted and supported by the overwhelming majority of the working class, farmers and intellectuals. They became a program for the whole of our socialist society. Good progress has been achieved in carrying out the congress program in all spheres. The Communist Party has expanded its leading role in society. Mass organizations of the National Front have improved their organizational work and are contributing to the fulfillment of the 14th Congress decisions. In the economic sphere, the existence of certain problems has not hampered successful implementation of the upwardly revised targets of the 1975 plan.

It is safe to say, Husak noted, that the five-year plan will be fulfilled. The 14th Congress's program in the sphere of social policy is also being consistently put into effect. Living standards are steadily rising, and the working people's confidence in the future is growing together with their confidence in the policy of the Party. At the congress the Central Committee will be able to report to all Communists, and the Party to the entire people, on the results of successful work in all spheres of life, of which they can be justly proud.

The Party has acquired considerable experience since the 14th Congress. The political consciousness of the working class, cooperative farmers and intellectuals has grown, as has their cohesion

with the socialist system, our domestic and foreign policies.

During preparations for the congress it will be necessary to give heightened attention to the Party itself, insofar as its internal dynamics, composition and standards of work as the leading force of socialist society and the vanguard of the working class are of decisive importance for the success of socialist construction. In this connection Husak analyzed achievements in improving the quality of Party ranks since the 14th Congress.

Since then and up to April 1 of this year, 245,837 people joined the Party as probationary members; 62 per cent of them were industrial workers, 90 per cent under the age of 35, and almost half under 25.

This influx of new and, most important, young members and probationary members calls for special attention to their education and involvement in political work. Educational work must be stepped up at all levels so as to rear these young people as politically aware and tested Communists dedicated to the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, fully knowledgeable of the revolutionary traditions of the Party and international communist movement, and prepared to promote those traditions in future.

Gustav Husak then discussed mass political work among the workers, farmers and intellectuals. He pointed out that very good results had been achieved in this field since the 14th congress. Proof of the people's confidence in the Party's policies were the celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army, the May Day celebrations, and the Spartakiade.

All this has served to reaffirm the people's clear support for the socialist system, the Party's policy and the alliance with the Soviet Union and other brother socialist countries. The Spartakiade, which won worldwide admiration, was not only an impressive sports event but also a major political demonstration, a demonstration of the level of physical culture in the Czechoslovak socialist state and of the activities of the Communist Party.

All these circumstances create most favorable conditions for the Central Committee, regional, district and primary Party organizations to sum up the work done since the 14th Congress; they give strength, confidence and optimism for future work.

In preparing the congress, Husak continued, we shall remember that we are a part of the socialist community, have firm ties with the Soviet Union and are inseparable from the international communist and workers' movement.

Husak dwelt on the fulfillment of the decisions of the November

1974 Central Committee plenum. In a relatively short time the Communists working in Party bodies and organizations, the government, state agencies and national committees, public and economic organizations and other spheres have done a great deal in the political and organizational respects. The decisions of the November plenum are being implemented in all spheres, and in many cases fine results have already been achieved.

Husak stressed that it was essential to work continuously to carry out the November plenum decisions because they set out long-term tasks.

This plenum, which will decide on convening the 15th congress, he said, should become the beginning of a major and inspiring political campaign. It is therefore necessary to step up the activity of all Party organizations and members to the utmost, expand the Party's mass political work, and ensure the consistent fulfillment of the economic plan targets. There are real conditions for achieving good results, but the more convincing they are the better will it be to begin the year 1976 and the sixth five-year plan.

We must constantly improve the standard of our work, Husak said. In the first place, it is necessary to raise communist responsibility and fidelity to principle and strengthen the sober, realistic optimism in the Party ranks and the working people, optimism that stems from our experience and from the working people's confidence in, and support for, the Party's policies. It is necessary to assure the continued expansion of the policy of positive development adopted after the 14th Congress.

A report on the guidelines for drafting the sixth five-year plan and the 1976 plan was delivered by Lubomir Strougal, member of the Central Committee Presidium. He disclosed that the national income would be 28,000-29,000 million crowns higher than set by the plan, and almost 31 per cent higher than in 1970.

The results achieved confirm that the political and economic conception of the 14th Congress is correct, and it has successfully stood all tests, Strougal said. In the sixth five-year plan period national economic development will be based fully on Czechoslovakia's participation in the international division of labor and the socialist economic integration. This enables us to build our plans on a broader base and with a long-term perspective.

In guiding the elaboration of the sixth five-year plan, the Central Committee Presidium pursues the objective of further expanding the material and technical base and socialist production relations, increas-

ing the role of the working class in society and strengthening its ties with the cooperative farmers and socialist intelligentsia, enhancing the large-commodity character of agriculture, and developing education, science and culture. The Party's main concern remains assuring a prosperous and peaceful life for the working people and stimulating the creative energy, ability and activities of all people.

In the coming five-year period, Strougal continued, it will be necessary to achieve an average annual five per cent increase in the national income. At least 94 per cent of this increase must come from higher labor productivity.

In conclusion, Strougal formulated two main tasks: fulfill, and where necessary overfulfill, the fifth five-year plan, and draft the guidelines for the sixth five-year plan and draw up the plan for 1976.

We can carry out these tasks only with the active participation and initiative of the working people, Strougal noted, stressing the need to develop the experience of the socialist emulation drive in honor of the 30th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation by the Soviet Army. Strougal called for a further expansion of the socialist emulation drive and mass initiatives to mark the coming Party congress.

Twenty-five people spoke at the plenum, which unanimously decided on convening the 15th Party congress on April 12, 1976. It also defined the tasks of Party bodies and organizations in a continued implementation of the November 1974 plenum decisions and in drafting the sixth five-year plan and the plan for 1976.

The Plenum unanimously elected Vaclav Hula full member of the Presidium, and Jan Baryl alternate member.

A concluding address was delivered by Gustav Husak.

Rude Pravo, July 3 and 4, 1975

PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST WORKERS' PARTY

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party met in plenary session of July 2 in Budapest, with First Secretary Janos Kadar in the chair. The meeting discussed and approved a report on the elections to the National Assembly (parliament) and a

report on progress in fulfilling the decisions of the December 1974 meeting of the Central Committee and the economic plan and state budget in the first five months of this year.

The communiqué on the meeting points out that preparations for the National Assembly elections and the elections themselves proceeded in an auspicious political atmosphere, with the people participating actively. "In these elections," the communiqué says, "the Hungarian people demonstrated their confidence in the Party and the Patriotic People's Front and took a common stand on the program for building a developed socialist society. The Hungarian people expressed their approval of our foreign-policy objectives, thus confirming that these objectives effectively serve the interests of the Hungarian People's Republic and universal progress and peace....

"The elections strengthened the political mainstay of our system, the worker-peasant alliance. The political cooperation of Communists and non-party people became closer and the aims of our creative labor were supported by citizens of diverse outlooks. The elections were a fresh proof of the further progress of socialist democracy."

The communiqué says that "the economic and political objectives outlined by the December 1974 plenum are correct. The economy continued to develop dynamically in spite of the fact that in the first five months of this year world economic conditions became still more complicated. In the main economic branches of the country social production developed according to the plan. In some branches it made more rapid progress. The tasks of raising the people's standard of life are being carried out as planned."

Pointing to the need of carrying out the December plenum decisions after analyzing the shortcomings registered in the first five months of this year, the meeting stated that industrial output grew by 6.3 per cent, or somewhat more than planned. The increase in output was attained entirely by raising labor productivity. The materials and electric power needed for industry are in the main available, but there were some interruptions in the supply of certain important materials.

The communiqué points out that the volume of production in the building industry went up by 5.9 per cent as planned, and that 80 per cent of the growth was achieved by raising productivity.

In agriculture sowing is carried out according to plan. The purchase of most products has increased. The import of machinery and materials for agriculture follows plans. The provision of material and technical facilities may be considered essentially satisfactory.

The communiqué says that foreign trade increased and export

commitments are being met. "Hungary vigorously promotes economic cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. It strives to extend trade with developed capitalist countries and economic cooperation with developing countries on the principles of equality and mutual benefit."

Retail trade exceeded plan targets, the communiqué notes. On the other hand, there was a shortage of certain manufactured goods. The increase in consumer goods prices is in keeping with the plan.

The Central Committee considers it necessary to raise the incomes of the population as planned. At the same time it stresses that a real improvement in the standard of life must be based on more efficient production and an increased national income.

In line with the decisions of the 11th Party Congress, it is necessary to increase the leading, organizing and supervising activity of the Party in every economic field. The Central Committee considers it as the main task of Party organizations to help in carrying out measures for the implementation of the December plenum decisions and the 1975 economic plan. Party organizations should bring it home to the masses that in today's conditions of economic activity we can only set ourselves production and consumption objectives that are well founded in every respect and modest, yet serve dependably to raise the people's standard of life.

The Central Committee regards the economic guidelines for 1975 as realistic and is confident that plan targets can be reached given active support by all working people and well-organized and disciplined work.

Growing economic cooperation with socialist countries fills us with deep confidence, the communiqué says. The Central Committee thinks highly of the fruitful work accomplished by the 24th CMEA session in Budapest with a view to implementing the Comprehensive Program of the CMEA, carrying forward socialist economic integration and coordinating five-year economic plans for 1976-80.

"Prompted by the interests of the Hungarian people and the common interests of the people of socialist countries," the communiqué states, "the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the government of the Hungarian People's Republic are doing all in their power for the further extension of economic cooperation among the CMEA countries and for the implementation of the Comprehensive Program for Socialist Economic Integration."

The meeting elected Istvan Huszar and Pal Losonczi members of the Political Bureau.

MTI news agency. (Abridged.)

PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF SRI LANKA

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka met in Colombo on July 5-6 to discuss preparations for the Ninth Party Congress, set for August 1975. It also discussed and unanimously approved a draft Party program.

On July 7 *Atta*, a progressive newspaper published in Sinhalese, carried the text of a resolution passed by the Central Committee on July 5. The resolution supports the firm action taken by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India to suppress the reactionary campaign aimed at overthrowing her government. The resolution says:

"The Communist Party of Sri Lanka viewed with deep concern the developments in our good neighbor India of an extended and frenzied campaign by foreign and domestic reactionary circles designed to spread economic sabotage and civil disorder with a view to overthrowing the democratically elected government of Indira Gandhi. It expresses complete understanding of the stern but necessary measures that the Prime Minister has been compelled to take to suppress this reactionary subversion. These measures helped to protect India and will make it possible to carry forward a progressive and genuinely democratic process. The fact that the declaration of a state of emergency was followed by a series of measures to strengthen the economy and alleviate the sufferings of the poorest sections of Indian society is a positive development which should help rally the masses even more actively in the struggle against reactionary and counter-revolutionary forces.

"The close similarity between the tactics and methods adopted by foreign and domestic reactionary forces in India and the tactics and methods of similar forces in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Chile and other third world countries whose governments incurred the displeasure of imperialism and home reaction, raises sharply the question whether all these activities are being masterminded and directed from a single center outside. The official exposure in the United States itself of CIA activities encouraging attempts to overthrow progressive governments in other countries, including the assassination of some of their leaders, serves as a warning and makes it imperative for anti-

imperialist and progressive forces closely to follow the activity of domestic forces which are behind reactionary conspiracies of this nature, and steadily to increase their vigilance.

“The fact that, as in Sri Lanka, subversive reactionary forces in India, which raised such a hue and cry and were given so much publicity in the reactionary foreign press, were defeated as soon as the government took drastic counter-measures is evidence of their inherent weakness and the narrowness of their support among the people. As in the case of Sri Lanka, the reactionary press and radio of such imperialist countries as the United Kingdom and the United States fully support the reactionary forces of India. They want to win sympathy for these reactionaries by means of false and biased propaganda spread through their news agencies in third world countries. The progressive forces must be on their guard and must foil this reactionary fraud.

“The Communist Party of Sri Lanka expresses indignation at the attitude of the Maoist leadership of the Communist Party of China, which has most cynically supported the reactionary and counter-revolutionary forces in India. This is in line with the open support which Maoists give to reaction in every country. Recent events in India, as well as in Sri Lanka and elsewhere, showed again that ultra-leftists are capable of making common cause with counter-revolutionary rightists to hold up progress by joint effort.

“The Communist Party of Sri Lanka expresses solidarity with the efforts of the Prime Minister and all other progressives of India to expose the subversive conspiracies of the Right and counter-revolutionary reaction in that country and wishes them every success.”



FOR THE BENEFIT OF MANKIND

COOPERATION IN SPACE

For the first time, explorers of two countries — Soviet Cosmonauts Alexei Leonov and Valery Kubasov and American astronauts Thomas Stafford, Vance Brand and Donald Slayton — took part in a joint flight.

Following their launch from different continents on July 15, they worked efficiently as a team, performed with precision all the required maneuvers, put the spaceships exactly into the pre-set assembly orbit, skillfully carried out the docking operation, and, On July 17, established a Soyuz-Apollo space complex with an international crew. Congratulating the participants in this epoch-making event, L.I. Brezhnev called it a prototype of future international orbiting stations. The cosmonauts and astronauts carried out a series of experiments and tests — astrophysical, medico-biological, technological, geophysical.

After the difficult job they performed literally before the eyes of all admiring mankind, the courageous Soviet members of the space expedition made a pinpoint landing in the pre-set area, northeast of the city of Arkalyk. The valorous American astronauts will splash down on July 25.

This outstanding experiment is of great importance, opening up a new chapter in the history of space exploration. It confirms the correctness of the common creative engineering effort of the Soviet and American scientists, designers, cosmonauts and astronauts. New docking devices for ensuring the safety of manned space flights were tested in action. Experience has been accumulated in international space missions. The experiment is a major step in the development of Soviet-American cooperation, and unfolds new prospects for the joint work of various countries in the exploration of the Universe for peaceful purposes.

Soviet science and technology are making an enormous contribution to this noble cause. The achievements in the concluding year of the five-year plan vividly show their immense potential. For the ninth week now, Pyotr Klimuk and Vitaly Sevastyanov have been suc-

cessfully carrying out their mission on board the Salyut-4 orbital station. The red-star Venera-9 and Venera-10 probes are heading for the distant Morning Star. The Luna-22 is sending back signals from the vicinity of the moon. Cosmonautics is expanding the horizons of knowledge and is ever more actively contributing to the solution of economic tasks.

Since the launching of the world's first, Soviet-made artificial Earth satellite and the historic flight by Yuri Gagarin, the Land of Soviets — the trail-blazer in space — has clearly and loudly declared its readiness to put its great achievements in this important field of scientific and technological advancement at the service of all nations, and to cooperate with other countries in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes. This readiness is being embodied in real undertakings.

Cooperation of the fraternal socialist countries is proceeding on an extensive scale: they have pooled efforts within the framework of the Intercosmos program. Thirteen Intercosmos robot scouts are already in orbit. Cooperation with French scientists is developing fruitfully, as witnessed by the joint laser location of the Moon, the installation of French apparatus in Soviet interplanetary stations, and other joint projects. A Soviet launch vehicle has put India's pioneer artificial satellite, Aryabhata, into orbit. Thus the principle of international cooperation in space research, proclaimed by the USSR, has been firmly asserted in practice.

The joint Soyuz-Apollo mission serves as a good foundation for future international manned space flights. It has considerably enriched world cosmonautics, science and culture. The nations of all continents hail the Soyuz-Apollo mission also because they see it as a real factor for international détente and for development of fruitful peaceful cooperation of states with different social systems.

Guided by the Peace Program adopted by the 24th Congress of the CPSU, our country persistently champions cooperation among nations, regarding its strengthening as a guarantee of lasting peace on earth. The Soviet Union's readiness to take part, jointly with other states, in solving the problems of environmental protection, development of energy and other natural resources, and exploration and development of outer space and the world's oceans is a component part of this outstanding document of contemporary times.

Cosmonauts Alexei Leonov and Valery Kubasov, the scientists and designers, engineers, technicians and workers, collectives and organizations who took part in preparing and carrying out the flight of Soyuz-19 jointly with the Apollo spacecraft have brilliantly carried

out the task set by the Motherland. They once again revealed the richness and beauty of the soul of the Soviet man, guided by the most advanced ideas of our time — the ideas of communism — and the scientific, technical and economic might of our state, its concern for the future of our planet.

The Soviet people wholeheartedly subscribe to the warm greetings sent by L.I. Brezhnev, N.V. Podgorny and A.N. Kosygin to all those who were instrumental in making the flight a success.

This exploit was highly assessed by people of good will abroad. "An outstanding experiment," "Complete success of the Soviet-American space mission," "Historic handshake in orbit" — such were the headlines in newspapers on all continents. The world public sees in this exploit a symbol of the significant changes taking place in the world today. Statesmen and politicians of many countries have expressed their conviction that the positive changes in Soviet-American relations are opening up new opportunities for broad and fruitful development of scientific ties among countries and peoples.

The Soviet people have every reason to be proud of the achievements of their cosmonautics and send everyone involved in it their heartfelt wish: keep it up!

Pravda leader, July 23

A telegram from L.I. Brezhnev to U.S. President Gerald Ford on the occasion of the successful completion of the joint Soviet-American space flight, says in part:

"The success of this outstanding experiment was ensured by the flawless fulfillment of the complex flight program by the Soviet and American crews, a result of the close and efficient interaction of scientists and specialists of our countries at all stages of preparation for and during the flight. The experiment is a splendid scientific and technical achievement opening up new paths for the further exploration of space for the good of mankind.

"The flight of the Soyuz and Apollo is of historic importance as a symbol of the current process of international détente and improvement of Soviet-American relations on the principles of peaceful co-existence. At the same time it is a practical contribution to the cause of further developing mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the USA in the interests of both peoples, in the interests of peace on earth!"

President Gerald Ford in a telegram addressed to L.I. Brezhnev said: "I am confident that the example of the Apollo and Soyuz crews

will be followed by others and will result in greater contributions to scientific knowledge and better international understanding. I am equally confident that the Apollo-Soyuz flight is but the first step in continuing U.S.-Soviet cooperation in manned space activities."

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STATEMENTS

THE ONLY REAL WAY OUT

Proposals for urgent and radical action to deal with the "most severe economic crisis for many years" are outlined today by the Communist Party of Great Britain in its crisis program — "The Only Real Way Out." It is summarized below.

Healey's 10 per cent wages norm is a savage attack on real wages, and will mean the worst reduction in living standards for years.

Dividend control is a farce. Prices, it appears, are not tackled.

It is the statutory wages policy which Labour was pledged never to return to. It is a policy of legal compulsion, whether the TUC, under compulsion, agrees to it or not.

It will not solve the crisis. It places the government on a course of confrontation with the unions and the labor movement. It can open the way up to the return of the Tories.

The Communist Party categorically refuses to agree that reductions in living standards are either acceptable or necessary to tackle the crisis. An entirely new course is necessary.

The immediate crisis measures needed are: a freeze on all prices; the imposition of import controls; the control of capital movements, the stopping of investment overseas and the selling of British shareholdings abroad. These measures should be rushed through parliament now.

ADVANCE IN REAL WAGES

They must be followed by an advancement in real wages and social benefits, a reduction in unemployment by expanding the economy, a cut in interest rates and military expenditure, increased taxation of the rich, the taking over of the big firms and financial institutions and increased investment in manufacturing industry.

This is the only way out of the crisis.

Healey's proposals, which could well be followed by drastic further cuts in public expenditure, are not only no solution, but will aggravate the situation.

They are the same kind of actions as in the past. They failed then

and contributed to the present situation. They will fail again and threaten economic disaster.

This policy resulted in a steady drain of capital for overseas investment with the resultant neglect of British home industry which has consequently fallen behind her capitalist rivals.

There was the unrealistic dream of being able to continue indefinitely obtaining cheap raw materials, including oil, from the developing world with the run-down of our coal industry and agriculture.

There was heavy military expenditure at home and abroad in order to uphold Britain's imperialist position and the City of London and its financial operations.

In the area of the multinational company this policy has been pushed even harder, and entry into the EEC, with an acceleration of the drain on capital, has operated even more to the greater detriment of British industry.

But always the favorite culprit for Britain's plight has been the working class, and in particular the trade unions. It is never the employers, the banks, the trusts, the speculators, the idle rich and the capitalist class.

This will be the 10th attempt at incomes policy in 25 years. It will fail again as all previous attempts have failed.

Indeed, with the present 25 per cent inflation, for real wages to remain unchanged, then allowing for tax and insurance, increases of 30 to 32 per cent are needed. Most workers have not had such a level of increase. This is the reason for falling domestic demand.

RESPONSIBLE FOR CRISIS

The government and the employers are responsible for the crisis and the rapidly rising prices.

Government taxation has increased prices.

Healey's measures will sharply cut back demand at a time of one million unemployed, when British industry is barely producing more than it was in the three-day week and retail sales have dropped by 14 per cent.

With this situation at home and continued capitalist recession abroad only still more massive unemployment will result, deepening even further the growing economic recession in Britain.

These vicious proposals are claimed to be in the "national interest." This claim is false. They are in the interests of the monopolies and the multinational firms, which are diametrically opposed to those of the British people.

For years the Communist Party has warned about the crisis which is now in its most critical phase.

POSITION GOT WORSE

During these years irrespective of the government in office the position has got worse.

Labour governments ought to have been different. They, too, have failed because they carried out the same basically capitalist "remedies" as their predecessors. Now they are doing the same once again.

The crisis is a crisis of the capitalist system. It hits Britain worst because British capitalism is the weakest of the major capitalist economies.

Repeatedly the Communist Party has pinpointed the vain attempts by British imperialism to maintain its imperialist position.

Devaluation of the pound as a result of government policy and speculation has resulted in a 28 per cent drop in the value of the pound against other currencies since 1971, correspondingly increased the cost of all imports and therefore prices.

Exceptionally high interest rates, higher than in any other major capitalist country, designed to attract foreign funds to Britain, work through the whole price system and make everything dearer, while resulting in record bank profits.

All these factors are the result of government policy and not of trade union action.

In the case of raw materials, speculation in the London commodity market can add anything from a third or a half to the price.

In the case of raw materials, speculation in the London Commodity market can add anything from a third or a half to the price.

The government budget deficit financed by borrowing affects prices. This deficit could be reduced by cutting the huge £4,300 million arms bill, but this is not done.

CONCESSIONS TO RICH

It could be reduced by clawing back all the budget concessions to the rich (over £2,000 million in the Barber and Healey budgets) but this is not done.

The balance of payments is worse than it need be. The annual export of capital (investment abroad) is at the rate of £1,200 million to

£1,500 million, which has contributed to the deficit. So has military expenditure abroad, about £250 million to £300 million a year.

Most serious of all is the position in British manufacturing industry on which the whole future of the country depends.

We are told that our goods are being priced out of world markets (despite devaluation) because of the wages being paid to British workers. In fact they are lower than those paid in the major capitalist countries.

The real problem is the lack of investment over the years in new machinery and plant. In 1975 investment is forecast to drop by another 15 per cent.

This amounts to a policy of creeping deindustrialization in Britain, the proliferation of soaring office blocks alongside declining industry.

Why is this?

First, because the major monopolies prefer to invest abroad they are transferring an increasing part of their production abroad.

It is the nature of these firms to regard Britain as only one sphere, and a declining one, of their worldwide operations, whatever the cost to our balance of payments or Britain's crisis. Hence the export of capital.

Second, a major possible source of new investment funds (the insurance companies, the monopoly and state controlled pensions funds) are less and less being used to invest in British productive industry.

Investment by the insurance companies in industrial companies fell from 37 per cent of their total investment in 1970 to 12.5 per cent in 1974; for private pensions funds from 62.5 per cent to 19.5 per cent; and for public sector pension funds from 89 per cent to 21 per cent.

There is a virtual industrial investment strike.

Yet at the same time industrial companies are rushing to the government with the begging bowl. Subsidies by the government to big business are now running at over £700 million a year.

This, then, is our indictment. Monopoly rule, monopoly interest, whatever the government in power, has failed the nation, has produced the crisis.

Britain must strike out on a new course. Measures which should have been taken years ago must be taken now.

FOOLISH TO PRETEND

It is foolish to pretend that such measures can be taken without drastic inroads into monopoly ownership and wealth. The Communist

Party and the left have long claimed that such measures were just actions to take against an unjust capitalist system.

The new feature in the situation is that these radical left measures are now the only steps that can ensure Britain's industrial survival.

This is what needs to be done:

1. As a first essential emergency action prices should be frozen. Food subsidies, now scheduled for abolition, should be increased. This would give immediate relief to working people and pensioners.

2. There should be no incomes policy, voluntary or statutory. Free collective bargaining should be restored. Britain should cease to be a low-wage economy.

This is the essential basis for a thriving Britain and an extending home market, the jumping-off ground for economic growth and a big reduction in unemployment.

At the same time special steps are required to improve the position of the low paid and to ensure equal pay for women.

3. We need urgent measures to tackle poverty; a first step should be to raise pensions to one-third of the average male earnings for a single person and one-half for a married couple, with corresponding increases in family allowances and in all social benefits.

We need as a first measure to restore the cuts in education, the health services and housing.

INCREASING PRODUCTION

- These social advances could be paid for by increasing production resulting from an expanded economy, cutting profits and arms expenditure, and increased taxation of the wealthy. VAT should be abolished on all but luxury goods.

4. We should tackle the balance of payments deficit by slashing investment abroad, cutting our military expenditure abroad and by vigorous import controls on inessential imports.

As an emergency measure to handle the deficit which would still remain we should sell £7,000m of British shareholdings abroad. This was done during the war. It should be done now.

We should strive for increased trade wherever we can but above all by long-term mutually advantageous trading agreements with the socialist world and the Third World. Common Market restrictions on this should be ignored.

These measures in a relatively short time would reduce the balance of payments to non-crisis levels, help strengthen the pound and enable us to cut interest rates which would benefit the whole

economy, rents and mortgages, and drastically cut the need for foreign borrowing.

5. We should cut the budget deficit by a reduction of military expenditure by half (£2,100m a year). There is no need for such expenditure if we pursue a policy of détente, peace and mutual disarmament and liquidation of military blocs.

We should impose a wealth tax aiming to raise £1,000m a year, increase corporation tax by another £1,000m and claw back the £2,000m tax concessions made by Barber and Healey.

6. We should expand the economy, restore full employment with a growth target of six per cent, which would result in an annual increase of production of around £3,600 a year.

As an emergency measure the blocked capital exports should be directed to British industrial investment and the insurance and pensions funds should be similarly directed. The government should underwrite the pensioners' rights.

Special steps must be taken even before the election of Scottish and Welsh Assemblies for a much greater development of the economy, jobs and standards there than in the country as a whole, and also in depressed areas of England.

MONOPOLY OWNERSHIP

7. Monopoly ownership and control of British industry has failed. There should be the nationalization on a new basis of the great monopolies, the banks and the financial institutions.

The oil industry, estimated to bring in £5,500 million a year by 1980, should be nationalized and the costs incurred by foreign oil companies paid off over a period of years.

8. Serious steps should be taken to expand food production in Britain and get a much greater degree of self-sufficiency in food.

If any of these steps conflict with Common Market membership or are impeded by Brussels, the government and Parliament should defy the Market.

Taken together these measures would greatly reduce the rate of inflation and therefore the weight of the cost of living element in wage demands.

To those who argue that our measures are radical and far-reaching we reply. Yes, they are. But they are necessary both for the interests of the working class and middle sections and for the future survival of Britain as an industrial nation.

The method of reducing real wages and dragooning the unions, the cajoling of the big trusts, and the mixed economy has failed.

Our measures would open the way to socialism which is our aim and is the only ultimate solution. For the crisis in essence is a historic judgment on the failure of capitalism. The situation in the socialist countries stands out in sharp contrast.

What is at stake is not only the economic future of the country but its political and social future.

TRADITIONAL POLICIES

There are some in our movement who honestly argue restraint on wages and other measures as the only way to ensure the survival of the Labour government.

Experience shows the opposite in relation to the 1945-51 Labour government and the 1964-70 government. Persistence in traditional policies led to the return of the Tories.

The great danger is that the Labour government in its "solution" to the crisis will once again lead to the return of the Tories. This fear is widely shared on the left, who are warning that the government is on a disaster course.

We appeal to all in the labor movement, all who are concerned for the real national interest of Britain, to support these measures.

A new course is long overdue. This, no less, is what this policy implies and demands.

Morning Star July 3

STATEMENT BY POLITICAL BUREAU, FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

The Politbureau notes that contrary to the government declaration and promises the economic and social situation has become worse.

The economic slowdown compels a prediction of a new rise in unemployment, which will especially affect the greater part of the 600,000 young people who have just finished school.

Prices are continuing to go up.

Giscard d'Estaing extolls the role of the family, while need and

even poverty reign in the houses of working people, especially those who have no work and those whom the intransigence of the employers and the government compels to strike.

A campaign is being conducted to represent matters as though a rise in popular consumption is imminent, whereas the government is restricting it so as to allow big business to increase its profits, thereby narrowing the domestic market for our products.

With the growth of dissatisfaction and of the struggle, the government continues to resort to demagoguery.

While Giscard d'Estaing talks about improving conditions for blue-collar workers, social inequality and factory reform, Chirac and Poniatsowski place the police at the service of the employers. They conceal the use of factory security forces against the workers.

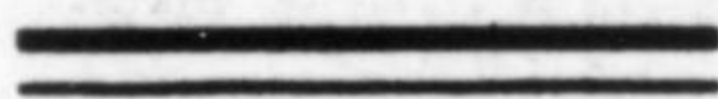
In fighting for their jobs, for maintaining and increasing the purchasing power of their wages and family grants, for a 40-hour week without reduction in pay, and for a lower pension age, the working people are at the same time defending the interests of the country.

The French Communist Party, which was the first to call for a rejection of government attempts to compel them to pay for the crisis, hails the representatives of the 500,000 working people who turned the Eiffel Tower rally into an impressive demonstration of unity and militancy.

They branded the government and the employers and forced Giscard d'Estaing to adopt a defensive posture.

To demonstrate the Party's active solidarity, help them win satisfaction of their legitimate demands, and thereby contribute to the solution of the conflict, the Politbureau decided that Party leaders and Communists holding elective office should meet within the next few days with working people from striking factories all over France.

L'Humanité, July 16, 1975



A YEAR AFTER THE JULY CHANGE VITAL PROBLEMS REMAIN UNSOLVED

*Statement by the Central Committee of
the Communist Party of Greece*

A year ago, on July 23, 1974, under the weight of general opposition and resistance of the people and the burden of its crimes against the nation, the hated military-fascist dictatorship, operating on U.S. orders, collapsed and the people won a big democratic victory. But the transfer to a civilian administration was effected from above, as our Party had pointed out, on the basis of an agreement between the junta, imperialists and conservative politicians, and this determined the events of the past year.

The staunch resistance of our people and their determination to be free and independent compelled the conservative forces to adopt some positive measures in restoring democratic freedoms and rights, opening up new opportunities for popular struggle. Yet, vital national problems, the heritage of the seven-year junta tyranny, are virtually unresolved, primarily due to the character of the change and the extreme conservatism of the government that replaced the junta.

The Karamanlis government did not break away from NATO and imperialism, nor did it make full use of the support by the socialist countries and other anti-imperialist forces for the good of the long-suffering Cypriot people. Notwithstanding its statements that Greece would pull out of NATO and reconsider the terms regarding U.S. bases, it did not take any real steps to leave NATO and to dismantle the bases, as demanded by the people, but is turning over more Greek territory, for instance Crete, for U.S. imperialist and NATO missile bases.

In domestic policy, despite popular demand for a modern democratic constitution, the government majority in Parliament adopted a virtually anti-democratic constitution restricting the rights and freedoms of citizens — a constitution of an authoritarian regime impinging national sovereignty. The government stubbornly continues the inadmissible policy of discrimination against the Communist Party in Parliament and in the political life of the country. To the demand of our people for elimination of the junta elements and the

junta spirit from the state apparatus, armed forces, judiciary, education and other important spheres of public life; for the full restoration of trade union freedoms, for solving the urgent problem of repatriating political emigrants, and for real democratization, the Karamanlis government reacted with half-measures and vague promises.

Absolving the majority of the junta criminals of all guilt and restricting the number of the chief culprits of the dictatorship liable to indictment (announced only now, a year after the July change), retaining the junta support in the main fields of state, economic and public life, tolerance of and even hushing up of the terrorist activity of "secret" neo-fascist and monarchist organizations, the revival of anti-communism even by members of government — all this is evidence that the forces in power are trying to imitate and adapt junta methods for their own purposes in order to check the people's democratic movement and strengthen the regime of the monopolistic oligarchy.

The government of the New Democratic Party, with its policy of serving foreign and local monopolies, was unable to stop the growth of prices and inflation, took no measures to restrict the excessive and uncontrolled amassing of profits by the monopolies. It worsened the condition of the working people of town and country and reacts to their demands by procrastination and police measures.

Other bourgeois parties, while stating their opposition and taking a positive stand with regard to certain questions, objectively help the government and its policy of patronizing the monopolies, make concessions and waver on many questions, particularly on the final pullout from NATO, associate membership of the Common Market, which is disadvantageous to the country, and the indictment of those guilty of betraying Cyprus.

Our people and country are still faced by big and complex problems demanding radical solution: liquidation of Americanocracy, protection of national independence, an independent foreign policy of peace and cooperation with all countries; restoration of their citizenship and repatriation of political emigrants; complete pullout from NATO, dismantling of foreign bases and abrogation of shackling agreements; internationalization of the Cyprus question, defense of the independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus; de-juntaization and democratization; struggle against inflation and the growth of prices, raising the living standards of the working people.

The working people and the entire nation are celebrating the first

anniversary of the July change in the same militant spirit as during the years of the junta tyranny. For them the purport of the anniversary is in upholding their demands for a solution to the above-mentioned vital national problems.

The Communist Party looks to the future with faith and optimism. Having a correct line, steadily strengthening its organizations and ties with the broad popular masses and seeing its invariable aim in achieving broad anti-imperialist democratic cooperation, it will spare no effort to pave the way to a genuinely new democracy and to socialism.

Central Committee,
Communist Party of Greece
Athens, July 12, 1975
Rizospastis, July 13

NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND OUR TASKS

*Resolution of the Central Executive,
Communist Party of India*

A plenary meeting of the CPI Central Executive Committee was held in Ajoy Bhaven, New Delhi, early in July. The meeting adopted a resolution "National Emergency and Our Tasks," published below in abridged form.

The drive for power by the Right reactionary, neo-colonialist and counter-revolutionary forces has been stepped up following the Allahabad High Court judgment. The granting of a stay and the pending appeal to the Supreme Court did not in the least come in the way of these forces stridently demanding the immediate resignation of the Prime Minister, an objective for which they had been striving for the past so many months as the most important preliminary step to install a fascist-type dictatorship in our country.

The failure of the JP-led movement in Bihar, as well as its efforts to spread it on an all-India scale had only made these forces more desperate. They began to turn more and more to tactics of individual

and squad terrorism, to well-planned conspiracies of sabotage, violence and arson, so as to create conditions of chaos and anarchy.

The plan of the reactionary parties and fascist organizations headed by Jayaprakash Narayan was to use the cover of the so-called Satyagraha to paralyze life in the nation's capital and to create the proper atmosphere for the capture of power. Serious efforts were being made to subvert the loyalty of the armed forces of our country. Side-by-side, the pro-JP elements in the ruling party were instigated to step up their activities.

Various other types of suspicious gatherings began to get more and more frequent in Delhi in which different kinds of political leaders and foreign imperialist agencies began to work out the details of a ramified conspiracy. The CIA was masterminding the entire operation. They were prepared to use any weapon, including communal riots.

The key role in all this was assigned to the Jana Sangh and the RSS. They were to provide the muscle and the organization to push through the plot.

It became evident that the Right reactionary, neo-colonialist and counter-revolutionary forces were using all the rights and liberties of the parliamentary democratic setup in order to destroy the freedom of our country and its secular democratic system itself.

Counter-revolutionary forces were clearly poised for a decisive attack, for the final push to power.

The present offensive of Right reaction inside the country fully corresponds to the policy of de-stabilization which U.S. imperialism and the CIA have set as their goals in respect to all regimes in the Third World, pursuing the policies of anti-imperialism, non-alignment, peace and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

Stricken with the severest political and economic crisis and driven desperate by their rout in Indochina, their setbacks in the Arab world and the further advance of the revolutionary and democratic movements in Western Europe, Africa and Latin America, U.S. imperialism has stepped up its neo-colonialist attacks in the South Asian region. India is the main target of this attack today in this region. The lifting of the arms embargo on Pakistan, the decision to convert Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean into a nuclear military base, the pumping of massive arms into the Gulf area states, are all manifestations of this policy.

The activities of the U.S. multinational corporations and the CIA are being intensified inside our country.

The present Right-reactionary offensive inside the country is synchronized with the new attacks against our national sovereignty and freedom coming from U.S. imperialism.

It is significant that the press and propaganda organs in Maoist China have in the recent period played up the Allahabad High Court judgment and the demand of the Right reactionary forces for the immediate ouster of the Prime Minister. Maoist China has also in the recent period openly stepped up its anti-Soviet and anti-Indian campaign as well as its full support to "U.S. military and naval presence" in the South Asian region. Its subversive activities in the sensitive Northeastern borders of India have been intensified. Simultaneously, Naxalite groups inside India have stepped up their policy of collaboration in the JP-led movement.

The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India welcomes the warm fraternal support being extended to the Left and democratic forces in India and to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by the Soviet Union, German Democratic Republic, Vietnam, Yugoslavia and other countries of the socialist and non-aligned camps at this crucial hour of struggle against the danger of a fascist takeover. In sharp contrast to this has come the reaction from the imperialist press organs of the U.S. and UK, a significant fact.

Bearing all these facts in mind, the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India is of the firm opinion that the swift and stern measures taken by the Prime Minister and the Government of India against the Right reactionary and counter-revolutionary forces were necessary and justified. Any weakness displayed at this critical moment would have been fatal.

The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India, however, emphatically states that these stern administrative actions would have to be followed up by equally stringent and energetic measures which would curb and weaken the socio-economic base of the Right-reactionary forces.

The Central Executive Committee of the CPI welcomes the immediate economic measures in the interests of the people announced by the Prime Minister and emphasizes that not only must these be effectively implemented, but they must be followed up by more basic measures against the monopolists, landlords and foreign multinationals.

The Central Executive Committee draws the attention of all Party units and members to the cardinal fact that an entirely new phase has opened in the post-independence history of our country. The crisis of

bourgeois parliamentary democracy, which is an integral and important part of the fiasco of the capitalist path of development, can only be resolved by a radical renovation of the processes of parliamentary democracy in order to make it a more effective instrument in the fight against Right reaction and for basic socio-economic transformations. It is imperative to thus strengthen the political and class content of the system in favor of the working people. Our democratic system has to acquire new dimensions in which the decisive element would be the ever-increasing participation of the working class, peasantry, all working people and democratic sections in the shaping and implementation of policy and decisions.

The recent developments inside the country signify that political differentiation and conflict inside the Indian bourgeoisie has reached a new stage, unprecedented since Indian independence. This stage is characterized by the fact that those representing the anti-imperialist democratic sections of the bourgeoisie have been forced into using the repressive organs of state power against those representing the pro-imperialist and most reactionary, pro-monopoly, pro-landlord, anti-communist sections. This situation opens up the most favorable possibilities for strengthening the united front of the working class, peasantry and other toiling sections with the anti-imperialist democratic national bourgeoisie in common struggle against Right reaction, and for moving this section of the bourgeoisie into more radical socio-economic positions in the very interests of this common struggle. This is the process through which progressive shifts in state power can be brought about in a national-democratic direction. This, however, demands the most skillful, realistic and flexible tactics on the part of our Party.

The Central Executive Committee of the CPI points out with all the emphasis at its command that it would be the height of criminal complacency to imagine that the forces of Right reaction, neo-colonialism and counter-revolution have been decisively defeated. They have no doubt been delivered a stern blow, but they have by no means been vanquished.

A stern and sustained struggle lies ahead of all Left, democratic and patriotic forces. The crucial need of the hour is for these forces to act unitedly and with a sense of tremendous urgency and determination. United campaigns and actions are indispensable at all levels and in various forms.

The Central Executive Committee of the CPI appeals to the CP(Marxist), the SUC, the Forward Bloc and other Left parties to,

even at this last hour, realize the gravity of the situation facing our nation and its working class and toiling people. It calls upon them to abandon their line of blind anti-Congressism and opportunism which has led them into becoming the camp-followers of the worst and most vicious enemies of the Left — the forces of the Right, neo-colonialism and counter-revolution. This has already done great damage and seriously tarnished their image.

The Central Executive Committee of the CPI appeals to the cadres, members and followers of the Left Parties to urge their leaderships to change this disastrous course and to come into the united action against Right reaction and counter-revolution and for democratic advance.

The Central Executive Committee of the CPI calls upon all Party units and members to realize that in the new phase which has opened, the entire Party has to immediately reorient itself to the new tasks.

While striving its utmost for the development of the joint campaigns mentioned above, all Party units should immediately popularize on the widest possible scale the stand and positions of the Party. The shortcomings of the government's programs, policies and measures should also be critically focused.

The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India points out to all Party units and members that our Party, its leaders, cadres, members and offices would be the special targets of the counter-revolutionary forces. Defense of the Party, mass organizations and their offices is today an urgent need in which the development of the PSC would play a key role.

IMMEDIATE PROGRAM

I

Set up a public distribution system for the supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities to the people, including the rural poor, starting with the railways and other public sector concerns.

Nationalize the sugar, textile, jute and automobile industries.

Implement the Hathi Committee recommendations regarding drugs and pharmaceuticals. Nationalize foreign drug companies, oil companies and banks.

Adopt strict measures to put an end to smuggling, black marketeering, unearth black money, demonetize 100 rupee notes and above.

Take stern action against the CIA and its agents and eliminate their subversive activities in our country.

Respect the rights and liberties of all democrats, toiling people and secure their cooperation.

Implement land reforms and other measures with the cooperation of popular committees enjoying statutory powers and representing organizations committed to their implementation.

II

Set up anti-sabotage and production cells representing the trade unions in every plant and establishment.

Streamline grievance machinery at plant level for expeditious settlement of day-to-day issues.

Put an end immediately to victimization and withdraw cases pending in the railways.

Immediate steps against unemployment, closures and retrenchment.

Urgent measures for the defense, development and democratization of the public sector.

Repeal the Compulsory Deposit Scheme in respect of wages, D.A. and bonus.

Bring about early negotiated settlement of the D.A. arrears due to Central Government employees.

Issue immediate notification of revised wage-rates under the Minimum Wages Act for scheduled employments, particularly in the agricultural and unorganized sector.

Take expeditious steps for practical implementation of workers' participation in the management as announced in the Prime Minister's broadcast.

III

Expediently implement the land ceiling laws and distribute the surplus land among the landless agricultural workers and poor peasants, preferably through cooperative societies with adequate financial assistance from the state. This process should be completed by December 31, 1975 by creating special machinery for this purpose.

Distribute immediately all cultivable Government waste lands and gram panchayat lands, including those grabbed by big landowners, to landless agricultural workers and poor peasants.

Bar the jurisdiction of Courts, including the High Courts and the Supreme Court over the implementation of the agrarian reform laws on any grounds, including those covered by Articles 32, 226 and 227 of the Constitution.

Set up special tribunals with statutory powers to immediately restore to the tribal peasants all lands alienated by money-lenders.

Set up separate cooperative credit societies of landless workers and small and marginal farmers, rural artisans and provide adequate financial assistance to such cooperatives.

Revise the Minimum Wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act so as to ensure fair wages to agricultural workers and set up suitable machinery to enforce the same.

Enact suitable legislation to regulate conditions of work of agricultural workers.

Ensure equal pay for equal work for women.

Abolish bonded labor and all other forms of servitude including debt slavery and strictly enforce the same, making its violation a cognizable offence.

Quickly complete the irrigation projects under construction and take up new projects by allocating Rs.2,000 crores from the funds of the nationalized banks. This will go a long way not only in helping the peasants but also in ridding the country of the menace of foodgrains and agricultural raw material shortage.

IV

Grant the right to vote at the age of 18.

Devise projects which combine production and employment opportunities.

Democratize the education system, enhancing facilities for lower income groups, revise textbooks to bring them in line with nationally accepted principles.

Provide cheap textbooks, stationary and hostel and canteen meals.

STATEMENT BY POLITICAL COMMISSION OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY ON AFM ASSEMBLY DECISIONS

1. The Political Commission of the Portuguese Communist Party examined the conclusions drawn by the Armed Forces Movement Assembly on July 8.

At a time when the reactionary and conservative forces are trying to impede the Portuguese revolution, extraordinary importance attaches to the reaffirmation by the Armed Forces Movement of its alliance with the people as the "twin motive force" of the revolutionary process, of the crucial character of the battle on the economic front together with the creation of a large state sector and implementation of the agrarian reform, of establishing effective workers' control, strengthening and improving the state apparatus, as well as the reaffirmation of the role of the progressive political parties.

The Party accents the vast importance of the conclusions and decisions of the AFM Assembly regarding the prospects for a concrete organization of the alliance of the people and the AFM.

2. The assessment of the popular movement and of the emerging popular mass organizations as the prime force at the present stage and for the future of Portugal confirms the correctness of the revolutionary line that is overcoming and breaking the resistance of the reactionary and conservative forces, and makes possible the continuation of the revolutionary process.

Defining the organizational forms of the popular movement and indicating the general trend of its development acquires extraordinary importance in consolidating the revolutionary process and determining the structure of a future democratic and socialist state.

3. The Party emphasizes the necessity of strictly observing the united and non-partisan character of the popular mass organizations. It is of prime importance to establish relations of militant solidarity among all their members, irrespective of their political views or party affiliation, by overcoming sectarian positions and struggle against splitters, in order to accomplish the immediate aims of the revolution.

4. The popular mass movement has its own revolutionary dynamism, in which initiative, confidence, a militant spirit, autonomy, independence and a creative attitude are indispensable factors of progress, political life and effective participation in the revolutionary process in close alliance with the AFM.

The working class and the entire Portuguese people will prove equal to the big tasks of creative participation in the revolutionary transformation of the country, defense of liberties, setting up a democratic system and building socialist society.

5. The assessment of the popular movement and the shaping of popular mass organizations are of special importance now when the reactionary and conservative forces have unleashed a broad cam-

paing against the revolutionary process. The contradictions, tension and difficulties persist, and they must be examined and resolved.

Certain actions and demonstrations that the entrepreneurs are planning for the coming days and which they are trying to give a counter-revolutionary character, the artificial fanning of social conflicts, announcement or renewal of strikes, inadmissible in the present situation and without just grounds, clandestine agitation, disrespect for democratic order, which is incited by certain circles — all this, as before, demands vigilance on the part of the people and their readiness to defend the gains of the revolution in close alliance with the AFM and in any circumstances.

6. The Party underlines the significance at the present time of holding in Lisbon the demonstration the Intersindical has called for Thursday July 10, at 19.30.

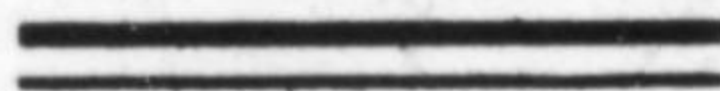
It calls on all working people, the entire population, all united organizations to take an active part in the big demonstration which will confirm the determination of the popular masses to defend, strengthen and advance the revolutionary process. The demonstration will reaffirm support for the Armed Forces Movement, the Revolutionary Council, the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister. It must express the people's unequivocal approval of the revolutionary decision of the AFM Assembly of July 8, which may assume historical significance.

The great mass manifestation of unity will confirm the breadth and strength of the popular movement and its alliance with the AFM and will make the Portuguese revolution irreversible and invincible.

July 9, 1975

Political Commission, Central Committee,
Portuguese Communist Party

Avante!, July 10



ARGENTINA

The situation in Argentina "calls for the formation of a civilian-military government based on a broad democratic coalition" — a stable government, actively supported by the vast majority of the people, Orestes Ghioldi, member of the Communist Party's Secretariat, said in an interview to the newspaper *Clarín*. The political, economic, social and cultural crisis is not just a matter of the present moment. Its causes lie in the socio-economic structure of Argentina.

Ghioldi noted that Argentine society cannot develop successfully "unless it wins back the leading posts in the economy and finances now controlled by powerful international monopolies and unless the latifundia system is done away with."

The crisis broke out "with the government's obvious turn to the right in internal, foreign, economic and social policies after President Peron's death," he further noted. The main figure behind this turn was the Minister of Social Security Jose Lopez Rega, recently dismissed on the demand of the working people.

A sign of this turn is the government's retreat under the pressure of foreign monopolies, as evidenced by the "austerity plan" introduced by Minister of Economy Celestino Rodrigo, a plan that is actually directed against the vital interests of the working people, against the national interests.

Commenting on the recent government reshuffle, O. Ghioldi expressed the view that it did not bring about substantial changes "because the key posts remain in the hands of ministers who cooperated with Lopez Rega."

"We hold," Ghioldi said in conclusion, "that the democratic political parties, General Confederation of Labor, General Economic Confederation uniting all national entrepreneurs, the public and cultural organizations, and the armed forces must swiftly reach agreement on public order measures to be adopted by the government in the present emergency to set in motion a process of stable democratic changes."

Assessing the government reshuffle, the Communist Party stated that the forced resignation of right-wingers J. Lopez Rega and C. Rodrigo "is an important victory for the working class and the entire

people." Nevertheless, the Party notes, to overcome the present crisis "it is not enough to replace ministers. A radical change of policy is needed."

Noting that the reactionaries attempt to use mass dissatisfaction for their own purposes, the Communists once again urge all patriots and democrats to unite. We must rally in the struggle for revival and continuation of the process of national reconstruction begun by President Peron, the document says.

BELGIUM

We express solidarity with the Portuguese revolution and think it necessary to increase to the utmost support for the democratic changes taking place there, not only here in Belgium but on a European scale, in order to counter the Atlantic right-wingers who dream of crushing the Portuguese revolution and strengthening their influence in capitalist Europe, Party chairman Louis van Geyt said in an interview to *Drapeau Rouge*.

Our solidarity with the Portuguese revolution, he noted, is based on the positions of people involved in the revolutionary processes there, and, as we see it, they are the Portuguese Communists first of all.

However strange it may seem, the current debates in Portugal on the legitimacy of various criteria of democracy, elected or pluralistic, are being used by rightists to raise a campaign around the processes under way in that country, although they did nothing of the kind with regard to Chile and Spain, Louis van Geyt said.

We see it as normal, he noted, that in Portugal the fundamental forces of legitimate democracy rely on the popular forces who support them.

In the present situation, he further noted, the chief task of the Belgian progressives is to block the action aimed at isolating Portugal and to frustrate the plans of those who would like to impose an economic blockade.

COLOMBIA

The Communist Party denounced the state of siege introduced in the country by the regime as a measure to strangle the popular protest and called for stronger popular unity in the struggle for democracy and national independence.

An Executive Committee statement published here says: "From now on any citizen wishing to use the legitimate right to protest against new taxes or to demand an improvement in the supply of

water or electricity and in the transport system will be brought before the military judges."

The Communists note that the people have immense experience in the struggle for their rights and civic freedoms, "against the policy of exploitation and misery, conducted by the oligarchy and its U.S. partners." The Party states that it "will lead all popular actions against the state of siege, against repressions and the tyranny of the military."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The weekly *Nove Slovo* of the Slovak Communist Party published an article on improving the qualitative composition of the ranks and its tasks in this field on the eve of the 15th Congress.

Since the 14th Congress 60,000 probationary members have joined the Party in Slovakia alone, 63 per cent of them are workers.

The right-wing opportunists in the 1960s distorted the principle of the leading role of the working class in socialist society in time of the scientific and technical revolution. During those years the industrial base in Slovakia was expanding and the number of workers growing, but their proportion in the Party went down by eight per cent in 10 years.

Reinforcing the Party ranks from among the best and more class conscious workers presupposes a higher ideological and political level of the working class as a whole. The entire educational work of the Party is directed to this end.

The Party is concerned with more peasants and socialist intellectuals joining its ranks.

The changes in agriculture over recent years are reflected in the composition of the Party. Since the 14th Congress 6,000 probationary members came from among people working in agriculture. Not all Party organizations are participating equally in this important work.

At present intellectuals make up 30 per cent of the total. In the period since the 14th Congress more than 15,000 probationary members from among the intellectuals and students have joined the Party. Two-thirds of this number are technical and other personnel.

The low proportion of women still remains an important problem in the Slovak Communist Party. At present fewer than half of the Party members are women. Of the probationary members who recently joined the Party, less than 20 per cent are women. To remedy this situation is an important political task of the Party.

More than half of the new members are under 25 and 75 per cent

have not yet reached 30. Frankness, sincerity and enthusiasm of the young are qualities which have always been an important factor in developing the creative revolutionary activity of the Party. It is necessary to combine these characteristic qualities of the youth with the merits of the older generation — experience, sober-mindedness and the deep class feeling steeled in sharp class battles.

In preparing for the 15th Congress it is necessary to reflect on how to continue improving the qualitative composition of our Party, *Nove Slovo* writes.

FRG

A theoretical conference of the Communist Party, timed to the 40th anniversary of the Seventh Congress of the Comintern, discussed problems of working-class unity and joint action by anti-imperialist forces. Participants in the conference included a group of Soviet scholars led by Professor I.T. Frolov, Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Voprosy Filosofii*, historians from the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, France and Sweden, and representatives of *World Marxist Review*.

The main paper was presented by Party chairman Herbert Mies, who stressed the relevance of Congress formulations of the strategy and tactics of the struggle against fascism, for democracy and socialism.

Forty years after the Congress, H. Mies said, the alignment of world political forces has changed radically in favor of peace, democracy and socialism.

The speaker pointed out the vast importance of international meetings of Communist and Workers' parties for assessing the contemporary situation, working out common positions and defining common objectives. These meetings, he noted, invariably provide an important stimulus for the popular struggle against imperialism. The coming conference of European Communist and Workers' parties in Berlin will be an outstanding event.

Together with other fraternal parties, H. Mies said, we are taking an active part in preparations for this conference which will carefully examine the tremendous changes that have come about in the balance of world forces and the international political climate. It will define the brother parties' common position on the most pressing issues of development in Europe and answer questions of concern to the working people of this continent. The conference will demonstrate the vitality and force of proletarian internationalism and contribute to the

fight for peace, democracy, social progress and socialism going on in Europe.

A Düsseldorf administrative court ordered the municipal council to put Rheinweissenplatz, a city square, at the disposal of the Communist Party for its traditional *Unsere Zeit* festival, to be held in September. It declined the suit of the council, which had intended to prevent the festival.

The Party released a statement saying that the attempts of the municipal authorities and the reactionaries behind them to prevent the *Unsere Zeit* festival were firmly resisted by the democratic forces. It called on the working people to begin extensive preparations for the festival.

ITALY

With the fall of fascist dictatorships in Greece and Portugal and as a result of the severe crisis of the Franco regime in Spain, there is a promise for Europe to become a continent with no more fascist regimes, said a joint statement of the Italian Communist Party and the Communist Party of Spain published in *L'Unita* on July 12. The statement was adopted at the end of talks held in Rome between a delegation led by General Secretary Enrico Berlinguer and a delegation led by General Secretary Santiago Carrillo.

The statement points out that the grave crisis in West European countries reveals the inability of capitalism to meet the needs of contemporary society and assure the progress of people. Both delegations consider that this makes it an urgent task of the working-class and democratic forces of West European countries to indicate new ways of establishing closer mutual links to see a democratic and social renovation of society.

The annual Party card exchange and recruitment campaign is scoring big gains all over Italy. The Communist Party has 1,702,562 members today, according to *L'Unita*. In the past few days alone, it was joined by almost 14,000 people.

Ali Nannipieri, a Communist, has been elected mayor of Livorno, a major seaport and industrial city. The newly-elected city *junta*, or executive government body, is made up of leftists.

The big success of the Communist and Socialist parties in the June 15 elections enables them to form leftist *juntas* in many towns and

communes. *Juntas* have already been formed in 60 communes of Emilia-Romagna, 51 communes of Veneto, 40 communes of Liguria and 15 communes of The Marches.

PERU

The Communist Party held a national trade union conference in Lima early in July, its newspaper *Unidad* reported.

Jose Martinez, member of the Party leadership, spoke at the conference on the domestic political situation. He dealt in detail with the series of measures recently adopted by the revolutionary armed forces government to solve the economic problems created by the crisis, and above all the inflation that has gripped the capitalist world.

The pay rise that was effected, J. Martinez said, was a useful measure but it should have been carried out differentially, by economic branches, and complemented with such measures as a rigid price control by the state and the people, primarily working men and women.

Another alternative for the government was devaluation, which other countries of the continent had already carried out, the speaker said. But the government refrained from this step, well knowing that it would by no means improve the economic situation and would merely shift the burden of the crisis on to the working people.

Andres Paredes Luyo, in charge of Party work in the trade unions, made a report on the situation in the trade unions. He noted that in the past six years the Peruvian trade union movement has made substantial progress, adding that "the main political developments and the revolutionary measures adopted by the government enabled the trade union movement to enter a qualitatively new stage characterized by growing organization and increasing political and trade union consciousness."

The conference approved the Communist action program aimed at achieving trade union unity and upholding the interests of the working class and the revolutionary process.

PORTUGAL

Under the pretext of holding a Socialist Party rally in Lisbon on July 19, an attempt was made to organize a major concentration of reactionary forces. Their objective, declares the Political Commission of the Communist Party in a public statement, was to virtually occupy the capital, demand the resignation of Prime Minister Vasco Gonçalves and the formation of a new government with the participation

of right-wing forces. The speech of Socialist Party leader Mario Soares at the rally clearly demonstrated the existence of such an objective.

Thanks to the struggle of the popular masses, thanks to the actions of the armed forces, the "march" on Lisbon was halted halfway and the whole operation failed.

The struggle on July 19 once again united the masses of the people and the armed forces as comrades-in-arms. The alliance of the people and the AFM remains a living reality of the Portuguese revolution, its motive force and guarantee of ultimate victory.

The "march" on Lisbon, the statement stresses, was part of a broad reactionary offensive, which has not yet been completely repulsed and the purpose of which is to halt the revolutionary process and provoke a sharp turn to the Right in Portugal's political life.

It is to be deeply regretted, the Communist Party states, that the Socialist Party leaders are pursuing a policy that has the same objectives as the policy of the reactionaries. The Socialist leaders are allying themselves with reactionary and conservative forces against the revolutionary and progressive forces, the AFM in the first place. The Political Commission declares that close cooperation between Socialists, Communists and other left forces could become an important factor for the consolidation of the revolutionary process and final victory of the Portuguese revolution.

The Communists draw attention to the fact that the reactionaries still have opportunities for maneuvering and will strive to regain their lost positions.

The earliest formation of a government that would guarantee a democratic and progressive policy assuring respect for government authority is vitally needed to force the reactionaries to retreat and consolidate the revolutionary process, the statement stresses.

The Communist Party appeals for united action of all who do not want a reversion of Portugal to the fascist past, who want to live in freedom, consolidate the democratic system and ensure national independence, who favor far-reaching socio-economic changes on the road to socialism.

The Portuguese masses, in alliance with the Armed Forces Movement, successfully repulsed the reactionary offensive of July 18-19, thereby demonstrating that the people and the Armed Forces are capable of guaranteeing the continued development of the revo-

lutionary process in the country, says a statement of the Political Commission of the Communist Party published on July 27.

The situation in the country has confronted the revolution with the task of creating an authoritative state power and government that would be able to ensure discipline in government agencies and speak for the will of the people and the Armed Forces Movement. The organizational decisions taken at the AFM assembly should contribute to the fulfillment of that task of prime importance, the statement declares.

A way out of the present crisis, the Party notes, must be found in the framework of a policy aimed at protecting and consolidating the gains of the Portuguese revolution. The creation of an extensive state sector in the economy and the transfer of landlord lands to those who cultivate them — these are steps that open the road to socialism. The task now is to strengthen the state sector and assure the dynamic development of production with the active participation of the working people exercising control over production.

The Communist Party declares for an anti-monopoly economic policy which would guarantee the interests of the working people and the implementation of far-reaching revolutionary changes along the road to socialism. It stresses the need for drastic measures to defend the revolution. The main enemies of the Portuguese revolution remain fascism, reaction, monopoly capital and the big landowners.

We must strengthen the unity of the working class and the masses of the people, the unity of all genuine democrats, including Communists and Socialists, Catholics and atheists. It is necessary to strengthen the alliance of the people and the AFM, the statement emphasizes.

SOVIET UNION

Mysl Publishers have put out a Russian translation of *The Working Class and the Anti-Monopoly Struggle*, a book by William Kashtan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada.

Appearing in the "Working-Class Movement Library" series, the book offers a detailed account of the theoretical and practical activities of the Communist Party of Canada in the latter half of the 1960s and early 1970s. Its analysis of Canada's social, economic and political situation closely intertwines with an investigation of the main trends of development of the capitalist system and the world revolutionary process.

The author speaks highly of the Soviet Union's outstanding

achievements in carrying out the historical decisions of the 24th Communist Party Congress, in particular its Peace Program, and exposes the efforts of various reactionary forces to disrupt the process of international détente.

Considerable space in the book is devoted to problems of the struggle against the ideology of anti-communism.

SRI LANKA

The doors of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka are wide open to all honest Marxist-Leninists, declared Peter Keunemann, the Party Chairman and Minister of Housing and Construction, at a rally in Narayanguru Hall devoted to the readmission of 75 members of the pro-Peking Sanmugathasan group who had left the Party in 1963.

Keunemann went on to stress that the Chinese leadership, which merges with the imperialist camp in its slanders of the Soviet Union, the most active defender of peace and national liberation in the whole world, had become the laughingstock of the freedom-loving world. The decision of these 75 comrades to resign from the Sanmugathasan group, which under the smokescreen of the Chinese theory expresses the aspirations of reactionaries in Sri Lanka, and return to the correct road is an important event in the life of the Party.

Speaking on behalf of the 75 who had decided to return to the Communist Party, M.S. Saul Hamid, president of the United Dockers' Union, declared that many of those who had assumed the Maoists to be genuine Communists were disillusioned by their pro-imperialist, treacherous actions. That is why most of them decided to become members of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Reporting to the recent congress of the People's Democratic Alliance, Political Bureau member Ali Badib said that the congress, which was taking place at a time when all the country's progressive forces were uniting, would become a decisive stage in the further consolidation of their ranks under the National Front leadership. The PDA, he declared, is guided by the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, on which the building of socialism in democratic Yemen is based.

Ali Badib dwelt on the role of the Soviet Union as the vanguard in the struggle of all peoples for peace and progress on earth. The USSR, he stressed, is a reliable ally of the Arab peoples, in their struggle against Zionism and imperialist conspiracies.

The report notes the role of the CPSU and its 24th Congress, which

was an outstanding event in the life of the Soviet peoples and of all peoples of the world.

Speaking at the congress, PDA general secretary and Minister of Culture and Tourism Abdullah Abdel Razzak Badib noted that a prime result of the congress was the decision to strengthen the unity of all patriotic forces. He called for the strengthening of friendship of the Arab peoples and all progressive world forces with the countries of the socialist community headed by the Soviet Union.

The congress was also addressed by Abdel Fattah Ismail, general secretary of the ruling National Front.

